



October 8, 2015

CONTACT: Katie O'Neel 800-382-4929, ext. 209 koneel@lernerbooks.com

Lerner Publishing Group's Carolrhoda Books, Carolrhoda Lab™, and Graphic Universe™ Imprints to Be Distributed by Walker Books Australia and New Zealand

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn.—<u>Lerner Publishing Group</u> today announced a new partnership with Walker Books Australia and New Zealand, effective January 1, 2016. Walker Books will be the exclusive distributor of Lerner's trade imprints Carolrhoda Books, Carolrhoda LabTM, and Graphic UniverseTM in Australia and New Zealand.

Walker Books Australia has been bringing the best of children's publishing to Australian children for over 20 years and is recognized as a market leader in quality children's books. This new partnership will bring Lerner's award-winning picture books, graphic novels, fiction, and nonfiction for children and young adults to a new audience in Australia and New Zealand.

Adam Lerner, President and Publisher of Lerner Publishing Group, has said of the partnership, "We're very excited to be working with Walker Books in Australia and NZ. We take great pride that Carolrhoda, Carolrhoda Lab, and Graphic Universe have grown in quality and international appeal, and Walker Books, with its prestige and sales acumen, will greatly enhance our reach in the growing Australian and New Zealand markets. Walker and Lerner share cultural histories of being fiercely independent children's-only publishers dedicated to our audiences and our authors, and I couldn't be more thrilled with our partnership in the trade market."

Says Angela Van Den Belt, President of Walker Books Australia and New Zealand, "We are thrilled to announce our new trade partnership with Lerner Publishing Group. Walker Books and Lerner both strive to create innovative children's books of the highest quality, and we are proud to be representing Lerner's trade imprints in Australia and New Zealand (ANZ). We look forward to working closely with the Lerner team and, through the efforts of our outstanding sales and marketing team, increasing their presence here in ANZ."

About Lerner Publishing Group, Inc.

Lerner Publishing Group creates high-quality fiction and nonfiction for children and young adults. Founded in 1959, Lerner Publishing Group is one of the nation's largest independent children's book publishers with fourteen imprints and divisions: Lerner Publications, Millbrook Press, Carolrhoda Books, Twenty-First Century Books, Graphic UniverseTM, Darby Creek, Kar-Ben Publishing, Carolrhoda LabTM, Hungry TomatoTM, LernerClassroom, ediciones Lerner, First Avenue Editions, Lerner DigitalTM, and Lerner Publisher Services. For more information, visit www.lernerbooks.com or call 800-328-4929.

About Walker Books Australia and New Zealand

Walker Books Australia is dedicated to publishing books of unwavering quality for children and young adults to read and treasure. Equally, Walker Books Australia is passionate about the Australian Children's book industry and renowned as a haven for the most highly talented authors and illustrators, both emerging and award-winning. Walker Books Australia is a part of the Walker Books Group, one of the world's leading independent publishers of books and content for children.