

Silver Medal Best Children's Picture eBook: 2020

Lundi the Lost Puffin

Eric Newman

Iceland With Kids



October 15, 2020: Eric Newman's book, *Lundi the Lost Puffin*, won a silver medal at the 2020 Moonbeam Children's Book Awards. The book, geared for children ages 4-8, won in the Best Children's eBook category.

"This book was a Covid quarantine project for me," said Newman. "I became a travel writer who wasn't traveling, and so I decided to share one of my favorite stories about Iceland."

Every year, children living on Iceland's Westman Islands rescue thousands of lost baby puffins (pufflings.) The baby birds have an instinct to fly toward the moon to find the ocean. But many of them are confused by the lights of the small town, and they end up lost and lonely on land.

"Children have been rescuing pufflings on the Westman Islands for hundreds of years. I've been told that this tradition dates back to the first human inhabitants on the island. Children get to stay up late to find the pufflings, and they bring them to the aquarium the next day to be weighed. If the birds are healthy enough, the child who found the puffling is allowed to carefully throw it into the ocean!"

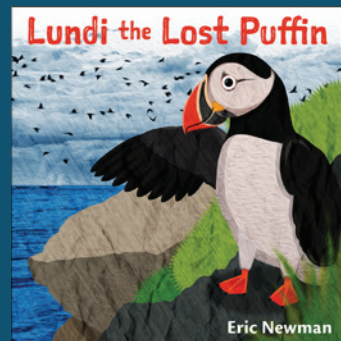
The pufflings leave the safety of their burrows in the fall, and so the puffling rescuing season typically starts in late August. "I hope to make it to the Westman Islands some September so my kids and I can try to rescue a puffling or two!" says Newman.

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www.IcelandWithKids.com

Eric is the founder of Iceland With Kids, a company that helps families plan amazing vacations to Iceland. He offers a travel guide book called *Iceland With Kids*, as well as itinerary planning and custom tours.

"Iceland is a perfect destination for families looking for an amazing and safe vacation, once travel opens up again. And the Westman Islands are a perfect place to visit. A 35-minute ferry ride gets you to this island full of interesting history. That history includes a massive volcanic eruption in 1973. There are hiking trails formed by fresh lava, with signs that indicate a house is buried beneath your feet! And of course, there are puffins! The Westman Islands are home to the largest puffin colony in the world, with an estimated 4 million birds!"

