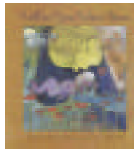


YOUNG READERS & LISTENERS



Alborough, Jez. **Some Dogs Do**. Candlewick, 2003. ISBN: 076362201X; \$15.99. *Some dogs do fly - and little pups everywhere are encouraged to dream big in an inspiring book that will speak to children facing new situations or lacking self-esteem.* (LC)



Aston, Dianna Hutts. **When You Were Born**. Illus. by E.B. Lewis. Candlewick, 2004. ISBN: 0763614386; \$15.99. *A mother uses lyrical language to describe the reactions of family and friends to the birth of a new baby.* (MSIn)



Barner, Bob. **Bug Safari**. Holiday House, 2004. ISBN: 0823417077; \$16.95. *This colorful picture book will make your eyes bug out with its appealing format and fascinating bug facts!* (Darien)



Brown, Margaret Wise. **Christmas in the Barn**. Illus. by Diane Goode. HarperCollins, 2004. ISBN: 0060526343; \$15.99. *First published in 1952, this Nativity story for the youngest children is newly illustrated by a Caldecott Honor artist.* (AL)



Chapman, Jane. **Sing a Song of Sixpence: A Pocketful of Nursery Rhymes and Tales**. Candlewick, 2004, ISBN: 0763625450; \$15.99. *Large, colorful illustrations accompany 22 nursery rhymes and three fairy tales for hours of fun.* (AO)



Connor, Leslie. **Miss Bridie Chose a Shovel**. Illus. by Mary Azarian. Houghton Mifflin, 2004. ISBN: 0618305645; \$16.00. *When Miss Bridie emigrates to America in 1856, she brings a shovel, which proves to be a useful tool through the blessings and challenges of her life. A spare story with lyrical language by a first-time CT author, illustrated with elegant woodcuts.* (Farm., MS)



Coots, J. Fred. **Santa Claus is Coming to Town**. Illus. by Steven Kellogg. HarperCollins, 2004. ISBN: 0688149683; \$15.99. *We all know the song, but Kellogg's illustrations will delight kids who are "naughty or nice."* *With lots of clever details and a clever 4-page foldout, Santa really arrives in style.* (AL, CN, BW)



Cronin, Doreen. **Duck For President**. Illus. by Betsy Lewin. Simon & Schuster, 2004. ISBN: 0689863772; \$15.95. *The creators of Click, Clack, Moo turn to politics in this knee-slapping tale of a duck with designs on public office.* (DT)



Funke, Cornelia. **The Princess Knight**. Illus. by Kerstin Meyer. Scholastic, 2004. ISBN: 0439536308; \$15.95. *World-acclaimed novelist Cornelia Funke strikes a winning blow for girl power in this royally fabulous, inspiring picture book.* (Glast.)



Glaser, Linda. **Mrs. Greenberg's Messy Hanukkah**. Illus. by Nancy Cote. Albert Whitman, 2004. ISBN: 0807552976; \$15.95. *When Rachel makes latkes with her friend Mrs. Greenberg, the project turns out to be a very messy one.* (AL)



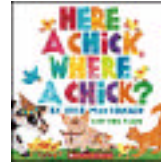
Henkes, Kevin. **Kitten's First Full Moon**. HarperCollins, 2004. ISBN: 0060588284; \$15.99. *Even the youngest will chuckle when Kitten thinks that "There's a little bowl of milk in the sky."* (Farm., MSIn, BTS)



Jenkins, Steve. **Actual Size**. Houghton Mifflin, 2004. ISBN: 0618375945; \$16.00. *Your little creatures will get a kick out of this book that showcases 18 animals in life-size collage illustrations.* (Darien)



Long, Melinda. **How I Became a Pirate**. Illus. by David Shannon. Harcourt, 2003. ISBN: 0152018484; \$16.00. *When Jeremy Jacob sets off on a pirate adventure, he loves doing everything the pirates do ... until he finds out what they DON'T do. Hilarious!* (Glast.)



MacDonald, Suse. **Here a Chick, Where a Chick?** Scholastic, 2003. ISBN: 0439455944; \$10.95. *Lively, colorful illustrations, reminiscent of Eric Carle, lead little ones on a lift-the-flap search for the frisky chicks.* (BTS)



McBratney, Sam. **You're All My Favorites**. Illus. by Anita Jeram. Candlewick, 2004. ISBN: 076362442X; \$15.99. *Mommy and Daddy Bear convince three worried cubs that there's plenty of love to go around in this comforting tale from the creators of Guess How Much I Love You.* (CN)



Polacco, Patricia. **An Orange for Frankie**. Penguin, 2004. ISBN: 039924302X; \$16.99. *For young Frankie and his family, there's a cloud over this joyous season: tomorrow is Christmas Eve and Pa hasn't returned from a trip. A tale of a boy who learned - and taught - an important lesson about giving, one Christmas long ago.* (Farm.)



Sierra, Judy. **Wild About Books**. Illus. by Marc Brown. Random House, 2004. ISBN: 037582538X; \$16.95. *Mary McGrew drives her bookmobile into a zoo and introduces the animals to the joys of books. Rollicking rhymed text, reminiscent of Dr. Seuss, combines with joyful paintings by Marc Brown (creator of Arthur) for a good-humored testament to reading.* (Farm., Glast., Groton, DT, Westport)



Whitman, Walt. **Nothing But Miracles**. Illus. by Susan L. Roth. National Geographic, 2003. ISBN: 0792261437; \$15.95. *Colorful collages of two cats enjoying the miracles of "ordinary" life as expressed in Walt Whitman's poem make this book a joy for all.* (CS)



Wilson, Karma. **Bear Stays Up for Christmas**. McElderry, 2004. ISBN: 0689852789; \$16.95. *Bear's friends awaken him the day before Christmas and help him stay awake as they bake cakes, fill stockings, and sing carols; then, while they sleep, he prepares his own surprise.* (Groton, RMZ)

MIDDLE READERS



Clements, Andrew. **The Last Holiday Concert**. Simon & Schuster, 2004. ISBN: 0689845162; \$15.95. *Hart Evans, the most popular boy in sixth grade, finds himself in charge of directing his school's holiday concert.* (Groton; CN)



Drake, Ernest. **Dragonology: The Complete Book of Dragons**. Candlewick, 2003. ISBN: 0763623296; \$19.99. *A visual treat for all dragon lovers, this book includes maps, letters, and other interactive elements of dragon lore.* (Darien, JL, KM)



Funke, Cornelia. **Dragon Rider**. Scholastic, 2004. ISBN: 0439456959; \$12.95. *A young dragon, an irritable brownie, and an orphan boy set out on a quest to find the mythical Rim of Heaven to save the remaining dragons on earth.* (TB, Groton, MS)



Haber, Melissa Glenn. **The Heroic Adventure of Hercules Amsterdam**. Dutton, 2003. ISBN: 0525471197; \$16.99 (also available in paperback). *Three inch tall Hercules Anderson must leave the safety of his Victorian dollhouse to save his beloved mice and their city.* (RG)



Hannigan, Katherine M. **Ida B. and Her Plans to Maximize Fun, Avoid Disaster, and (Possibly) Save the World**. HarperCollins, 2004. ISBN: 0060730242; \$15.99. *How does Ida B. deal with her life being turned upside down at home, at school, and everywhere she turns?* (Darien, ST)

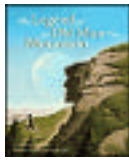


Kerr, P.B. **Children of the Lamp: The Akhenaten Adventure**. Orchard, 2004. ISBN: 0439670195. *For those who can't wait for the next Harry Potter book, read about 12 year old twins John and Philippa Gaunt, who discover they are djinn (genies). Their summer with Uncle Nimrod is full of magic, exotic places, and danger.* (MS)

More for Middle Readers on reverse ...



McDonald, Megan. **Judy Moody, M.D.: The Doctor Is In!** Candlewick, 2004. ISBN: 0763620246; \$15.99. *The fifth in a series of books about an irrepressible third-grade girl who has humorous adventures and class mishaps that somehow always come out right in the end.* (DH)



Ortakales, Denise. **The Legend of the Old Man of the Mountain.** Illus. by Robert Crawford. Sleeping Bear, 2004. ISBN: 1585362360; \$17.95. *This legend of Mohawk Chief Pemigewasset is a loving tribute to the New Hampshire mountainside profile known as the Great Stone Face, gone but not forgotten.* (MS)



Prelutsky, Jack. **If Not For the Cat.** Illus. by Ted Rand. HarperCollins, 2004. ISBN: 0060596775; \$16.99. *"Elegant and droll, this fine collaboration spotlights various animals through 17 haiku, each set against a stunning full-spread, close-range illustration of the featured creature in its natural habitat."* —*Publisher's Weekly.* (JL)



Rhatigan, Joe, & Rain Newcomb. **Paper Fantastic: 50 Creative Projects to Fold, Cut, Glue, Paint & Weave.** Lark Books, 2004. ISBN: 1579904769; \$19.95. *These artistic activities provide a great alternative to television.* (AO)



Ritter, John H. **The Boy Who Saved Baseball.** Philomel, 2003. ISBN: 0399236228; \$17.99. *Dillontown's beloved old ball field will be sold to developers unless Tom's team beats their rivals in a one time, decisive baseball game. Then a stranger rides into town, and suddenly, a miracle seems possible.* (MS)



Scieszka, Jon. **Science Verse.** Illus. by Lane Smith. Viking, 2004. ISBN: 0670910570; \$16.99 (includes CD). *In this companion to Math Curse, every science topic becomes a poem. The pictures are fun and the rhymes hysterical, especially when you listen to Jon and Lane reading them on the accompanying CD.* (Groton, MS)

OLDER READERS



Barry, Dave, & Ridley Pearson. **Peter and the Starcatchers.** Hyperion, 2004. ISBN: 0786854456; \$17.99. *Everyone knows the story of Peter Pan, but did you ever wonder how he learned to fly, why he never grows old, and how Captain Hook lost his hand?* (Groton, DH, MS)



Cano-Murillo, Kathy. **The Crafty Diva's D.I.Y. Stylebook.** Watson-Guptill, 2004. ISBN: 0823069931; \$12.95. *Great crafts to while away cold winter snowdays. Pair with craft supplies for a unique gift.* (Farm.)



Creech, Sharon. **Heartbeat.** HarperCollins, 2004. ISBN: 0060540222; \$15.99. *Twelve-year-old Annie has much to ponder the year that her mother becomes pregnant, her grandfather begins faltering, and her best friend becomes distant. A story about a young girl beginning to understand the rhythms of life and how she fits within them.* (TB)



DuPrau, Jeanne. **The People of Sparks.** Random House, 2004. ISBN: 0375828249; \$15.95. *This riveting science fiction story examines how wars begin and, more importantly, how peace can be achieved. Sequel to City of Ember.* (Glast., KM, DT, BTS)



Hart, Christopher. **Anime Mania: How To Draw Characters for Japanese Animation.** Watson-Guptill, 2002. ISBN: 082300158X; \$19.95. *One of a series of colorful, engaging drawing books for young artists and graphic novel fans interested in learning the anime style. Also: Manga Mania: How To Draw Japanese Comics (2001) and others.* (DF)



Holm, Jennifer L. **Boston Jane: The Claim** (Boston Jane trilogy). HarperCollins, 2004. ISBN: 0060290455; \$15.99. *This third book of the richly historical Boston Jane trilogy carries on the tradition of rip-roaring romance and adventure. It will take all of the spunk and spit Jane can muster to protect her land and preserve her dreams.* (Farm.)



Lagasse, Emeril. **Emeril's There's a Chef in My Family!: Recipes to Get Everybody Cooking.** HarperCollins, 2004. ISBN: 0060004398; \$22.99. *The celebrity chef extraordinaire presents this cookbook for the entire family, featuring 76 recipes for all meals of the day that can be prepared by kids, their parents, and even their grandparents.* (Farm.)



Stroud, Jonathan. **The Amulet of Samarkand** (Bartimaeus Trilogy #1). Miramax, 2003. ISBN: 078681859X; \$17.95. *Nathaniel, a magician's apprentice, summons up the djinni Bartimaeus and instructs him to steal the Amulet of Samarkand from the powerful magician Simon Lovelace. A witty, gripping adventure story.* (ST)

CONTRIBUTORS

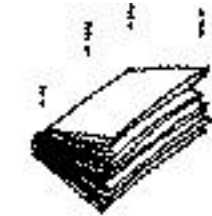
- Caitlin Augusta, Darien Library (Darien)
- Tess Beck, Stratford Library (TB)
- Lauren Coleman, Portland Library (LC)
- Jennifer Datum, Groton Public Library (Groton)
- Deborah Fleet, Voluntown Public Library (DF)
- Ruth Gaffey, Wallingford Public Library (RG)
- Dawn Higginson, Oxford Public Library (DH)
- Anna Komer, Darien Library (Darien)
- Amy Litke, New Britain Public Library (AL)
- Judy Locker, Windsor Public Library (JL)
- Kitty Lyons & staff, Westport Public Library (Westport)
- Suzanne Maryeski & staff, Farmington Library (Farm.)
- Karen McNulty, Avon Free Public Library (KM)
- Cathy Nelson, Berlin Peck Memorial Library (CN)
- Carole Noble, Welles-Turner ML, Glastonbury (Glast.)
- Annette Ouellet, Somers Public Library (AO)
- Sue Palmieri, Groton Public Library (Groton)
- Renee Pease, Welles-Turner ML, Glastonbury (Glast.)
- Martha Simpson, Stratford Library (MS)
- Maureen Slane, Prosser Library, Bloomfield (MSIn)
- Cris Staubach, Public Library of New London (CS)
- Diane Therrien, Brainerd Mem'l Library, Haddam (DT)
- Barbara Tolve-Silver, Windsor Public Library (BTS)
- Susan Turner, Avon Free Public Library (ST)
- Barbara Wysocki, Cora J. Belden Lib'y, Rocky Hill (BW)
- Rose Marie Zaharek, New Canaan Library (RMZ)

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The Connecticut Library Consortium is a non-profit, statewide membership organization for all types of libraries - public, academic, school, and corporate/special. CLC facilitates a variety of cost-saving and professional services in order to strengthen libraries' ability to serve their users.

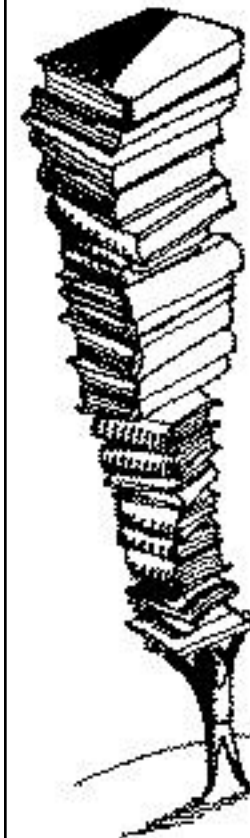
Best Books for Children:

A list for holiday gift-giving



*Compiled by the
Children's Librarians
of the Connecticut
Library Consortium*

November 2004



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