# The Book Tree

A Christian Reference for Children's Literature

Elizabeth McCallum Jane Scott

Canon Press

MOSCOW, IDAHO

Elizabeth McCallum and Jane Scott The Book Tree: A Christian Reference for Children's Literature

© 2001 by Elizabeth McCallum and Jane Scott Published by Canon Press, P.O. Box 8729, Moscow, ID 83843 800-488-2034 / www.canonpress.org

05 06 07 08 09 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2

Cover design by Paige Atwood Design, Moscow, ID Interior illustrations from EyeWire, Inc., Seattle, Washington. Printed in the United States of America.

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording, or otherwise, without prior permission of the author, except as provided by USA copyright law.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

McCallum, Elizabeth The book tree : a Christian reference for children's literature / Elizabeth McCallum, Jane Scott. p. cm. Includes index. ISBN 1-885767-71-4 1. Children's literature—Bibliography. 2. Christian literature for children— Bibliography. 3. Children—United States—Books and reading. I. Scott, Jane—II. Title. Z1037 .M287 2000 [PN1009.A1] 011.62—dc21 00-010305 To our husbands, whose love and understanding are a constant encouragement

### Contents

Foreword9
Preface
Preschool Literature
Elementary School Fiction
Middle School Fiction
Elementary/Middle School Biography 129
High School Fiction
High School Biography 173
Title Index 195
Author Index
Subject Index

## Foreword

According to Richard Hoggart, we now live in a "post-literate society." It is an opinion shared by many. As a result, it has become commonplace for prognosticators of the future to herald the impending demise of literature, of books, indeed, of the printed word.

Such dire warnings are not without warrant. There can be little doubt: electronic mass media have become the dominating means of conveying and purveying modern culture today. Television has become America's drug of choice—a kind of electronic Valium. And virtually everyone across this vast land is using it. More than ninety-eight percent of all households have at least one television set. In fact, more American households have televisions than have indoor plumbing. Not surprisingly, American children watch an inordinate amount of programming. Preschoolers watch an average of more than twenty-seven hours each week—more than four hours per day. On school nights, American teens are limited in their television consumption to only about three hours per night. In contrast though, they spend about fifty-four minutes on homework, less than sixteen minutes reading, about fourteen minutes alone with their mothers, and less than five minutes with their fathers.

The family that puts great stock in reading is, therefore, quite happily a breed apart. It is not that such folk are elitists, snobs, or ivory tower parvenus. On the contrary, they are often the most down-to-earth enthusiasts in any given community at any given time. It is just that over the course of their lives they have developed a taste for quiet reflection and substantive expression. They have acquired the habits of inquisitiveness and thoughtfulness. They appreciate riproaring yarns as much as harmonious nuances of narration; they relish well-drawn characters as much as graceful and temperate prose; they celebrate redolent imagination as much as clear articulation. They love words, ideas, and stories. They love to laugh and cry. They yearn for grace and consolation. They care passionately about beauty, goodness, and truth. They have learned the

•	•	•	•	•	•	٠	•	•	٠	•	•	٠	•	•	•	•	•	٠	•	٠

joyous journey of literary affections. They are, indeed, a breed apart.

Literary affections naturally give way to literary habits. Families who love to read will find the time to read—the distractions of life are simply crowded out. Even amidst the tyranny of the urgent which seems the natural accompaniment to modern life, they seem to be able to catch moments of quiet, snatches of solitude, brief interludes of attentiveness to the ideas and ideals of literature. Invariably, this relentless prioritizing of time leads to a necessary prioritizing of content. At some point every serious reading family comes to the realization that they will never be able to read everything they wish to, and so they turn their attentions to read everything they ought to—they refocus their attentions on the enduring masterworks: the classics.

As a result, such families invariably become inveterate and unapologetic list makers. There are lists of books that must be read. There are lists of books that must be reread. There are lists of books that must be read by others. There are lists of books that must be bought. There are bestseller lists. There are best-of-the-best lists. There are the indispensable book lists—those titles readers might profess to be their preferred companions were they stranded on a desert isle. It seems that list-making simply goes with the territory—it is the natural accompaniment to the shelf life.

Thus, this book will most certainly appeal to that breed apart—all those who nurture literary affections. It will sate even the most inveterate of list makers. How appropriate that a mother and her daughter—Elizabeth McCallum and Jane Scott—should have given us such a delectable treat. They have provided a guide to the best of children's literature serviceable for both veteran reading families and those just beginning their great journey of the imagination. I think you'll find that their accurate descriptions, careful recommendations, and cogent insights will prove to be as delightful as they will be invaluable.

I love books about books. I particularly love great books about great books. That is why I am so happy to commend this volume to you and your family it does a great job of introducing the great books to those of us who find ourselves in that happy literary breed apart.

George Grant

Professor of Moral Philosophy at Bannockburn College and author of *Shelf Life* and *The Micah Mandate*.

# Preface

THIS PREFACE IS YOUR ROADMAP FOR USING *THE BOOK TREE*. THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS will show you why this book was written and who can benefit from its information. It will give you some details about the selections we chose, including the layout of the book and our selection criteria. In short, this preface should help you make the best use of the information the book contains.

### Good Children's Literature Is Essential

We wrote our book because a book of this sort is greatly needed. *The Book Tree* is a recommended reading list for all ages, from preschool through high school, and it includes several unique features. It contains a selective array of excellent books for each age group. We believe with Walter de la Mare that "only the rarest kind of best of anything can be good enough for the young," so we have spent many years researching and reading old books and new, classics as well as recent releases. In this book, we provide a recommended list of classic books, as well as books by Christian authors, some little-known books by great writers and poets, and a sizable collection of inspiring biographies. Of course, we do not think that these are the only books worth reading. In fact, we are discovering new favorites all the time. We are simply sharing with you some of the books that we have especially enjoyed.

Another special feature is that each book we recommend is accompanied by a summary that seeks to capture the flavor of each selection in order to spark children's interest in the book. One of the main reasons we wrote *The Book Tree* was to encourage young people to cultivate a life-long love of reading. Cultivating a love of good books enriches our hearts, our minds, and our souls.

The question is sometimes raised, Why should we read *fiction*—shouldn't Christians be more concerned about reading what is *real*? We believe one answer to this question is that good literature can vividly confirm and nurture a knowledge of what is good and true. Good fiction allows us to vicariously

•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

experience conflicts between good and evil and thereby grow in wisdom. Jesus used parables not only to confuse the wicked but also to make a profound impact on His disciples.

Futhermore, a good story or an excellent biography inspires, instructs, and opens up new worlds of interest and activity. Children's characters and beliefs are deeply strengthened by the books they read. That is why it is imperative that their books be of high caliber. Good books not only supply excellence in content and literary structure but also provide challenging reading. Quality children's books are written by authors who, in the words of C. S. Lewis, "meet children as equals in that area of our nature where we are their equals.... The child as reader is neither to be patronized nor idolized: we talk to him as man to man."<sup>1</sup>

### This Book Is for You

12

*The Book Tree* will be a helpful resource for every member of the family. Thousands of children's books are currently available, and we have done some of the legwork for you: we have narrowed the books down to a recommended selection and given you an interesting taste of each book. *The Book Tree* not only allows young people to browse through a great selection of books but also helps homeschooling parents and teachers look for good books to supplement curriculum.

As you select books for your children, we strongly suggest that you avoid cartoon versions of classic children's stories that water down the story visually and verbally. We also recommend that readers read unabridged books, and we have therefore excluded all abridged editions with the exception of a fine abridgment of *David Copperfield* for young readers that was written by Dickens himself and a truncated version of *Les Misérables*, which would otherwise have extremely limited appeal.

We also warn parents that children's sections of bookstores and the local public libraries are no longer safe places for young children to browse unsupervised. The latest children's literature reflects an alarming tendency to focus upon sordid themes.

#### Preschool Children

Parents of little ones will use this book to find good stories to share with their children. Reading at this tender age is such a wonderful thing—for parents

Preface

13

and children alike. Unfortunately, many people assume that the quality of children's books is not important, and they are content to allow their little ones to read whatever comes to hand. As a result, sensitive, thoughtful children are fast becoming a rarity. We encourage parents to choose books of the highest caliber for their children and to read to them daily! You will find rich enjoyment and create happy memories as you read great books together. As children cultivate the habit of reading at an early age, they are more likely to be readers all their lives. The time you spend introducing your young ones to reading is a wonderful investment that will yield life-long fruit.

Preschool children need to be read stories that are beautifully written and beautifully illustrated. Both the sounds and the illustrations in children's books nurture their aesthetic sense. Young children love fairy stories and stories about talking animals and children engaged in simple tasks. They love enchanting rhythms and repetition. They want stories that reassure them about the love of God, the love of parents, the stability of home, and the orderliness of the world God has made. They need stories that praise good behavior. And, of course, they love to laugh.

#### Elementary Children

Parents, keep reading to your children throughout their growing up years. If you develop the consistent habit of reading good stories to them on a daily basis, they will *always* love hearing good stories. Elementary children are beginning readers and should be given character-building stories as well as stories that celebrate the simple joys of childhood. Their books should be those that reward the good and punish the wicked, that never condone or gloss over sinful behaviors, and that depict authority figures—such as parents, teachers, and pastors—in a positive light. Children of this age love animal adventure stories, mythology, Arthurian legends, fables, and books about the heroes of our faith and our American heritage. Also realize that when children are read to, they can comprehend at a higher reading level than when they read to themselves.

#### Middle School Children

*The Book Tree* will be helpful for middle school students looking for good books for reports or extra reading for pure enjoyment! Middle schoolers should be voracious readers. They should read an unabridged *Pilgrim's Progress* and every other good book they can get their hands on. The key at this age is to

#### The Book Tree

introduce children to a great deal of variety in their reading. Make sure that the books they read are worth reading. So much "junk food" juvenile fiction is available, and because these books are so easy to read, they are addictive. Children's creative imagination should be cultivated with lots of well-written fantasies. Middle schoolers love narratives about growing up, as well as thrillers, mysteries, and science fiction. They should also be given a steady diet of biography and historical fiction. Parents, keep reading to your older children. They need those special family times as much as you do, and they will love having you read the books that are sure to become some of their own favorites.

#### High School Students

14

The older we get, the more our tastes are defined, and the more help we need to find the books we like. If high schoolers can find their fiction niche, they will love to read. They should be encouraged to read old books—great classic novels, plays, and poems—*as soon as, and not before, they are old enough or ready to relish them.* And they often relish them far earlier than we tend to think. They should not make the mistake of shying away from old books, assuming that they won't understand them. In his essay "On the Reading of Old Books," C. S. Lewis comments that classics are often easier to understand than modern books, and that "the only palliative [for the mistakes of our age] is to keep the clean sea breeze of the centuries blowing through our minds, and this can be done only by reading old books."<sup>2</sup>

Young people who develop this love of good books are building the kind of character that will lead the future. The vast majority of people reach adulthood as non-readers. However, those who cultivate the life-long practice of reading good books will be characterized by a sharp intellect, an analytical mind, and a well-tuned sense of humor.

#### Homeschooling Parents and School Teachers

Teachers (both traditional and homeschool) will find *The Book Tree* a valuable resource. Standard literature textbooks do not adequately represent the classics, and teachers must constantly supplement their curriculum with great literature. *The Book Tree* will help teachers select books that are worth teaching and that students will enjoy. In addition, students routinely question teachers about books to read, or they want to know about the content of cer-

Preface

15

tain books. *The Book Tree* will allow them to browse, pick out a book that sounds good, and keep them coming back for more. Many young people become discouraged when they stumble upon books that do not interest them. After all, we all have different tastes and interests. Hopefully, *The Book Tree* will aid the book selection process and guide children to the kind of books they will read and reread.

### Grandparents, Aunts, Uncles, and Friends

*The Book Tree* is also a useful resource for anyone giving books to grandchildren, nieces, nephews, or young friends. One of the best presents you can give anyone, for any occasion, is a great book, and this guide will help you pick out just the right one. Not only will our book save you time looking at the endless titles on the bookstore shelves or browsing the on-line bookstore, but it will also help you make a thoughtful choice—"I picked this out for you because it's about . . . and I thought it sounded like something you would enjoy."

### An Overview of What's Inside

We have placed our selections in broad categories in order to indicate general levels of reading. These categories are as follows:

- Preschool Literature
- Elementary Fiction (which applies generally to readers in grades 1-5)
- Middle School Fiction (which applies generally to readers in grades 6–8)
- Elementary and Middle School Biography
- High School Fiction (which applies generally to readers in grades 9–12, and up!)
- High School Biography

Obviously, these categories will not apply to all readers alike. We encourage you to browse through all the categories to make sure you are not missing any treasures. C. S. Lewis wisely stated that "a children's story which is enjoyed only by children is a bad children's story. The good ones last."<sup>3</sup> Do not avoid "harder" selections simply because of the age or grade label; young people should be constantly challenged by more difficult books. Some students have even shifted their reading level up one full category (middle schoolers reading from High

16 The Book Tree

School Fiction; elementary students reading from Middle School Fiction).

We have also included three indexes at the end of the book. These will allow you to look for books by title, by author, or by subject.

### Our Criteria

Our criteria include the following:

1. Well-written literature. We looked for well-written literature because excellence in language pleases our Creator. Of course, the books we have included reflect a range of literary skill.

**2. Reader-friendly literature.** We attempted to avoid complex books that need formal instruction and guidance in order to thoroughly understand and enjoy the text. We wanted to make our list as user-friendly as possible.

**3.** Ethical standards. We hoped to recommend books that uphold Christian morality. We therefore did our best to select wholesome books and to eliminate those with blatantly objectionable content, language, or perspective. This is not necessarily to say that such books should be avoided altogether; however, they generally require critical, Christian analysis provided by mature readers, such as parents or teachers. Although we have omitted obviously objectional books, we have included important texts by non-Christian authors, such as London, Conrad, Hardy, Crane, and Twain, whose books belittle Christian thinking in subtle ways. Readers must approach these books as they should read *all* literature—with the discernment of biblical faith.

4. Visual appeal. In the case of preschool and elementary books that include illustrations, we attempted to recommend books that are visually appealing, because pictures have perhaps as profound an impact on young minds as the stories they illustrate. When such books have multiple editions, we tried to select the edition that we feel best illustrates the story.

**5.** Accessibility. Except for books that were too good to pass by, we tried to keep our selection of books as current as possible. We have also worked hard to provide up-to-date publication information on each book. You have several options for obtaining a book that is hard to find. Don't stop your search at the local bookstore. Out-of-print book search services are available, many of these online. In addition, public libraries are filled with books that are currently out of print. If you continue to come up empty-handed, we encourage you to contact us, and we will be glad to help.

Dere	Fago
PIP	LACE

17

We hope that you will find our recommendations useful as you look for favorites of your own. May you find our selections delicious and return often to *The Book Tree* to pick yourself a good book!

### **Contact Information**

We welcome your questions and your suggestions to include in future editions of this book. You may contact us at the following e-mail address: thebooktree@canonpress.org

*Soli Deo gloria*, Elizabeth McCallum and Jane Scott

<sup>1</sup> C. S. Lewis, *On Stories and Other Essays on Literature* (New York: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1982), p. 42.

<sup>2</sup> Lewis, *God in the Dock: Essays on Theology and Ethics* (Grand Rapids, Michigan: Eerdmans, 1970), p. 202.

<sup>3</sup> Lewis, On Stories and Other Essays on Literature, p. 33.



#### Alexander, Cecil Frances *All Things Bright and Beautiful* Illustrated by Mary Morgan

"All things bright and beautiful, All creatures great and small, All things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all." This beautiful song of praise is sweetly illustrated with scenes of children enjoying God's creation. (Grosset & Dunlap)

### Aliki

### A Medieval Feast

When the King and the Queen come to Camdenton Manor, many preparations must be made, because kings and queens do not travel alone! Everyone at Camdenton, from the lord and lady of the manor to the serfs who work the land, pitches in to prepare for the exciting royal visit. Detailed illustrations give you a picture of medieval life—hunting, hawking, dancing and *feasting*! (HarperCollins)

#### Aliki

#### The Story of Johnny Appleseed Illustrated by author

Johnny Appleseed, the gentle pioneer, travels across America with a cooking pan on his head and a bag of apple seeds on his back. Wherever he goes, he makes friends and leaves behind him a gift of apple trees. (Simon & Schuster)

#### Anderson, C. W. *Billy and Blaze* Illustrated by author

Billy loves horses more than anything else in the world, and one birthday his father gives him the most wonderful present: a pony. Billy and his new pony, Blaze, become the best of friends and enter the local Horse Show Competition.

The Book Tree

• • • • • • • • • • • •

Will they win the Silver Cup? You will also enjoy other books about Billy and Blaze such as *Blaze and the Gray Spotted Pony, Blaze and the Lost Quarry,* and *Blaze and Thunderbolt.* (Simon & Schuster)

Right from the very start Billy and his new pony seemed to like and understand each other.

#### Anderson, Hans Christian *The Ugly Duckling* Retold and illustrated by Troy Howell

A duck's newly hatched ducklings are all yellow and fluffy, except for one odd gray bird. The other ducks are unkind to the gray bird and call him an ugly duckling. Even his sisters and brothers ignore him. Finally, the ugly duckling runs away. How rejected he feels until one day he makes a wonderful discovery. (Putnam)

#### Anglund, Joan Walsh A Friend Is Someone Who Likes You

All kinds of people and things can be your friend—a boy or a girl, a dog or a cat, a mouse, a tree, a brook, or even the wind. Friends are all around you. (Harcourt, Brace)

#### Anglund, Joan Walsh *Spring Is a New Beginning* Illustrated by author

A book about spring when everything is fresh and "leafy-tipped and new." It lists all the childhood pleasures of springtime—sailing boats, finding birds' eggs, planting things, and picking spring flowers. (Harcourt, Brace)

### Ardizzone, Edward Little Tim and the Brave Sea Captain

Tim wants very much to be a sailor, but everyone says he is much too young. One day, he gets his chance. He runs away to sea as a stowaway. So begins Tim's big adventure during which he nearly ends up in Davy Jones's locker! You will enjoy all of Ardizzone's "Tim" books. (Lothrop, Lee & Shepard)

#### Banner, Angela Ant and Bee and the ABC

One day, Ant throws away his hat because it is too big for him, and Bee throws his away because it is too small. But when they begin to miss their hats, they decide to go off looking for them. They go to the place where Lost Things Are Saved in Boxes. There they find boxes for every letter of the alphabet, containing all sorts of interesting things, but do they find their hats? There are many other great "Ant and Bee" stories. (Trafalgar Square)

#### Bemelmans, Ludwig *Madeline* Illustrated by author

Madeline and eleven other little girls go to boarding school in Paris. One aw-

ful night, Madeline has to be rushed to the hospital to have her appendix taken out. When the eleven other little girls visit her and see all her toys, they cry and want to have their appendix out too. This is the first in a long series of "Madeline" books. (Penguin)

In an old house in Paris That was covered with vines Lived twelve little girls in two straight lines.

#### Benchley, Nathaniel Sam the Minuteman

Sam Brown's father is a minuteman in colonial America. That means he is part of the colonial militia and has to be ready to fight at a minute's notice. One day, British soldiers start marching from Boston to Concord. Sam and his dad leap into action to defend their town. And before anyone knows it, the American Revolution has begun. The next time the British march, Sam and the Minutemen are ready for them! Also read *George the Drummer Boy*. (HarperCollins)

#### Brinckloe, Julie Fireflies!

Fascinated with fireflies as they light the summer sky, a little boy catches them in a jar, watches them in wonder, and sadly lets them go. (Simon & Schuster)

#### Brink, Carol Ryrie *Goodie O'Grumpity* Illustrated by Ashley Wolff

When Goody O'Grumpity sets out to make a cake, all the Pilgrim children of the village flock to her house, hoping to get a scraping of the bowl. They watch the flour and eggs and spices transform into a magnificent brown cake! The recipe is included at the end of the story. (North-South Books)

#### Brisley, Joyce Lankester *Milly-Molly-Mandy*

In a nice, white cottage with a thatched roof live Mother, Father, Grandpa, Grandma, Uncle, Auntie, and, of course, Milly-Molly-Mandy. With errands to run for the family, teas to be planned with littlefriend-Susan, blackberries to be picked, and threelegged-races to be won, Milly-Molly-Mandy has Well, Milly-Molly-Mandy's legs were short, as I've told you, but they were very lively, just right for running errands.

hardly enough time to explore her new little attic bedroom, which is her very own. (Kingfisher)

#### Brook, Judy *Tim Mouse* Illustrated by author

Tim Mouse is enjoying a quiet, sunny nap one day when suddenly he hears that his friends the field mice are in great trouble. They are trapped in a cornfield that is being cut! Tim Mouse leaps into action and daringly saves his friends from a horrible fate. (Platt and Munk)

#### Brown, Marcia *Stone Soup*

Three hungry soldiers arrive at a country village, and none of the villagers will give them any food. So the ingenious men say they will make some soup out of a stone. They persuade the villagers to flavor the soup with vegetables and meat, and soon it is a delicious meal. The villagers are grateful to the soldiers for teaching them how to make soup from stones! (Simon & Schuster)

#### Brown, Margaret Wise **Big Red Barn**

This story describes the different animals that live happily together in the big red barn. They play all day until the sun goes down. Then they sleep safely in the barn, and only the mice are left to scamper in the hay. (HarperCollins)

#### Brown, Margaret Wise Goodnight Moon

This may very well become your favorite bedtime story. A little rabbit is tucked into bed but must say goodnight to everything in the room. The room grows darker and darker until finally the little rabbit is fast asleep. (HarperCollins)

#### Brown, Margaret Wise The Little Fir Tree Illustrated by Barbara Cooney

A sick little boy looks at the trees outside his window and longs for a tree of his own. Out in the forest is a lonely fir tree, so at Christmas time the boy's father digs up the tree and places it by the child's bedside. Other children visit and sing about Christ's birth. (HarperCollins)

#### Brown, Margaret Wise Little Fur Family Illustrated by Garth Williams

A little fur family wears little fur coats and lives in a tree. The father works, the mother takes care of her child, and the little fur child plays in the wild, wild wood. (HarperCollins)

And there was his father who put him to bed, and they tucked him in bed all soft and all warm, and they held his paw and sang him a song.



#### Brown, Margaret Wise The Runaway Bunny Illustrated by Clement Hurd

The little bunny wants to run away, but his mother tells him that wherever he goes, she will run after him because he is her little bunny. Whether he climbs up a mountain or hides like a flower in a garden, mother bunny is there to catch him in her arms and hug him. The little bunny decides that he might as well stay at home and be her little bunny. (HarperCollins)

#### Brown, Myra Berry *Pip Camps Out*

Pip decides to camp out in his backyard. The night becomes dark and menacing until he is joined by his dad. As they drink some hot chocolate, Pip decides that the backyard is not so scary after all. (Golden Gate Junior Books)

#### Burton, Virginia Lee *The Little House* Illustrated by author

The Little House lives in the country but is curious about the big city lights that twinkle far away. One day, a road is dug in front of the Little House, and before long she is surrounded by other houses, shops, and businesses, and finally by tall skyscrapers, an elevated train, and She didn't like living in the city. At night she used to dream of the country and the field of daisies and the apple trees dancing in the moonlight.

a subway. Now the Little House longs for the green fields and the daisies of the countryside. (Houghton Mifflin)

#### Burton, Virginia Lee *Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel* Illustrated by author

The terrific tale of the great tasks Mike and his prized steam shovel Mary Anne can accomplish. Mike and Mary Anne are determined to dig the foundation of the new town hall of Popperville—in one day! Mike is sure that his trusty machine is up to the job and that Mary Anne can out-dig the new Diesel shovels. But when Mike and Mary Anne finish the foundation on time, they still have a problem: how are they going to get out? (Houghton Mifflin)

#### Caudill, Rebecca The Best-Loved Doll

Betsy is invited to a party, and she must bring one doll—a hard decision since prizes are to be awarded. Girls whose best playmates are their dolls will enjoy reading about Betsy's choice and its results. (Henry Holt)

#### Caudill, Rebecca *Happy Little Family*

Bonnie is a happy four-year-old who has lots of fun and adventures with her mother, father, sisters, and brother, and she is in a great hurry not to be little any longer. You will also enjoy *Schoolhouse in the Woods*. (Holt, Rinehart and Winston)

#### Child, Lydia Maria *Over the River and Through the Wood* Illustrated by Christopher Manson

"Over the river and through the wood to Grandfather's house we go." This familiar poem about riding a sled to Grandfather's house for Thanksgiving Day is illustrated with beautiful woodcuts and includes the musical score at the end. (North-South Books)

#### Cooney, Barbara *Chanticleer and the Fox* Illustrated by author

Barbara Cooney has retold this tale found in *The Canterbury Tales*, a collection of short stories that Geoffrey Chaucer wrote in the 1300s. This is the story of a proud rooster named Chanticleer who is especially proud of his crowing. A fox tries to take advantage of Chanticleer's vanity, but the clever rooster finally manages to outwit the sly fox. (HarperCollins)

#### Cooney, Barbara *Miss Rumphius*

Miss Rumphius has always wanted to visit faraway places and live by the sea.

At last she fulfills these desires, but she also follows her grandfather's advice and makes the world more beautiful. She plants flowers everywhere she goes until the whole land is covered with pink, blue, and purple blossoms. (Viking)

"You must do something to make the world more beautiful," said her grandfather.



"All right," said Alice. But she did not know what that could be.

#### Cooney, Barbara Snow-White and Rose-Red

26

This is a retelling of a Grimms' fairy tale. Even though Snow-White is quiet and gentle, and Rose-Red is merry and lively, the two sisters are inseparable friends. One day, a friendly black bear comes into their cottage to warm up during a winter storm. The girls are eager to make him comfortable, and the bear becomes a regular visitor to their happy home. Snow-White and Rose-Red are even kind to a mean little dwarf, helping him out of all sorts of fixes. Before long, their compassion is well rewarded in the most surprising way. (Delacorte Press)

#### De Angeli, Marguerite Book of Nursery and Mother Goose Rhymes

A collection of the nursery rhymes you love best—funny tales, sad songs, and pretty poems. You will enjoy reading about little Bo Peep and Georgie Porgie and Daffy-Down-Dilly, and you will also love the soft illustrations Marguerite de Angeli has drawn. These poems will take you all the way up the hill to fetch a pail of water and all the way home again, jiggity-jig. (Doubleday)

#### De Brunhoff, Jean The Story of Babar

This first Babar story tells how Babar leaves the forest and comes to the city. He soon adapts happily to city life after he obtains a suit in a becoming shade of green. On his return to the forest, he is crowned King of the elephants, and Celeste is crowned Queen. This is the first of many other Babar adventures. (Random House)

#### De Regniers, Beatrice Schenk *May I Bring a Friend?*

When the King and the Queen invite a little boy to tea at the royal palace, they are perfectly agreeable to his bringing a friend. So every day, the boy comes to tea and one by one brings with him a giraffe, a hippo, an elephant, and a seal — not to mention monkeys and lions. Of course, the animals

The King and Queen invited me To come to their house On Sunday for tea. I told the Queen And the Queen told the King I had a friend I wanted to bring.



								]	Presc	chool	l Lite	ratu	re								27
٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠	٠

must return the invitation, so the King and Queen join them for tea—at the zoo. (Simon & Schuster)

#### Duvoisin, Roger *Petunia*

Petunia is such a silly goose that she thinks that if she carries a book around with her everyone will think her wise. Petunia becomes prouder and prouder, and her neck stretches longer and longer. To make matters worse, all the animals who seek her advice suffer greatly from her most unwise counsel. Finally, Petunia realizes what she must do in order to become truly wise. (Alfred A. Knopf)

#### Ets, Marie Hall *Just Me*

A little boy mimics all the animals on the farm. He waddles after Cocky the rooster, hoppity-hops like Rabbit, and even tucks in and hides like Turtle. But when he sees Dad untying his boat on the pond, he runs, just like himself. (Penguin Putnam)

#### Ets, Marie Hall *Play with Me*

A little girl tries to persuade different creatures to play with her, but they all run away. Then she sits in the meadow with

all run away. Then she sits in the meadow without making a sound, and all the creatures come out of their hiding places to play with her. (Penguin Putnam)

Oh, now I was happy as happy could be! For All of them—ALL OF THEM—were playing with me.

### Fatio, Louise *The Happy Lion*

The happy lion lives at the zoo in a French town.

All the friendly passers-by say "Bonjour" to him. One day, the happy lion walks around town, but his friends are no longer friendly. In fact, they are very scared. Finally, the zookeeper's son finds him, and the two of them walk back to the zoo together. (McGraw-Hill)

#### Field, Eugene *Wynken, Blynken, and Nod* Illustrated by Johanna Westerman

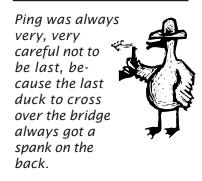
Three children make a magical voyage by moonlight. This poem is a special bedtime favorite. (North-South Books)

#### Flack, Marjorie Angus and the Ducks

The first in the series of "Angus" books. Angus is a Scottish terrier who is very curious about things. Above all, he wonders what is making the quacking noise that comes from the other side of the garden hedge. One day, Angus escapes from his house, dives under the bushes, and discovers what is making the strange sound. That's when Angus learns that it is best not to be too curious. You will enjoy other stories about this little dog, such as *Angus and the Cat* and *Angus Lost*. (Farrar, Straus, & Giroux)

#### Flack, Marjorie and Kurt Wiese *The Story About Ping*

Ping the duck lives with his mother and father and sisters and brothers and aunts and uncles and cousins on a boat on the Yangtze River. Each day, all the ducks leave the boat to find things to eat on the shore, and each night they return to the boat. The last duck on board always gets a spanking. So Ping is careful not to be last. One day, he *is* the last duck to return



to the boat, so he hides on the riverbank. Ping has some exciting adventures on the shore of the Yangtze River. (Penguin Putnam)

### Françoise

#### Springtime for Jeanne-Marie

Jeanne-Marie has two pets—a duck called Madelon and a sheep called Patapon. Madelon loves to swim on the river while Jeanne-Marie and Patapon watch. One day, Madelon does not come back. Jeanne-Marie and Patapon cannot find her anywhere, and they are very sad—but not for long! (Smithmark)

#### Freeman, Don *The Guard Mouse*

Clyde is a mouse who guards Buckingham Palace. One night, Clyde's friends, the Petrini family from New York City, come to visit him. Clyde gives them a tour of London town—Trafalgar Square, Covent Garden Market, London Bridge, and Big Ben, which nearly deafens them when it chimes. Then Clyde must scamper back to the Palace for the Changing of the Guard. (Viking Press)

#### Gag, Wanda Millions of Cats

Once upon a time, there was a lonely old man and a lonely old woman. The

man sets off to find the old woman a cat, but instead he finds hundreds and thousands and millions of cats. He brings them all home to the old woman. The old woman is dismayed, but she finds a way out of their dilemma. (Putnam)

#### Galdone, Paul *Henny Penny*

Henny Penny is a hen (of course), and when an acorn falls from a tree onto her head, she decides to tell the king that the sky is falling. A lot of barnyard animals go with her, but on the way a sly fox lures them into his

Thousands of cats Millions and billions and trillions of cats.

*Cats here, cats there,* 

*Cats and kittens every* 

where,

Hundreds of cats.



cave, and none of these foolish animals are ever seen again. Paul Galdone has also adapted and illustrated two other fables: "The Three Little Pigs" and "The Three Bears." (Houghton Mifflin)

#### Greenaway, Kate *Apple Pie* Illustrated by author

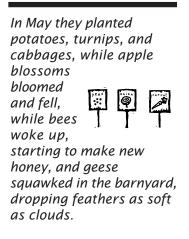
This book describes everything you can do to an apple pie, from A to Z—especially E, to *eat* it! You will love Kate Greenaway's illustrations. (Frederick Warne)

#### Grimm, the Brothers *The Bremen-Town Musicians* Illustrated by Paul Galdone

A cruelly mistreated donkey runs away to Bremen to look for a job as town musician. Along the way, he meets a tired old dog, a dismal cat, and a rooster escaping the soup pot. The foursome go on together to Bremen. On their way, they come across a robber's house. Though they are strong and scary men, the robbers turn out to be no match for the Bremen-Town "musicians." (Bantam Doubleday Dell)

#### Hall, Donald *Ox-Cart Man* Illustrated by Barbara Cooney

Every year, the farmer fills his ox-cart with all the left-over things he and his family have made or grown all year long—shawls and mittens, candles and shingles, apples and turnips, and everything else imaginable. He takes his load to market where he sells everything for a fair price. He then buys the supplies his family needs to make all sorts of new things. All year long, they carve and stitch and weave and



knit and plant on their happy little farm. (Penguin)

#### Heward, Constance Ameliaranne and the Green Umbrella

Ameliaranne Stiggins, who always comes up with good ideas, is upset because all her little brothers and sisters are ill and can't go to the Squire's tea party. At the party, she hides her own tea—jam tarts, iced cakes, and scones—in her umbrella to take home to the little ones. But what will happen when stern Miss Josephine finds out her secret? There are many wonderful "Ameliaranne" stories. They are currently out of print but well worth the search! (George G. Harrap)

#### Hoban, Russell A Birthday for Frances

As Mother and Father prepare for Gloria's birthday party, her big sister Frances wishes it were her birthday. She sulks instead of helping her mother with the preparations for Gloria's birthday, and when she buys her sister a present—a chocolate bar—Frances finds it's very hard to give up her delicious gift. (HarperCollins)

#### Hoban, Russell Bread and Jam for Frances

At breakfast time, the badger family is eating soft-boiled eggs, but Frances eats bread and jam because she is very fond of jam, and she is not very fond of eggs. In fact, at every mealtime, Frances wants just bread and jam. Her mother finds

a way to cure Frances of this bad habit. Also look for *A Baby Sister for Frances, Bedtime for Frances*, and *Best Friends for Frances*. (HarperCollins)

#### Hunt, Angela *The Tale of Three Trees* Illustrated by Tim Jonke

Angela Hunt has retold this tradi-

Jam on biscuits, jam on toast, Jam is the thing that I like most. Jam is tasty, jam is sweet. Jam is sticky, jam's a treat— Raspberry, strawberry, gooseberry, I'm very FOND . . . OF JAM!

tional American folktale about three little trees and what they dream of becoming when they grow up. One wants to be a beautiful treasure chest, one wants to be a sailing ship, but the third tree just wants to grow tall and point people to God. (Lion Publishing)

#### Johnson, Crocket Harold and the Purple Crayon

A little boy goes on a walk with his purple crayon and draws himself into some amazing adventures. If he needs something, he draws it. He draws an apple tree with a dragon to guard the apples. When he gets hungry, he draws a picnic lunch. When he falls off a mountain, he quickly draws a purple balloon to hang on to. When he gets tired, he draws his very own bed and lies down and goes to sleep. (HarperCollins)

#### Keats, Ezra Jack *The Snowy Day*

When Peter wakes one winter morning, he discovers a world covered with a blanket of snow. He scrambles into his snowsuit and runs outside to make crunchy tracks and snow angels, and he slides down snow mountains all the way to his house. The snowball he has saved in his pocket will never last the night, but in the morning the snow falls all over again. (Penguin Putnam)

#### Krauss, Ruth *The Carrot Seed*

A little boy plants a carrot seed. Then he waters and waits, weeds and waits, for the carrot to come up. Finally it does! (HarperCollins)

#### Krauss, Ruth *A Hole Is To Dig: A First Book of Definitions* Illustrated by Maurice Sendak

This is a little book of first definitions. What is a face? "A face is so you can make faces." And "A face is to have on the front of your head. Hands are to hold. A seashell is to hear the sea. Dishes are to do. A hole is to dig." (HarperCollins)

Mashed potatoes are to give everybody enough. Dogs are to kiss people. Hands are to hold.

### Leaf, Monro The Story of Ferdinand

Most of the other bulls of Spain want to

fight in the big bullfight, but Ferdinand likes to sit under a tree and smell the flowers. So when Ferdinand finds himself in the bullring with the Picadores and the Matador—well, all Ferdinand notices are the flowers in the ladies' hair! (Penguin Putnam)

#### Lear, Edward The Owl and the Pussy-Cat

You will love the funny nonsense verse of the Owl and the Pussy-Cat who "set out to sea in a beautiful pea-green boat." (Simon & Schuster)

#### Lenski, Lois *Cowboy Small*

Cowboy Small takes good care of his horse, Cactus. Cowboy Small rides out on the range, rounds up the cattle, rides a bucking bronco, and does all the other things real cowboys do. There are several other fun books in this series. (Henry Z. Walck)

#### Lenski, Lois *Prairie School* Illustrated by author

Prairie School in the 1940s is very different from schools today. The children ride to school on horseback, and the teacher lives at the schoolhouse. There are all kinds of things for the teacher to worry about, such as prairie fires and a dwindling coal supply. One year, teacher and children live through the worst winter in the history of the Great Plains. At recess, the children can't find their way back to the schoolhouse in the blinding snow, and the teacher throws them a rope to guide them back. When the Great Blizzard of '49 strikes, the children can't get home. The teacher is marooned with all her students and no coal. How will they survive? Some of Lois Lenski's other regional stories include *Blue Ridge Billy, Cotton in My Sack, Strawberry Girl*, and *Texas Tomboy*. (Lippincott)

#### McCloskey, Robert Blueberries for Sal

Little Sal carries her tin bucket to pick blueberries with her mother. Each blueberry she drops in goes "kuplink!" because her pail never gets full! On the other side of Blueberry Hill, Little Bear has also come with his mother to eat blueberries. Somehow, Little Bear and Little Sal get mixed up, and both mothers get a big surprise! (Penguin Putnam)

### McCloskey, Robert *Make Way for Ducklings*

This is the story of Mrs. Mallard's ducklings and their historic parade through the center of Boston. (Penguin) The policemen held back the traffic so Mrs. Mallard and the ducklings could march across the street, right on into the Public Garden.



#### McCloskey, Robert *One Morning in Maine*

One morning Sal wakes up with a loose tooth, and she is worried that she won't be able to go with her father to Buck's Harbor to dig for clams. But when her mother explains about becoming a big girl, Sal is very excited. After her tooth falls out, Sal and her father row across the bay to the grocery store, and Sal tells everyone in the village all about it. (Viking)

#### McGovern, Ann *Too Much Noise*

Old man Peter is unhappy about his noisy house, so the wise man of the village gives him some sage advice that teaches him to be content. (Houghton Mifflin)

#### MacLachlan, Patricia *All the Places to Love* Illustrated by Mike Wimmer

When Eli is born, his grandmother wraps him in a soft wool blanket and holds

him before an open window, so what he hears first in the world is the wind. Eli soon learns about the whispering river, the hills and the valley, cattails and turtles, blueberries and the open sky. When little sister Sylvie is born, Eli will show her all the places to love. (HarperCollins)

#### Miller, Edna *Mousekin's ABC*

Mousekin learns his alphabet by means of

the Acorns under the oak tree, the little brown Bat with his small pug nose, Cottontail who lives in the clover, and all the other creatures and flowers of Mousekin's beautiful world. (Prentice-Hall)

#### Milne, A. A. *When We Were Very Young* Illustrated by Ernest Shepard

These are poems that you will remember all your life. Some of our favorites are "Politeness" ("If people ask me, I always tell them, 'Quite well, thank you,

My grandmother loved the river best of all the places to love. They sound, like a whisper, she said; Gathering in pools Where trout flashed like jewels in the sunlight.

Preschool	l Literature

I'm very glad to say.'... But SOMETIMES I wish that they wouldn't."), "Buckingham Palace," "The King's Breakfast," and "Disobedience" ("James James Morrison Morrison Weatherby George Dupree took great care of his Mother, Though he was only three"). You will also want to read the poems in A. A. Milne's *Now We Are Six*. (Dutton)

#### Milne, A. A.

#### *The World of Winnie-the-Pooh* and *The House at Pooh Corner* Illustrated by Ernest Shepard

The adventures of Christopher Robin and his friends: Pooh, a very stout bear with no brain, little Piglet, Pooh's loyal friend whose ears stream out behind him when he runs, Tigger, who gets so bouncy that he has to be unbounced, Eeyore, a gray donkey who is al"The fact is," said Rabbit, "you're stuck." "It all comes," said Pooh crossly, "not having front doors big enough." "It all comes," said Rabbit sternly, "of eating too much."

35

ways very, very gloomy, and lots of other friends and relations. (Dutton)

#### Minarik, Else Holmelund *Adventures of Little Bear* Illustrated by Maurice Sendak

When Little Bear plays outside in the snow, he is cold, so he asks his mother for a coat, a hat, and finally snow pants, but when he discovers that he already has a fur coat of his own, he suddenly isn't cold at all! Follow Little Bear on lots of fun adventures! (HarperCollins)

#### Newberry, Clare Turlay *Mittens*

Richard is terribly upset when his kitten is lost, and even a newspaper advertisement fails to locate his new pet. (HarperCollins)

### O'Neill, Mary

#### Hailstones and Halibut Bones

"Purple is a violet opening in the spring. Red is a hotness you get inside when you're embarrassed and want to hide. Green is a coolness you feel in the shade of the tall old woods where the moss is made." All the colors, says this poem, have a wonderful story to tell. (Doubleday)