

## IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### ***Because I Had a Teacher* Reaches the *New York Times* Best Sellers List**

**SEATTLE (May 28, 2019)**—[Compendium](#) is honored to announce that their title *Because I Had a Teacher* is a *New York Times* best seller, landing the No. 5 spot in the Children's Picture Books category for the week of May 26.

Written by Kobi Yamada and illustrated by Natalie Russell, this book offers appreciation for the special mentors who inspire, support, and encourage us all. It celebrates the worlds they open up and thanks them for the difference they make.

"I've been fortunate to have some amazing teachers in my life, who've encouraged me and guided me along the way. I wanted to write a book to thank them," said Yamada. "We're honored to see our book on the *New York Times* Best Sellers list. It's always wonderful to see the ways that this title resonates with people."

This is Yamada's fourth book to become a *New York Times* best seller. His first to make the list was the illustrated picture book *What Do You Do With an Idea?*, the first title in his award-winning *What Do You Do With...?* book series. In addition to the *New York Times*, his book *Because I Had a Teacher* recently hit the *Publishers Weekly* and Amazon best-selling lists as well.

With the end of the school year near for many children across the country, and the celebration of teachers in early May during Teacher Appreciation Week, students are looking for the perfect way to thank their teachers for all their dedicated work. *Because I Had a Teacher*, a wonderful gift for educators, parents, coaches, and other important mentors in our lives, expresses heartfelt gratitude to those who help us to believe in ourselves.

Released in 2016, *Because I Had a Teacher* quickly became one of Compendium's best-selling gift books and has been met with praise from book reviewers. Kirkus Reviews called it "a sweet, soft conversation starter and a charming gift" and "a paean to teachers and their surrogates everywhere."

The recent success of *Because I Had a Teacher* comes just a few months before the publication of Yamada's highly anticipated children's book *Maybe*, which is set to release in September.

As of June 2, *Because I Had a Teacher* remained on the *New York Times* Best Sellers list for the second week in a row

#### **About Compendium, Inc.:**

Since 1985, Compendium has turned everyday items into extraordinary gifts, and everyday occasions into memorable events. The Seattle-based company creatively combines fresh, vibrant designs with thoughtful and inspiring words to create gift books, journals, greeting cards, stationery and desk accessories sold online and in thousands of specialty gift stores nationwide. Their products celebrate the best parts of the human spirit and highlight what it truly means to live inspired. For more information about Compendium, visit their website at [live-inspired.com](http://live-inspired.com).