

**Good Picture Books for Preschoolers
La Grange Public Library, May 2008**

There's A Lesson In Here Somewhere

Hen Hears Gossip by Megan McDonald

Just like in the old game of "telephone", gossip and words get so changed around by the time they get from the first person to the last, that they are unrecognizable.

Fine as We Are by Algy Craig Hall

Adjusting to one new sibling is hard enough, but what about a whole crop of tadpoles?

The Perfect Bear by Gillian Shields

A beautifully illustrated new take on the old theme that the heart, not outward appearance, is what matters in the end.

Don't Be Afraid!

Cottonball Colin by Jeanne Willis

A gentle nudge for parents who would like to protect their children from every possible danger.

I'm Not Scared by Jonathan Allen

The sequel to the equally wonderful "I'm Not Cute" finds our Baby Owl holding onto his bravado when he needs to try and prove his bravery... to himself.

Snip Snap! What's That? By Mara Bergman

A favorite for storytimes, with an alligator who grows bigger page by page until the children take matters into their own hands.

Picture Books Where Art is Front and Center

Karate Hour and *Baseball Hour* by Carol Nevius

Kids who are interested in sports will love these picture books with dramatic drawings that really evoke movement and emotion.

Scoot by Cathryn Falwell

What better way to talk about nature in a picture book than to use natural materials in collage drawings? Notes at the end of the book add more to talk about.

Oodles of Animals by Lois Ehlert

Lois Ehlert can make magic with pinking shears and a hole punch. Her latest book full of animal creations inspires young artists!

A Kitten Tale by Eric Rohmann

Local resident and Caldecott winner Rohmann presents this charming tale of kittens and their first experience with snow.

Some (Mostly) New, Trendy, Fun, Quirky, Informative Picture Books, continued

Guaranteed to Make Small Children and Big People Smile

A Birthday for Cow by Jan Thomas

Just as good as her earlier book, *What Will Fat Cat Sit On?* Large, cartoon-like illustrations highlight this very silly story about Cow and his birthday turnip.

Maybe a Bear Ate It by Robie H. Harris

You need a good excuse when your book you've been reading disappears.

Penguin by Polly Dunbar

It can be frustrating to talk and talk to Penguin, when he won't talk back.

A Little Help from Your Friends

Grumpy Bird by Jeremy Tankard

Bright colors and simple animals against colorful fields of trees and flowers tell the tale of what happens when Bird has a grumpy day and his friends try to cheer him up.

Chicken and Cat by Sara Varon

A very expressive book without words, this is the story of cat and his troubles adjusting to life with his friend, the city chicken.

Dog and Bear: Two Friends, Three Stories by Laura Vaccaro Seeger

The first of two (so far) in this series about a dachshund and his best friend, a stuffed bear. Dog and bear are very gentle, sweet companions.

Miscellaneous New and Notable for Young Children

Kids Dish series of cookbooks, such as *Chocolate Chill-Out Cake* by Nick Fauchald

Step-by-step illustrations make these recipes kid friendly, and instructions are clear and simple.

Fun Food for Cool Cooks series, such as **Wormy Apple Croissants** by Brekka Larrew

Kids will love making Halloween treats such as "blood and guts nachos", and such delicacies as PBJ sushi. Like the set above, nice pictures and clear instructions are given for easy-to-follow recipes.

The Apple Pie that Papa Baked by Lauren Thompson

Sepia-toned illustrations and lots of repeated phrases add interest to an old story.

Spot 7 series – new Seek & Find Books published by Chronicle Books

I Spy and Waldo fans will love these books where kids (and their big people) are asked to find 7 differences in two pictures that seem the same. Extra challenges, too!

Read All About It by Laura Bush and Jenna Bush

The First Lady and her daughter promote reading and libraries in this joint effort.

La Grange Public Library Youth Services

www.lagrangelibrary.org May 2008

