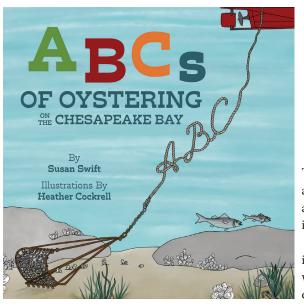
## A New Title From Belle Isle Books www.belleislebooks.com





ON CHESAPEAKE BAY

By Susan Swift Illustrations By **Heather Cockrell** 

The book explains how oystermen and women collect oysters using boats, dredges, and tongs, and how oysters have been used by people for thousands of years. It also shares fun facts, like how oysters grow in underwater reefs, what a pea crab is, and why oysters are "eXtra" important to the environment!

This A-to-Z guide is filled with simple facts, cool vocabulary, and other interesting information about oysters and the Bay. It's perfect for young readers who want to learn more about nature, sea life, and how we can help protect our environment.

## About the Author



Susan Swift is an accomplished teacher and elementary librarian with a lifelong passion for children's literature and a dream of writing books for kids. After graduating from the College of William and Mary, she relocated to the Northern Neck of Virginia to pursue her teaching career. Her son and her husband, a fourth-generation commercial waterman, inspired her to create her first and ongoing series, A Life of a Waterman. This series includes *The ABCs of Oystering on the Chesapeake Bay*, which follows her previous release, *The ABCs of Crabbing on the Chesapeake Bay*, published in 2024.

Susan is dedicated to educating readers of all ages about commercial fishing on the Chesapeake Bay, while presenting each book in an interesting and fun ABC format. In her personal life, Susan is the proud mother of two grown children and a son-in-law, as well as a very spoiled yellow lab. She loves spending time with her family, reading, living on the Chesapeake Bay, and visiting the Outer Banks.

## About the Illustrator



Heather Cockrell has always had a passion for using her creativity to inspire children to express their own unique creativity. Heather was born and raised in the small rural town of Lancaster County, Va. After graduating from high school, Heather attended Ferrum College where she received her bachelor's degree in education. After teaching for a few years in several different areas in Virginia, Heather returned home and accepted her current position as the middle school art teacher at Northumberland Middle School in Northumberland County, Virginia. Heather finds immense joy in mentoring students, fostering their creativity, and guiding them in their artistic journeys. Her commitment extends way beyond the classroom, as she is deeply invested in many other organizations in the community. In her personal life, Heather resides in the small town of Reedville, Virginia with her husband Nick and their two dogs. She enjoys spending time on the water that both she and her husband grew up on.

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