TRUE TALES

These inspiring biographies prove to kids that they can be (and do) anything they put their minds to. The bigger the dream, the better!

BY LELA NARGI PHOTOGRAPHY BY PETER ARDITO



Charles Darwin's Around-the-World Adventure

by Jennifer Thermes
Your li'l backyard
explorer will find new
relevance in his
exploits thanks to this
thrilling account of
Charles Darwin's trip
to South America,
which led to some of
the world's most
important scientific
discoveries. Ages 5 to 7,
Abrams Books; \$19

Six Dots: A Story of Young Louis Braille by Jen Bryant,

illustrated by Boris Kulikov
Like any nature-curious kid,
Louis Braille studies the world
around him. When an accident
robs him of his sight, he knows
the only way to keep learning is
to invent a way to read: the raised
Braille alphabet still used today.
The resource section directs your
tyke to websites where he can
learn more about the alphabet for
himself. Ages 4 to 8, Knopf; \$18



Louis Braille

JEN BRYANT

BORIS KULIKOI

Ten Days a Madwoman by Deborah Noyes

To show she deserves a prestigious newspaper job, Nellie Bly—one of America's first "girl" reporters—spends ten harrowing days undercover in an insane asylum. Will she make it out in one piece? Future journalists won't be able to put down this gripping read. Ages 10 and up, Viking; \$19

Mr. Matisse and His Cutouts

by Annemarie van Haeringen
Near the end of his life, Henri Matisse was too sick to paint. So the celebrated painter adopted a different technique—cutting out colorful shapes and gluing them to paper—vividly depicted in this book. The takeaway: Artists of any age can always find a way to create. Ages 4 to 8, NorthSouth Books; \$17

Ada's Ideas: The Story of Ada Lovelace, the World's First Computer Programmer by Fiona Robinson

It's the 19th century, and inventors are dreaming up amazing machines. Ada Lovelace is at the center of activity when she "programs" an early computer.

Ages 6 to 9,

Abrams Books; \$18

The Music in George's Head

by Suzanne Slade, illustrated by Stacy Innerst Growing up, composer George Gershwin hears music everywhere. Kids will love the cool swirls of words and pictures that float through the air like music notes. Ages 3 to 6, Calkins Creek; \$18