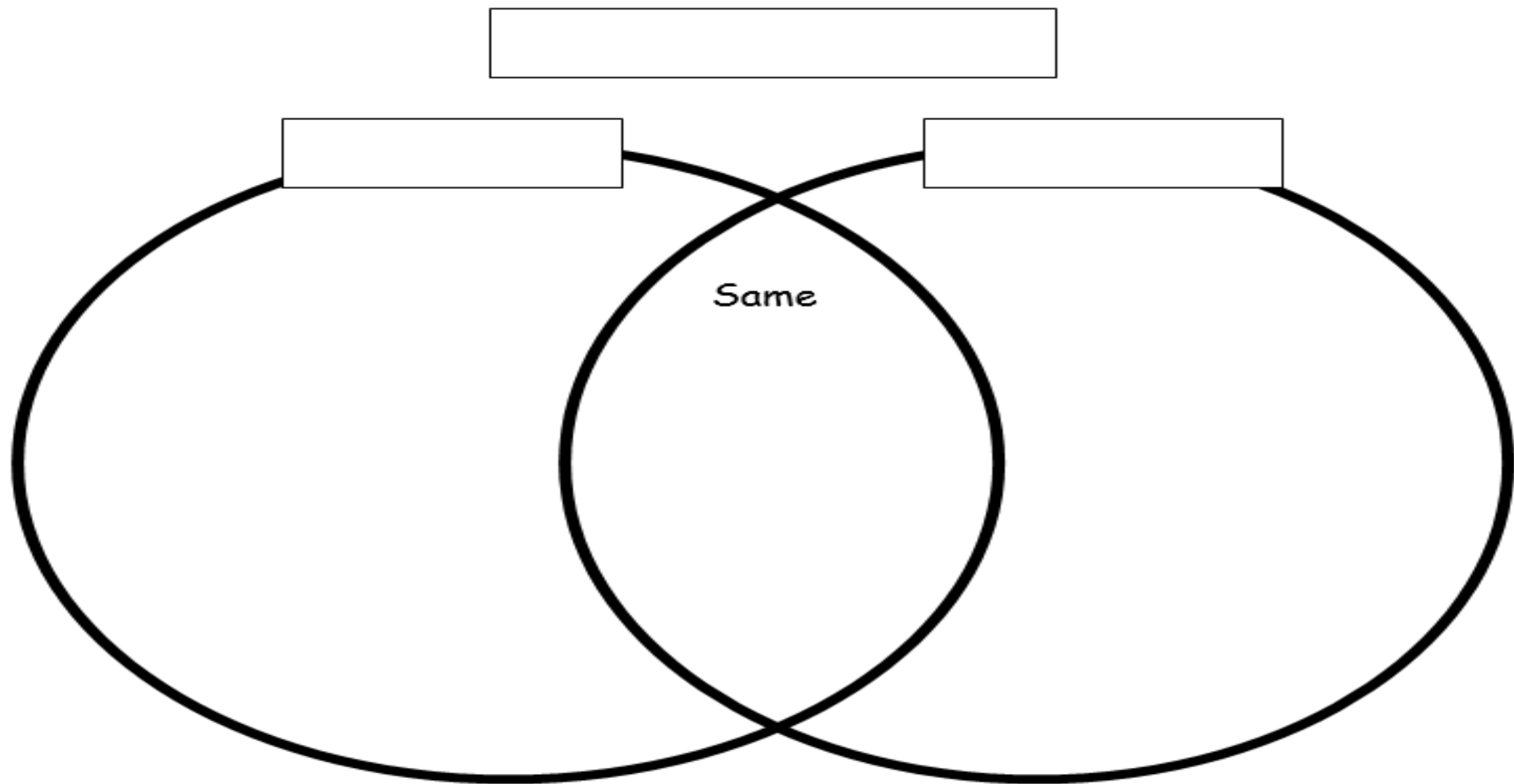




## Compare and Contrast

Use the Venn Diagram that follows to list how these version of rabbits are different and the same.





**Nora Othic**

Born 1954, San Francisco, California

*Small White Rabbit*, 2006

Pastel on paper

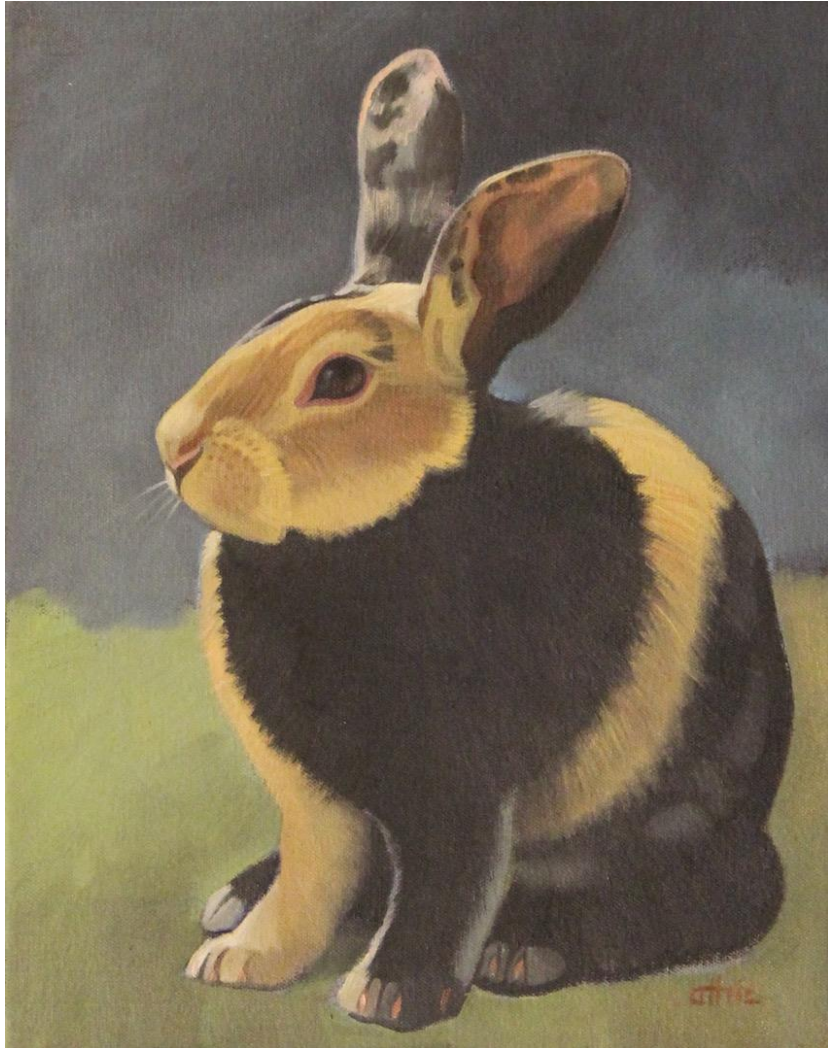
Acquisition made possible with funds provided by the Friends of the Beach Museum of Art, 2006.89

Othic says she has felt a connection to farm animals since she was a child, seeing them as a bridge between humans and the rest of the natural world. The artist was raised on a farm and still lives on one. She goes to the Missouri State Fair in Sedalia every year to take reference photos for her drawings. Her quiet portraits present each animal as unique. Rabbits (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*) are a favorite subject.





A few more rabbits by Nora Othic





## Imao Keinen

Born 1845, Kyoto, Japan

Died 1924, Kyoto, Japan

*Two Rabbits in Moonlight*, early  
20th century

Woodblock print with  
watercolor on paper  
S21.2017

Keinen is well-known for his kacho-e (images of birds and flowers), so this rabbit is a departure. By placing these rabbits under a full moon, Keinen may be referencing the moon rabbit or moon hare. In Japanese lore, a rabbit uses a mortar and pestle to pound rice for mochi, a chewy New Year treat, and its shape can be seen in the dark markings of the moon.



Illustration of two red  
birds and a white flower,  
from the Keinen Kachō  
Gafu album (1892)



# Rabbit facts

*Oryctolagus cuniculus* (European Rabbit)



As of 2017, there were at least 305 breeds of domestic rabbit in 70 countries around the world. A rabbit breed is a distinct variety created through natural selection or, more often, through selective breeding for specific characteristics, including size, fur (length, quality, or color), climate adaptability, or temperament. There are 17 breeds of wild rabbits.

A baby rabbit is called a kit, a female is called a doe and a male is called a buck.

Rabbits are very social creatures that live in groups. They live in warrens — a series of tunnels and rooms that they dig underground.

A rabbit's teeth never stop growing! Instead, they're gradually worn down as the rabbit chews on grasses, wildflowers and vegetables.

Rabbits perform an athletic leap, known as a "binky," when they're happy — performing twists and kicks in mid air!

Rabbits are amazing athletes — they can jump as high as 90 centimeters in one leap!

Like cats, happy rabbits purr when they're content and relaxed.



# What is the difference between a Hare and a Rabbit?

Hares are *precocial*, born relatively mature and mobile with hair and good vision, while rabbits are *altricial*, born hairless and blind, and requiring closer care. Hares (and cottontail rabbits) live a relatively solitary life in a simple nest above the ground, while most rabbits live in social groups in burrows or warrens. Hares are generally larger than rabbits, with ears that are more elongated, and with hind legs that are larger and longer. Hares have not been domesticated, while descendants of the European rabbit are commonly bred as livestock and kept as pets.



Hare, Johann Daniel Meyer (1748)



Rabbit, Johann Daniel Meyer (1748)



Rabbit fur can be spun and used for knitting. Long-haired rabbits like the Angora on the left and the Cashmere Lop on the right are prized for their fur. The rabbits molt naturally and need to be groomed. If done correctly, like sheep shearing, it does not hurt the rabbit. P.S. you can spin any long animals fur, including cats and dogs!





## Rabbit Lore

White rabbits are symbolic of love, tenderness, and inner power. Although rabbits are considered lucky animals, white rabbits in particular are symbolic of good luck and impending opportunity. Many people carry a white rabbit's foot for good luck.

In Chinese culture, the rabbit is the 4<sup>th</sup> animal in the zodiac. It's known to be the luckiest of all 12 animals. The rabbit is a symbol of beauty, elegance, intelligence, and mercy. More than this, ancient Chinese mythology saw rabbits as symbols of the moon, because they believed there was a rabbit living on the moon.

The Jade Rabbit or Moon Rabbit is a companion to the Moon Goddess. It never grows old and makes medicine by grinding herbs with a mortar and pestle. This also makes the rabbit a symbol of good health and longevity in Chinese culture. This could be why many rabbit parts are used in Chinese medicine, too.

In south-eastern Native culture, rabbits are tricksters, symbolic of cleverness, wit, and guile. This can often be seen in northeastern tribes. In contrast, for many southwestern tribes and Central American Native cultures, rabbits are symbols of fertility and abundance. Rabbits are found in countless Native American parables.

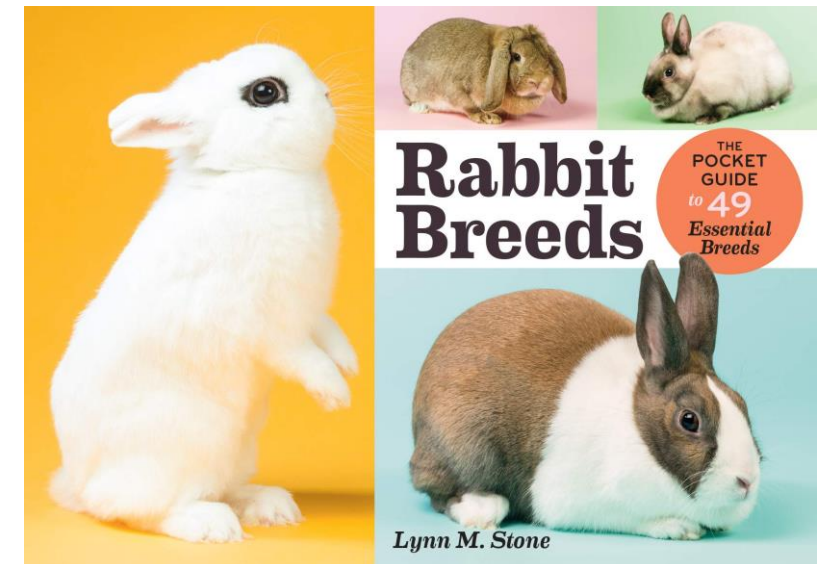
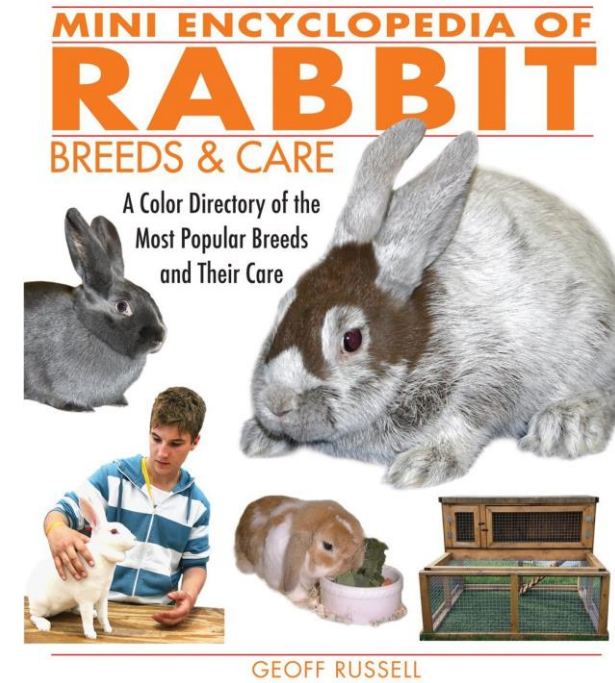
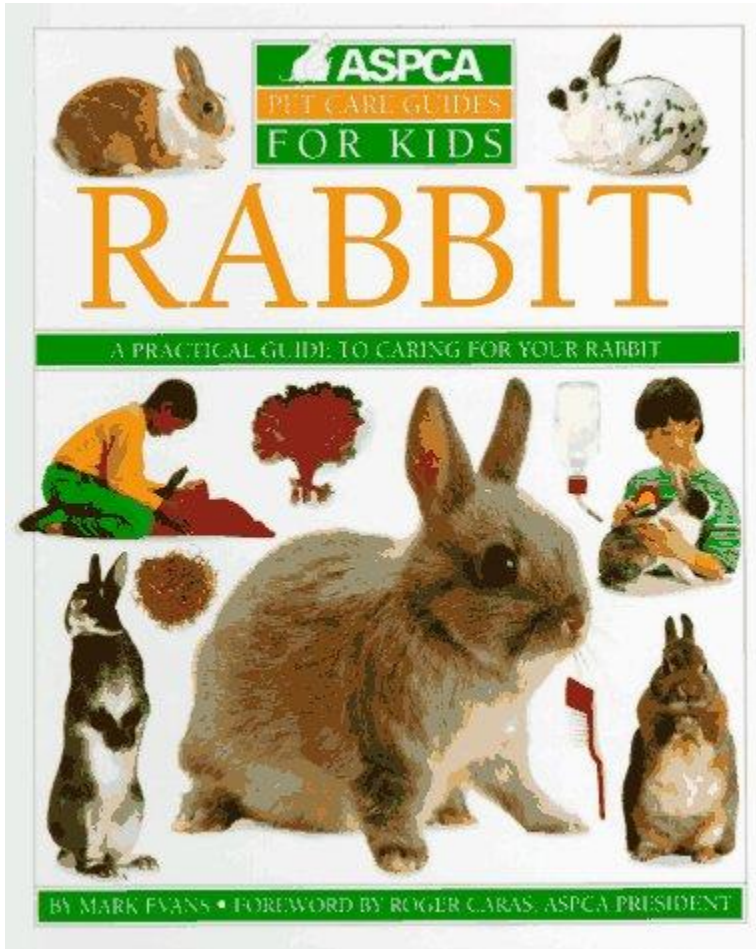


The three hares were first found in China and spread to Europe via the Silk Road.



Japanese Netsuke of Rabbit, 19<sup>th</sup> century  
Period: Edo (1615–1868) or Meiji period (1868–1912)  
Ivory

# Learn more about rabbits





# Additional Rabbits



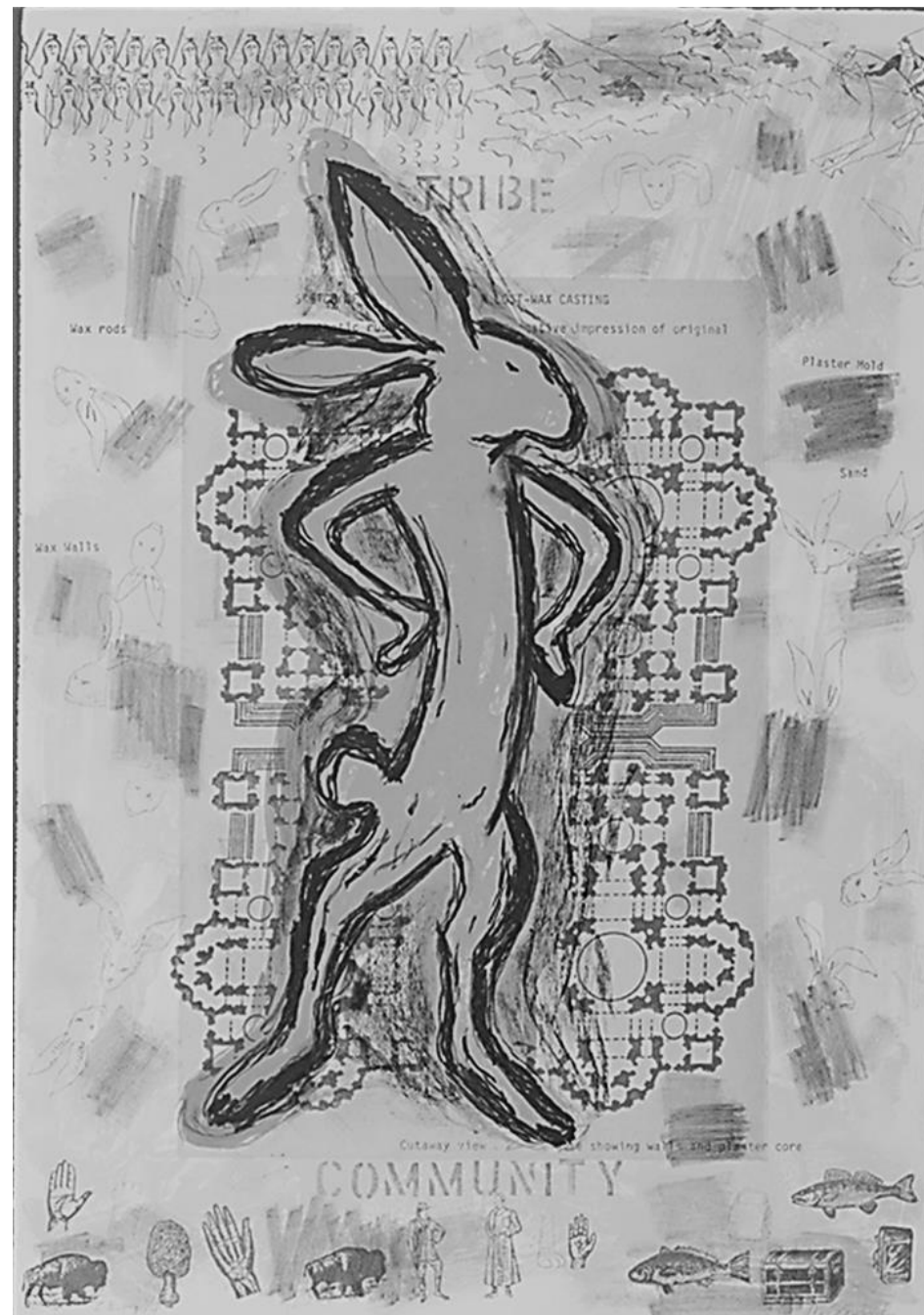
**Emma Lewis Mitchell** (Acoma Pueblo)  
*Rabbit bowl*, 20th century  
Earthenware with pigment  
KSU, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum  
of Art, gift of the Estate of Lolafaye  
Coyne, 2015.50

**Camilio (Sunflower) Tafoya** (Santa  
Clara Pueblo)  
*Carved redware jar*, 1977  
Earthenware  
KSU, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum  
of Art, gift of Mel and Mary Cottom,  
2012.199



How many rabbits can you find? They may be easier to see in the black and white image.

**Jaune Quick-To-See Smith**  
*Untitled (Tribe/Community)*  
from the *Survival Series*,  
1996  
Color lithograph on paper  
KSU, Marianna Kistler  
Beach Museum of Art,  
Friends of the Beach  
Museum of Art purchase,  
2004.13







Where do you think this rabbit's warren is?

**Coy Avon Seward**  
*Rabbit Trails*, 1935  
Lithograph on paper  
KSU, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, 2017.547

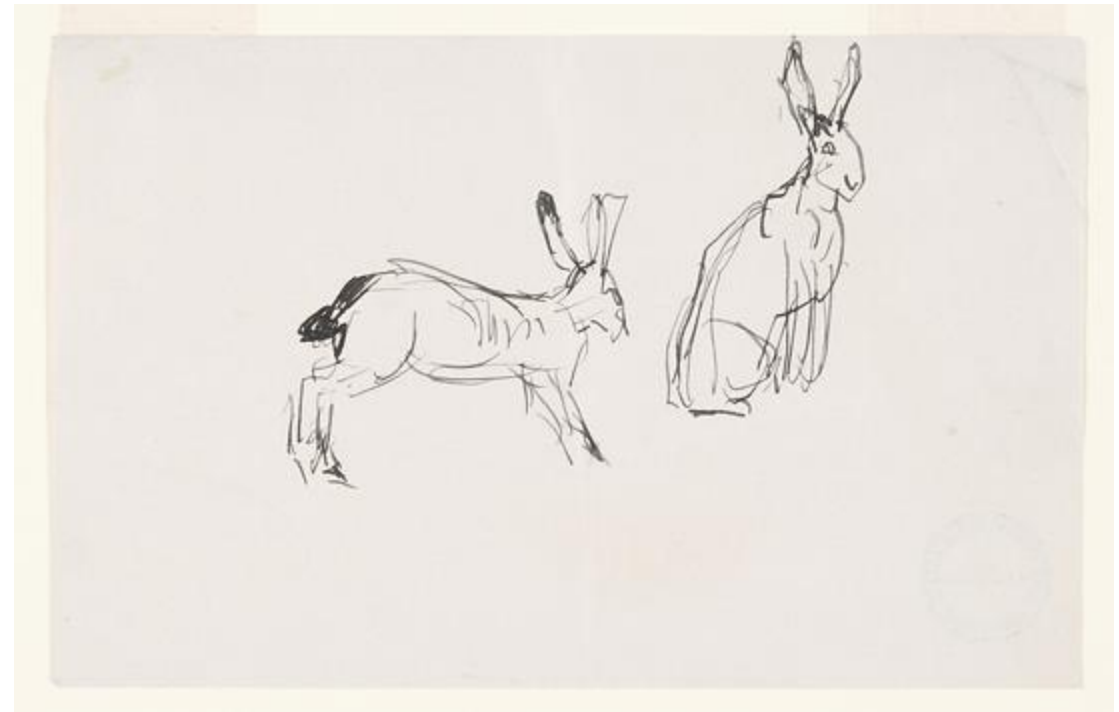
**John Steuart Curry**

*Groups Misc./ Sketch Book Kansas*, ca. 1940

Ink on paper

KSU, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art,  
bequest of Kathleen G. Curry, 2002.695

Did you notice that these are hares?



**Jacqueline Bishop**

*Sonatina*, 2009

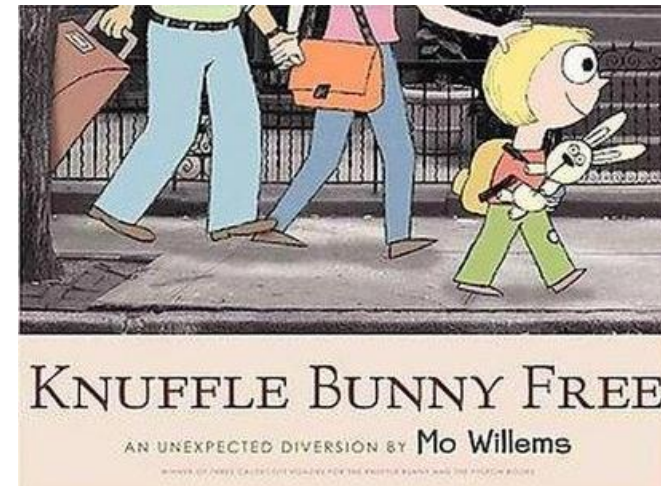
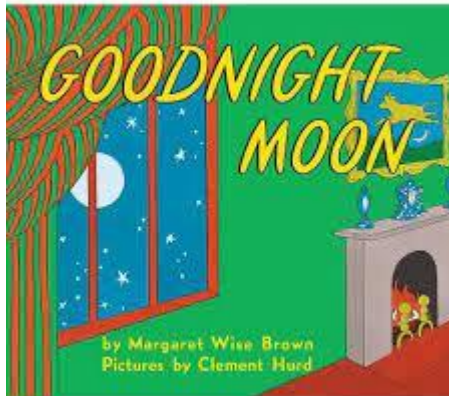
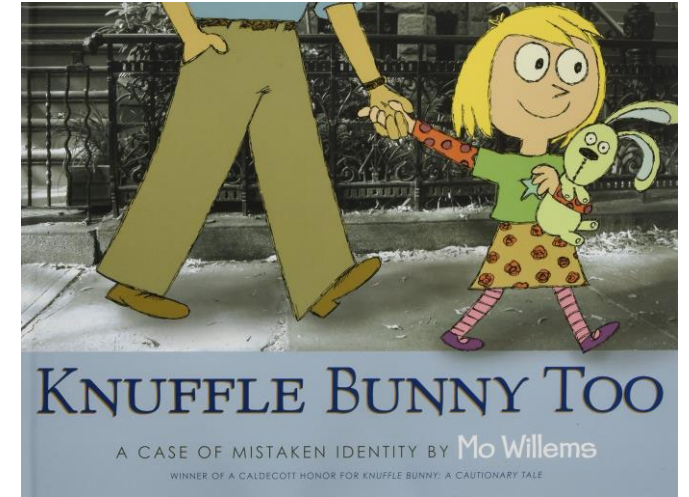
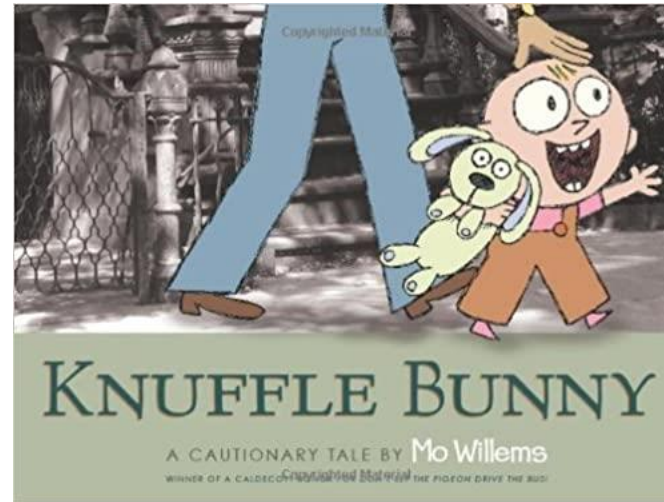
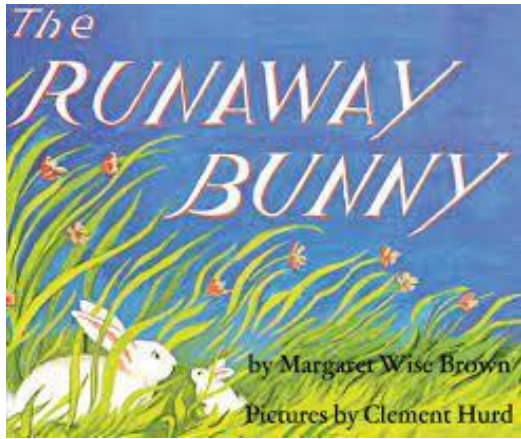
Lithograph on paper

KSU, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, gift of Joe and  
Barb Zanatta, Zanatta Editions, 2010.98

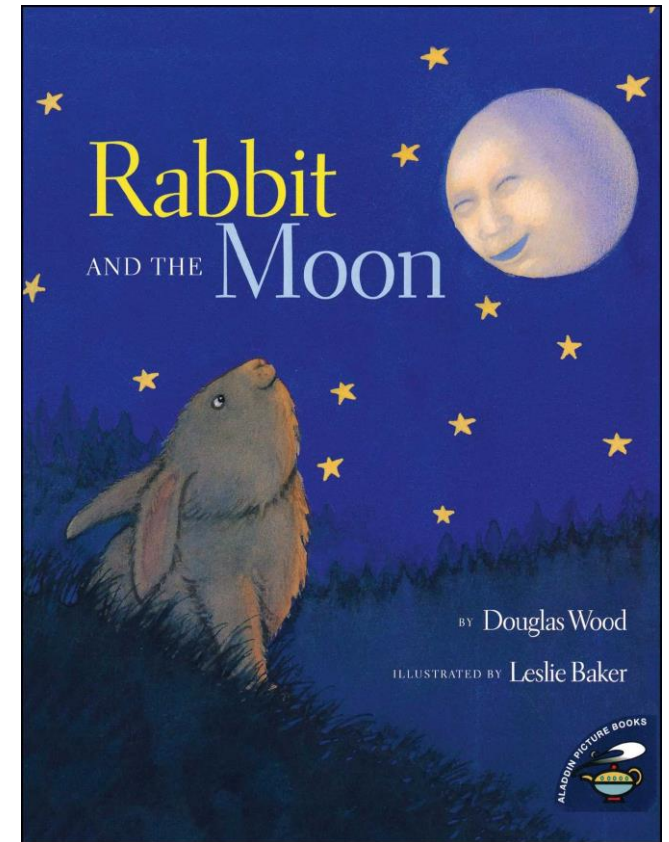
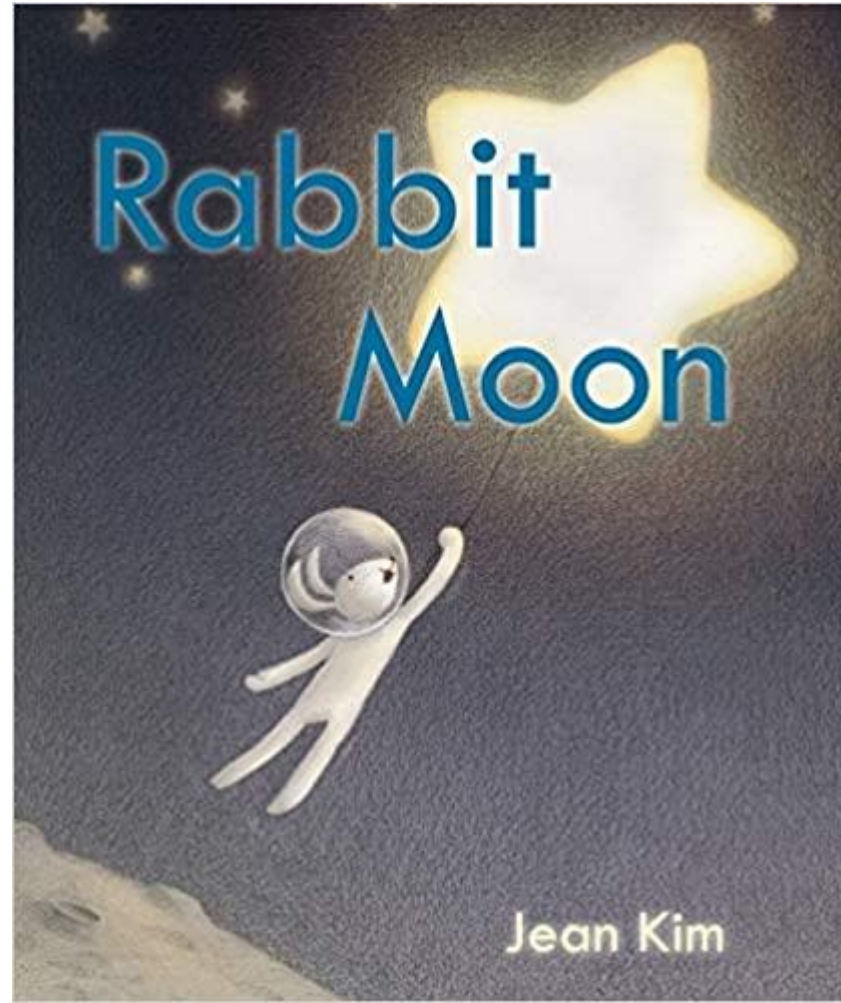
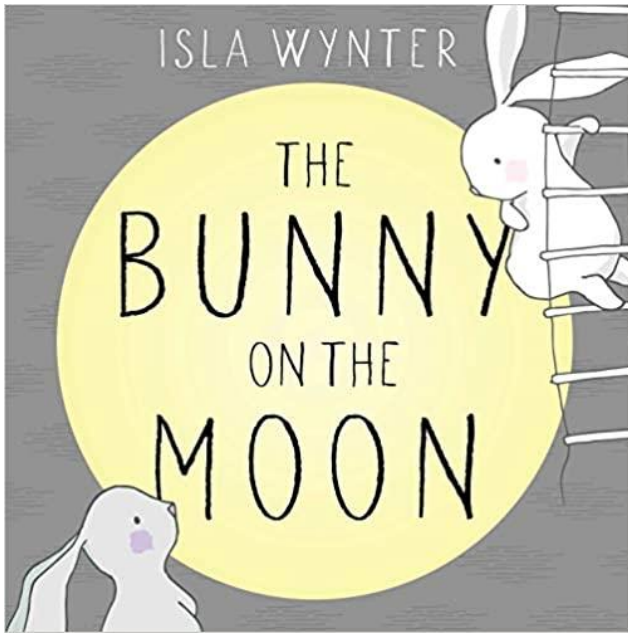
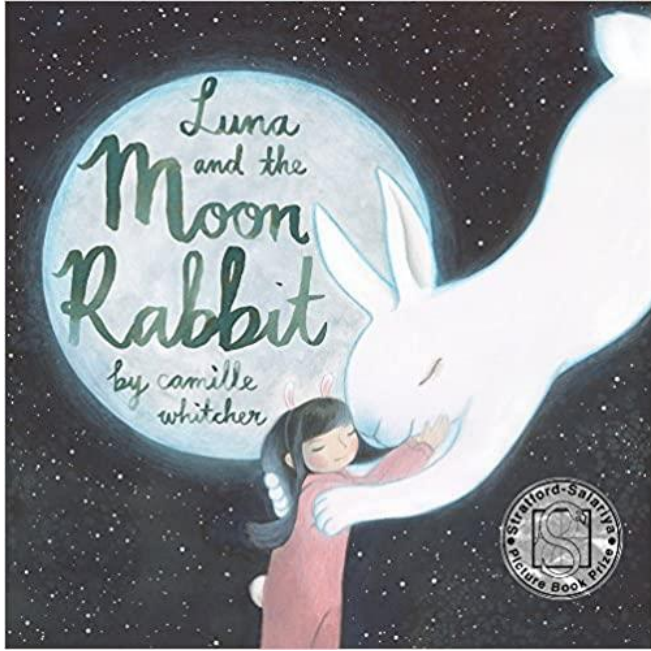




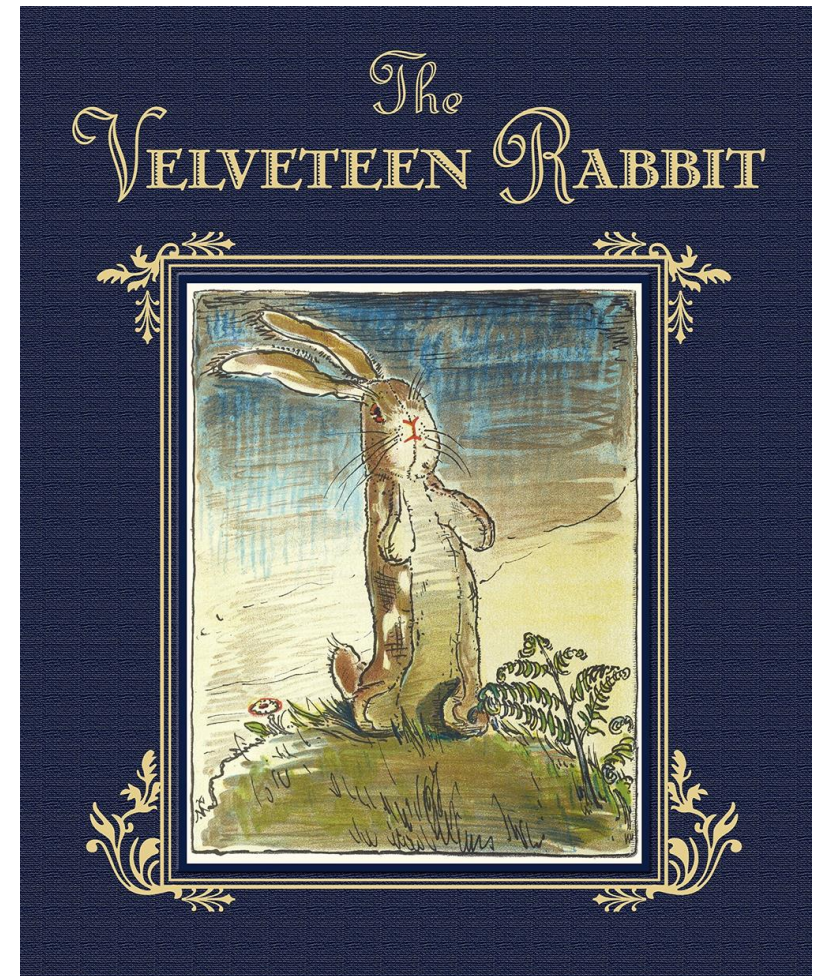
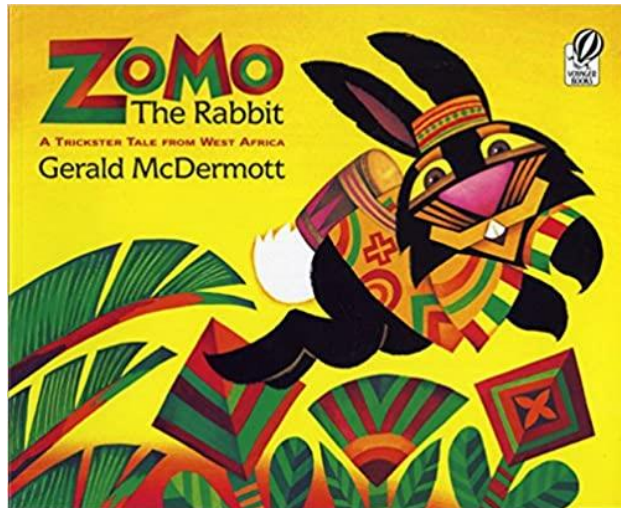
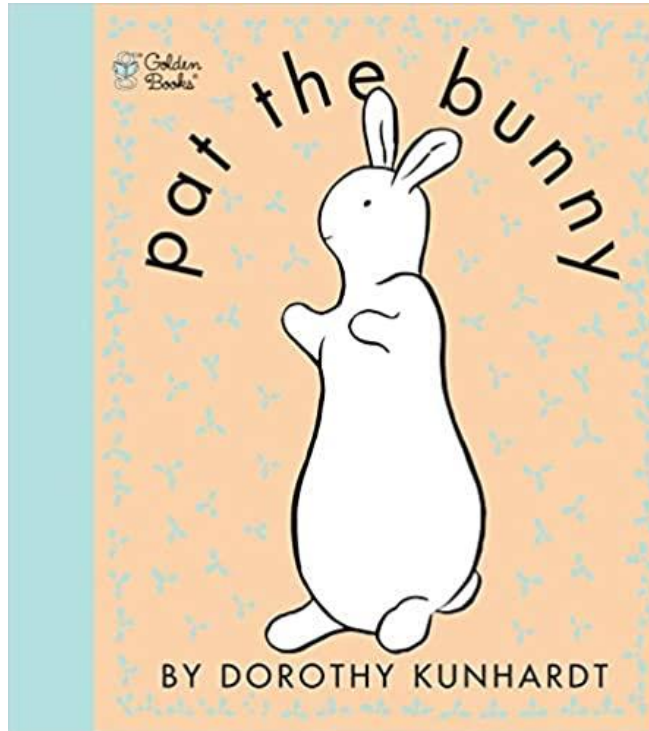
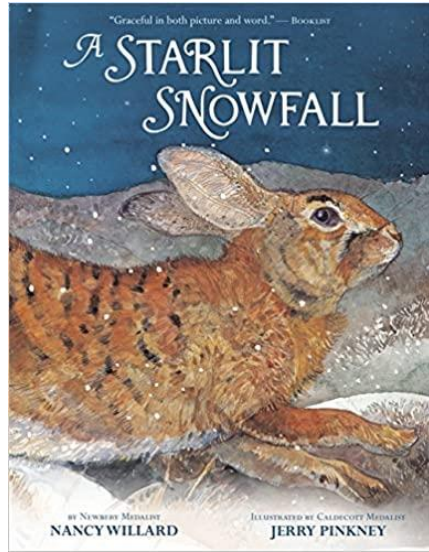
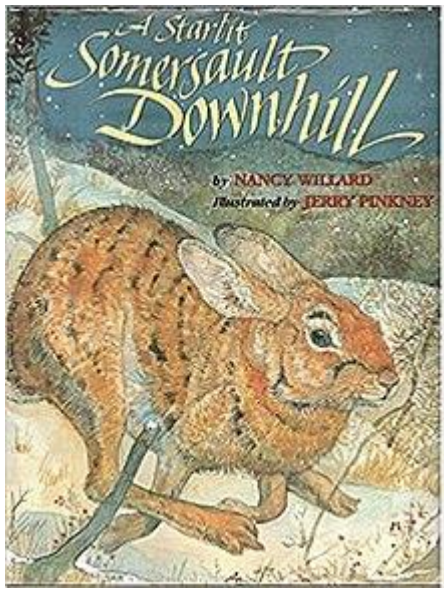
# Picture Books













# THE TALE OF PETER RABBIT



BEATRIX POTTER  
*The original and authorized edition*

# THE TALE OF THE FLOPSY BUNNIES

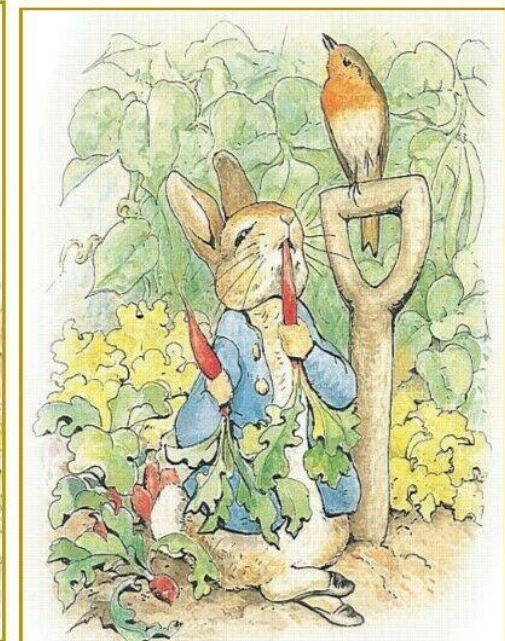
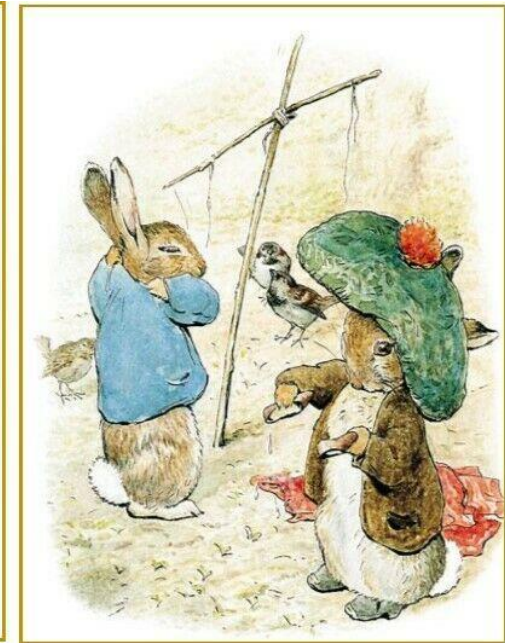
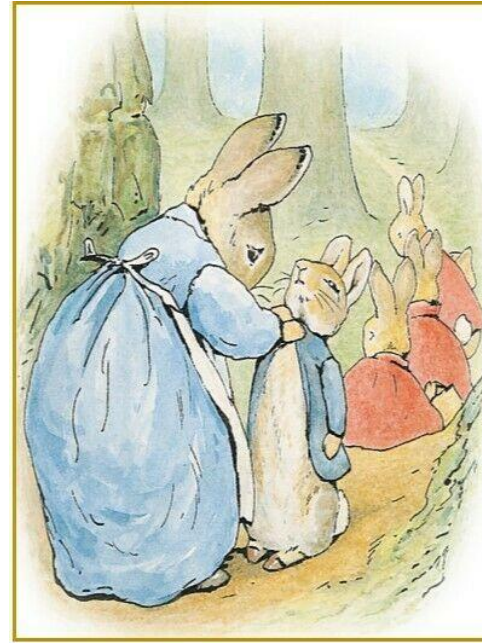


BEATRIX POTTER  
*The original and authorized edition*

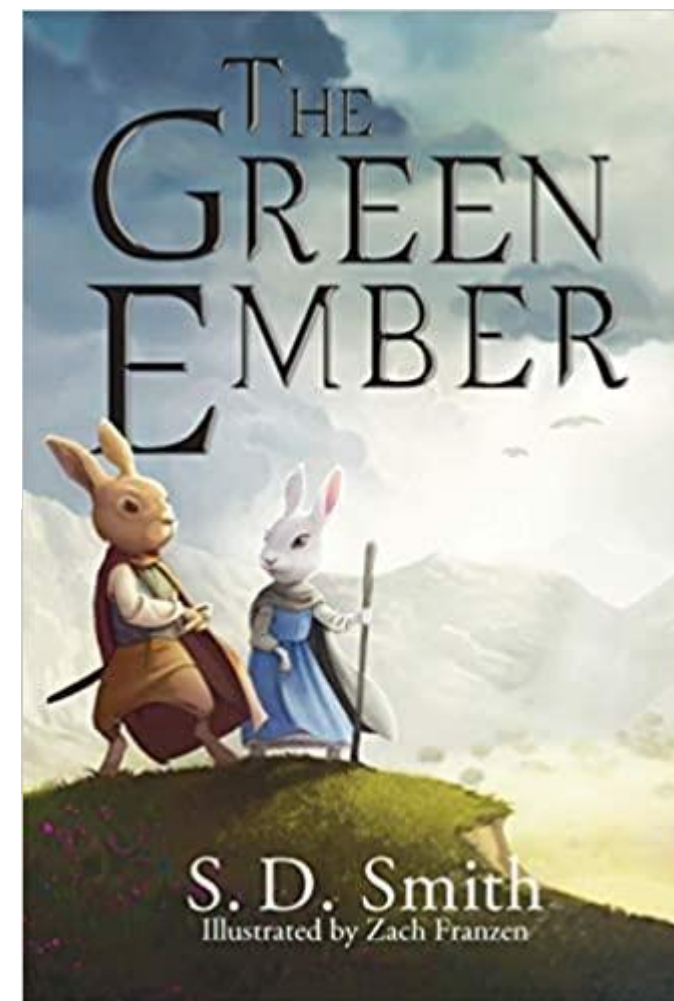
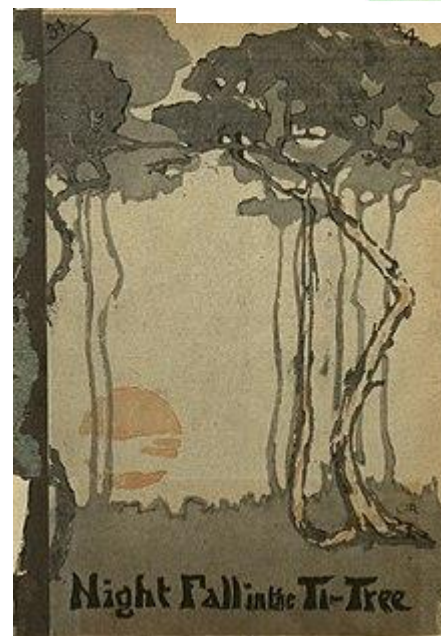
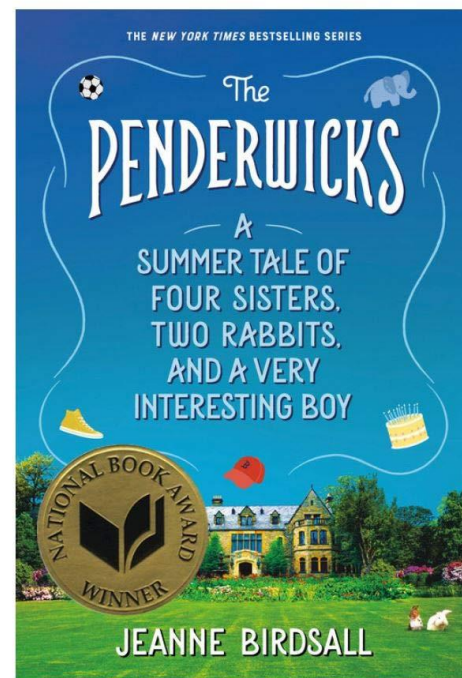
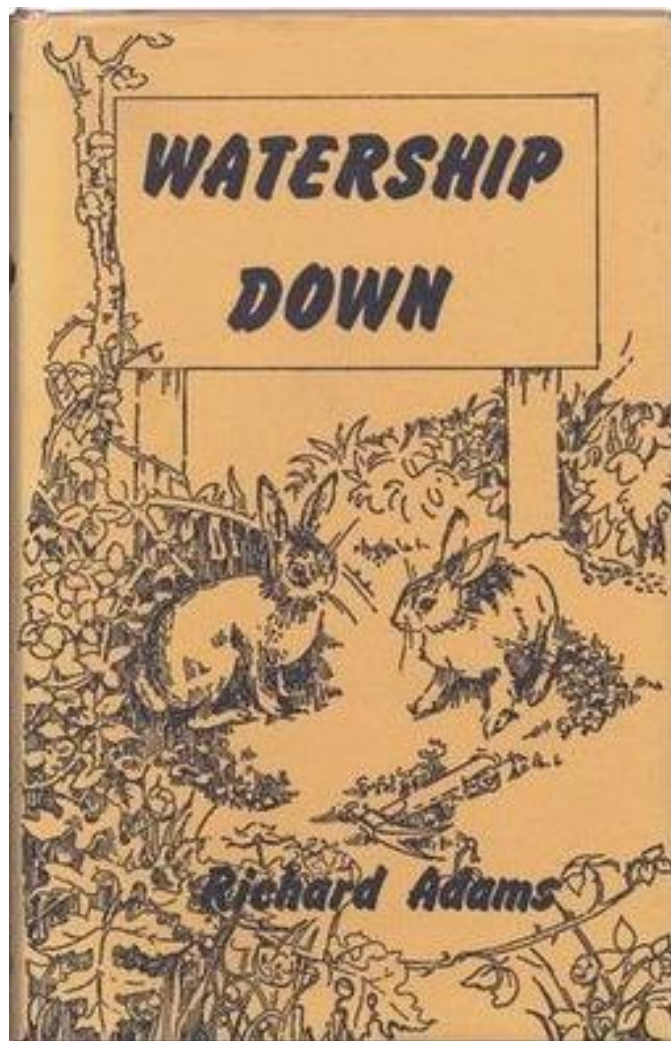
# THE TALE OF BENJAMIN BUNNY



BEATRIX POTTER  
*The original and authorized edition*



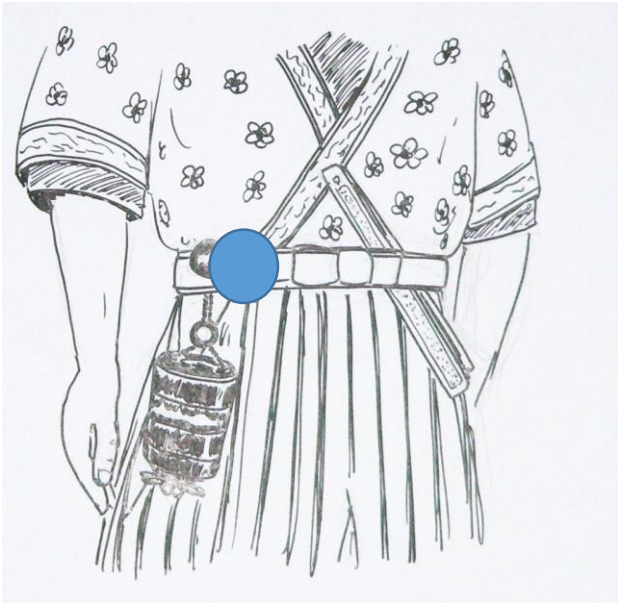






# Art Projects

A netsuke (根付, [netsuke]) is a miniature sculpture, originating in 17th century Japan. Initially a simply-carved button fastener on the cords of an inro box (the blue dot), netsuke later developed into ornately sculpted objects of craftsmanship. Rabbits are one of the most popular netsuke. Use your clay to make one of your own.



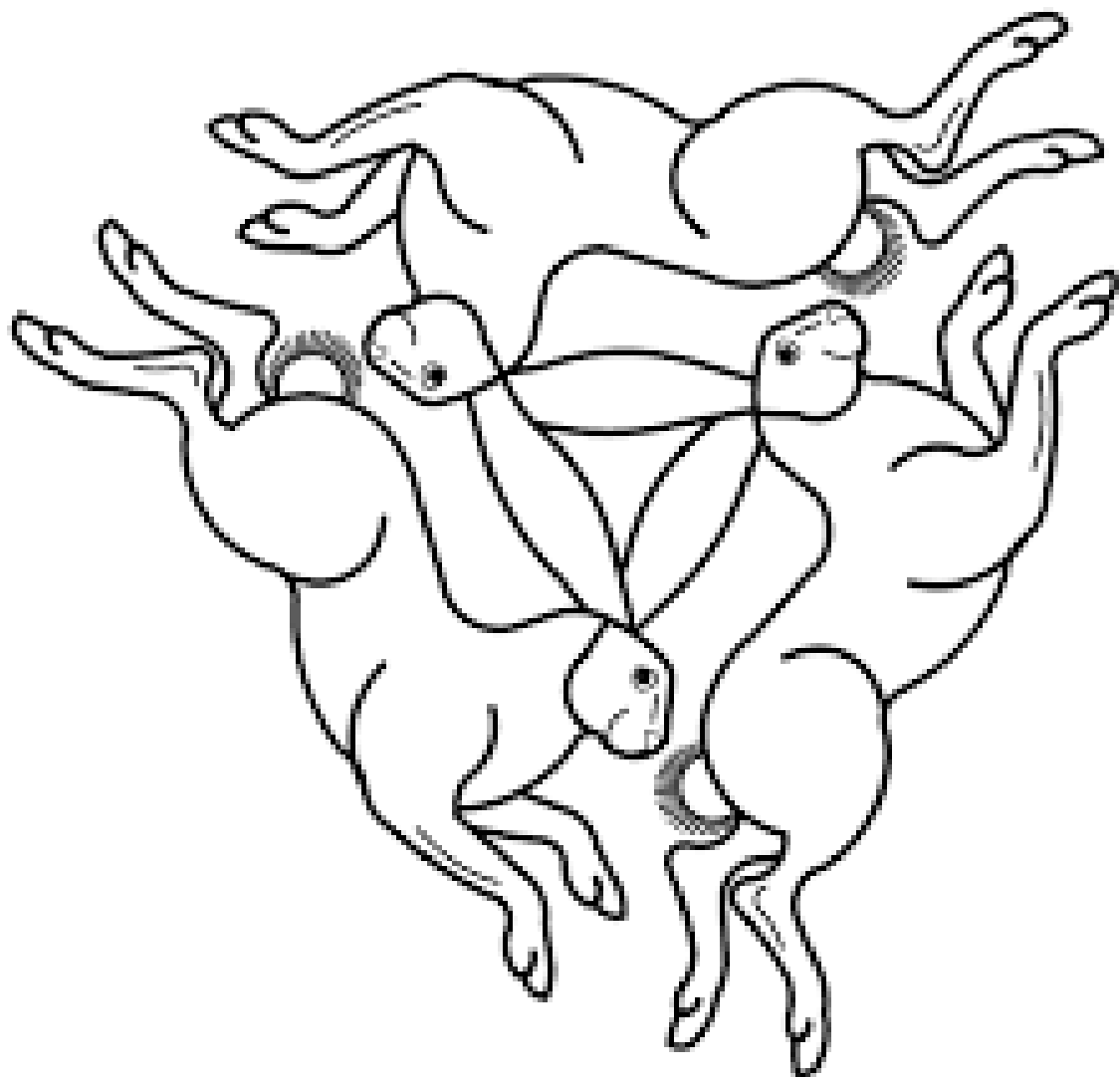
## AIR DRY CLAY RECIPE

make silky air dry clay with household materials

- 1 1/2 cups cornstarch
- 1 cup white school glue
- 1 Tablespoon white vinegar
- 1 teaspoon lotion
- 1 Tablespoon baby oil



Templates for creating your own Three Hares design



# Three Hares from Around the World

From left to right China, Egypt and Iran





Supplies:  
Dark paper  
White Crayon  
Oil Pastels

Draw the rabbit body at the bottom of the paper with pencil. Add the head, the tail, the ear and eye. Be sure the bunny is at the bottom of the paper.

Lightly shade in the bunny with white crayon.

Use the oil pastels to color inner ear and nose pink. Give the bunny a big brown eye and a black pupil.

Use a white (or whatever color you want) oil pastel to make little lines of texture for the bunny fur, starting with the body, then the bunny face, tail and ear.

Make grass textures with green oil pastel from the bottom of the paper upward over the bottom of the rabbit's body.





This painted stone rabbit is inspired by Aboriginal dot painters from Australia and the traditional Alebrijes (carved and painted wooden animals) of Mexico.





# Origami

