

Booklist

Advanced Review – Uncorrected Proof

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Building Homes for All: Technology for a Fair and Green Planet.

By Elaine Kachala. Illus. by Catherine Chan

Mar. 2026. 96p. Orca, \$26.95 (9781459839564). Gr. 3–7. 610.10

Housing for health and well-being advocate Kachala takes a global look at housing and homes around the world, identifying problems, explaining contributing factors to issues, offering several practical solutions, and identifying multiple current innovations that are having positive effects across communities. This is a true STEAM offering with components devoted to scientific and engineering breakthroughs, creative green architecture and landscaping, kids' definitions of what *home* means expressed through original poems, and relatable explanations of emerging technologies ranging from immersive reality planners and robotic exoskeleton wearables to 3-D printed building materials and plenty of task-oriented drones and bots. Pages are filled with accessible, engaging text set off by subtitles, bulleted lists, color photos and illustrations, sidebars, and brief biographical profiles; back matter includes a detailed glossary and extended list of resources. Two overarching themes resonate throughout: first, that housing is a universal right, despite zoning laws and governmental actions that have been hindrances in the past, and second, that there is hope. The book concludes with practical action steps to get kids motivated to effect change.

— *Kathleen McBroom*