

The Book Tree

A Christian Reference
for Children's Literature

Elizabeth McCallum
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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.

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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

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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 rip-roaring 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

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.”¹

This Book Is for You

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

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."³ 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

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.

Preschool Literature



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.

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)



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 little-friend-Susan, blackberries to be picked, and three-legged-races to be won, Milly-Molly-Mandy has hardly enough time to explore her new little attic bedroom, which is her very own. (Kingfisher)

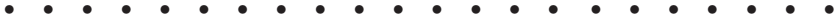
Well, Milly-Molly-Mandy's legs were short, as I've told you, but they were very lively, just right for running errands.

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

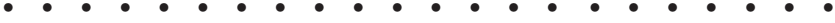
She didn't like living in the city. At night she used to dream of the country and the field of daisies and the apple trees dancing in the moonlight.

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)



Cooney, Barbara
Snow-White and Rose-Red

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.*





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)

Ping was always very, very careful not to be last, because the last duck to cross over the bridge always got a spank on the back.



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)



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)

*In May they planted
 potatoes, turnips, and
 cabbages, while apple
 blossoms
 bloomed
 and fell,
 while bees
 woke up,
 starting to make new
 honey, and geese
 squawked in the barnyard,
 dropping feathers as soft
 as clouds.*



Heward, Constance
Amelianne and the Green Umbrella

Amelianne 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 "Amelianne" 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)

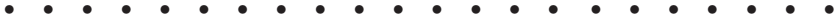
*Jam on biscuits, jam on toast,
 Jam is the thing that I like most.
 Jam is tasty, jam is sweet.
 Jam is sticky, jam's a treat—
 Raspberry, strawberry, goose-
 berry, I'm very
 FOND . . . OF JAM!*

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

Angela Hunt has retold this traditional 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 sea-shell 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)

*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.*



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,

I'm very glad to say.' . . . But SOMETIMES I wish that they wouldn't."), "Buckingham Palace," "The King's Breakfast," and "Disobedience" ("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 always very, very gloomy, and lots of other friends and relations. (Dutton)

"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."

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)