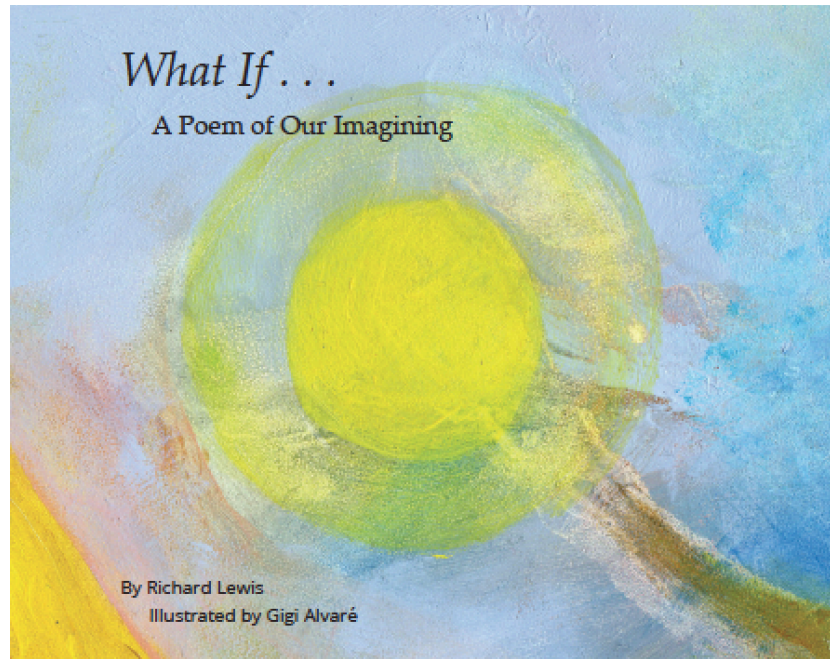


*Touchstone Center Publications
is pleased to announce the
publication of*



What If... A Poem of Our Imagining,
was originally written by Richard Lewis, as an invitation for children, in a variety of classroom settings,
to imagine themselves becoming qualities and aspects of the natural world; and in doing so, to express,
through their own imaginative abilities, the life that is both ourselves and the nature we inhabit.
Now, a number of years later, a new reading and sharing of this poem, interpreted and augmented with
original paintings by Gigi Alvaré, brings us even closer to the elemental intelligence — indeed, the
imagination and conversation — that is nature itself.

Gigi Alvaré is an educator, artist, and performer. From 2001 to 2018, she was the Director of Education at The Rockwell Museum in Corning, New York, and prior to that, a teaching-artist, actor, illustrator, and playwright with The Touchstone Center for Children. She has illustrated four books for Touchstone Center Publications, among them *Each Sky Has Its Words* and *Sea Tale*, and her independent artwork has been exhibited throughout New York State at galleries and art centers, including the Arnot Art Museum and 171 Cedar Arts Center. Alvaré was awarded the Lifetime Service Award by The ARTS Council of the Southern Finger Lakes in 2018.

Richard Lewis is a writer and teacher, and the founder and director of The Touchstone Center for Children. His recent books, published by Touchstone Center Publications include collaborations with teaching artists Kathy Creutzburg in *We Are Rivers*, Noah Baen in *A Tree Lives*, Susan Joy Share in *From the Sleep of Waters*, Elizabeth Crawford and George Hirose in *Cave*, Heidi Neilson/Gigi Alvaré in *Play*, *Said the Earth to Air*, and Carol Grocki Lewis in *Enchantments of the Earth*, in addition to his work with Gigi Alvaré. Lewis's writings on teaching and the imagination of childhood can be found in his books, *When Thought is Young*, *Living by Wonder* and *Taking Flight, Standing Still*.

What If... A Poem of Our Imagining
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