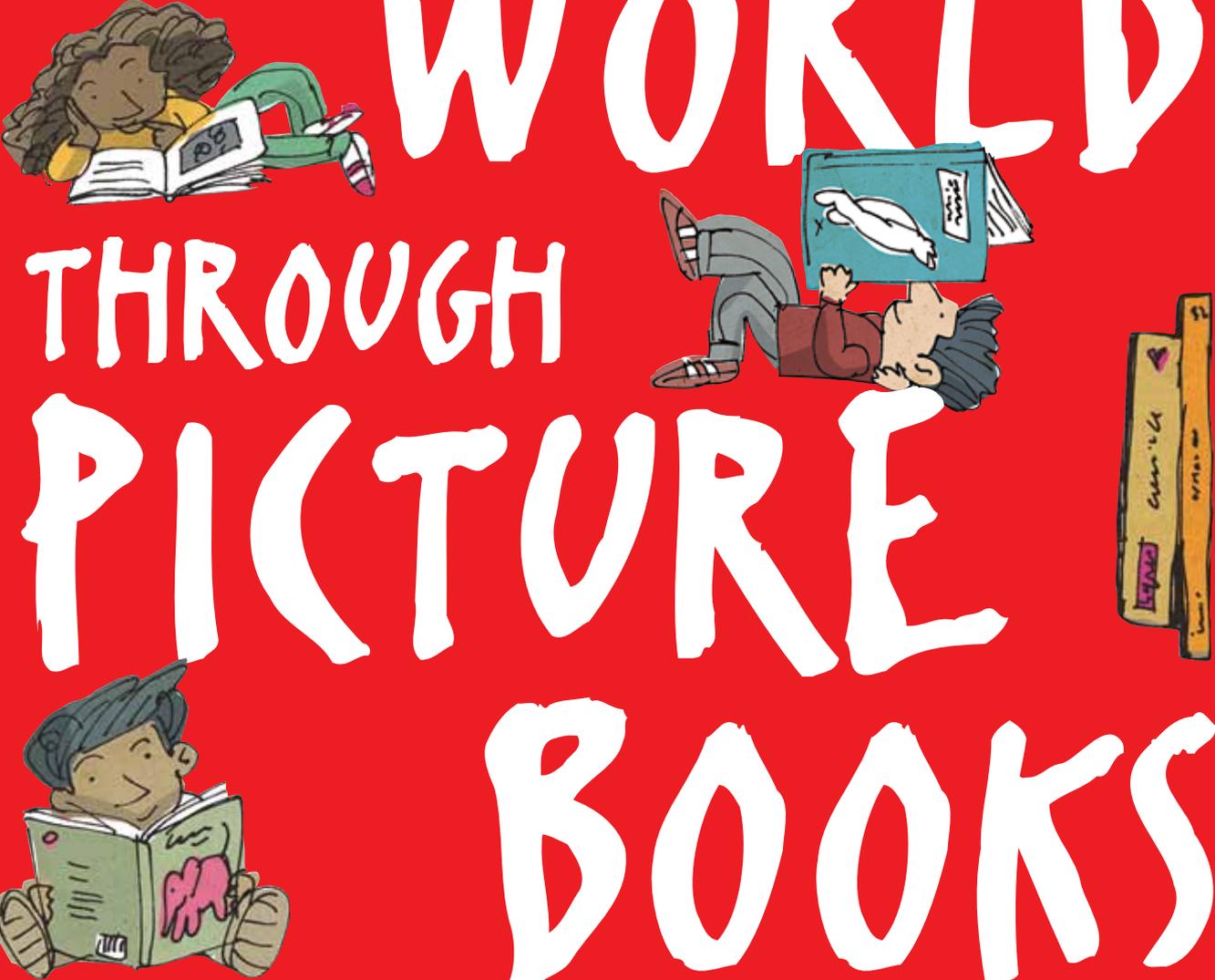


THE WORLD THROUGH PICTURE BOOKS

The title 'THE WORLD THROUGH PICTURE BOOKS' is written in large, white, hand-drawn letters on a red background. The word 'THE' is at the top left, 'WORLD' is at the top right, 'THROUGH' is in the middle left, 'PICTURE' is in the middle right, and 'BOOKS' is at the bottom. There are four illustrations: a girl with curly hair reading a book, a boy lying on his back reading a book, a boy sitting and reading a book, and a yellow bookshelf with two books.

Librarians' favourite books from their country

A programme of Section Libraries for Children and Young Adults, IFLA – International Federation and Library Associations in collaboration with IFLA section Literacy and Reading and IBBY – International Board on Books for Young People.



International Federation
of Library Associations
and Institutions
www.ifla.org

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The World through Picture Books, 2012
Edited by Annie Everall and Viviana Quiñones • Design by Ursula Held

Foreword

By Viviana Quiñones

Chair, IFLA Section Libraries
for Children and Young Adults
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We are very happy to publish the first results of this participative, international, ongoing programme, "The World through Picture Books". It deals with something we children's librarians must never lose sight of, even if we are so busy with new technologies, budget restrictions, everyday work...: read children's books and choose the best ones for our readers. Of course, we could spend hours discussing what "best" means, but one thing it surely means is very good books from the readers' own country and from as many other countries as possible... This is why, inspired by Kazuko Yoda's request to our Committee for advice on the "top ten" picture books in Committee members' countries, we launched "The World through Picture Books" programme, in 2011.

Librarians from thirty countries have already made their choice which we publish here, and, thanks to publishers' generosity, their selected titles will be exhibited in Finland, before circulating in Japan; another set of books is available for any library in any country wanting to exhibit them. Also, papers on the project and on picture books in different countries (on line on <http://conference.ifla.org/ifla78/session-99>) will be presented at IFLA conference in Helsinki.

We wish to thank warmly all country coordinators and the very numerous children's librarians that have worked for this programme: it is their participation that makes it valuable. And many warm thanks to Annie Everall for the hard coordinating work she has done and will continue doing...

Children's literature is a treasure for young and not so young people. If some of the selected books are widely known, most are not, yet... We hope these lists of favourites will allow for many happy readings all over the world.



Introduction

By Annie Everall

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The Programme

Children's Librarians all over the world understand how important picture books in both traditional and digital formats are for children. For their development, their cultural identity, as a springboard into learning to read for themselves; for their visual skills, and because of the precious moment of sharing them with an adult... It is then very important for children librarians to promote picture books and to ensure access to them.

The idea behind the World Through Picture Books is to create a list of picture books from around the world that have been recommended by librarians, as a tool for building bridges and developing understanding between countries.

The project is led by IFLA Children's and Young Adults section with support from partners IFLA Literacy and Reading section and IBBY (International Board on Books for Young People).

Aims of the programme

To create lists of picture books from around the world that have been recommended by librarians and which can then be used:

- As a way of celebrating and promoting the languages, cultures and quality of children's publishing around the world
- By countries wishing to purchase books from other countries and looking for 'favourite' titles
- By Sister Libraries as a way of exploring the children's literature of their 'Sister Library' country

Criteria for inclusion in the list

Each country is asked to submit ten picture book titles:

- Suitable for children aged between 0 – 11
- Books that are 'favourites', that have lasted or will last the test of time, and are seen as classics, representing the best in picture books from that country
- Must have been published by the country submitting them
- Are available in the original language
- Are of a good quality and a high standard of publishing
- Have text and illustrations that work very well together
- Reflect a positive message
- Are excellent for reading aloud and sharing with children
- Are in print and therefore still available for purchase

Information required for each title

Each country is asked to provide the following information for each of the titles included in their list:

- Name of the author
- Name of the illustrator
- Title of the book in the original language and its meaning in English
- Date of publication
- ISBN
- A colour image of the front cover
- A brief review of the book (in English and in the language of the country)



The results in 2012

Country Participation

Each country organised the selection of their ten titles in the way that worked best for their country. In some countries there was collaboration between IFLA members, IBBY, Library Associations and a range of national youth library organisations. A variety of methods were used from on-line surveys and national nominations and country wide voting to small groups of librarians discussing and determining their list. So far 32 country lists have been received, 29 of which are published now – Algeria, Guadeloupe and India, almost finished, and other new country lists will be published in a second edition.

Information on the lists

The books within each list are arranged in the order that the country sent them to us. Some are alphabetical and some have been arranged in order of votes received or priority given to them. The aim is to publish in the future the reviews in both English and in the language of the country – some are already available in the two languages, others only in English for the moment. The English spellings of words have also been left as they would be in each individual country.

For more information or comments about a particular list, the contact person for each country is mentioned on its pages.

If your country has not yet chosen its list of 'favourite' books but you would like to become involved, please contact Annie Everall – email annie@alannie.demon.co.uk

Book Exhibitions

Two exhibition collections of the books are being created, thanks to donations by the publishers. These will initially be exhibited in Joensuu and Helsinki as part of the IFLA 2012 satellite and general conferences.

They will then be based in the National Libraries of Japan and France and will be available for loan to libraries in all countries wishing to exhibit them – they will be responsible for costs of transportation, insurance and security. If you are interested, please contact Kazuko Yoda k.yoda2000@gmail.com or Viviana Quinones viviana.quinones@bnf.fr.

Impact of the Project

This has been a wonderful project to be involved with and its impact will become more visible once it starts to grow and the lists start to be used. The librarians who have been involved have very much enjoyed organising the list for their country and feel that they have learned a great deal. It has provided an opportunity to celebrate children's books and the particular richness of picture book publishing around the world as well as strengthening the partnership between librarians, publishers and authors. The publishers and authors feel honoured and proud to be featured in these lists, especially as they have been nominated by librarians as these comments demonstrate:

"I am thrilled that these three classic books, *Dear Zoo*, *Peace at Last* and *The Gruffalo* have been chosen by librarians to represent the UK in such an exciting international initiative. They have truly stood the test of time – and with good reason: each is a beautifully crafted book, perfectly pitched for its audience, engaging, satisfying and a joy to read aloud and share with a child again and again. That these books have been chosen by librarians makes their selection as classics especially meaningful since librarians are the experts who recognise which books really connect with children and families and therefore truly deserve classic status."

Suzanne Carnell, Publishing Director – Macmillan

"Desde Editorial Comunicarte deseamos agradecer a IFLA y a las bibliotecas escogidas por llevar adelante el Proyecto 'El mundo a través de libros álbum'. Compartimos los objetivos y, desde nuestro lugar de editores, intentamos publicar calidad en literatura e ilustración para acercar los mejores libros a niños y jóvenes. Somos una editorial radicada en Córdoba, una ciudad del interior



de Argentina. Nuestro catalogo incluye nueve colecciones de álbumes y libros ilustrados. Mucho nos complace que hayan reparado en *El árbol de lilas*, de María Teresa Andruetto y Liliana Mendéndez, Colección Vaquita de San Antonio”.

“Klaus [Flugge, Andersen Press] has told me that *Elmer* figures in the top ten list of favourites of librarians in the UK. Obviously I am delighted and Elmer feels honoured.... I've continually refused approaches to make films but in spite of that the books seem to reach more and more countries. If Elmer still continues to tell me his adventures, I'll still try to make them into books. Good luck with the project.”

David McKee, author and Illustrator of *Elmer*

‘I'm very happy that my picture book will be at the IFLA conference, it is an honour. Every appreciation and recognition of my work is the greatest motivation to continue what I'm doing and the great thing is that the children's librarians put it on the list. I'm happy to announce that in the autumn, I'm finishing the sequel to this picture book and I hope children (and librarians) will love it as much as they loved the first one”.

Pika Voncina, author and illustrator of *Emilija in the Land of Wheels*

“It is astonishing enough for me that British librarians chose to include *Dear Zoo* in this prestigious top ten for the IFLA project, but the knowledge that the book will then be part of an international exhibition as well is extremely humbling. I am quite overcome by this huge accolade, and can only thank those librarians nationwide who felt *Dear Zoo* deserved to be on the list.”

Rod Campbell, author and illustrator of *Dear Zoo*

Ideas for using the lists

There are many ways to use the lists. Here are some of our suggestions but if you find other ways of using them, do please let us know.

- Explore the cultures of other countries through their stories
- Use them for stock selection, to purchase books and build your international collection
- Build your own knowledge of books from other countries
- Use your own country list to generate publicity for the picture book publishing in your country
- Work with your Sister Library on activities linked to the lists of your countries
 - Video children in your library reading books off your list aloud and get your Sister Library to do the same and then share the videos
 - Explore the same story that has been published in your country and the country of your Sister Library
- Use the pictures in the books from other countries to get children in your country writing what they think the story is about
- Share your own ideas via the blog to be created



The Next Steps

Over the next months we will be:

- Encouraging more countries to work on producing a list for their country
- Developing the online catalogue further
- Ensuring each country list has reviews in both English and the language of that country (where appropriate)
- Looking at additional ways to use the lists
- Linking The World through Picture Books more closely to the Sister Libraries programme
- Encouraging countries to get media and press coverage for the project in their own countries
- Looking for ways to further promote the project
- Exploring ways of using social networking to promote the project
- Seeking funding to enable more promotional materials to be produced

BOOKS FROM Argentina

This selection from Argentina speaks for us as mediators, and for target groups: children. It is based on criteria that take into account the book and the reader. They are quality materials, in literary terms, illustration and publishing. We try to go beyond the aesthetic, covering political and ethical issues, which reflect our vision of promoting reading, and, of course, paying attention to the content of each book. We think in the tastes and preferences of readers, these books have been well received in the library and workshops. We are looking for books suitable to invite children to read, to imagine, to dream and fly...

1 María Wernicke **Uno y otro [One and other]**

CalibroscoPIO, 2006 • ISBN 987-22204-2-5

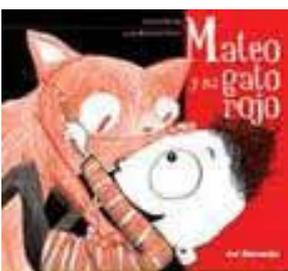


With characters like One, Another and No one and with the ability to play with colors and the feelings that they convey, this book asks us who we are and shows us that we are not always the same. In *One and other*, like in life itself, truth is relative, there is no truth in the singular, but in the plural, everything depends on who is speaking, when and where; it is important to have ears and eyes, willing to listen and see them. It praises diversity and the right to be different. It invites us to fly, but also to stop and look in the mirror.

Con personajes como Uno, Otro y Nadie y con la habilidad para jugar con los colores y las sensaciones que ellos transmiten, este libro nos pregunta quiénes somos y nos muestra que no siempre somos los mismos. En Uno y Otro, como en la vida misma, la verdad es relativa, no hay una verdad en singular, sino verdades en plural, todo depende de quién la diga, cuándo y dónde, para lo cual es importante tener los oídos –y los ojos– dispuestos a escucharlas – y a verlas –. Elogia la diversidad, y el derecho a ser distintos. Nos invita a volar, pero también a detenernos y mirarnos al espejo.

2 Silvina Rocha • Lucía Mancilla Prieto, ill. **Mateo y su gato rojo [Matthew and his red cat]**

Ediciones del Naranja, 2010 • ISBN 978-987-1343-24-9

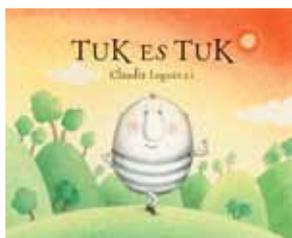


In Matthew's book, and inside the head of any child, many things happen, surprises, dreams, desires, concerns, sorrows; characters appear and stories are lived, like one about a cat, a mouse and a smile that is lost. With illustrations using only white, black and red, with a simple and familiar text, we find a book that makes us feel, imagine, identify and think about the other and what he or she needs in order to be fine.

Dentro del cuaderno de Mateo, como dentro de la cabeza de cualquier niño, suceden muchas cosas, sorpresas, sueños, deseos, preocupaciones, tristezas; surgen personajes y se viven historias, como la de un gato, un ratón y una sonrisa que se pierde. Con ilustraciones que utilizan sólo el blanco, el negro y el rojo y con un texto sencillo y cercano, nos encontramos con un libro que nos hace sentir, imaginar, identificarnos y pensar en el otro y en lo que éste necesita para estar bien.

3 Claudia Legnazzi **Tuk es Tuk [Tuk is Tuk]**

Ediciones del Eclipse, 2007 • ISBN 978-987-9011-71-3



Tuk inhabits a varied world, with its own laws, full of strange characters and objects. But who is Tuk? Is it a person? Is it an animal? The author and illustrator, one of the most recognized artists for children in Argentina, provides us with a story beyond the formal body of the book, told by her through both textual and paratextual elements. The words take form and, together with the illustration and the book as a whole, show the importance and richness of being different, and remind us that as Tuk is Tuk, each reader is unique.

Tuk habita un mundo variado, con leyes propias, lleno de personajes y objetos extraños. ¿Pero quién es Tuk? ¿Una persona? ¿Un animal? La autora e ilustradora – una de las más reconocidas artistas para niños en Argentina – nos brinda una historia más allá del cuerpo formal del libro, nos la cuenta tanto a través de lo textual como de lo paratextual. Las palabras adoptan formas y, junto con la ilustración y el libro en su conjunto, nos muestran la importancia y la riqueza de ser diversos, y nos recuerdan que así como Tuk es Tuk, cada lector es único e irrepetible.

4 Laura Devetach • Juan Lima, ill. **La hormiga que canta [The ant who sings]**

Ediciones del Eclipse, 2004 • ISBN 987-9011-62-7



Ants play, sing and leave us a path of verses and leaves. Chimichurri, chimichurri, chimichurri... slowly and rhythmically, like ants walking, joining the words with which the author composes these poems get together. Meanwhile, the illustrator plays with black, green and ochre in a dance of ants and leaves. In this book, John and Laura's ants sing to us and bring and take sheets... and verses. What page, what branch, what plan shall set it up?

Las hormigas juegan, cantan, nos van dejando un camino de versos y hojas. Chimichurri, chimichurri, chimichurri... despacito y rítmicamente, como el caminar de las hormigas, se van juntando las palabras con que la autora compone estos poema. Mientras, el ilustrador juega con los negros, verdes y ocre en una danza de hormigas y hojas. En este libro, las hormigas de Juan y Laura nos van cantando mientras traen y llevan hojas... y versos, ¿en que hoja, de que rama, de que planta, lo armarán?

5 Luis Pescetti • O'Kif, ill. **Caperucita Roja (tal como se la contaron a Jorge) [Little Red Riding Hood (as it was told to Carlos)]**

Alfaguara Infantil, 2009 • ISBN 978-987-04-0140-7

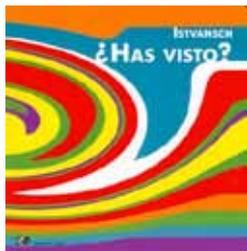


While his mother is not at home, George's dad tells him the story of Little Red Riding Hood in the common version. However, the child's imagination makes a very different character and a very different story: a self-assured girl, a superhero father and so on. The most interesting thing is that this dispute of imaginary characters is shown through the pictures. It is a modern day version of Little Red Riding Hood, through the eyes of a child. It's a classic with a twist. We read it as a challenge to devour, laugh and serve us on a platter.

Mientras la mamá no está, el papá le cuenta a Jorge la historia de Caperucita Roja en una versión muy correcta. Sin embargo, la imaginación del niño convierte al personaje en otro muy diferente: de una Caperucita obediente a una niña segura, que atraviesa el bosque sin miedo y un padre superhéroe y mediático que firman autógrafos; hasta un niño dispuesto a comerse al lobo. Lo interesante es que esta disputa de imaginarios se juega en las ilustraciones. Un libro para contar Caperucita en nuestros tiempos, con ojos de niño. Un clásico con una vuelta de tuerca. Leerlo nos plantea un desafío como participantes privilegiados para devorar, reír y servirnos en bandeja.

6 Itsvansch **¿Has visto? [Have you seen?]**

Ediciones del Eclipse, 2006 • ISBN 987-9011-83-X

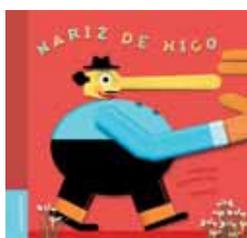


When you see a colored sheet, please look carefully. May be from that surface – even and apparently empty – comes up a huge world to discover. *Have you seen?* is a book to look at not only with the eyes, to imagine, discover the colors, play with them and get lost in the landscape.

Cuando veas una hoja de color, no dudes en mirarla atentamente, puede que de esa superficie – pareja y en apariencia vacía – salga un mundo inmenso a descubrir. ¿Has visto?... Un libro para mirar no solo con los ojos, para imaginar, descubrir los colores, jugar con ellos y perderse en el paisaje.

7 Roberta Iannamico • Bianki, ill. **Nariz de higo [Fig nose]**

Pequeño Editor, 2005 • ISBN 978-987-22094-1-4

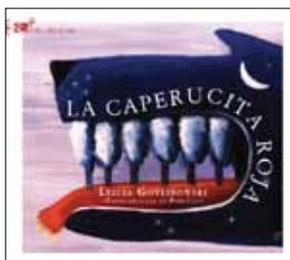


A poetry book dedicated to children's game that we keep in our memory, when an uncle, grandfather or father used to "pull off our nose" with their thumbs. Looking at the nose dancing on the edge of things, with playful objects is a way to remember the poetry hidden in small familiar gestures. The visual display maximizes the verbal, the verses dance playfully in a familiar world to the beat of leaves, ants, candy paper, ice cream spoons, ladybirds and paper cut outs. The question that remains is: will the use return to its place between your eyes, or will it remain forever in the hands of your uncle?

Un libro poético dedicado al juego infantil que guardamos en la memoria, cuando algún tío, abuelo o padre solía "sacar la nariz" con sus dedos pulgares. Ver a la nariz bailar por el borde de las cosas, junto a objetos juguetones es una forma de recordar la poesía escondida en pequeños gestos familiares. El despliegue visual potencia lo verbal, los versos danzan lúdicamente en un mundo familiar al compás de hojitas, hormigas, papeles de caramelo, cucharitas de helado, vaquitas de San Antonio y papeles recortados. La pregunta que nos queda es: ¿Retornará la nariz a su lugar entre tus ojos?, ¿o quedará para siempre en poder de tu tío?

8 Leticia Gotlibowski, ill. **La Caperucita Roja [Little Red Riding Hood]**

Ediciones del Eclipse, 2006 • ISBN 987-9011-76-7

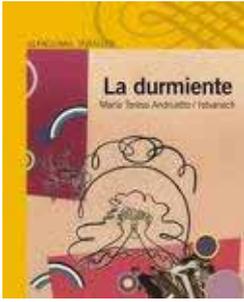


The original text by Perrault is recreated with a cutting-edge illustration that "rewrites" the story by giving it a surprising twist, through allusions to historical figures, paintings and landmarks of Paris and a touch of today. An ambiguous girl stalked by a multivocal wolf, will slip again and again through the trees of a forest of symbols. On one hand, the moral of the author and on the other, the guillotine of the Revolution. Fascinating book that reveals in each reading, items not previously seen and with them, it offers a new version of the traditional tale.

Este texto original de Perrault, se recrea con una vanguardista ilustración que "rescribe" la historia dándole un giro sorprendente, a través de alusiones a personajes históricos, cuadros y lugares emblemáticos de París y un toque de actualidad. Una ambigua niña, acosada por un lobo multívoco, volverá a escurrirse una y otra vez por entre los árboles de un verdadero bosque de símbolos. Por un lado la moraleja del autor y por otro la guillotina de la revolución. Libro fascinante, que devela en cada lectura, elementos antes no vistos y propone a partir de ellos, una nueva versión del cuento tradicional.

9 María Teresa Andruetto • Istvansch, ill. **La durmiente [The sleeper]**

Alfaguara Infantil, 2010 • ISBN 978-987-041-546-6



This work maintains the essence of the fairy tale, but a dilemma is raised with contemporary issues (poverty, sorrow, need, the struggle of gender) with a deep social conscience. The story of the princess who originally is part of a political process, is told with a unique and poetic rhythm, is expanded to an iconic network of photos, paintings, cuttings and drawings. Without aesthetic renunciations, this book invites the reader to “wake up” to an ethical reflection, in order to think ourselves in this world.

Esta obra mantiene la esencia del cuento de hadas, pero plantea un dilema con temáticas contemporáneas (la pobreza, el dolor, la necesidad, la lucha de género) con una profunda sensibilidad social. La historia de la princesa que participa originalmente de un proceso político, narrada con un ritmo singular y poético se expande ante un entramado iconográfico de fotos, pinturas, recorte y dibujos. Sin renunciamentos estéticos plantea “despertar” a una reflexión ética, para pensarnos en este mundo.

10 María Teresa Andruetto • Liliana Menéndez, ill. **El árbol de lilas [The lilac tree]**

Comunicarte, 2006 • ISBN 987-602-015-3



Is it a tale or a poem? It is a story of love, searching and waiting in the shade of a tree that was far to touch us closely. A parable of the journey in search of what we want. This book is a tale with a circular structure that is fragmented into silences that can only be filled by the reader. The illustrations at times open the game with ambiguity and lead to the senses beyond what the words say, maintaining a delicate thread of connection to the text. An exquisite and suggestive book, that talks about warmth and serenity, and the discovery of happiness.

Cuento o poesía? Una historia de amor, de búsqueda y espera a la sombra de un árbol que estaba lejos para tocarnos cerca. Una parábola del viaje en busca de lo que queremos. Un relato de estructura circular, que se fragmenta en silencios que sólo pueden ser llenados por el lector. Las ilustraciones por momentos se abren al juego con la ambigüedad y dan lugar a los sentidos más allá de lo que dicen las palabras, manteniendo un delicado hilo de conexión con el texto. Un libro exquisito, sugerente, que habla del abrigo, de la serenidad Y del hallazgo de la felicidad.



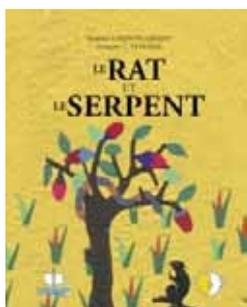
BOOKS FROM

Benin

This is the choice of two librarians working in the children's section of the Médiathèque de l'Institut français de Cotonou, together with Mathilde Gall and V. Quiñones.

1 Béatrice Lalinon Gbado • François Yemadje, ill. Le Rat et le serpent [The Rat and the Snake]

Ruisseaux d'Afrique, 2007 • ISBN 978-99919-63-21-1



This modern tale is based on the homonymy of the word "good": the rat understands it as man's kindness, whereas the snake drools over man's delicious taste... François C. Yemadje illustrates this story with tapestries made of applied dyed cloth, using ancestral techniques of the royal court of Dahomey kings. Characters and landscapes become thus deeper and more symbolic. Other illustrated folktales are published in the same collection "Lunes enchanteresses" (Enchanting moons).

Ce conte moderne repose sur l'homonymie du mot « bon » : le rat entend la bonté de l'homme, F. C. Yemadje quand le serpent salive sur le goût délicieux de l'homme illustre cette histoire d'incompréhension avec des appliqués sur tissus, savoir-faire ancestral de la Cour d'Abomey transmis de père en fils par charge royale. Personnages et paysages acquièrent ainsi profondeur et force symbolique plus grandes encore. On trouve d'autres contes très illustrés dans la collection Lunes enchanteresses.

2 Béatrice Lalinon Gbado • Roger Boni Yaratchahou, ill. Le Roi de la palmeraie [The King of the palm grove]

Ruisseaux d'Afrique, Eburnie, 2007 • ISBN 978-99919-63-10-5 and 978-28477-01-47-0



Near Dékan palm grove, there lives a traveller's tree that dreams to reproduce with his palm neighbour... Why that is impossible, that is the enigma the squirrel must solve. A non-fiction picture book on the reproduction of unisexual plants, well illustrated with watercolours depicting an oasis with poetry and subtlety. Every title in this collection "À la découverte de la vie" (Discovering life) treats a specific natural sciences subject, starting with a fictional story, to enhance the pleasure of learning.

Près de la palmeraie de Dékan vit un arbre du voyageur qui rêve de se reproduire avec son voisin palmier... Pourquoi est-ce impossible, telle est l'énigme que doit résoudre l'écureuil. Un documentaire sur la reproduction des plantes unisexuées, bien servi par des aquarelles dépeignant une oasis pleine de poésie aux couleurs subtiles. Chaque titre de cette collection « À la découverte de la vie » aborde un point très ciblé de sciences naturelles, en partant d'une fiction (conte, récit quotidien...), avec un réel souci du plaisir de l'apprentissage.

3 Alexandre Gbado • Claude Adjaka, ill. **Je voudrais redevenir bébé [I'd like to be a baby again]**

Ruisseaux d'Afrique, Eburnie, Kalaama, 2004 • ISBN 978-99919-53-16-7, 978-2-84770-091-6 and 978-2-915343-15-1

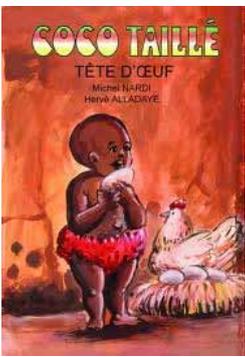


A baby will be born in the compound where little Kouagou lives. The informative side of this picture book in the collection "A la découverte de la vie" (Discovering life) is discreet here; what is important, is the child's questioning, and his concern about his own "past" as a baby. Tenderness and a tone that sounds right, in delicate harmony with large colour areas with the child in the centre. A picture book to read and to look at with small children.

Un bébé va naître dans la concession où vit le petit Kouagou. L'aspect "documentaire" de cet album se fait très discret au profit d'une approche sensible des interrogations de l'enfant, de ses inquiétudes aussi sur son "passé" de bébé. C'est une jolie réussite : un ton juste et léger, de la tendresse, en délicate harmonie avec les grandes plages de couleur avec l'enfant en leur centre. A lire et regarder avec les tout petits.

4 Michèle Nardi • Hervé Alladayè, ill. **Coco taillé tête d'œuf [Coco taillé, egg-shaped head]**

Ruisseaux d'Afrique, 2006 • ISBN 978-99919-53-47-2

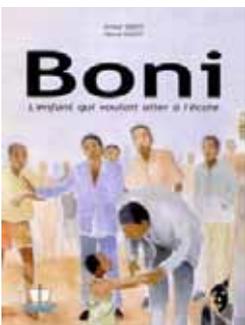


But where is "Coco taillé" ? He's smeared his face with corn flour. Then, he's put sand into the drinking water bowl. Then... ah, one has to keep an eye on him! This is one of six books featuring the youngest child in the compound, with stories told by images full of humour and tenderness, for very young children (as all titles in collection Le Serin).

Mais où est « Coco taillé » ? Il s'est barbouillé de farine de maïs. Puis, il a mis du sable dans la cuvette d'eau potable. Puis... ah, il faut le tenir à l'œil ! C'est l'un de six titres autour de Coco, le plus jeune enfant de la concession. À hauteur de tout-petit, des histoires en images pleines d'humour et de douceur. D'autres titres pour jeunes enfants dans cette collection « Le Serin ».

5 Amour Gbovi • Hervé Gigot, ill. **Boni, l'enfant qui voulait aller à l'école [Boni, the child that wanted to go to school]**

Ruisseaux d'Afrique, 2009 • ISBN 978-99919-53-42-6

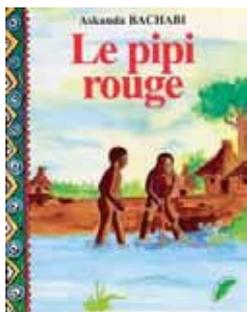


Boni, "blessed child" in bariba language, is meant to be a farmer and indeed, he does good work in the fields. However, he has one thing in mind, to go to school and he decided to make his dream come true. Page after page the reader sees Boni's life flourish, through the simple words of the text and beautiful watercolours, full of light. Narration goes fast at the end of the book, with Boni as an adult, first a banker, then president of Benin (Benin current president's name is, in fact, Yaya Boni), a president much concerned about public education.

Boni, « enfant béni » en langue bariba, est né sous une bonne étoile. Destiné à devenir cultivateur, il travaille effectivement très bien au champ Mais une seule et unique idée occupe son esprit : aller à l'école. Et il décide de réaliser son rêve... Le lecteur suit cette petite vie s'épanouissant au fil des pages, à travers des mots simples et justes et de belles aquarelles lumineuses. Le temps de la narration s'accélère brusquement à la fin du livre et l'on retrouve Boni, adulte, devenu banquier, puis président du Bénin (le président actuel du Bénin s'appelle en effet Yayi Boni), un président très soucieux de l'instruction publique.

6 Askanda Bachabi **Le Pipi rouge [Red pee-pee]**

Ruisseaux d'Afrique, Eburnie, Kalaama, 2004 • ISBN 978-99919--53-05-2, 978-2-84770-085-5 and 978-2-915343-47-2

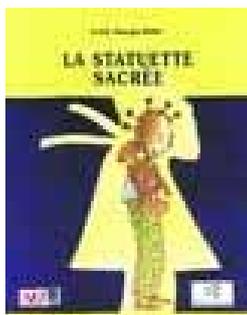


All children have lots of fun at the village pond, until the day when one of them notices his pee-pee is red. It's bilharzias. One must know more about this disease, treat it, not bathe in the village pond... One of the titles in the collection "Enfant et santé" (Child and Health): small picture books using a story happening in children's daily life, to give information on health issues.

Au village près du marigot, tous les enfants s'amuse comme des fous dans l'eau, jusqu'au jour où l'un d'entre eux s'aperçoit qu'il fait un pipi tout rouge. C'est la bilharziose. Il faut en savoir plus sur cette maladie, se soigner, ne plus se baigner dans le marigot... C'est l'un des titres de la collection « Enfant et santé »: des petits albums qui apportent, par le biais d'une histoire de fiction dans l'univers familier de l'enfant, des informations d'alerte et de prévention sur des questions touchant à la santé et aux maladies.

7 Georges O.J.R. Bada • Hector D. Sonon, ill. **La Statuette sacrée [The Sacred Statuette]**

Nouvelles Editions Ivoiriennes, 2001 • ISBN 978-2-84487-119-0

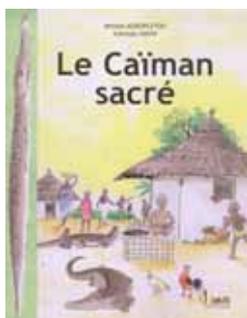


Gbodja and Tété are inseparable twins. But Gbodja dies of fever and Tété is now alone. As is the custom and to relieve her pain, Tété is given a statuette representing her brother. But the sacred statuette disappears and the girl finds it at an art dealer's. The text sounds right and touches the reader; drawing and colours are tender. This picture book evokes death and the loss of a dear one and also, on another level, desecration and the traffic of artworks in Africa. It certainly expresses sadness, but in a cheerful way, full of life. On a similar subject, by the same publisher, *Grand-mère Nanan* by Véronique Tadjou.

*Gbodja et Tété sont deux jumeaux inséparables. Un jour Gbodja est emporté par une grosse fièvre et Tété reste seule. Selon la coutume et pour soulager sa douleur, on lui donne une statuette qui représente son frère. Mais la statuette sacrée disparaît et la fillette la retrouve dans la vitrine d'un marchand d'art. Le texte sonne juste; les illustrations jouent sur des tonalités et un graphisme doux. Cet album évoque la mort et le deuil d'un être cher et, sur un tout autre registre, la désacralisation et le trafic des oeuvres d'art en Afrique. Il exprime, certes, la tristesse mais sur un mode de gaieté et plein de vie. À noter sur un sujet proche et chez le même éditeur, *Grand-mère Nanan* de Véronique Tadjou.*

8 Messan Agbopletou • Adamah Hanvi, ill. **Le Caïman sacré [The Sacred Cayman]**

Graines de pensées, Ruisseaux d'Afrique, 2008 • ISBN 978-99919-63-33-4 and 978-2-916101-12-5



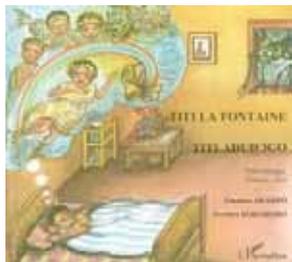
Because King Akuamu is very cruel, the Adan people decide to find a new homeland. But their march is soon stopped by a gigantic river. The crossing will be possible thanks to a miraculous bridge made of tree trunks – in fact, caymans, to which a cult is born, in acknowledgment for their help. These legend of the Adan people living in South Ghana, Togo and Benin, is completed by some pages of information on the cult of the sacred cayman. Other titles in this collection *Cauris d'or*, co-published in Togo and Benin, provide interesting fiction with a supplement on cultural traditions.

*Parce que le roi Akuamu est très cruel, le peuple Adan décide de chercher une nouvelle terre d'accueil. Mais sa marche est bien vite arrêtée par un gigantesque fleuve. Sa traversée sera rendue possible grâce à un pont miraculeux de troncs d'arbres - en réalité des caïmans auxquels un culte sera rendu, en remerciement du passage. Cette légende du peuple Adan, qui vit au Sud du Ghana, du Togo et du Bénin, est complétée par un dossier sur le culte du caïman sacré. D'autres titres de la collection *Cauris d'or*, co-édité au Togo et au Bénin, proposent des fictions intéressantes complétées de dossiers autour de traditions culturelles.*

9 Gustave Akakpo • Kudzovi B. Norbert Kokoroko, ill.
G. M. Kwasi Fiaga and S. Y. G. Gableame Gbedemah, transl.

Titi la fontaine / Titi aĐuĐogo (bilingual French – Ewe) [Titi the Fountain]

L'Harmattan, 2003 • ISBN 978-2-7475-3240-2

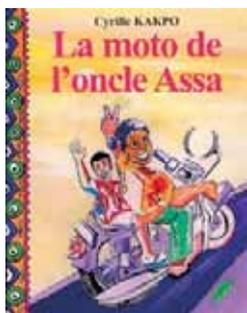


Titi has wet her bed again... Her mother is not happy, the children in her neighbourhood go looking for her, find her, tie a rope with three frogs around her waist... That night, Bibi Rikiki the frog-shaped monster enters Titi's bedroom and tries to put on her the mask that will steal her dreams. Titi is so scared that she wets her bed and the whole room, and the monster disappears in the water. Simple, lively text and colourful, expressive illustrations by an author and illustrator from Togo. Text in French and in Ewe, spoken in Benin, Togo, Ivory Coast and Ghana. Dozens of children's books in different African languages in the collection Contes des quatre vents (Tales from the four winds).

Titi a encore mouillé ses draps... Sa mère n'est pas contente, les enfants du quartier la poursuivent et lui attachent une cordelette avec trois grenouilles... La nuit tombée, Bibi Rikiki le monstre-grenouille se faufile dans la chambre de Titi et essaie de lui mettre le masque qui lui volera ses rêves. Titi a si peur que ses draps se mouillent, la chambre se remplit d'eau et le monstre disparaît dans l'eau. Un texte simple, vivant, et des illustrations colorées et expressives par un auteur et un illustrateur togolais. Texte en français et en éwé, langue parlée au Bénin, au Togo, en Côte-d'Ivoire et au Ghana. Des dizaines de livres de jeunesse dans différentes langues africaines dans la collection Contes de quatre vents.

10 Cyrille Kakpo
La Moto de l'oncle Assa [Uncle Assa's motorbike]

Ruisseaux d'Afrique, Eburnie, 2004 • ISBN 978-99919--53-01-4 and 978-2-84770-083-1



What a pleasure it is to ride on Uncle's motorbike... But the fumes it gives off are so bad for the environment ! One of the titles in the collection "Enfant et santé" (Child and Health): small picture books using a story happening in children's daily life, to give information on health issues.

Monter sur la moto de Tonton pour aller en ville, quel plaisir, mais la fumée noire qui s'en dégage, quel dégât pour l'environnement ! C'est l'un des titres de la collection « Enfant et santé » : des petits albums qui apportent, par le biais d'une histoire de fiction dans l'univers familier de l'enfant, des informations d'alerte et de prévention sur des questions touchant à la santé et aux maladies.

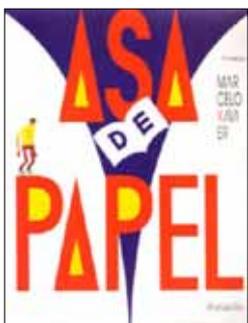
All book reviews are adapted from those published in the journal *Takam Tikou*.



BOOKS FROM

Brazil

This selection made by FNLIL, the Brazilian section of IBBY, has attempted to express the variety of Brazilian editorial production for that particular age group (0 to 11 years), as produced in the past four decades. The choice was nearly all based on books that stand out because of text and illustration quality, with FNLIJ's official recognition by means of the FNLIJ Award or the FNLIJ Highly Recommendable Label. Each one expresses characteristics that are inherent to books considered to be of good quality both here and abroad. Finally, we would clarify that, in Brazil, we consider books with many illustrations and short texts as a part of the "children" category. For textless books, those that contain only illustrations, the category is called "image book". The titles of the books presented in English here do not necessarily correspond to the way they were published in that language, and are merely an attempt to clarify what it means to prospect readers.



1 Marcelo Xavier • Gustavo Campos, phot. **Asa de papel [Paper wing]**

Formato, 2006 • ISBN 8572080937

Characters and objects molded in modeling plastic assembled in small props in a succession of good-humored, lyrical, intriguing, surreal images, where the very same character, always in varied situations, is reading a book. It is introduced as a source of pleasure, joy, information, wisdom,

as company and refuge. Without exactly narrating a story, the short, precise and poetic text takes the reader on a journey of expectation leading to a surprise ending to the character with her grand paper-winged companion. Winner of the FNLIJ Children Award in 1994.



2 Bartolomeu Campos de Queirós • Elisabeth Teixeira, ill. **Até passarinho passa [Even little birds fly away]**

Moderna, 2003 • ISBN 8516036413

This book was the winner of FNLIJ's Hors Concours Children Award in 2004. The story addresses a character recalling his childhood days, the cozy home, and the very special relationship he shared with nature and birds. He established a particularly strong friendship with a certain bird, based on silent sunny afternoons, and faces the prevailing emptiness

after the loss of his friend. Having reached a finalist position for the Hans Christian Andersen award twice, the author relies on a text that inspires bucolic images to address death in a light and poetic manner. The illustrations corroborate the lightness of the text. In 2008, Bartolomeu won the IV Prêmio Ibero-americano SM de Literatura Infantil y Juvenil.



3 Eva Furnari **Bruxinha Zuzu [The little witch Zuzu]**

Moderna, 2010 • ISBN 8516066871

This work was awarded FNLIJ's Highly Recommendable label for the Image category in 2011. Eva Furnari's illustrations make readers smile, as they, along with Zuzu, a clumsy little witch, are overwhelmed by the unexpected results of the magic tricks. The spells never go

as she expects, and always take her by surprise. Eva pioneered success in Brazil with image only books, in the 1980's, with her little witch character. She was awarded a number of FNLIJ prizes. In 1996 and 1998, she was included in IBBY's Honor List.

4 Ronaldo Simões Coelho **Macaquinho [Little monkey]**

FTD, 2011 • ISBN 8532276025

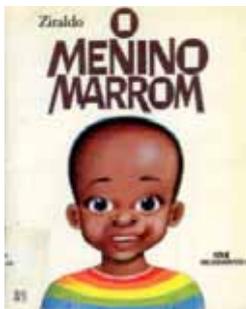


This is a classical Brazilian album that speaks of affection between father and son. Originally published in 1985, it still overwhelms readers. The books' format has been changed has been changed by the publisher but they have retained the original illustrations. Every night, the little monkey went to his father's bed and would not let him sleep. Everyday, there was a different excuse: it was either because of cold, hunger,

or fear. And his father was always willing to solve the problem. Until one day, when the cub tells the real reason why he wanted to go to his father's bed. Father and son grow even closer. The illustrations by renowned Eva Furnari clearly express the affection contained in the text. This book has been translated and distributed for free in Mexico and Bolivia.

5 Ziraldo **Menino Marrom [Brown Boy]**

Melhoramentos, 2001, 28th edition • ISBN 8506010098



In this book (FNLIJ Children Award 1987), Brazil's grand artist Ziraldo, author of *O menino maluquinho*, a national classical work of children's literature, speaks about the relationship between two children, two friends: the brown boy and the pink boy. Along the story, both make discoveries

about colors and ethnicity, restating that true friendship is a value that goes far beyond these concepts. Also an illustrator himself, the author has been awarded many prizes and has been nominated three times for IBBY's HCA award: 1988, 1990, and 1992.

6 Ana Maria Machado • Claudius, ill. **Menina bonita do laço de fita [Pretty girl with ribbon trap]**

Ática, 2001, 7th edition • ISBN 8508066392



Winner of the Hans Christian Andersen award in 2000, Ana Maria Machado tells us the story of a white rabbit who finds the ribbon girl's dark skin a most beautiful thing. He likes it so much that he tries to find where the color came from so his offspring can have their hair as black as a panther's. This book has been translated into several languages and is one of the author's classical works, because of the many prizes it has been given: Américas, Best Latin Books in the USA category in 1997; Colombia's Fundalectura

Highly Recommendable, and ALIJA, Buenos Aires's Best Latin American Children's Book, both in 1996; Venezuela's National Library's Best of the Year in 1995; Honorable Mention in the São Paulo Biennial as One of the Five Best works in the Biennial. Awarded several FNLIJ prizes for various books, the author also won the Tokyo Noma Illustration Contest's Runner-up award in 2000, the same year when she was nominated for IBBY's HCA award.

7 Odilon Moraes **Pedro e lua [Peter and the moon]**

Cosac Naify, 2004 • ISBN 8575033387

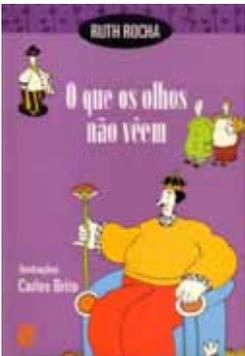


Little Pedro is a boy who happens to be charmed by the moon, until he finds out that the pebbles he finds are fragments from it. Pedro, which means “pebble”, sympathizes with the pebbles, as he thinks they might miss home. A turtle comes across his path and, given the similarity of its shell with the earth’s satellite, the boy names her Lua (*moon*). A strong and beautiful friendship arises and is firmly established between the two

of them. Lua can no longer stay away from Pedro. In this book, that speaks of friendship and death, Odilon Moraes manages to harmonize text and beautiful black and white images, providing the work with a delicately poetic tone. In 2005, the book was awarded FNLIJ’s Children Award. In 2009, it was included in the White Ravens catalog of Munich’s International Library.

8 Ruth Rocha • Carlos Brito, ill. **O que os olhos não vêem [What the eyes don't see]**

Salamandra, 2003, 2th edition • ISBN 8516035697



The people in this kingdom started to suffer after the king caught a disease that kept him from seeing and hearing small people. The disease spread on to the king’s aides in such a way that the people were no longer seen or heard by them. After all, the subjects were all so very small... One day, however, they discover they could be heard if they spoke all at once in a very loud tone voice. Based on the popular saying “Eyes that don’t see, heart that doesn’t feel”, the story challenges authoritarianism and reflects upon politics, as it shows what happens when rulers fail to work with and for the people. Even with these complex concepts, Carlos Brito’s illustrations manage to

express to readers all of the fun that is necessary to awaken their imagination. The work is part of the renowned cycle of kings, around which the author has another three books that reflect upon the dominant/dominated issue. In 1982, it was awarded FNLIJ’s Children Award.

Ruth Rocha was one of the authors who started the new children and youth literature in Brazil, in the late 1960’s. She is a most renowned author in the country. The first edition of this book, in 1981, was launched in the final moments of the dictatorship in this country, which officially extended until 1985. In 2002, she was nominated by FNLIJ for IBBY’s HCA Award.

9 Eliardo França **O rei de quase-tudo [The King of almost-everything]**

Zit, 2004 • ISBN 8589907171



The King of Almost-Everything had nearly everything: land, armies, and a lot of gold. But he was dissatisfied with the “nearly”; he wanted *everything*. So, he decided to have more land, more armies, more gold. Still dissatisfied, he wanted to own the flowers, the fruit, the birds, the stars, and even the sun. Having conquered all of these things, the King of Nearly-Everything eventually understood that there were still many more things which would never be his. In this

prize-winning story—FNLIJ’s Children Award in 1975—Eliardo França manages to make young readers reflect upon complex concepts such as authoritarianism, materialism, inner peace. This is a masterpiece from a decade of excellent harvest within Brazilian children’s literature. This was the first book to be awarded a FNLIJ prize. In that same year, it was given another one in the BIB (Bratislava Biennial of Illustration), in former Czechoslovakia, currently the Czech Republic.

10 Graça Lima, Mariana Massarani and Roger Mello **Vizinho, vizinha [Neighbour boy, neighbour girl]**

Companhia das Letrinhas, 2002 • ISBN 8574061492



This interesting work by renowned illustrators Graça Lima, Mariana Massarani and Roger Mello shows a little of the hustle-bustle and, at the same time, the solitude of life in a large metropolis. The quiet neighbor who plays the clarinet, has a rhinoceros pet, collects books and old stuff, merely greets her next door neighbor, who reads comic books, drinks coffee,

and builds a paper town. Amidst the manias of neighbors who hardly ever see each other, there lies a question: What relations have we been establishing with people in the past few decades? The three authors have received many awards by FNLIJ, which gave the book the Highly Recommendable label in 2003 in the Children Category.

BOOKS FROM Cameroon

This is the choice of six librarians working in children's libraries in Cameroon (three in Yaoundé, one in Douala, one in Bamenda): Delphine Sylvie Balle, Institut français, Douala; Charles Kamdem Poeghela, CLAC, Yaoundé; Bernadette Maurice, Lucioles, Yaoundé; Joséphine Mbouka, Alliance française, Dschang; Olive Njuekou, Alliance française, Bamenda; Edith Noga, Centre Culturel François Villon, Yaoundé. The books are listed starting from the most voted for.

N.B. All consulted librarians have selected titles published by Akoma Mba, now out of business, which are no longer available and are therefore not mentioned on the list: *Le Vieux char* [The Old Tank], *L'Arbre à merveilles* [The Wonder Tree], *Matiké*, *Bella fait la classe* [Bella teaches lessons]...

1 Kidi Bebey • Christian Kingue Epanya, ill. **Pourquoi je ne suis pas sur la photo? [Why Aren't I in the Photograph?]**

Edicef, Clé, 1999 • ISBN 2-84129-634-2

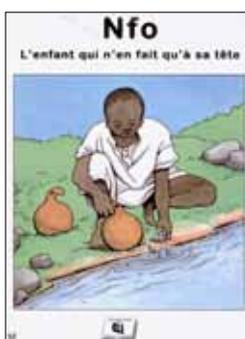


"Where are we when we are not yet born?", Titi wonders, realising that he does not appear on every photograph in the family album. He asks the question each day of the week to a different person, but only his mother's answer will really be satisfying... A simple text that sounds true, beautiful illustrations by Christian Epanya, full of life and colour. This very accomplished picture book delights children.

«Où est-ce qu'on est quand on n'est pas né?» se demande Titi en réalisant qu'il n'apparaît pas sur toutes les photos de l'album familial. Chaque jour de la semaine il interrogera quelqu'un de son entourage, mais il n'y aura que la réponse de sa maman qui le satisfera vraiment... Un texte simple qui sonne vrai, de très belles illustrations de Christian Epanya, remplies de vie et de couleurs. Un album très réussi qui enchante les enfants.

2 Ernest Mbanji Bawe **Nfo: L'enfant qui n'en fait qu'à sa tête [Nfo, the boy that does as he pleases]**

Clé, 1999 • ISBN 978-2-7235-0400-3

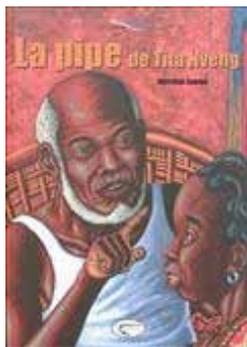


A charming picture book featuring a small boy. Fetch water, crush maize with a mill: Nfo would like to do what his mother asks but he is in such a hurry, he so much wants to amuse himself... On the theme of a small boy doing one silly thing after the other and suffering the consequences, a simple text accompanied by large, lifelike illustrations, with singular charm: it is a pleasure to discover a West-Cameroon lifestyle.

Un album attachant mettant avec grâce un petit bonhomme au centre du monde. Chercher de l'eau, écraser du maïs au moulin: Nfo voudrait bien faire ce que sa mère lui demande, mais il est tellement pressé, il a tellement envie de s'amuser... Sur le thème du petit garçon qui accumule les bêtises et en subit les conséquences, un texte simple accompagné de grandes illustrations très parlantes, au charme singulier: on a plaisir à y découvrir un cadre de vie camerounais.

3 Christian Kingue Epanya **La Pipe de Tita Nveng [Tita Nveng's Pipe]**

Orphie, 2010 • ISBN 978-2-87763-535-6

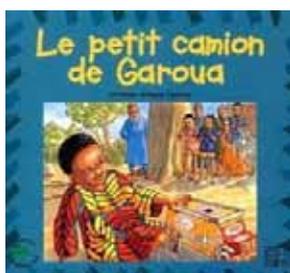


The vanishing of a pipe in a small village near Ebolowa in Cameroon has remarkable consequences: grand-father is so furious to be deprived of tobacco that he refuses to harvest palm wine, which deprives villagers from their daily fix, which exasperates them... Until little Engoulou confesses: she is guilty of having broken her grand-father's pipe, ruining her holidays at the plantation that she had so much looked forward to... Misbehaviour, the weight of a secret, reconciliation: a very good story, for its themes, its progression and its rhythm. It is always a pleasure to plunge into Christian Epanya's illustrations, in shades of red and orange, creating, with just some details, a special atmosphere and characters that seem real.

Une histoire de pipe disparue dans un petit village du Cameroun, près d'Ebolowa... Cette disparition va avoir des conséquences notables : colère du grand-père sevré de tabac, qui refuse alors de récolter le vin de palme, ce qui prive les villageois de leur ration quotidienne, ce qui provoque leur exaspération... Jusqu'à ce que la petite Engoulou révèle son forfait : c'est elle qui a cassé la pipe de son grand-père, gâchant ainsi les vacances à la plantation qu'elle attendait avec tant d'impatience... Une bêtise, le poids de son secret, la réconciliation : une histoire très bien vue dans ses thèmes, sa progression et son rythme. On a toujours plaisir à plonger dans les images de Christian Epanya, baignées de rouges et d'orangés, qui en quelques détails savent planter une atmosphère particulière et camper des personnages que l'on aurait déjà rencontrés...

4 Christian Kingue Epanya **Le Petit camion de Garoua [The Little Truck of Garoua]**

Edicef, 2001 • ISBN 978-2-84129-794-2

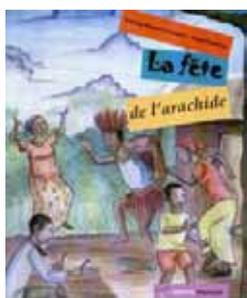


Back from Garoua to his village in North Cameroon, Konan seems to have something in mind : he goes to his mother's kitchen, then to the grocer's, then to the bike repairer's, then to the basket-maker's... picking up different objects and materials. But what is he up to, this boy?, wonder all those who see him and follow him. He's made a truck! A beautiful truck! It's Uncle Amadou's truck, in Garoua ! Fanta is very proud of her little Konan, she hugs him tight in her arms. Luminous illustrations, colourful and warm, rendering the village life affectionately.

Revenu de Garoua dans son village du Nord Cameroun, Konan semble avoir quelque chose derrière la tête : le voilà qui passe dans la cuisine de sa maman, puis chez l'épicier, le réparateur de motos et de vélos, les femmes qui tressent des paniers... et récolte différents objets et matériaux. Mais qu'est-ce qu'il fabrique, ce gamin?, se demandent tous ceux qui le voient et qui le suivent. Un camion! Vraiment beau... c'est le camion d'oncle Amadou, à Garoua! Fanta est très fière de son petit Konan. Elle le serre très fort dans ses bras. Illustrations lumineuses, colorées, chaleureuses, rendant avec affection la vie du village.

5 François Kammo Melachi • Katia Castanie **La Fête de l'arachide [Peanut Feast]**

Tropiques, Cultures Sud, 2010 • ISBN 978-9956-042-2

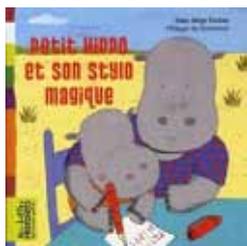


A non-fiction picture book on peanut culture and its role in Cameroon's life and economy, by means of the story of a boy on holiday with his grandparents at the village. Information is given through the grandfather's answers to the boy's questions. The book, the first by the very young F. K. Melachi, is the laureate of a contest organised by an NGO wishing to give children in central Cameroon books depicting their daily life. Melachi's illustrations are informational (on the tools, the phases of culture, the houses...) and if they seem a bit stiff, character's faces are expressive and landscape, rendered with poetry.

Un album documentaire pour faire découvrir la culture de l'arachide et son rôle dans la vie et l'économie du Cameroun, à travers une petite histoire mettant en scène un garçon venu au village voir ses grands-parents pour les vacances. Par le jeu des questions de l'enfant et des réponses du grand-père, on fait le tour du sujet. C'est le premier livre du très jeune illustrateur F. K. Melachi. Ses images sont informatives (les outils, les étapes de la culture, l'habitat...) et si les personnages paraissent un peu raides, leurs visages sont expressifs et les paysages, rendus avec poésie. Cet album est le résultat d'un concours organisé par une association afin de donner aux enfants de la région du centre du Cameroun des livres parlant de leur quotidien.

6 Alain-Serge Dzotap • Philippe De Kemmeter, ill. **Petit Hippo et son stylo magique [Little Hippo and his magic pen]**

Bayard jeunesse, 2010 • ISBN 978-2-7470-3208-7

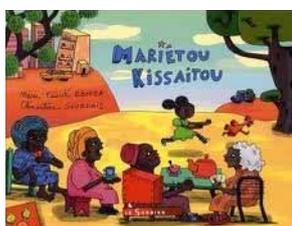


Daddy Hippo gives Little Hippo a red pen for his birthday, a pen “full of beautiful things”... Little Hippo tries to take those beautiful things out of the pen, but cannot, nor can his sister, nor the Hen, nor the Giraffe... Finally, Mother Hippo shows him how to use the pen and soon, the whole world begins to come out of it...

Papa Hippo offre à Petit Hippo un stylo rouge pour son anniversaire, un stylo «plein de belles choses»... Petit Hippo essaie de sortir ces belles choses du stylo, mais il n'y arrive pas, ni sa sœur, ni la Poule, ni la Girafe... Finalement, Maman Hippo lui montre comment se servir du stylo et bientôt, la terre entière commence à en sortir...

7 Marie-Félicité Ebokéa • Clémentine Sourdaïs, ill. **Mariétou Kissaïtou [Marietou Whoknowsall]**

Le Sorbier, 2008 • ISBN 978-2-7320-3907-7



When you know all, you are afraid of nothing: this is what little Mariétou believes. Bold, brave, she's always the first to go at things. At least when there is light... For as soon as night comes, Mariétou is afraid of going across the courtyard to the toilet... Thanks to the words of an elder – the grand-father – Mariétou will get over her fear. A lively story, not without humour, that takes the reader to Douala. In *À l'eau Mariétou!* [Into the water, Mariétou!] (ISBN 978-2-7320-3971-8) we find little Mariétou and her neighbourhood in Douala again: she goes for a day on the beach with her class, in her beautiful new bathing-suit, but she is terrified to go into the water: what if Mamywater really existed?...

*Quand on sait tout, on n'a peur de rien: telle est la conviction de la petite Mariétou. Intrépide, courageuse, elle est toujours la première pour tout. Du moins tant qu'il fait jour, car sitôt la nuit tombée, Mariétou a peur de traverser la cour pour se rendre aux toilettes... Grâce à la parole d'un ancien – le grand-père –, Mariétou réussira à dépasser sa propre peur. Une histoire vive, tonique et non dénué d'humour, qui amène le lecteur à Douala. Dans *À l'eau Mariétou!* (ISBN 978-2-7320-3971-8) on retrouve la petite Mariétou et tout l'univers de son quartier à Douala, au Cameroun: la classe de Mariétou va passer une journée à la mer, dans son beau maillot de bain neuf, mais devant la mer, la peur l'emporte: et si Mamywater existait vraiment?...*

All book reviews are adapted from those published in the journal *Takam Tikou*.

BOOKS FROM Colombia

The publishing of picture books in Colombia is recent. Since the eighties, when the edition of books for children and youth began in our country, only few outstanding works have remained in our publishing market.

In this selection of picture books we want to highlight the books written and illustrated by Ivar Da Coll, an emblematic author of our country, as well as the work of Alekos, Clarisa Ruiz and Antonio Caballero.

Fundalectura -the Foundation for the Promotion of Reading- is a private, non-profit enterprise. It leads interdisciplinary assessment committees, which assess the bibliographic offer for children and youngsters. Their voluntary work feeds the lists of recommended books of the institution.



1 Clarisa Ruiz • Alekos, ill. **Tocotoc, el cartero enamorado [Tocotoc, the postman in love]**

Panamericana, 1998 (1st ed. 1993) • ISBN 958-30-0475-8

If ever you visit a town called Cataplun and see going by the park two lovers, a postman and a beautiful girl with a jelly bean nose and cheeks like apples, you should know that they are the protagonists of a curious story of love, a romance by correspondence. Tocotoc, the postman, was in love with Mary, a seamstress, but he was so shy that he did not dare to say he loved her. But

he had an idea: to write her letters to express all things he had not the courage to say face to face. This charming tale is a tribute to epistolary dialogue, to the old habit of putting in a mailbox dreams, happiness, woes, and hopes. For his work in this book, the illustrator was nominated to the IBBY Honour List 1994.



2 Antonio Caballero **Isabel en Invierno [Isabel in Winter]**

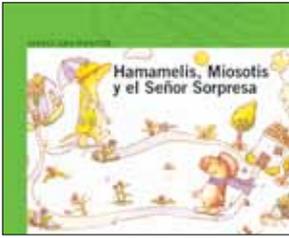
Panamericana, 2003 (1st ed. 1990) • ISBN 958-30-0519-3

Many things happen to Isabel in Winter. She gets bored, sits to think, dresses and undresses and also she goes for a walk. At times she is alone, and sometimes she remembers that she is not, as the weasel Muchareja and the bear Nicholas. Isabel feels and thinks a lot. Her father knows

this and so he wrote this book for her. When he showed it to Isabel, she felt represented in the character. A reading recommended to share with children living the game as their greatest adventure. The illustration line reflects the doodles children make at this age.

3 Ivar Da Coll **Hamamelis, Miosotis y el señor Sorpresa** [Hamamelis, Miosotis and Mister Surprise]

Alfaguara, 2008 (1st ed. 1993) • ISBN 958-704-372-3

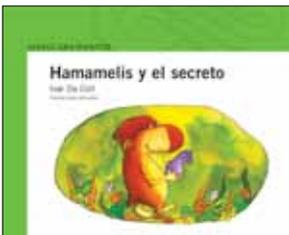


Mr. Surprise is a mysterious character that no one sees but everyone knows. When his visit is approaching, houses are decorated with candles, ribbons and flowers; behind doors, bags are put waiting for those gifts all have demanded from Mr. Surprise in a letter the wind carried to him.

Hamamelis and Miosotis, two friends who like to visit each other to chat while drinking cocoa and eating cookies, make their requests to the expected visitor. But instead of asking gifts for themselves, each one asks for something that would make his neighbor happy.

4 Ivar Da Coll **Hamamelis y el secreto** [Hamamelis and the secret]

Alfaguara, 2006 (1st ed. 1991) • ISBN 958-704-219-0



As Hamamelis is famous by his discretion, Miosotis, his best friend, carries a secret to his home. Hamamelis keeps it in a chest, so carefully, together with a sword, a prince's crown and a striped ball. But the secret begins to move and make strange noises, and Hamamelis must fight against the curiosity and the temptation he feels

to open the chest. More important, he has to be strong enough to avoid being convinced by her friend (Calendula) Marigold, who offers him some delicious cookies in exchange for revealing the secret. What a problem!

5 Ivar Da Coll **¡No, no fui yo! [No, it wasn't me!]**

Alfaguara, 2011 (1st ed. 1998) • ISBN 978-958-758-058-7

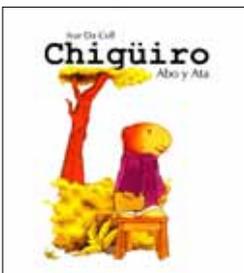


With a topic children love as it expresses with humor the harshness of eschatological matters, The situations depicted will make the reader smile. Three friends go out for a walk, sleep together and believe each other in the fabulous characters they invent to blame for the noises

their bodies produce. Although many parents and teachers try to veil some topics to children, the author suggests the need to recognize that our body produces noises we cannot control, when least expected, overcoming the shame.

6 Ivar Da Coll **Chigüiro Abo y Ata** [Chigüiro, Abo and Ata]

Babel, 2010 (1st ed. 1993) • ISBN 978-958-8445-04-5



Chigüiro, a capybara, is very intrigued and wants to understand the secret explaining why adults have to be so big, so serious, with such a big appetite. Why can't he eat as much as Abo or have a couch like his couch, or cook with sharp knives as Ata does? They always tell him: "Now you are young, but when you grow up..." And he

wonders when it will happen. "As time passes", Abo comforts him and until this time arrives, Abo shows him how the adult's world is. Then Chigüiro decides it is boring to be big and thinks it is better to wait to grow up and while waiting, carry on eating lollipops, riding his tricycle, and painting with crayons on his own small table.

7 Ivar Da Coll **Garabato: historias de Eusebio II [Doodle]**

Babel, 2006 (1st ed. 1990) • ISBN 958-97602-6-0



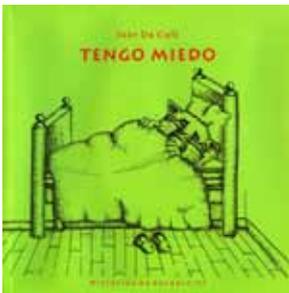
Eusebio is a beautiful cat with a look between sad and sweet look in his eyes. He is usually engaged in activities slightly spiritual, sensitive and even poetic. In this book, Eusebio begins to draw, specifically, to draw portraits. A cheerful morning, he decides to paint, and carrying the necessary elements, he sits under a shady tree to reproduce other beings on a paper. Then his friends began to parade in front of his improvised and airy studio to ask him for a portrait. The hen Ursula, duck Ananias, goat Eulalia, cat Camila and also dog Horacio want a portrait. All of them prove to be very fickle as models:

they all have an excuse to leave soon the rigors of this activity so quiet and calm. Finally, Eusebio decides to paint landscapes, and then they ask him, again, for their portraits. At the end, Eusebio finds a final solution. With this book, Ivar Da Coll demonstrates his stories and illustrations, his imagination and poetry, are an outpost in our country and beyond.

Doodle, to be published soon with new illustrations by the author, is part of the series Eusebio's Stories, which include *Birthday cake* and *I'm afraid*.

8 Ivar Da Coll **Tengo miedo [I'm afraid]**

Babel, 2006 (1st ed. 1990) • ISBN 958-97822-3-X



It is night and Eusebio, the cat, cannot sleep because he is scared. But, fortunately, he is not alone. His friend Ananias, a wise duck, tells him a secret to stop him being frightened. He reveals him that monsters also have to brush their teeth and drink their soup, that they must take baths with soap and water, and go to sleep at eight in the evening. Also, he reveals that the monsters

like colorful ice cream. Knowing these monsters weakness, Eusebio decides go to sleep. He is peaceful, after all somebody who has to drink soup, as him, monsters included, cannot be so bad.

This book will be published soon with new illustrations by the author.

9 Ivar Da Coll **Torta de cumpleaños [Birthday cake]**

Babel, 2006 (1st ed. 1990) • ISBN 958-97602-5-2



Horacio, the dog, remembers that his friend Ursula had her birthday recently. He packs some fruit in a basket and runs to give them to Ursula, a hen, before she celebrates another birthday. Ursula receives her present and when she remembers that her friend the cow Eulalia had her birthday recently, runs to her home carrying in the basket fruit and some eggs before the cow celebrates another birthday. Then, the cow remembers that her friend, the cat Camila,

recently had her birthday and runs to her home carrying fruit, eggs and also butter and cream, before the cat... and in this way continues a delicious play of repetition that makes this book one of the most beloved books of the Colombian author. At the end, the basket arrives to Eusebio, who decides to bake a cake, and guess who arrives at his home, attracted by the aroma? This book will be published soon with new illustrations by the author.

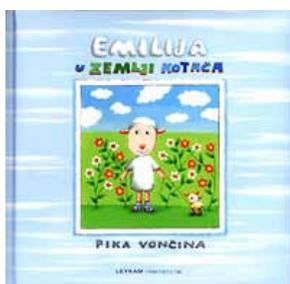
BOOKS FROM

Croatia

The list was created by members of the Croatian Committee for library services for children and YA.

1 Pika Vončina **Emilija u zemlji kotača [Emilija in the land of wheels]**

Leykam International, 2009 • ISBN 978-953-7534-34-9



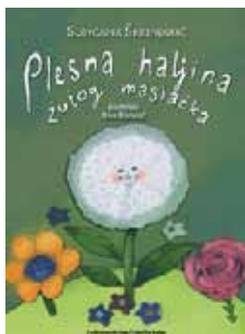
In this picture book the author presents Emilija the sheep, and her numerous sheep family. Emilija loves to eat, she grows with time and one day she discovers that she can say "no". It is precisely her stubbornness that leads her into a true adventure. She refuses to go for a walk with the family, she takes her favourite toy and leaves. Her walk is cheerful at the beginning, but

soon, the Lamb, Emilija's favourite toy, loses a wheel. The search for the toy parts brings Emilija into a strange land of wheels.

The text is simple and short, appropriate for children just trying to read on their own. Illustrations merge with the text and express the motives that are not always expressed in words.

2 Sunčana Škrinjarić • Ana Kadoić, ill. **Plesna haljina žutog maslačka [The Dance dress of the yellow dandelion]**

Golden marketing-Tehnička knjiga, 2004 • ISBN 953-212-220-6



It is hard to see through the mysterious life of flowers, because flowers do not talk, preserving in such a way the secret place and the secret time of the annual flower-ball. Most of the flowers are gorgeous, beautiful and fragrant, just a dandelion considers himself unworthy to go to the ball. And when everything seems completely hopeless, the dandelion will get some help, given to him by somebody from whom such

a thing would never be expected. Insignificant until recently, this small flower with no odour nor colour will suddenly shine and dazzle all the participants with the most beautiful and most amazing fluffy dress. This poetic story talks about generosity and love that lie deep in every heart. Even those who seem to be the most brutal and untouchable individuals hide some goodness that sometimes needs to be slowly revealed.

3 Stanislav Marijanović **Knjiga čarobnih formula [The Book of the magic formula]**

Sipar, 1999 • ISBN 953-6415-20-8

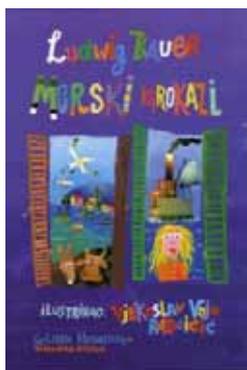


This unusual and witty tale introduces readers to the world of small, ugly, vicious and naughty monsters that are essentially sweet, kindhearted and likeable. They live near us, with us, inside us and make our lives different and happy. Small home-monsters show the characteristics and behavior of children and adults, and the recognition and identification with the characteristics and with names that represent

those characters makes the process of reading very amusing. In the story, the family goes on vacation convinced that they left their old house empty. But that is not the case. Although most of the monsters are hidden in the car, two monsters remain in the house. They find the "Book of magic formula" which, surely, has to be tested and tried out. This story of monsters is rich in humour expressed through imaginative illustrations.

4 Ludwig Bauer • Vjekoslav Vojo Radoičić, ill. **Morski igrokazi [The sea plays]**

Golden marketing-Tehnička knjiga, 2005 • ISBN 953-212-245-1



The book contains two witty role-play dramatisations, "Treasure Hunt" and "Pearl Diver" that are the result of joint creative work of two excellent Croatian authors. Visually very appealing and interesting as an independent work, it also serves as a template for some further work, such as setting the play on the

stage. It is a sort of instruction for staging, and each reading reveals a new value in the written text and in colourful illustrations. Some pages of the picture book contain "windows", with some of the characters in the play, or even whole scenes hidden behind, which contributes to the liveliness of the book, like a stage.

5 Svjetlan Junaković **Ljubav spašava živote [Love saves lives]**

Algoritam, 2007 • ISBN 978-953-220-498-8



In this picture book the author succeeded to restore harmony within the world of children and the world of adults. With interesting solution the author divides the story into two parts. A smaller part describes the experiences of a girl called Ela, while the greatest part depicts Dad's reflections on them fishing together. Ela is a vivacious girl who is convinced that her dad is too busy and too serious, and he needs to relax. For Dad fishing means enjoying the peace and quiet, which is

impossible with Ela. For the imaginative girl daddy's hat represents a perfect boat, she releases bait-worms and leaves them to play, and throws stones exactly where her dad envisioned complete peace. Although the different perceptions are intertwined through some fun, joy and gladness, Dad is not always amused. However, the child's sincerity and open heart demonstrate the importance of socializing, playing and having fun, and the true value of love that saves lives.

6 Sanja Lovrenčić • Tomislav Zlatić, ill. **Kako je dobro sa svim tim životinjama [It has been so good with all these animals]**

Leykam-International, 2009 • ISBN 978-953-7534-36-3

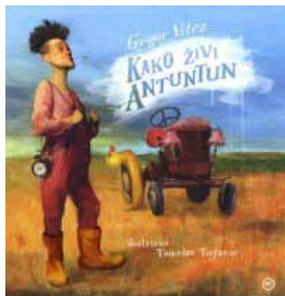


In a small house there is a place for everyone, for people and many different animals. They all live together in harmony although they are of very different habits, needs, characters, sizes and colours. No-one is angry or bothers anyone, like it is said in a saying "where the inmate is not angry, no house is too small". Of course, there

can be even more animals, all are welcome and no one will be chased. Love for animals raises the goodness in every person. Children filled with love will become happy adults, and this is one of the ways to teach children to accept tolerance and respect diversities and a harmonious life together.

7 Grigor Vitez • Tomislav Torjanac, ill. **Kako živi Antuntun [How Antuntun lives]**

Mozaik knjiga, 2009 • ISBN 978-953-14-0656-7



The book is based on Grigor Vitez's anthological poem which many generations of readers enjoyed for over a hundred years. The poem carries a strong message of accepting differences among people which is important to develop in an early age, because Antuntun was kind-hearted and a very special person, different

from all. Perhaps he sometimes looks weird or behaves in a way that no one expects or performs in the real world, but that in fact is his value. Imaginative illustrations of good-hearted and unusual Antuntun with lots of funny scenes represent delight for the eyes and soul of children and adults.

8 Dubravka Pađen-Farkaš • Dražen Jerabek, ill. **Gospodin Otto i stari naslonjači [Mr. Otto and old armchairs]**

Sipar, 2010 • ISBN 978-953-6415-75-5



This story is about Mr. Otto who is a master upholsterer. He repairs old chairs and covers them with beautiful new materials of amazing colours and patterns. Anyone who sits in a refurbished piece of furniture, sails away in a different world and feels marvellous. Master Otto has a neighbour, a curious little girl who loves to watch him through the window of her room. She is very curious about the blue haze which

envelopes his home while he is working. When the old master and a small neighbor finally meet, the girl will discover the whole unknown world. Thanks to the unusual master she will find out the secret – how, with lots of knowledge and skills, some good will, and a little magic, not only can the old chairs be restored but people as well. With a little imagination (or green mist) their old ties and relationships become like new.

9 Sonja Zubović • Marijana Jelić, ill. **Čudesna kuharica Lize Brljize [The amazing cook-book of Liza Brljiza]**

Published by the author, 2010 • ISBN: 978-953-56354-0-6



We all know that our fondest memories are related to storytelling, delicious food and odours spreading from the mother's or grandmother's kitchen. The most precious moments are spent with those whom we love, and today's lifestyle does not leave enough time to enjoy the togetherness. The kitchen is a place where

everyone can hang out, cook and try out various dishes. *The amazing cook-book of Liza Brljiza*, with its simple homemade recipes and verses encourages both children and parents to enjoy preparing meals together and to read poetry. It is still nice and comfortable to be in such homes where families often hang out at the table.

10 Želimir Hercigonja • Marsela Hajdinjak-Kreč, ill. **Vodnjak i stara kruška [Water-sprite and the old pear tree]**

Naklada Haid, 2005.; ISBN: 953-6897-49-0



Once upon a time everything was different, the air was cool and the water in wells was crystal clear, with special flavour, all thanks to the diligent water-sprites. There was a little water-sprite who looked after a well, placed in the shade of an old pear tree. His life was beautiful until the old pear tree dried up and was left without fruit, and out of sadness he neglected the cleanliness of the well.

Crying for the past times the water-sprite could not find a solution. Then an owl gives the sprite some wise advice and soon the water in the well became clear again. The well is proclaimed Caesarean, and he became a Caesarean water-sprite. The text reveals to children the beauty in everything that surrounds them, and is complemented by melancholic illustrations.

Denmark

The Danish picture books were chosen by the Danish IBBY members and the librarians in the children's departments in Denmark. A call was sent out for nominations and a number of very fine suggestions were received. The IBBY board and Kirsten Boelt met and agreed the 10 Danish picture books shown here below.



1 Egon Mathiesen **Mis med de blå øjne [The blue eyed pussy cat]**

Gyldendal, 1977 (1st edition 1949) • ISBN 978-87-01-54431-3 and 978-87-01-54431-4

The blue eyed pussy cat is not like all the other cats. They tease him for his blue eyes. But he becomes popular because he finds the land of many mice.

The blue eyed pussy cat from 1949 is one of writer, painter and illustrator, Egon Mathiesen's most

familiar and beloved picture books for children. His poetic and simple texts combined with the illustrations created a new departure for Danish children's literature in the post war period. The book is a classic and still read aloud to Danish children. For 3-6 year-olds.

2 Flemming Quist Møller **Cykelmyggen Egon [Bicycle mosquito Egon]**

Gyldendal, 2006 (1st edition 1967) • ISBN 978-87-02-04698-4 and 978-87-02-04698-9-4



Bicycle mosquito Egon loves hard and fast sprints. So it was in 1967 when Egon machined out of the water on a great, new racing bike in Flemming Quist Møller's picture book which remains a classic today. The book, in which Egon travels the world and ends up in a circus, is illustrated with

fanciful colors and a detailed and lively bar. Quist Møller is both author, illustrator and musician, and received in 2006 Gyldendal's Book Prize, which was awarded to an author or illustrator who has done something special for children's literature. For 3-6 year-olds.

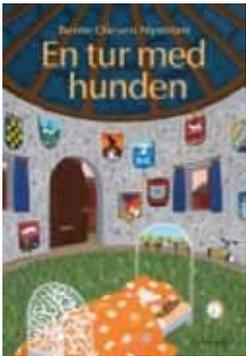


3 Mette Moestrup • Charlotte Pardi, ill. **Hvad siger sneugleungen Ulla? [What does Ulla, the young snowy owl say?]**

Gyldendal, 2009 • ISBN 978-87-02-07076-7

It is not easy to be a young snowy owl when you are not aware of what a young snowy owl really is saying. *What does, Ulla the young snowy owl say?* is the story of Ulla, who cannot speak openly and does not know how she should get the words out when she meets the other animals. But maybe they can help!

The text is tight and clear, full of repetitions and sound that fit comfortably on the tongue. Illustrations by Charlotte Pardi are beautiful and simple in the colors blue and white. The book is from 2009 and has already been appointed as a classic for children. For 2-4 year-olds.

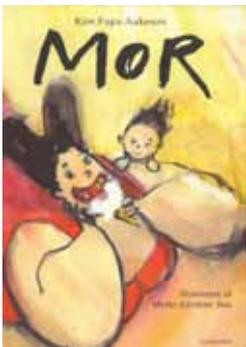


4 Bente Olesen Nyström **En tur med hunden [A walk with the dog]**

Gyldendal, 2011 • ISBN 978-87-02-08547-1

A walk with the dog is an imaginative photo story told and illustrated by Bente Nyström Olesen. The reader travels with the dog on a tour through one image after another over 12 detailed notices, accompanied by a short text on four lines. It teems with secrets, stories and mysteries, which are to explore.

Bente Olesen Nyström is an award-winning artist and illustrator. She has made numerous picture books and illustrated, among others, works about animals and plants. For 4-7 year-olds.



5 Kim Fupz Aakeson • Mette-Kirstine Bak, ill. **Mor [Mom]**

Gyldendal, 2006 (1st ed. 1998) • ISBN 978-87-02-02384-8 and 978-87-02-02384-9

The book *Mom* from 1998 is about a boy who has a fat mother. Extremely fat. She can smell a hot dog stand a hundred feet away. And she will not eat carrots and become thin. It's embarrassing, the boy thinks, and he decides to find a new mother who is nice and slim. Kim Fupz Aakeson treats the subject 'unconditional love' in a warm

and funny way. The drawings of Mom and her boy who is so embarrassed, so embarrassed by his fat mother is spread over the pages with loving hand by illustrator Mette Kirstine Bak. The 1999 Cultural Ministry Illustrator Award. For 8 year-olds and older.

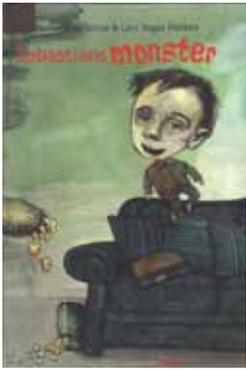
6 Mats Letén • Hanne Bartholin, ill. **Finn Herman [Finn Herman]**

Gyldendal, 2001 (1st edition 2001) • ISBN 978-87-00-46562-6 and 978-87-00-46562-3



Finn Herman from 2001 is about the fine lady who wants to go into town with her sweet crocodile Finn Herman. Of course it's a little dangerous, but Finn Herman's mother gives him good advice, so nothing happens ... with Finn Herman, anyway. It ends with Finn Herman becoming so fat that he cannot even be in the book – so

there must be a page pamphlet to show how big and fat he was after their walk. Finn Herman was designed by Hanne Bartholin, who received The Ministry of Culture Illustrator Prize for his humorous drawings that subtly and simply describe how her mother did not believe that the crocodile can do no wrong. For 4-6 year-olds.

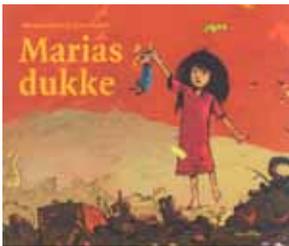


7 Martin Glanz Serup • Lars Vegas Nielsen, ill. **Sebastian's monster [Sebastian's monster]**

Alma, 2006 • ISBN 978-87-7243-236-6

Sebastian's father and mother think Sebastian is terribly afraid of the monster, which may be hiding in the closet. But actually, he thinks it's so boring to be in bed. The father wants to get the bedding done quickly and show that monsters do not exist. But the whole family gets a big surprise – and Sebastian gets it exactly as he wants it.

By late sleeping times, popcorn, television – and monster! Lars Vegas Nielsen the illustrator of this book received The Ministry of Culture Illustrator Prize. A crazy original, awful book that has it all including a funny ending. For 5 year-olds and older.

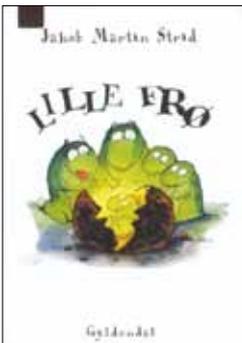


8 Morten Dürr • Lars Gabel, ill. **Marias dukke [Maria's doll]**

Høst, 2010 • ISBN 978-87-638-1402

Maria and her brother are street children and earn money by collecting garbage. The adults require them to deliver everything they find. But one day Maria finds the finest doll that she really wants to keep. But Maria can lie to the

adults when they ask: "Is that all? Aren't you keeping anything?" Maria's doll is a picture book for schoolchildren. It tells of street children's conditions and is about sibling love, friendship, poverty and survival. For 6-10 year-olds.



9 Jakob Martin Strid **Lille Frø [Little frog]**

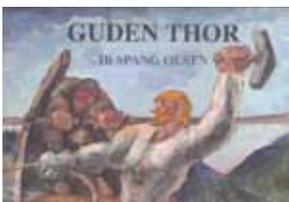
Gyldendal, 2005 • ISBN 978-87-02-03812-9

Little frog comes down from outer space. Straight into an unsuspecting frog family in the middle of their coziest hour in front of the television. The family takes the frog into their arms and loves it as one of their own children. There's just one problem: Little frog is very, very bad. He ends

up being sent to specialists and the school psychologist. However, being part of a family who love him, helps Little Frog to find his place in the world. This story won Jakob Strid the Danish part of the Nordic picture book competition, in 2004. For 4-6 year-olds.

10 Ib Spang Olsen **Guden Thor [The god Thor]**

Alma, 1997 • ISBN 978-87-7243-176-8



In every way a great book, that gathers all the stories of the thunder god, the fertility creator, fighter, fire maker and hero Thor from Nordic mythology. Narrated in large, gentle, violent, sensual, and dramatic color images in Ib Spang Olsen's special tone of language, so you can even

hear him talk. A book for all ages and at all times. The book is a series of vivid and grandiose stories carried by a warm tone, in a visual language that has its own highly textural texture. It is simply good. For 6 year-olds and older.



BOOKS FROM Finland

This selection of picture books is a combination of classics and interesting contemporary authors and illustrators. Some of the stories have entertained several generations already. The older illustrations and colors appeal also to younger parents as retro chic. Contemporary illustrators and authors create experimental, fresh and color-saturated reading experiences.

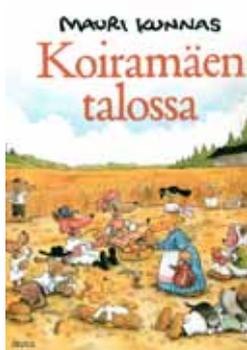
The books were chosen by approximately 35 Finnish children librarians around the country, who voted for their favourites. A compiled list of 10 titles was made from the long list of individual favourites. The final list represents both official languages in Finland, Finnish and Swedish as well as the indigenous culture of Sami in the northern part of the country.



1 Tove Jansson **Vem ska trösta Knyttet? [Who will comfort Toffle?]**

WSOY, 1960

Toffle is a lonely and fearful little creature, who doesn't want to be alone anymore. So he goes off to find a friend. His journey is full of amazement, beautiful colours and scary bogeymen. Translations: Finnish, English.

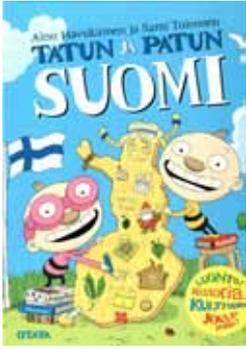


2 Mauri Kunnas • Tarja Kunnas **Koiramäki-sarja [Doghill series]: Koiramäen talossa [The Doghill farm] Koiramäen lapset kaupungissa [Doghill kids go to town] Koiramäen talvi [Winter in Doghill]**

Otava (joint ed.), 1996

Cherishing, delightfully and humoristically illustrated stories about Finnish way of life and traditions in the countryside, as it was about 150-200 years ago.

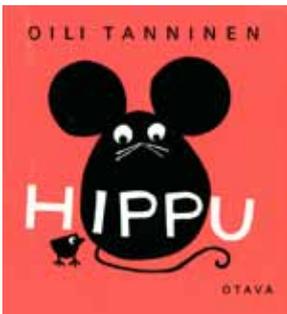
Translations: English.



3 Aino Havukainen • Sami Toivonen **Tatun ja Patun Suomi [This is Finland]**

Otava, 2007

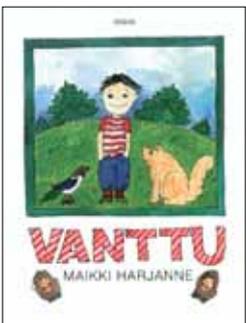
Tatu and Patu: what can you say about these guys? Their approach to Finnishness is unique, hilarious and to the point. An essential survival guide to Finnish mentality. Translations: English, Swedish.



4 Oili Tanninen **Hippu [Nugget]**

Otava, 1967, 2009

Nugget is a small picture book about friendship and caring. The images are strong and deep enough, maybe words are not needed. The colours appear to be very retro, as the book originates in the sixties.



5 Maikki Harjanne **Minttu- ja Vanttu-kirjat [Minttu and Vanttu series]** **e.g. Mintun ja Vantun matka [Minttu and Vanttu take to the sky]**

WSOY, 1986

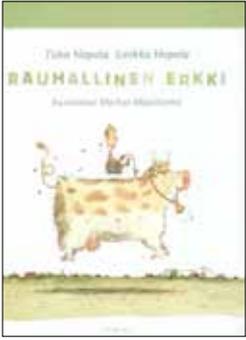
Bright colours, clear illustration and familiar situations in a toddler family have made these picture books favourite over generations. Translations: English.



6 Juha Virta • Marika Maijala, ill. **Sylvi Kepposen pitkä päivä [The long day of Sylvia Prankster]**

Otava, 2008

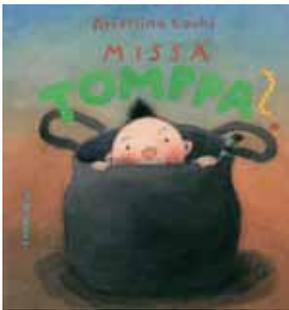
Sylvia is annoyed to be the shortest in her class and wishes to grow and have longer legs. Well, one morning her wish comes true more rapidly than she ever expected... The book is a joy to behold with its oblong shape.



7 Sinikka Nopola and Tiina Nopola • Markus Majaluoma, ill. **Rauhallinen Erkki [The calm Eric]**

Tammi, 2001

Eric is peaceful and calm. Too calm for a child, his parents think. Lively Lilly moves next door, is it possible for Eric to make friends with a rascal? Somehow Eric depicts the Finnish native character and mentality perfectly. Translations: Swedish.



8 Kristiina Louhi **Tomppa-kirjat [Tomppa series]** **e.g. Missä Tomppa? [Where's Tomppa?]**

Tammi, 2008

Every day life and situations in a toddler's family: spending the night at Granma's or wanting something REAL bad. Translations: Swedish, Danish, Dutch.



9 Tove Appelgren • Tittamari Marttinen, ill. **Vesta-Linneas svartaste tanke [Vesta-Linnea down in the dumps]**

Tammi, 2008

The ups and downs of a big family.



10 Annukka Aikio and Samuli Aikio • Mika Launis, ill. **Tytö joka muuttui kultaiseksi koskeloksi** **[The girl who transformed into a goosanser]**

WSOY (2nd ed.), 2010

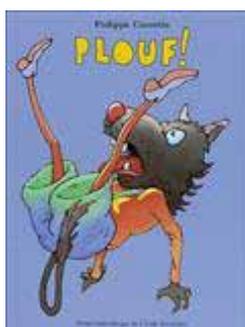
A story from Sami indigenous people in Lapland.
Translations: Norwegian.

France

The National Centre for Children's Literature – La Joie par les livres (Bibliothèque nationale de France) asked a selection of French children's librarians working in public libraries of different sizes and locations, to make their choice of books.

1 Philippe Corentin **Plouf! [Splash!]**

L'École des loisirs, 1991 • ISBN 978-2-211-02641-3

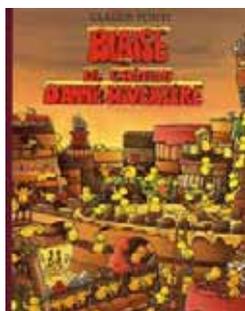


A landscape format used vertically makes the reader visualize the sensation of falling down, and gives a new turn to the plot. How to get out of the well when one is a starving stupid wolf who thought the moon was a cheese? Well, finding a half-wit that goes down the well himself!

Un format à l'italienne utilisé en hauteur permet de visualiser la sensation de chute et de faire rebondir l'action. Comment sortir du puits quand on est un loup affamé et stupide qui a pensé que le reflet de la lune était un fromage? Et bien, en trouvant un benêt qui y descende à son tour!

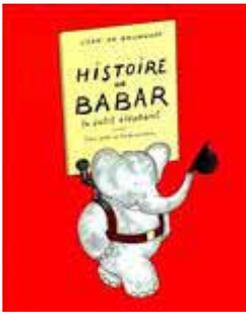
2 Claude Ponti **Blaise et le château d'Anne Hiversère [Blaise and Anne Hiversère's Birth Day's castle]**

L'École des loisirs, 2004 • ISBN 978-2-211-07763-7



A great tribute to those stories that nurture children. The famous Claude Ponti's chickens have ten days to build the most "irresistibilicious" castle for Anne Hiversaire's [sounds like *Anniversaire*: Birthday] party! From the preparations to the party itself, it is a firework display of invented names, places, skills and abundant, extravagant, hilarious images. The many heroes quoted on the flyleaf –from Frankenstein to E.T., Obélix and Hulul – soon become guests of honour. A delightful book for family reading.

Un magnifique hommage aux histoires qui nourrissent l'imaginaire enfantin. Les fameux poussins ont dix jours pour construire le plus « irrésistibilicious » château pour la fête d'Anne Hiversère! Des préparatifs au goûter, on assiste à un véritable feu d'artifice d'inventions de noms, de lieux, de savoir-faire et d'images pleines pages foisonnantes, extravagantes, hilarantes. Les multiples héros cités en pages de garde – de Frankenstein à E.T. en passant par Obélix et Hulul – se retrouvent bientôt en invités d'honneur. Un régal à lire en famille!



3 Jean de Brunhoff **Histoire de Babar : le petit éléphant [The Story of Babar the little elephant]**

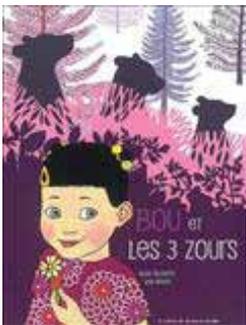
Hachette Jeunesse, 1995 • ISBN 978-2-01-223358-4

How a little elephant goes from the jungle to the city, gets civilised and becomes king. Page design, illustration and text combine wonderfully so that each big double page tells the first steps of a life. A hero that everybody knows since his creation in 1931, and who charms every generation – but beware of counterfeits!

Comment un petit éléphant passe de la jungle à la ville, se civilise et devient roi. La mise en pages, l'illustration et le texte se conjuguent à merveille pour permettre à toute l'étendue de la double page de raconter les premières étapes d'une vie. Un héros que tout le monde connaît depuis sa création en 1931 et qui séduit toute les générations, mais attention aux contrefaçons!

4 Esla Valentin • Ilya Green, ill. **Bou et les 3 zours [Bou and the 3 bears]**

Atelier du poisson soluble, 2008 • ISBN 978-2-913741-66-9



A story we know by heart – a little curious girl gets lost in the woods and goes into the three bears' house – told here in a fresh, unexpected way thanks to the language, a joyous mixture of portmanteau words, neologisms, poetic words, foreign-sounding words. One gets used to it quickly and enjoys this language game with its repetitive structure that calls for reading out loud. Illustration in bright, deep colours for dense woods and expressive Bou with her big fair eyes, who goes from wonder to fear but badly wants, in spite of all, to go back visit the bears.

C'est une histoire que l'on connaît par cœur – celle d'une petite curieuse qui se perd dans la forêt et pénètre dans la maison des trois ours – mais qui se raconte ici avec une fraîcheur totalement inattendue, grâce à la langue, un joyeux mélange de mots-valise, de néologismes, de mots aux consonances poétiques, avec des accents de langues étrangères. On s'habitue très vite et l'on prend plaisir à ce jeu de langage – appuyé par une structure répétitive – qui invite spontanément à une lecture à voix haute. L'illustratrice manie ici avec brio les couleurs à la fois vives et profondes dans une juxtaposition de formes qui donne une belle densité à la forêt et une grande expressivité à Bou, avec ses grands yeux clairs, qui passe de l'émerveillement à la peur mais meurt d'envie, malgré tout, « de retourner viser les zours ».

5 Tomi Ungerer **Les Trois brigands [The Three Robbers]**

L'École des des Loisirs, 1968 • ISBN 978-2-21101961-3

A parodic story as Ungerer loves them, supported by economic, brilliantly efficient illustration: how the terrible robbers break and become benefactors of orphans for the sake of a little girl that is not easily impressed.

Une histoire parodique comme les aime Ungerer, soutenue par une illustration économe et magistralement efficace: comment les terribles brigands craquent et se transforment en bienfaiteurs des orphelins pour une petite fille qui ne se laisse pas impressionner.

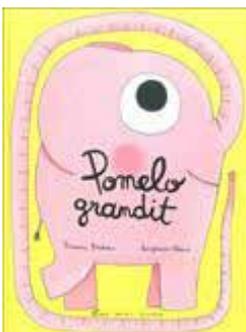


6 Ramona Badescu • Benjamin Chaud, ill. **Pomelo grandit [Pomelo grows up]**

Albin Michel jeunesse, 2010 • ISBN 978-2-226-19566-1

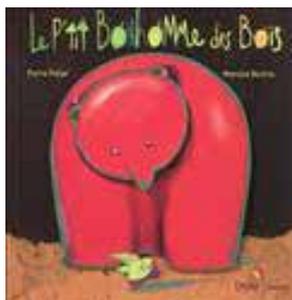
On his morning road, Pomelo comes upon a tiny dandelion. He realises then that he has grown up! He explores the big pages of the book as he explores the wide world. He is still a little lost, touchingly clumsy and boldly shy, but he would like to do something big. How? What happens when one grows up? A big-format book on the doubts and hesitations of children growing up.

Sur le chemin du matin, Pomelo croise un tout petit pissenlit. Il se rend compte alors qu'il a grandi! Il explore les grandes pages du livre comme il explore le vaste monde. Il est encore un peu perdu, attendrissant de maladresse et d'audace timide, mais il voudrait faire quelque chose de grand. Comment faire? Que se passe-t-il lorsque l'on grandit? Un album grand format sur les doutes et les hésitations des enfants qui grandissent.



7 Pierre Delye • Martine Bourre, ill. **Le p'tit bonhomme des bois [The Little Man of the woods]**

Didier jeunesse, 2003 • ISBN 978-2-278-05383-4



The beautiful collage work by Martine Bourre, with its effects of different materials, is perfectly adapted to this lively story using repetition. We follow the little man of the woods who “follows the path of his thoughts” without realising that he is himself followed by the badger, then the fox, then the wolf, then the bear. The typography is cleverly used in this classic story nicely revisited. Success guaranteed with small children.

Le beau travail de collage de Martine Bourre, avec ses effets de matière, est parfaitement adapté à cette randonnée pleine d'allant qui nous entraîne à la suite du p'tit bonhomme des bois, qui, lui, « suit le chemin et ses pensées », sans se rendre compte qu'à son tour, il est suivi par le blaireau, puis par le renard, puis par le loup, puis par l'ours. Les jeux de typo servent intelligemment cette histoire classique mais bien joliment renouvelée. Succès garanti avec les petits.

8 Natha Caputo • Pierre Belvès, ill. **Roule galette [Rolling Cake]**

Père Castor-Flammarion, 1950 • ISBN 978-2-08-160112-3

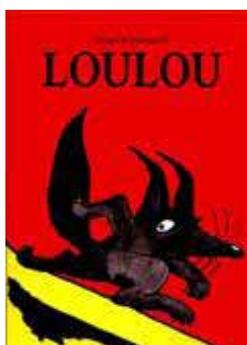


A cake cooling on the window sill gets bored, lets itself slide down and goes away on the road. It rolls across the countryside, sings a little song and escapes from the rabbit, the bear, the wolf... But the clever fox is watching out! A classic of Père Castor Books, published in 1950 and still making children happy.

Une galette qui s'ennuie à refroidir au bord de la fenêtre, se laisse glisser et s'enfuit sur le chemin. Elle roule à travers la campagne, chantonne et échappe successivement au lapin, à l'ours, au loup... Mais le renard malin guette! Un classique des éditions du Père Castor, publié en 1950 et qui fait toujours le bonheur des enfants.

9 Grégoire Solotareff **Loulou**

L'École des loisirs, 1989 • ISBN 978-2-211-02120-3



When a young wolf meets a young rabbit and neither knows that one is supposed to devour the other, then a beautiful friendship may be born. But when they decide to play at “who's afraid of the big bad wolf”, this trustful relationship may be put in danger. Solotareff leads children, without any demonstration, to deep reflection. The force of illustration, playing with contrasting solid colours enhances the meaning of the text.

Quand un jeune loup rencontre un jeune lapin et qu'ils ignorent que l'un est sensé dévorer l'autre, une belle amitié peut naître. Mais quand ils décident de jouer à « peur du loup », cela peut mettre en danger cette relation de confiance. Solotareff emmène, sans rien démontrer, les enfants vers des réflexions profondes. La force de son illustration qui joue sur les contrastes d'aplats de couleurs vives rehausse encore le propos.

10 Nadja **Chien bleu [Blue Dog]**

L'École des loisirs, 1989 • ISBN 978-2-211-01417-8



The friendship between a little girl and a strange blue-furred dog with green eyes sparkling like gems. Charlotte wants to adopt it but her mother won't let her. Coming out of the night when she is lost in the woods, it will defend her from the black panther, spirit of the night, who has come to claim its dues. A strong story told with powerful gouache paintings.

L'amitié entre une petite fille et un étrange chien au pelage bleu, aux yeux verts qui brillent comme des pierres précieuses. Charlotte veut l'adopter mais sa mère s'y oppose. Surgi de la nuit quand elle sera perdue dans la forêt, il la défendra contre la panthère noire, esprit de la nuit, venue prendre son dû. Une histoire forte racontée à l'aide de puissantes peintures à la gouache.

BOOKS FROM Germany

The selection of titles was created in 2011 by interviews with German librarians by Kerstin Keller-Loibl (Standing Committee, IFLA, section Libraries for Children and Young Adults) in cooperation with the German Library Association.

1 Werner Holzwarth • Wolf Erlbruch, ill. **Vom kleinen Maulwurf, der wissen wollte, wer ihm auf den Kopf gemacht hat [The Story of the Little Mole who knew it was none of his business / The Story of the Little Mole Who Went in Search of Whodunit]**

Hammer, 2001 • ISBN 978-3-87294-882-3



A terrible catastrophe befalls the little mole one bright, sunny morning. When he looks out of his hole—PLOP! Something that looks just like a sausage lands on his head. Whodunit? Our little

hero sets out to find who has left their business on his head. In the end, with the help of some flies, Little Mole gets his revenge.

2 Ernst Jandl • Norman Junge **Fünfter sein [Next please]**

Beltz & Gelberg, 2009 • ISBN 978-3-407-79401-7



Waiting for the doctor can be nerve-wracking, even for toys. As six injured playthings wait their turn to be called into a forbidding door, their growing apprehension is apparent on their faces. Each time, before the doctor calls,

“Next please”, the door opens and one happy toy comes bounding out, good as new. That doesn’t comfort the last toy in line – a wooden boy with a broken nose.

3 Helme Heine **Freunde [Friends]**

Beltz & Gelberg, 2008 • ISBN 978-3-407-77024-0

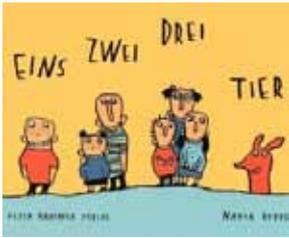


Charlie Rooster, Johnny Mouse, and Percy the pig are the best of friends. They do everything together. They ride their bike together, play games together, and even do their chores together. Because that’s what good friends

do. When night falls, though, and it’s time to go to bed, they learn that sometimes friends have to be apart. But that’s okay, because true friends always find each other, even if it’s just in their dreams.

4 Nadja Budde **Einszweidrei Tier [One two three me]**

Hammer, 2000 • ISBN 978-3-87294-827-4

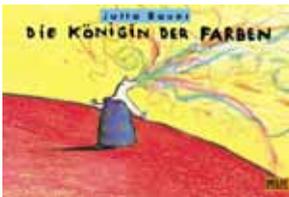


Did you ever notice that juice rhymes with moose? Or that pale rhymes with whale? Eye-catching, funky art and unexpected rhymes come together in this little book to show just how silly everyday words can be. Kids will crack up at the outrageous cartoon illustrations – a roach in

a shower cap? A boar wearing lederhosen? Read the simple, wacky text aloud, and what seems to be random words suddenly take on a clever rhythm and pattern all their own. What could be more fun than nonsense and concepts rolled into one?

5 Jutta Bauer **Die Königin der Farben [The Queen of Colours]**

Beltz & Gelberg, 2009 • ISBN 978-3-407-79221-1

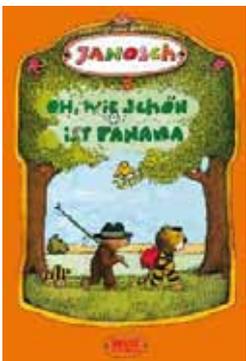


A young Queen lives alone in her castle, but becomes increasingly bored with her purely black and white world. To ease her boredom, the court

painter and court musician magically bring colour and adventure to her life.

6 Janosch **Oh, wie schön ist Panama [The trip to Panama]**

Beltz & Gelberg, 2007 • ISBN 978-3-407-80533-1



Little bear and Little tiger live together in their house down by the river. They are quite content with their life until one day Little Bear finds a crate marked "Panama" floating in the river. The crate smells strongly of bananas and Little

Bear takes it home in great excitement to show Little Tiger. Panama suddenly becomes their dreamland and they will not be content until they have been there.

7 Philip Wächter **Ich [Me]**

Beltz & Gelberg, 2009 • ISBN 978-3-407-79404-8

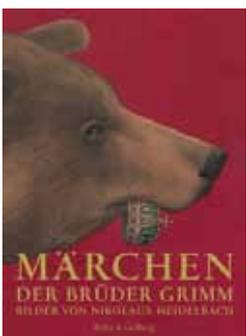


Bears have more than a passing resemblance to humans. Especially this bear, who takes pleasure in the little things in life, and, of course, the big things as well. He is generous to a fault, and

if we are to take his word for it, a rather clever fellow. But, like many of us, even our bear has days when he feels dreadfully alone... Fortunately, he knows exactly what to do about it.

8 Jakob Grimm, Wilhelm Grimm • Nikolaus Heidelbach **Märchen der Brüder Grimm [Fairy tales by Brothers Grimm]**

Beltz & Gelberg, 2009 • ISBN 978-3-407-79926-5



A family collection of 101 fairy tales by the Brothers Grimm, insightfully illustrated by Nikolaus Heidelbach.

Recommended for ages 10 and over.

9 Peter Schössow **Gehört das so??! [Is that right? – The story of Elvis / Can it be?]**

Hanser, 2008 • ISBN 978-3-446-20563-5



Nobody knows why the little girl with the big bag marches through the park and shouts at complete strangers – until finally someone dares to ask. Then it turns out that she is sad and angry because Elvis is dead. Not THE Elvis but her canary, who had the same name. That's sad. But now Elvis gets a real funeral, with candles,

a wreath with a sash, and afterwards there are biscuits and cocoa. And because that helps, the little girl can talk about Elvis again: what he was like and how beautifully he could sing. And who knows, maybe the two Elvises will meet in heaven...

10 Quint Buchholz **Schlaf gut, kleiner Bär [Sleep well, little bear]**

Sauerländer, 2007 • ISBN 978-3-7941-3666-7



With its tranquil pace and soft pencil drawings, this teddy bear tale makes a potent bedtime antidote for wound-up children. A wakeful teddy bear revisits his activities of the day just past, and ponders what he might do tomorrow. His mental

wanderings take him to a river, a meadow, a neighbor's house and a circus, where "in the evening quiet, the clown is playing a sleep song on his violin for the baby elephant."

Haiti

Lourdine Altidor, librarian in Haiti, made a choice of 30 picture books, particularly successful at "l'heure du conte" (storytime) and other reading programs. She sent this choice to other children's librarians in Haiti, to arrive at a choice of ten titles. Three librarians were able to answer in time: Adelyne Pinchinat, librarian at the Institut Français d'Haïti and the person in charge of the Digital library of the Université d'État d'Haïti, in partnership with Bibliothèque Sans Frontières; Fleurette Tessono, former Director of Alliance française des Cayes library, founder of FONDART where she manages a book club for young people; Gessy Tessier, former Director of the children's section of the Médiathèque de l'Institut Français d'Haïti, currently Library Assistant at Little River Library, Miami-Dade Public Library System, USA.

1 Odette Roy Fombrun • Chevelin Djasmy Pierre, ill. **Odette Roy Fombrun raconte Bouqui et Malice [Odette Roy Fombrun tells Bouqui and Malice]**

Editha, 2011 • ISBN 978-99935-95885-5

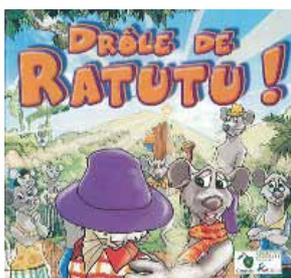


Bouquin the naïf uncle and Malice the cunning, teasing nephew are the most popular characters in Haitian folktales. Tales were nourished by the cultures of the various peoples on the island: Native Americans, Spanish, French, Africans... The adventures of Bouqui and Malice are told here in a very lively way, and dialogues are rich in Haitian Creole expressions. The author has set her tales in daily life, the market, the celebrations... Lots of fun at the expense of poor Bouqui!

Bouqui et Malice, l'oncle un peu naïf et le neveu rusé et taquin, sont les personnages les plus populaires des contes haïtiens. Ce folklore s'est nourri de la culture des différents peuples qui ont habité l'île: Indiens, Espagnols, Français, Africains... Les aventures des deux compères sont racontées de façon très vivante, avec beaucoup de dialogues brodés d'expressions créoles haïtiennes. Odette Roy Fombrun a ancré ses récits dans le quotidien des habitants, le marché, les fêtes... On s'amuse beaucoup aux dépens de ce pauvre Bouqui!

2 Clélie Aupont • Rodchield Lamothe, ill. **Drôle de Ratutu! [Funny Ratutu!]**

Editha, 2011 • ISBN : 978-99935-95908-8

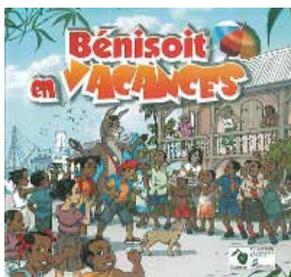


Rats have serious misgivings about the cats of the nearby town, who want to eat them. A young couple of rats return from their honeymoon with a baby, Ratutu, who is obviously not like other little rats. His parents hide him under a big hat – how strange! – and they cut off his whiskers regularly... But instinct will eventually speak, and the hoax will be revealed. And if rats and cats learned to live together? A good story delivering a message in a light hearted way, accompanied by expressive illustrations.

Les rats se méfient beaucoup des chats du village voisin qui ne sont toujours pas satisfaits de leur repas et ont très envie de les manger. Un jour, un jeune couple de rats revient de voyage de noces avec un bébé, Ratutu, qui, de toute évidence, n'est pas comme les autres jeunes rats. Ses parents le cachent sous un grand chapeau – comme c'est étrange! – et lui coupent régulièrement les poils des moustaches... Mais les instincts finiront par parler, et la supercherie par se révéler. Et si les rats et les chats apprenaient à vivre ensemble?... Une bonne histoire à message mais sans lourdeur, accompagnée d'illustrations expressives.

3 Marlène Étienne • Chevelin Djasmy Pierre, ill. **Bénisoit en vacances [Bénisoit on holidays]**

Editha, 2011 • ISBN 978-99935-95861-1



Bénisoit the donkey is the hero of several amusing stories by Marlène Étienne. In this one, Bénisoit goes with the children to the boat that will take them to Gonâve island for their holidays. But Bénisoit intends to go on holidays too. He jumps on board and does one silly thing after the other. Damage must be paid for. The children, remembering Bénisoit's gift for dancing, put up a show and give the donkey his stage name: Jackel Makson. Pictures of Jackel dancing in the famous Michael's style, are irresistibly funny. Chevelin Djasmy Pierre, in his style reminiscent of comics, has great talent for giving life to his characters. A picture book exuding good humor. Other titles in the series: *Bénisoit en tap tap* (2001); *Bénisoit à Miami* (2003); *Bénisoit et le père Noël* (2008).

Bénisoit, l'âne, est le héros de plusieurs histoires bien amusantes écrites par Marlène Étienne. Cette fois, Bénisoit accompagne les enfants jusqu'au bateau qui va les emmener passer leurs vacances sur l'île de la Gonâve. Mais il entend bien profiter des vacances, lui aussi. Il saute à bord et, ivre de liberté, fait bêtise sur bêtise. Il faut payer les dégâts. Les enfants, se souvenant des talents de danseur de Bénisoit, décident de monter un spectacle et donnent à l'âne son nom de scène: Jackel Makson. Les images de Jackel, dansant à la façon du célèbre Michael, sont irrésistiblement drôles. Chevelin Djasmy Pierre, avec son style qui emprunte à la bande dessinée, a un talent fou pour donner vie à ses personnages. Un petit album à la bonne humeur contagieuse. Les autres titres de cette série sont aussi intéressants: Bénisoit en tap tap (2001); Bénisoit à Miami (2003); Bénisoit et le père Noël (2008).

4 Maël Fouchard • Chevelin Djasmy Pierre, ill. **Le Loup et l'agneau [The Wolf and the Lamb]**

Editha, 2009 • ISBN 978-99935-95-71-7



Maël Fouchard gives a very free version of La Fontaine's fable "The Wolf and the Lamb", spiced with some Creole words. It is a pleasure to discover the beautiful paintings by Chevelin Djasmy Pierre. By the same author, illustrated by Stanley Leriche with montage and collage, a free version of "The Cicada and the Ant".

Maël Fouchard donne ici deux versions « très libres » des fables de La Fontaine « Le Loup et l'Agneau » pimentées par quelques mots de créole. On peut s'interroger sur l'intérêt d'une adaptation des fables mais on ne boudera pas le plaisir de découvrir les beaux tableaux peints par Chevelin Djasmy Pierre qui viennent illustrer Le Loup et l'agneau. Stanley Leriche, lui, a fait le choix graphique de montages et de collages pour illustrer « La Cigale et la Fourmi ».

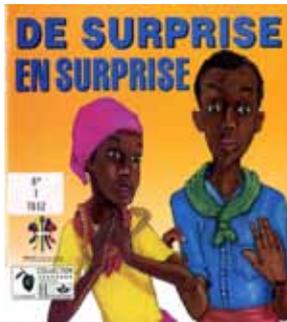


5 Ilona Armand • Chevelin Djasmy Pierre, ill. **La Folle poursuite [The Wild Chase]**

Editha, 2008 • ISBN 978-99935-95885-5

Christo has escaped his big sister's surveillance : Poulette can only watch him disappear, carried up in the air by a terrible malfini (a bird). She pursues him and is helped by a goat, and old man and an old woman... Lots of humour in the text and in the images in this story. Lots of repetitions, plus surprising, colourful characters.

Christo a échappé à la surveillance de sa grande sœur Poulette qui peut seulement le regarder s'enfuir, entraîné dans l'air par un terrible malfini (un oiseau). Elle le poursuit et est aidée par une chèvre, un vieillard et une vieille femme... Le texte et les illustrations de cette histoire sont remplis d'humour et sont construit avec beaucoup de répétitions...

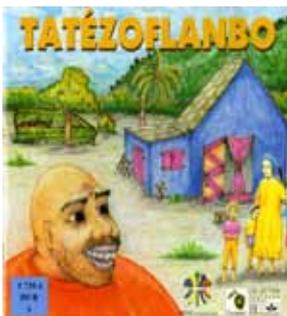


6 Odette Roy Fombrun • Patrick Charles, ill. **De surprise en surprise [Surprises]**

Hachette-Deschamps, 2001 • ISBN 99935-31-11-1

Ti dane and Mercilia go to town for the first time, with their uncle who wants them to see what carnival is like. The children soon get lost in the motley crowd. While looking for their uncle they discover the fascinating but also disturbing world of the parade. They end up finding their uncle, after dancing to the catchy rhythm of meringue. Very colourful illustrations show the different carnival costumes and other details of this important event.

Ti Dane et Mercilia vont en ville pour la première fois avec leur oncle qui veut les faire découvrir le carnaval. Bientôt, les enfants se perdent dans la foule. Alors qu'ils essaient de rejoindre leur oncle, ils découvrent le monde fascinant mais aussi perturbant de la parade. Ils finissent par retrouver leur oncle après s'être accrochés au rythme de la meringue. Les illustrations très colorées présentent les différents costumes du carnaval ainsi que les autres détails de ce grand événement.



7 Tamara Durand • Marc-Yves Deshateur, ill. **Tatézoflanbo**

Hachette-Deschamps, 2005 • ISBN 99935-31-46-4

A very cruel man beats and starves his wife and children. If only they knew this heartless man's name, he would burst into pieces! One after the other, the children find out his name but... they quickly forget it. Sito, the youngest child, does remember it. Coloured pencil illustration, expressive and with child-like grace for this well-told folktale, on the subject of family violence, which happens in all social classes today.

Tatézoflanbo est un homme aussi cruel qu'un monstre qui fait continuellement des misères à sa femme Célia et ses trois fils. Mais il porte un lourd secret qui est, en même temps son point faible. Car le jour où le secret viendrait à être connu de sa famille, eh bien Tatézoflanbo exploserait en mille morceaux dans les airs! Célia et ses trois fils si souvent battus, parviendront-ils à percer ce secret...? Très bien illustré, ce conte aborde la violence familiale qui est présente dans toutes les classes sociale de notre temps.

8 Dany Laferrière • Frédéric Normandin, ill. **La Fête des morts [The Day of the Dead]**

Éditions de la Bagnole, 2009 • ISBN 978-2-92342-27-6

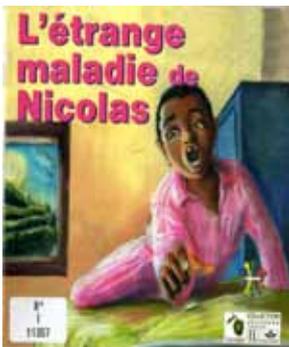


Da, the wonderful grandmother of the small boy Vieux Os, has in her garden an old tomb. There lies mister Labastère, who still takes part in everyday life: Marquis the dog takes his nap there, and the pot of good Haitian coffee, subtle and light, steams on the tombstone. There are no frontiers between life and death, especially on the Day of the Death. And when one thinks of dead people with tenderness and affection, they go on living in our hearts. A cheerful picture book, full of colour. Also by Dany Laferrière: *Je suis fou de Vava* (Éditions de la Bagnole: 2010)

Da, la merveilleuse grand-mère du petit garçon, Vieux Os, a dans son jardin une tombe ancienne où repose monsieur Labastère, qui participe encore de la vie quotidienne: Marquis, le chien y fait sa sieste, tandis que, sur la pierre tombale, fume la cafetière emplie du bon café haïtien subtil et léger. Mais Vieux Os, parti à la découverte du monde d'en-bas, trouvera sur son chemin ce qui fait vivre et rend heureux dans le monde d'en-haut: l'amour. Voilà pourquoi ceux qui s'aiment sont éternels... Autre titre du même auteur: Je suis fou de Vava (Éditions de la Bagnole: 2010)

9 Bernadette Saint-Paul • Réginald Nazaire, ill. **L'Étrange maladie de Nicolas [Nicolas's strange illness]**

Hachette Deschamps, 2006 • ISBN 99935-31-41-3



Nicolas who usually talks so much is no longer himself: he does not open his mouth whatever his teacher, the school headmaster, the doctor, the psychologist, the soothsayer or the healer might say or do... But one morning his problems are over, in spite of a missing tooth... A well-constructed picture book, with illustrations full of charm and fine observation.

Nicolas qui, d'habitude parle beaucoup, n'est plus le même: il ne s'ouvre pas sa bouche, peu importe ce que dit le professeur, le directeur de l'école, le médecin, le psychologue, ou ce que fait le devin ou le guérisseur... Mais un matin ses problèmes ne sont plus, en dépit de sa perte de dent... Un album bien construit, avec des illustrations pleines de charmes et d'observation.

10 Maël Fouchard • Bérénice F. Baussan, ill. **La Grosse voix du rakkwa [Rakkwa's gruff voice]**

Editha, 2009 • ISBN 978-99935-95-75-5



The three children are scared. From a very dark part of the garden, they hear a gruff voice howling, "spitting yellow sputter and green sputter". They discover a kind toad that will finally become their friend. Illustrations, in the style of those made by children, are cheerful and amusing, in line with a lively text, with welcome repetitions, playing with sounds and blending subtly French and an inventive and funny Creole.

Les trois enfants ont peur. Au fond du jardin, dans un coin très noir, ils entendent une grosse voix qui hurle « en crachant des postillons jaunes et des postillons verts ». Le gentil crapaud qu'ils découvrent, finalement, deviendra leur ami. Les illustrations, dans le style des dessins d'enfants, sont amusantes et gaies. Elles sont au diapason d'un texte plein d'entrain, rythmé par des répétitions bienvenues, des jeux sur les sons, et un subtil mélange de français et d'un créole inventif et drôle.

All book reviews are adapted from those published in the journal *Takam Tikou*.



BOOKS FROM Japan

When selecting 10 Japanese picture books, the Children and Young Adults Section of the Japan Library Association (eleven members in all, most of them are active in public libraries and others were once librarians) discussed selection criteria and decided not to select new books but ones which have been read by many children over many years.

In the 1960s, librarians, writers, illustrators, and publishers were eager to distribute quality books to children. Eight out of the ten books in this list were published during the 1960s. Picture books, especially by native authors, are the best tool for understanding countries. There are many good books published after the 1970s: we hope this project will grow and another 'Ten Picture Books' list will be published in the near future.



1 Ken Kawata • Masayuki Yabuuchi, ill. **Animal Tails**

Fukuinkan Shoten, 1969 • ISBN 4-8340-0315-9

This book presents the motions and roles of various kinds of animals' tails. After a questioning page of, "Whose tail is this?" comes the answering page. Making use of animals' upper bodies and lower bodies, readers match the pictures to make

a complete animal. The warm and realistic style of the paintings exactly catches the distinctive features of each animal. This science picture book is good for reading aloud, and preschool children will readily participate and enjoy it.



2 Eriko Kishida • Chiyoko Nakatani, ill. **Hippopotamus**

Fukuinkan Shoten, 1962 • ISBN 4-8340-0081-8

This book is about one day in the lives of two hippopotamuses in a zoo. The storyteller is a boy who went to the zoo for his own enjoyment. Rhythmical expressions and words charm the

reader. The layout makes for a big impression. The drawings express massiveness and a substantive feel making an appealing story.

3 Satoshi Kako **Little Daruma and Little Tengu**

Fukuinkan Shoten, 1967 • ISBN 4-8340-0124-5

Little Daruma and Little Tengu are good friends. Little Daruma asks his father, Darumadon, to let him put on the same things as Little Tengu. However, it's not possible to have exactly the same things. So, Little Daruma works out a way to make similar things and becomes

deeply satisfied. However, is it possible to make the same long nose as Little Tengu's? This book clearly represents the psychological characteristics of a little child who wants to have the same things as his friend.



4 Noboru Baba **Eleven Hungry Cats**

Koguma Publishing, 1967 • ISBN 4-7721-0004-0

Eleven cats that are always hungry send a big, strong, and monstrous fish to sleep with a lullaby and catch it in a remote lake. However, the big fish, which is tied up to a raft, becomes a mere bone when the dark night is over. On the other hand, the cats' stomachs become completely full

and round like the stomachs of raccoons. The broad-minded story about cats who act as they wish, gets children's sympathy. Additionally, the attached pictures have been attractively drawn by a cartoonist. Consisting of six volumes, the stories are widely appealing to children.



5 Rieko Nakagawa & Yuriko Omura **Guri and Gura**

Fukuinkan Shoten, 1967 • ISBN 4-8340-0082-6

Two field mice, Guri and Gura, are fond of cooking and eating. They find a big egg in the forest. After talking, they decide to make a sponge cake. Gathering twigs, they build a fire place, and put a big pan on the fire. Then, a nice smell wafts into the forest and various kinds of

animals gather around the fire. All the animals eat the softly baked cake. The theme of "eating", which children like, and the conversational style of the book arouse children's sympathy and lead them into the world of this picture book.



6 Masamiki Nasu • Shigeo Nishimura, ill. **Hiroshima: a tragedy never to be repeated**

Fukuinkan Shoten, 1995 • ISBN 4-8340-1265-4

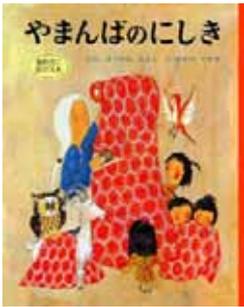
This diverse book tells of the dropping of the atomic bomb on August 6th, 1945 using large 27 by 31 centimeter pictures. Considering the pre-history of the war, which includes explanations of the development of the atomic bomb and the process of the dropping of the bomb, it explains the history from both offensive and defensive perspectives. It is composed using evidence as told by 61 survivors of the atomic-

bombing of Hiroshima. The pictures illustrate the everyday lives of people at that time and elaborately reconstruct a bird's-eye view of the horrific disaster of the atomic bomb. A chronological table of peace related matters and detailed explanations of the 18 pictures attached at the back of the book are included.



7 Miyoko Matsutani • Yasuo Segawa, ill. **The Witch's Magic Cloth**

Poplar Publishing, 1966 • ISBN 4-591-00375-2



A mountain witch who lived in Chofuku Mountain had a baby. The witch asked the village people to pound steamed rice into cakes and bring them to her. Two young men, led on the way by an old woman "Akazabanba", carried the rice cakes to the witch. During the journey, the young men scared the witch and ran off. Akazabanba went up the mountain alone to prevent a disaster to the village. The witch asked Akazabanba to lend her a hand for 21 days. As a

reward she gave Akazabanba a magic cloth that would not diminish even if used continuously. Akazabanba gave the magic cloth to the village people. Akazabanba's love and courage towards the villagers helped the village and made the people happy. This story has been told for many years in the Akita district of Tohoku. The pictures have been created with a beautiful and elegant touch like Japanese-style paintings, evoking a bright and happy atmosphere.

8 Tadashi Matsui • Suekichi Akaba, ill. **Oniroku and the Carpenter**

Fukuinkan Shoten, 1962 • ISBN 4-8340-0085-0



A Japanese folktale picture book. A skilful carpenter, who had been asked to build a bridge over a rapid river, was watching the stream and pondering his task when an ogre appeared in the water. He offered to do the task in exchange for the carpenter's eyeballs. The bridge was completed in a flash. When the carpenter begged the ogre not to take his eyes,

he said he would let him go if the carpenter could guess the ogre's real name. A similar story to 'Rumpelstiltskin', children age 4 to 8 can enjoy the thrill of the conversation between the ogre and the carpenter. Pictures drawn using traditional Japanese techniques complement the atmosphere of the folktale.

9 Akiko Hayashi **Good evening, dear moon**

Fukuinkan Shoten, 1986 • ISBN 4-8340-0687-0



"It's nighttime. / Look, the sky is really, really dark. / Now look above the roof. / There's a light. / It's the moon! / Good evening, dear Moon!" Two cats on the roof are cheerfully greeting the beautiful, rising moon. However, a big cloud passes, hiding the moon's face behind it. "Please move, Cloud, we can't see the Moon's face," the two

cats cry. Then the cloud gradually passes over, and the smiling moon comes out again... The moon's grace and its bright face are beautifully depicted in warm and soft strokes. Each illustration in this handy, square format abundantly describes the gentle atmosphere of the night.

10 Minami Nishiuchi **Grumpa's Kindergarten**

Fukuinkan Shoten, 1966 • ISBN 4-8340-0083-4



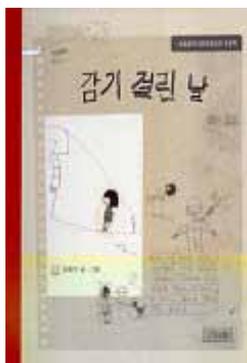
Grumpa, the young elephant, was ordered to start work. He went to work for a biscuit maker, a shoe maker, a car maker, and so on. However, his efforts were in vain because all he could make were jumbo-sized goods that nobody would buy. Grumpa was very disappointed and began to think that he would never be able to work properly. Just then, he happened upon

a busy mother with 12 children, and so found a job which would make him the happiest elephant in the world. He set to work creating a wonderful playground with the huge things he had already made. Children love the elephant-sized things and enjoy Grumpa's success story. Simple pictures and a cheerful atmosphere attract little children.



BOOKS FROM Korea

The National Library for Children and Young Adults chose 10 Korean children's picture books based on recommendations made by 19 members of the Children's materials section which is the subcommittee of the National Library Service Council for Children in Korea. The Children's materials section is made up of 19 librarians who serve children and young adults in public libraries and children's libraries and write children's book reviews, which are shared by children's librarians nationwide. For the 'World through Picture Books' project, the members chose 25 titles of quality children's picture books and a notable children's literature author Ms. Ji Eun Kim finally selected the following 10 titles.



1 Dong Soo Kim **How I Caught a Cold**

Borim Press, 2008 • ISBN 978-89-433-0479-9

The book *How I Caught a Cold* is about childhood behavior. What does a flock of featherless ducks have to do with a little girl catching a cold? It all begins with a new down winter jacket. One day, she discovers a feather emerging from it. That night, she goes to sleep wondering about the

feather and begins dreaming of featherless ducks who feel cold. The girl distributes the feathers from her jacket. Finally, all the ducks feel warm but the girl doesn't. This book displays a child's imagination and love of animals.

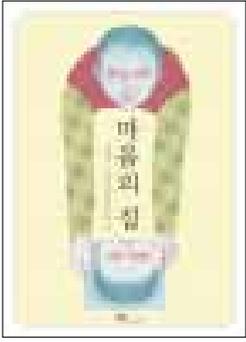


2 Jae Soo Ryu **Yellow Umbrella**

Borim Press, 2007 • ISBN 978-89-433-0691-5

Like a sonata, this book is enjoyed with music instead of words. It is written without words. On the book readers will see the yellow umbrella that a student would hold on a rainy day. There is a harmony of colors and rhythm made by the yellow umbrella together with other colorful

umbrellas. In the attached CD, there are 14 short pieces of piano music in accordance with the illustrations. This book has no text but it talks about the beauty of a rainy day. In 2002, the New York Times selected *Yellow Umbrella* as the 'Book of the Year'.



3 Hee Kyung Kim • Iwona Chmielewska, ill. **A House of the Mind: MAUM**

Changbi, 2010 • ISBN 978-89-364-5431-9

"A House of the Mind: Maum" invites readers into a philosophical dialogue with the self through three questions: "Where is the mind?" "What is the mind?" and "Who owns the mind?" Readers can learn how to understand and communicate with others through poetic texts and images. In addition to the self-reflective text by Kim

Hee-kyung, Polish artist Iwona Chmielewska illustrated the work with abstract geometric forms and movable images. This book won the Bologna Ragazzi Award for non-fiction in 2010. The critics praised the work for being like "a short elegant poem," and imbued with a "vision of the world."

4 Yoon Duck Kwon **Man-Hui's Home**

Gilbut, 1995 • ISBN 978-89-86621-10-X

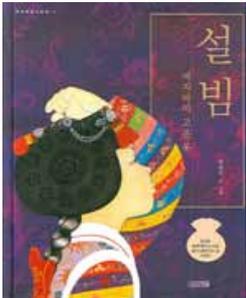


This book shows that 'home' is not simply the place you live but a place connected to your history, heritage, friends, family and memories. Man Hui's family lived in a small town house and then moved to his grandparents' house where they have many rooms, a spacious backyard and

three dogs. He finds a lot of enjoyment in living together as an extended family. Readers can have a better understanding of the daily life of a Korean family in the 20th century. Though we may take home for granted, readers will realize the most essential embodiment of life is 'home'.

5 Hyun Ju Bae **New Clothes for New Year's Day**

Sakyejul, 2006 • ISBN 978-89-5828-139-1

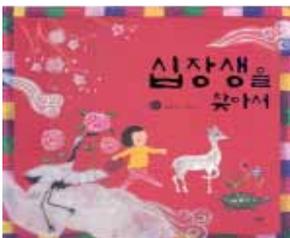


This story demonstrates how important Lunar New Year's day is in the Korean culture. It takes you through the experience of wearing traditional Korean clothes called "Hanbok", a glorious costume complete with embroidered socks, rainbow-striped jacket and a crimson skirt, a warm furry vest, embroidered shoes,

lucky charm, red and gold hair ribbons, bag and black satin hat for New Year's Day. The reader can sense how excited the little girl is to have new clothes for New Year's day. There are many wonderful cultural details throughout the book. The details are beautifully drawn and the text flows smoothly.

6 Hyang Rang Choi **Looking for the Ten Symbols of Longevity**

Changbi, 2007 • ISBN 978-89-364-5414-5



A young girl spent a lot of time together with her grandfather. One day, he became very ill and was hospitalized. As the girl prays for his good health, she begins her journey to collect 10 symbols of longevity which include the sun, mountains, water, rocks, pine trees, clouds, magical mushroom, tortoise, white crane, and deer.

These symbols are well demonstrated through illustrations featuring Korean traditional furniture and colors. In particular, it is interesting to see each symbol shown using different subjects like fabrics, paintings, chest inlaid with mother of pearl, embroidery, quilting and so on.

7 Young Kyung Lee **The Seven Friends in a Lady's Chamber**

BIR, 1998 • ISBN 978-89-491-0020-7



The setting of this story is a Lady's Chamber where a young woman sews clothes. The Lady has seven friends for her needlework: Ruler, Scissors, Needle, Thread, Thimble, Small iron with a long handle, and Iron. When the lady dozes off one day, the seven friends argue about who is the best part of sewing. Later, they all

realize that all of them make sewing possible and they cannot carry out the needlework without the help of friends. Readers can realize that everything existing has its own value and better understand a Korean woman's daily life and traditional clothes of Hanbok.

8 Tae Joon Lee • Dong Sung Kim, ill. **Waiting for Mama**

Hangilsa, 2004 • ISBN 978-89-356-5712-3



A little boy is waiting for his mama on the streetcar platform. As each streetcar arrives with passengers, he asks the driver if his mama is coming. Finally, one driver warns the boy he will get hurt if he stands so close to the streetcar and tells him to stand still until his mama comes.

Time passes, the wind blows and snow falls as the child waits patiently without moving until his mother arrives. The muted watercolors capture people and scenery as they might have appeared in Seoul in 1938. A perfect union of text and illustration tells a simple but moving story.

9 Suzy Lee **Wave**

BIR, 2009 • ISBN 978-89-491-1205-3

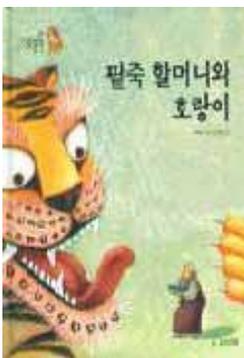


This wordless picture book perfectly captures a child's day at the beach. Followed by a flock of seagulls, a girl runs delightedly to where waves break on the shore. Loosely rendered charcoal and acrylic images curl and flow like water and reflect playfulness, especially in the

facial and bodily expressions of the child and seagulls. The use of blue in an otherwise gray-toned world calls attention to the ocean, which rivals the girl as a main character in this story. The New York Times selected *Wave* as one of ten best illustrated children's books in 2008.

10 Dae In Cho • Sook Hee Choi **The Red Bean Porridge Granny and the Tiger**

Borim Press, 1997 • ISBN 978-89-433-0259-2



One day, a tiger appears before a granny and it tries to eat her. She begs the tiger to make him one bowl of red bean porridge before she dies. The old woman makes a big pot of red bean porridge and cries in front of it fearing her death. At night, the tiger comes back, and the

small and weak objects like an egg, straw mat, turtle and gimlet join together to fight off the tiger. Readers are overjoyed when the scary tiger is beaten by small objects. The moral of the story is that those who are bad are punished one way or another.

BOOKS FROM

Lebanon

This list is built on the investigations made by Maha Alwan in public libraries in Lebanon. Forms were sent to one hundred public libraries in all parts of Lebanon and responses were received from 30 libraries. The result, based on the project's criteria for selection, reflects the preferences of readers.



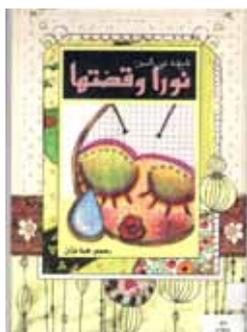
- 1** Samar Mahfuz • Baraj Lena Merhej, ill.
لم اكن اقصد
Lam akoun aqsid [It was not my intention]
Assala, 2007 • ISBN 9953470065

The story of a girl who does stupid things that carry consequences. But each time she learns from her own mistakes. A glimmer in her eyes is reminiscent at the end of this album that she thinks about another stupid thing...



- 2** Amal Ayoub • Frayji Michèle Standjofski, ill.
آخ رجلي
Akh rijli [Ouch my leg]
Dar al-ilm Lilmalayin, 2006 • ISBN 9953633762

Jad, a young boy keeps moving, but one day he falls and breaks his leg. A story that softens the pain of children's everyday life.



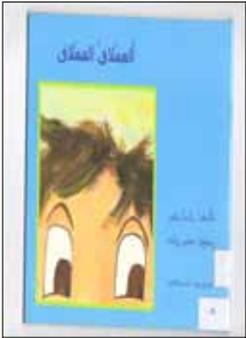
- 3** Fatima Charaf Al-Din • Hiba Farran, ill.
نورا وقصتها
Nura wa qissatouha [Nora and her History]
Assala, 2008 • ISBN 9789953488578

Illustrations that are full of details, and a beautiful calligraphy, recount the life of the ant Noura. A fable about the life of ants which reflects the formative experience of Noura. After saving her friends and family from a terrible flood she regains confidence in herself and returns to her family.



4 Nadine R.L. Touma • Lana Khayat, ill.
القمر والوروار
Al-Qamar wa-l-wirwar [The Moon and the bird]
Dar Onboz, 2006 • ISBN 9953465037

The moon and the bird are close friends, they eat and play together all day long. A rhythmic lullaby introduces the reader into a gentle drowsiness. A CD accompanies the book.



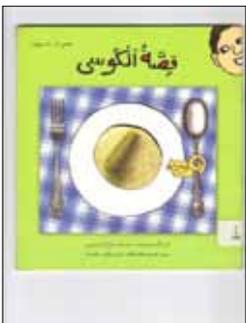
5 Rania Saghir • Samar Ziadeh, ill.
العملاق العملاق
Al-imlaq el imlaq [The great geant]
Turning point, 2005 • ISBN 9953000204

A child feels his "big" hands, his "big" feet, his "big" eyes. Beside his mother he discovers his real size.



6 Caroline Hemadeh
ياسمينه والسمكة
Yasmina wa essamaka [Yasmina and the fish]
Assala, 2007 • ISBN 9953470804

A part of learning Arabic language series. The letter and the sound "S" are often repeated throughout the text.



7 Samah Idriss • Yasmin Nachabeh Taan, ill.
قصة الكوسى
Qissat el-Koussa [The History of zucchini]
Dar al-adab li-sighar, n.d. • no ISBN

Oussama does not like zucchini, but his mom invented a trick to make him eat more zucchini. A book that breaks the taboo of using colloquial Arabic in children's book. Illustrations are innovative and feature rich details.



8 Samah Idriss • Omar ElKhoury, ill. الملجاء

Al-malja' [The Vault]

Dar al-adab li-sighar, 2005 • no ISBN

Mazen tells his life and the lives of his neighbors during the Lebanese civil war. Their hiding place, its organization and how they shared responsibilities. He also talks about his first love, during the war.



9 Nazek Saba Yared في ظل القلعة

Fi zel al-Kala' [In the shadow of the citadel]

Dar al Kitab al Alami, 2004 • ISBN 1552060705

Having lost his parents in an accident, Nada lives with her old aunt. She seeks to help her but it's very hard for a young girl of her age.. An uncle living in America comes to rescue the family but Nada refuses to leave Lebanon.



10 Nabiha Mihaydli • Loujaina |Al Assil, ill. غسان أمي هي المؤلف

Ghassan Ummi hiya el Mu allif [Ghassan, my mother, is the author]

Dar al-hadaeq, 2006 • ISBN 9953464014

How to write a book? Ghassan's mother is a writer, she tells him how to make books, from the idea until the printing.
In class, Ghassan is very proud of his mother who wrote the book chosen by the teacher.

BOOKS FROM Madagascar

Each book on the list from Madagascar was chosen for a slightly different reason. These reasons are included as part of the review of each book.

1 Razanadriaka Vololomampisa Lalao Elina • Rivo Randremba, ill. **I Tita sy ny boky [Tita and her book]**

Tsipika, 2009 • ISBN 978 2 912290 96 0



Tita is a young girl of 3 years old. She does not yet know to read. But she already likes to look at books for her age. Finally, she can write and read books. Tita encourages her friends to read because it helps everybody to develop. Her ambition when she will be an adult is to print books for young children. This book was chosen

for the quality of its quality of images and the story itself and especially as promoting reading is one of IFLA' aims. It provides an opportunity to encourage young children to continue to read, especially for undeveloped countries like Madagascar.

2 Esther R. Randriamamonjy • Rainivato Rakotomalala, ill. **I Trimobe sy Fara, vadiny [Trimobe and Fara, his wife]**

Trano, 2009

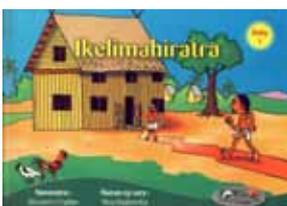


Trimobe is Fara's husband. Fara is a young pretty girl who serves her husband well. But Trimobe is not only a bad and ugly husband, but he is very greedy. He always asks for something to eat. He has finished poultry, pig and duck, but he is never satisfied. Finally, Fara has an idea to get rid of her husband...

This book was chosen because it is one of the famous tales parents often tell to children. Most Malagasy young people know this story. We wish to share it with other children around the world and to show that we have similar little stories. The book shows Malagasy culture and fashion.

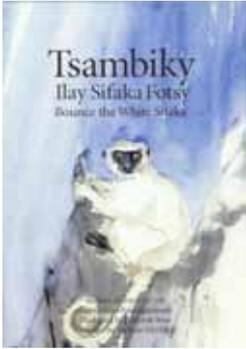
3 Cryber Mananto, Razanadriaka Lalao-Elina • Rivo Randremba, ill. **I Trimobe sy Fara, vadiny [Trimobe and Fara, his wife]**

Tsipika, 2009 • ISBN 978 2 912290 97 7



This book is about a very cute and intelligent young boy. The King does not believe in the boys' intelligence, so he asks him to achieve the unachievable like laying an egg. The boy shows the King, that it is never possible to

achieve the unachievable. This book was also chosen because it is one of the famous tales parents often tell children, and most Malagasy young people know it.

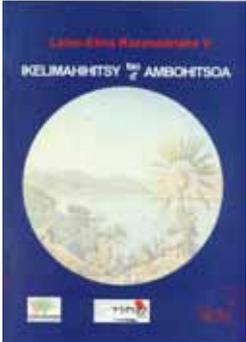


4 Alison Jolly, Hantanirina Rasamimanana • Deborah Ross, Mélanie Mcelduff, ill.
Tsambiky. Ilay Sifaka Fotsy [Bounce the White Sifaka]

Durell Wildlife Conservation Trust, 2009 • ISBN 978 0 955903 4 1

The Sifaka, or the white lemur, likes to bounce. And it is very funny and wonderful to look at him bouncing to the forest. Lemurs have a particular voice to talk to each other. Madagascar is known by its biodiversity. The “Great Island”

(the third biggest island in the world) is especially represented by lemurs. Sifaka is one of the biggest and most spectacular lemurs. This book can show other young children around the world how lemurs live in the forest..

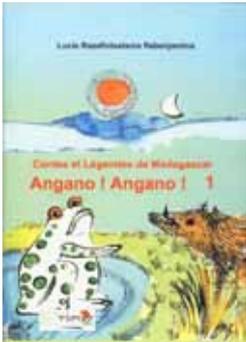


5 Razanadriaka V. Lalao-Elina • Magnolia Buisson, Patricia Ramahandry, ill.
Ikelimahitsy tao Ambohitsoa [Ikelimahitsy at Ambohitsoa]

Tsipika, 2010 • ISBN 978 2 912290 98 4

The village where the two children lived was a beautiful village. All people who passed there called it “Ambohitsoa, city of the happiness. This village was situated in the suburbs of the city. One day, when the children were playing, a little car passed from the North...

This book was chosen because it tells stories particularly in one of Malagasy landscapes where we can see the endemic plant Ravinala also representing the “Great Island”. This book is illustrated by watercolor paintings.



6 Lucie Razafintsalama Rabenjamina • Honoré Benjamin Andrianifahanana, ill.
Angano! Angano! Contes et Légendes de Madagascar [Tales and legends of Madagascar]

Tsipika, 2010 • ISBN 978 2 36076 004 6

Madagascar has its own tales and legends. In this book, the author has especially chosen tales about nature and animals. The tales in this book recount and perpetuate the history, beliefs and customs of the Malagasy ancestors.

They contain profound ideas, to entertain and captivate and show Malagasy morality and values. This book is nowadays in Malagasy and French languages.

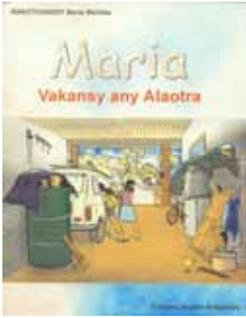


7 Esther R. Randriamamonjy • Rainivato Rakotomalala, ill.
Te hianatra i Bota sy Kinga [Bota and Kinga want to go to school]

FLM, 2010 • ISBN 978 2 36076 004 6

Kinga and Bota are Mamy’s cat and dog. Mamy is a little girl of 7 years old. She goes to school and her animals envy her and want to follow her to school. The book tells Bota and Kinga’s journey in imagining what school, reading, listening and learning good manners

in life is like. (Kinga means “quick”, and Bota “large”) The author published many books like this for young Malagasy children. These books are simple to read and to be understood and deserve to be included in this list from Madagascar.



8 Marie Michèle Rakotoanosy • Soimanga, ill.
Maria. Vakansy any Alaotra [Marie and her holidays in Alaotra]

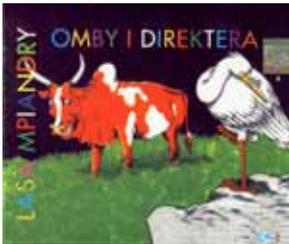
Jeunes Malgaches, 2005

Maria is a girl who has a different childhood because she does not live with her parents. She has to study in town. However, when the school year ends in June, she returns to her parents for her holidays. Many young Malagasy

people study in town. Most of Malagasy localities or regions have still a lack of infrastructure. So parents have to send their children to study in town. The book shows the difference of the two ways of living, in town and in the countryside.

9 Joseph Betalata • Patou, ill.
Lasa mpiandry omby i direktera

Tsipika Editions & Dika Printy, 2002 • ISBN 978 2 36076 000 8

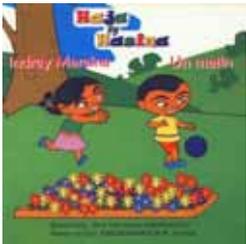


This book (for junior children) tells the story of a bird called Vorompotsy (white bird) who is the director of a primary school. One of the students is the frog, an intelligent student who practices French language whereas Vorompotsy teaches in Malagasy. He is impatient to teach...

The zebu is part of Malagasy culture. It is in our society and represents many things. This book shows also that Malagasy society opens to other cultures, for instance using foreign language and transforming it in Malagasy (like "Direktera" which comes from "Directeur" in French).

10 Geneviève Ramakavelo • Nicolas Randrianarisoa, ill.
Haja sy Hasina [Haja and Hasina]

Megaprint, 2011 • ISBN 978 2 917367 25 4



This book tells Haja and Hasina's journey. They play in the garden every morning. But they finally spoil the flowers. As Malagasy primary and secondary schools are bilingual (French and Malagasy), most of

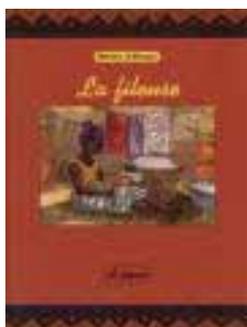
Malagasy authors try to print their book in those languages. This book shows not only how Haja and Hasina play in the garden, but is also a kind of guide for young children to learn about their general culture.

Mali

These books were chosen by librarians of the Children's Library in the Centre National de la Lecture Publique – National Centre for Public Reading – in Bamako: Head children's librarian Abdoulaye Doumbia, and the Director of the Centre, Siaka Coulibaly, and by Viviana Quiñones.

1 Moussa Konaté • Aly Zoromé ill. **La Fileuse [The Spinster]**

Le Figuier, 2003 • ISBN: 978-2-84258-081-0



Published in a series on traditional crafts, together with *The Potter*, *The Dyer*, *The Weaver*, *The Miners of the desert*, this large picture book shows the spinster's work. The reader follows her different tasks, from the purchase of cotton flowers in the market to the delivery of reels to the weaver. Every successive task is clearly and simply depicted in a double-page illustration and a short text describing tools and gestures in a colloquial manner.

Publié dans une collection consacrée aux métiers traditionnels, avec La Potière, La Fileuse, La Tenturière, Le Tisserand, Les Mineurs du désert, ce bel album montre le travail de la fileuse. Nous suivons ses diverses tâches depuis le moment où elle se rend au marché pour acheter les fleurs de coton, jusqu'à la remise au tisserand des bobines de fils. Les tâches successives sont clairement et simplement décrites par l'illustration en double page et un texte très simple en cursif décrivant les outils, les gestes sur un ton familier.

2 Ina Keïta • Karim Diallo, ill. **Des jambes pour Aliou [Legs for Aliou]**

Donniya, 2006 • ISBN 978-2-911741-41-8



What an adventure! Tidiane and Djénéba have decided to take care of Aliou, a disabled boy. Thanks to their solidarity, Aliou can start attending school. A very good story set in the city of Bamako, very well depicted in Karim Diallo's full page illustrations. Three other stories with the same characters in *Les Aventures de Tidiane et Djénéba*.

Quelle aventure! Tidiane et Djénéba ont décidé de prendre en charge Aliou, un enfant handicapé. Une belle entreprise de solidarité qui mènera l'enfant sur le chemin de l'école, avec pour cadre Bamako, rendue bien présente par les illustrations couleur pleine page de Karim Diallo sur chaque page de gauche. Trois autres aventures avec les mêmes personnages dans Les Aventures de Tidiane et Djénéba.

3 Modibo Sidibe • Svetlana Amegankpoé, ill. **L'Épopée de Soundjata : d'après la tradition orale malinké [Sundiata Epic: from Malinke oral tradition]**

ISBN 978-2-911741-42-5

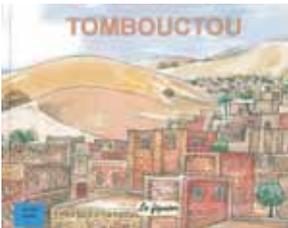


Sundiata Keita, founder of the Empire of Mali in the XIII century, is undoubtedly the most popular historical figure of West Africa. In addition to its introductory page and the essentials of the tale itself, this remarkable Malian large picture book has the big advantage of being richly illustrated by S. Amegankpoé, with great historical accuracy. By the same author and illustrator, the excellent *La Légende du Ouagadou-Bida*.

Soundjata Keita, fondateur de l'Empire du Mali au XIIIe siècle est sans doute le personnage historique le plus populaire en Afrique de l'Ouest. Cette remarquable édition malienne en album grand format présente le grand intérêt, outre la page d'introduction historique et le récit même dans ses grands traits, d'être richement illustré par S. Amegankpoé avec un réel souci documentaire. Par le même auteur et la même illustratrice, l'excellent La Légende du Ouagadou-Bida.

4 Moussa Konaté, Aly Zoromé, ill. **Tombouctou [Timbuktu]**

Le Figuier, 2006 • ISBN 978-2-84258-096-4



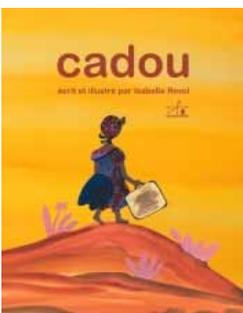
Tombouctou, as well as *Djenné* and *Le Pays Dogon* published in the same series, make children discover, in an adapted, simple, attractive way, cultures and places that UNESCO has included in its World Heritage List. *Tombouctou* begins with a map and historical information on this city of the desert, known all over the world since the 14th century. Illustration takes a large place; it is full of significant details that the simple text takes up, inviting the reader to watch and explain them. Architecture, crafts, feasts, drought... The past and the present are linked naturally.

Tombouctou, comme Djenné et Le Pays Dogon dans la même collection, propose aux jeunes enfants une découverte adaptée, simple et séduisante de ces cultures et de ces lieux classés par l'UNESCO au patrimoine mondial de l'humanité.

Tombouctou démarre avec une carte et quelques rappels historiques sur cette cité du désert, connue du monde entier dès le XIV^e siècle. Une place très abondante est donnée à l'illustration, pleine de détails significatifs repris par un texte très simple qui invite, dans une démarche pédagogique directe, à observer ce que dit l'image et à l'explicitier. Architecture, savoir-faire, fêtes, sécheresse... Passé et présent se relient tout naturellement.

5 Isabelle Revol **Cadou [Cadou]**

Donniya, 2009 • ISBN 978-99952-0-048-0

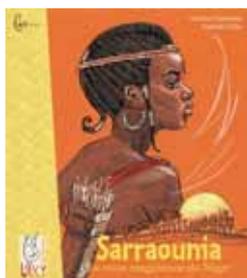


The beautiful yellow shades of the cover make one want to open this picture book. And one is not disappointed. The illustration, pretty and original, in collages of tissue and paper, tells in a childlike way the hard story that so many women live, in Africa and elsewhere. Cadou, an African mother, leaves her children to work far away for many years, so that the children can eat properly and can go to school. Her suffering from being separated from them is constant, as is their presence in her heart. Almost chanted, the text goes to the essential and renders, at child level, with restraint, Cadou's heart-rending feelings. A great book.

Un album que la couverture aux belles couleurs jaunes donne aussitôt envie d'ouvrir. Et on n'est pas déçu. L'illustration, jolie et originale, avec sa technique de collages, en tissu et papier, raconte, sous un air enfantin, une histoire dure qui est celle de tant de femmes en Afrique et ailleurs. Cadou, une mère africaine, part travailler loin de ses enfants pendant de longues années pour qu'ils aient de quoi manger et puissent aller à l'école. Sa souffrance d'être séparée d'eux est constante, comme leur présence dans son cœur. Presque scandé, le texte va à l'essentiel et transmet, à hauteur d'enfant, avec pudeur, le ressenti déchirant de Cadou. Son sacrifice sera récompensé, dans une fin apaisante. Un grand livre.

6 Halima Hamdane • Isabelle Calin ill. **Sarraounia, la reine magicienne du Niger [Sarraounia, Niger's magician Queen]**

Cauris, 2004 • ISBN 978-2-914605-13-7

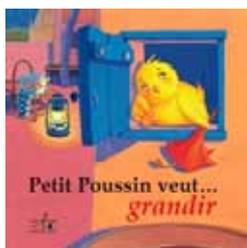


Told simply to young children, the life of the beautiful Sarraounia, born in present-day Niger at the end of 19th century. The daughter of a Haoussa king, she was soon initiated to magic and to hunting and war weapons. She was recognized by her neighbour enemies as a formidable warrior, but she mostly distinguished herself in the resistance to the European conquerors. Good illustrations and some historical information complete this portrait of a great heroine of Niger. Published in the "Lucy" series of biographies of Black outstanding figures.

A la portée des jeunes enfants, simplement racontée, la vie de la belle Sarraounia née au Niger à la fin du XIX^e siècle. Fille du roi d'un peuple d'origine haoussa, très tôt initiée à la magie et au maniement des armes de chasse et de guerre, elle est reconnue dans des conflits avec ses voisins comme une redoutable guerrière, mais surtout elle s'illustrera dans la résistance au conquérant européen. Une belle illustration bien servie par la mise en page et quelques repères historiques complètent ce portrait d'une grande héroïne du Niger. Ce livre fait partie de la collection « Lucy » de biographies de personnages du monde noir.

7 Marlène Anna Amegankpoé • Svetlana Amegankpoé, ill. **Petit Poussin veut... grandir [Little Chicken wants... to grow up]**

Donniya, 2009 • ISBN 99952-0-054-6



A picture book on an universal question: every child's wish to grow up and surpass his father or his mother. This is Little Chick's wish. He'll have to endure some setbacks before learning patience and find himself, one day, almost as beautiful as his father. Svetlana Amegankpoé's humoristic drawings show a terribly expressive chicken – curious, tender, ridiculous, sad or impatient. Images are as colourful as a backyard poultry, as joyous and lively as the story.

Cet album nous offre l'histoire d'un problème universel : le désir que tout enfant nourrit de devenir grand sur le champ et de surpasser son père ou sa mère. C'est aussi le souhait de Petit Poussin. Il lui faudra essayer quelques déconvenues avant d'apprendre la patience pour se découvrir enfin, le jour venu, presque aussi beau que son coq de père. Le dessin humoristique de Svetlana Amegankpoé nous offre un poussin terriblement expressif – tour à tour curieux, tendre, ridicule, triste ou impatient. Le dessin est coloré, à l'image de la basse-cour, gai et enlevé, comme cette histoire.

8 Ousmane Diarra • Massaré Tounkara, ill. **La Princesse capricieuse [The Capricious Princess]**

Balani's, 2006



A version of the well-known story of the girl who puts an impossible condition on her marriage. This time, it is because she likes money too much and wishes to get rich thanks to her suitors... The man she marries is in fact a python, but with the help of her sister who has witch powers she escapes her husband and goes back home. The text by Ousmane Diarra, writer and storyteller, flows nicely; expressive, colourful illustrations are as lively as the text. The story is told in French and in Bambara in the accompanying audio cassette.

Une version du conte bien connu de la jeune fille qui met une condition impossible à son mariage. Cette fois-ci, parce qu'elle aime trop l'argent et veut s'enrichir sur le dos des prétendants... L'être qu'elle épouse finalement se révèle être un python, et ce n'est qu'avec l'aide de sa petite sœur qui a des pouvoirs de sorcière qu'elle échappera à son mari et retournera chez elle. Le texte d'Ousmane Diarra, écrivain et conteur, coule avec la fluidité de sa parole; les illustrations expressives, colorées, soulignent la vivacité du texte. Le texte est raconté en français et en bambara dans une cassette audio.

9 Moulaye et Zakaria Traoré • Nafogo Coulibaly, ill. • Ismaïla Samba Traoré, adapt. **Nabi mon frère**

La Sahélienne, 2010 • ISBN 978-99952-54-14-8



The protective and affectionate relationship between a young boy and his toddler brother. A brief, simple text; illustration – somewhat clumsy and naïve, but with a certain charm – stages the two boys in a relationship of play and laughter but also of “education” that works well beyond language. And to grow up, nothing better than good stories... The Father is kindly asked to bring back, from Bamako market...picture books! Links between children are finely depicted, and the message is touching and lively. Some small punctuation and orthographic problems are to be regretted.

La relation protectrice et affectueuse d'un garçonnet envers un petit frère qui tient tout juste sur ses jambes. Un texte court, simple; des illustrations dont la maladresse et la naïveté ne sont pas dénuées d'un charme particulier, met en scène les deux enfants dans une relation de jeu, de rire, mais aussi d'« éducation », qui passe bien au-delà du langage. Et pour grandir, quoi de mieux que de belles histoires à écouter? Le père est ainsi gentiment sommé, lorsqu'il ira au marché de Bamako, de rapporter des livres avec des images! Une juste observation en finesse des liens entre enfants et un message touchant et plein de vitalité. Dommage pour les petits problèmes de ponctuation et d'orthographe...

All book reviews are adapted from those published in the journal *Takam Tikou*.

BOOKS FROM

Mauritius

Ten illustrated titles from different Mauritian authors were selected and the hope is that these titles will help project the new generation of our local writers and illustrators on the international scene.

1 Pushpa Lallah • Bernadette Mok Tsze Chung, ill. **Marde so Zardin – Marde's garden [Marde's garden]**

Federation of Pre-school playgroups, 1999 • ISBN 9990361061



Marde is a gardener; he wears a hat, has a moustache and comes to work by bicycle. His garden was very beautiful. One day a group of children come to visit his garden and asks him why he has put a fence around his garden.

He tells them how, after working so hard in his garden, the dogs came and crushed all his plants, so he had to protect the garden.
Bilingual Creole-English.

2 Amarnath Hosany • Thierry Permal, ill. **Le paradis des oiseaux [Birds' paradise]**

Bartholdi, 2007 • ISBN 9789990386097

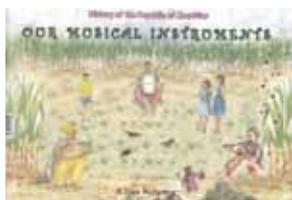


An island was inhabited by different kinds of tropical birds staying together in harmony. The island was filled with vegetation and fruit trees. When the fruits were ripe, they attracted the bats but the birds did their best to protect their island. The bats stayed in the nearby island. A bat was sent as spy, it was ill. The birds took

care of it. When the bat recovered, it influenced each group of birds and divided them to break their strength. Then the bats invaded the island and made their paradise into hell. Hopefully, they realised their mistake and could get out of the hell with the help of the neighbouring island's birds.

3 D. Vina Balgobin • Madvee Armoogum Sundhoo, ill. **Our musical instruments: history of the Republic of Mauritius**

Dehoutee Balgobin, 2009 • ISBN 9789990341584



The first Frenchmen arrived in 1715. The French people used many musical instruments in their parties. Slaves and indentured labourers came to Mauritius and worked on the sugar estates. They came from different countries of the world and enjoyed the music and songs of their native

lands. In 1810, there was a naval war and the French gave up the island to the British. In 1835, there was abolition of slavery. Many types of instruments used by slaves, Indian immigrants and Chinese were introduced to the island.

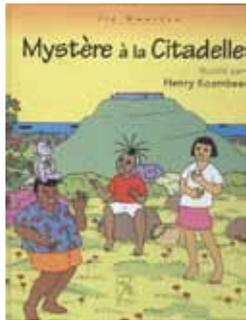


4 Amarnath Hosany • Thierry Permal, ill.
Contes de Noel [Stories for Christmas]

Bartholdi, 2005 • ISBN 9990386056

“Letter to Father Christmas” is a story of a postman who had a difficult childhood. Thus he never believed in Father Christmas. On his last day at work, he met a little girl from a poor village, who pleaded with him to write a letter to Father Christmas on her behalf. It can be seen

in the story, that the determination with which the postman tried to fulfil the dream of that little girl and all the children of that village and the feeling of satisfaction and joy upon its realisation. On that day, he even believed in the magic of Christmas.



5 Alain Gordon Gentil • Henry Koombes, ill.
Mystère à la Citadelle [Mystery at the Citadelle]

Vizavi, 2001 • ISBN 9990337268

The Citadelle is an ancient fortress in Port-Louis, the capital of Mauritius. In the colonial period, soldiers were living there and guarded the port against intruders. Tikoulou likes the place very much as he can see the whole city and play with his friend and cousin during the summer holiday.

They hear about the mysterious disappearance of bicycles and plan to catch the thief. They go to the Citadelle to execute their plan and luckily they find the stolen bicycles hidden in a dark room. Many other good picture books featuring Tikoulou, illustrated by Henri Koombes.



6 Shenaz Patel • Joelle Maestracci, ill.
La toile bleue [The blue cloth]

Vilaz metis, 2010 • ISBN 9789990338287

A little girl sat in front of the sea and wanted to animate the dull, big blue cloth in front of her. She stood up, approached the water and grabbed the blue cloth with both hands. The sea came with her followed by the sky. She put the cloth

to dry on a wire. People were very angry about her action but were surprised to see garbage falling from the cloth. Finally, the cloth became clean and white.



7 Centre Nelson Mandela pour la Culture Africaine • Stanley Harmon, ill.
Zistoir Ze ek Melia: Iepok esklavaz – moris 1834
[Story of Ze and Melia: slavery period – Mauritius 1834]

Nelson Mandela Centre for African Culture, 2006 • ISBN 9990310122

It is a story about Ze and Melia, brother and sister during the slave period. They had to wake up early in the morning and go to work. Melia worked as helper and Ze as Cartwright.

They worked till late and did not have time to play. They had to wait for their lunch time to play but were scolded and beaten by their masters. In Creole.

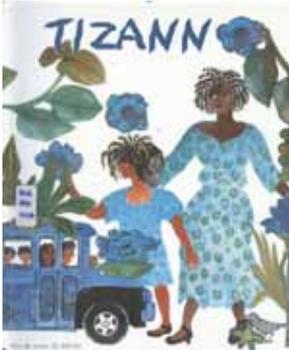


8 Shakuntala Halwoldar • Priska, Shaoling & Clarel, ill. **Stories for Moksha: adapted for parents**

Cathay, 1999 • ISBN 9990341133

The book consists of stories which are narrated by a grandmother (author) to her grand-child, Moksha. Moksha is 4 years old. The author has to go to her world to narrate her stories. The stories

convey messages which centre around the family and core values and end with reflections for thought. The author believes that each story should be a source of inspiration for parents.

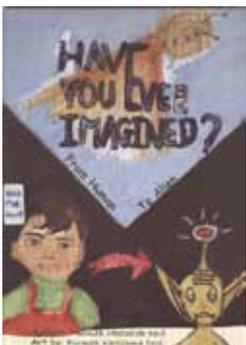


9 Sedley Richard Assonne • Catherine Servan-Schreiber, ill. **Tizann [Medicinal plants]**

Editions de la Tour, 2006 • ISBN 999492219X

A little girl was named Tizann (medicinal plant) by her aunt as Tizann's mother used to sell medicinal plants. Tizann helped her mother before going to school. As Tizann was familiar with the medicinal plants, her mother asked her to gather some medicinal plants from the

forest. She was accompanied by her friend Yann. They took the bus to Plaine – Champagne. They were so busy in the forest that they did not notice the night and had to sleep in the forest. Ton Singaron, a hunter helped them reach home safely. In Creole.



10 Meeteelah Devi Purmah • Karishma Devi Purmah, ill. **Have you ever imagined? From human to alien**

Woochit, 2008

The story is about the consequences that the human beings may face in the future. So before it is too late, let us all reduce pollution so that

we can save our planet and so that we do not end up being named Aliens, Aliens with numbers.

BOOKS FROM THE

Netherlands

The National Children's Librarian Council requested all contacts within the twelve provinces to send their favourite 2 titles.



1 Rindert Kromhout van der Meer • Annemarie van Haeringen, ill. **Kleine Ezel en jarige Jakkie [Little Donkey and the birthday present]**

Leopold, 2001 • ISBN 978 90 258 3067 0

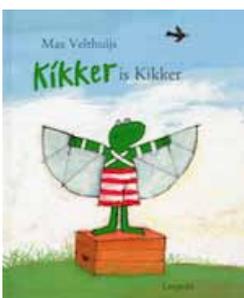
Lovely story about Little Donkey who buys a birthday present for his friend Jakkie. It is very difficult to give such a lovely present away so he tries lots of excuses. Luckily his mother has a good solution.



2 Annemarie van Haeringen **De prinses met de lange haren [The long-haired princess]**

Leopold, 1999 • ISBN 9789025836085

A princess is not allowed to cut her hair. Finally she needs to be carried around because of the weight of her hair. A strong man from the circus is her assistant. When she grows up a lot of young men with golden brushes want to marry her but she chooses love over money.



3 Max Velthuis **Kikker is kikker [Frog is frog]**

Leopold, 1996 • ISBN 9789025860202

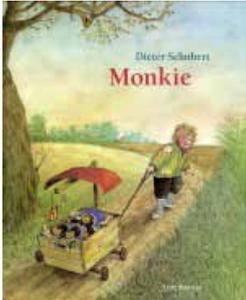
Frog feels sad because all his friends have something special and he is just green. Great story about self acceptance and friendship.



4 The Tjong King **Waar is de taart? [Where is the Cake?]**

Lannoo, 2004 • ISBN 9789020956924

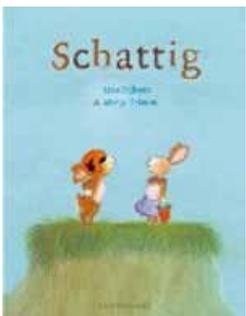
Two little rats steal a pie. A wild chase is the result. Finally the pie falls into a pond and a frog saves it. Everybody gets a piece except for the two little thieves. Great large picture book without words but a huge amount of details and jokes in the illustrations.



5 Dieter Schubert **Monkie [Monkie]**

Lemniscaat, 1986 • ISBN 9789060696408

A young boy loses his toy monkie. The story tells the adventures of the toy and how the young boy is reunited with his toy again. Great picture book without words. Lovely full colour illustrations will plenty of detail.



6 Lida Dijkstra • Marije Tolman, ill. **Schattig [Cute]**

Lemniscaat, 2006 • ISBN 9789056378615

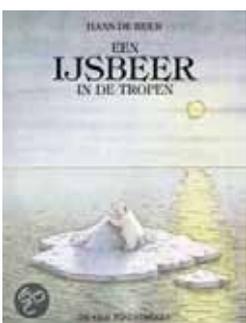
Rabbit Tijn does not want to be cute! He wants to be tough, strong, and have a tattoo and piercings – but will that help?



7 Sylvia van den Heede • The Tjong King, ill. **Wat een kou, Vos en Haas! [Isn't it cold, Fox and Hare!]**

Lannoo, 2009 • ISBN 9789020984101

It is a very cold winter so what do you do? Make a snowman and lots of others things. Very large picture book ideal for group presentations.



8 Hans de Beer **Ijsbeer in de tropen [Little Polar Bear]**

De Vier Windtreken, 1987 • ISBN 9789055791859

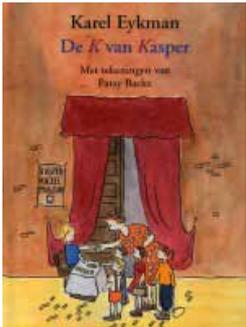
A little polar bear drifts out to sea and floats to the tropics.



9 Imme Dros • Harrie Geelen, ill.
Het boek van Ella [The book about Ella]

Querido, 2011 • ISBN 9789045112763

Several stories about a toddler with a very strong opinion of her own.
Stories about daily life and the emotions Ella is facing.



10 Karel Eykman • Patsy Backx, ill.
De K van Kasper

De Harmonie, 2008 • ISBN 9789061698470

Five stories about a very normal boy who is also very special.



BOOKS FROM

Nigeria

Books from Nigeria were selected by Virginia W Dike against the criteria set for the project.

These are exacting criteria for picture books in a country like Nigeria, which has published few picture books and fewer of good quality. Moreover, there is little tradition of keeping books in print. For this reason, it was difficult to completely meet some criteria. It is difficult to talk of classics, and those one might consider are unlikely to still be in print. I have included three older books (at the end) that to my knowledge are still in print. The content (text, illustration, message) of these are of high quality, though the physical quality in some cases is less so. The others are very recent titles and are by one of two new Nigerian publishers producing picture books of high quality, including high physical quality: Cassava Republic and Farafina. The selection may seem lopsided, but this is what is currently available. It may also be surprising that all titles are in English, but this is another Nigerian reality. Very few children's books are published in Nigerian languages. I have listed the titles in order of year of publication, beginning with the most recent.

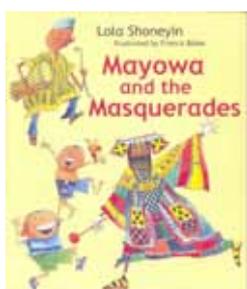


1 Virginia W. Dike • Robin Gowen, ill. **Birds of Our Land: A Child's Guide to West African Birds**

Cassava Republic, 2011 (Rev. ed.) • ISBN 978-978-9060-900

Poetic descriptions and vivid illustrations introduce children to 25 notable birds of West Africa, both common ones and more unusual species. The book is designed to encourage careful observation, scientific inquiry and appreciation of the natural world. It begins with an introduction to birds that brings out basic features and hints on how to observe birds and ends with activities intended

to lead children beyond the content of the book to a lifetime of scientific awareness and discovery. The book is envisaged as the first title in a nature series focusing on West Africa. Originally published in 1986 by Fourth Dimension Publishers of Enugu, an early leader in picture book publication, with different illustrations by the same artist

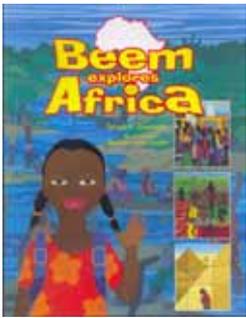


2 Lola Shoneyin • Francis Blake, ill. **Mayowa and the Masquerades**

Cassava Republic, 2010 • ISBN 978-978-48518-8-6

Mayowa is reluctant to leave his computer games to join his parents on a trip to visit Granny in a village in Western Nigeria. However, Granny teams him up with a neighbor boy who shows Mayowa the sights, including a festival of colorful masquerades. The two are so carried away with

the dancing that they temporarily lose their way, but all ends well. Finally a tired but happy Mayowa is on his way home, now convinced that the village offers even more excitement than his room in the city.

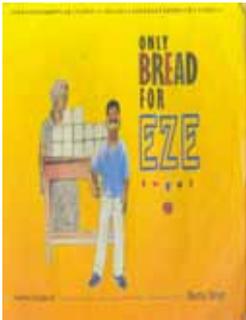


3 Simidele Dosekun • Rosalie-Ann Modder, ill. **Beem Explores Africa**

Farafina, 2009 • ISBN 978-978-079-003-9

In this vividly illustrated introduction to the African continent, a young girl, Beem, guides readers in exploring a varied geography of cities and cultures, wildlife and landscapes.

She explores ancient places in Egypt, Mali and Zimbabwe; the modern cities of Cairo, Lagos and Johannesburg; rivers, lakes and mountains; rain forests, savannah and deserts.



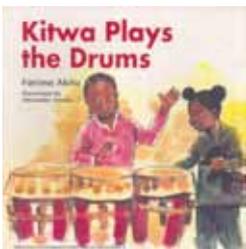
4 Ifeoma Okoye • Segun Adejumo, ill. **Only Bread for Eze**

Farafina, 2009 • ISBN 978-978-48012-1-8

Eze is so enamored with bread that he wants to eat nothing else. After repeated refusal to eat the nutritious and varied dishes prepared by his mother, Eze's parents determine to teach him a lesson, putting him on a diet of nothing but bread. He quickly weakens and tires of the monotonous diet, thereby learning his lesson and starting to enjoy other food as well. This book is

similar in theme to the American picture book, *Bread and Jam for Frances*.

Originally published by Fourth Dimension Publishers of Enugu in 1980, with different illustrations, this is the best known of three Eze books, all originally published by Fourth Dimension in 1980 and in a revised edition by Farafina in 2009.

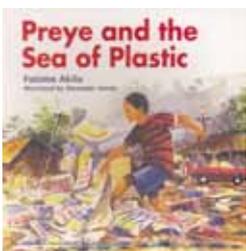


5 Fatima Akilu • Alexander Amulu, ill. **Kitwa Plays the Drums**

Cassava Republic, 2009 • ISBN 978-978-903-751-3

This and the next three titles are in a series of eight books highlighting the Millennium Development Goals. In this title Kitwa is a girl thoroughly fed up with the favored treatment received by her brother. Kitwa's mother and grandmother pronounce her dream of playing the drums unladylike and say differential

treatment is just the way things are. However, things change when the family visits cousins who take a very different view. There, everyone joins in the housework and plays musical instruments. A family band is formed, with Kitwa playing the drums and her grandmother realizing her childhood dream of playing the flute.

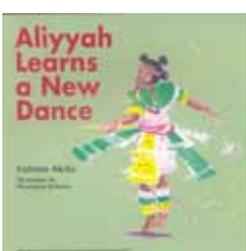


6 Fatima Akilu • Alexander Amulu, ill. **Preye and the Sea of Plastic**

Cassava Republic, 2009 • ISBN 978-978-48943-8-8

Preye is completely upset over the rubbish taking over the environment around him, especially discarded plastic bags. He determines to do something about it and together he and his friends mobilize to raise awareness. Together

they research and produce a film that is shown all over the country and begins to effect changes in their community and beyond. It even takes them to meet the President and to realize that they too might one day lead the country.

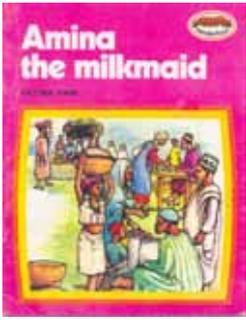


7 Fatima Akilu • Mustapha Bulama, ill. **Aliyyah Learns a New Dance**

Cassava Republic, 2009 • ISBN 978-978-48943-9-5

In this title centering on developing global partnerships, Aliyyah enters a regional dance competition. With helpful hints and encouragement from her brother, she perfects her steps and wins at the African regional level in Tanzania. This leads

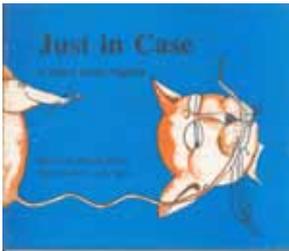
to participation in an international competition in Sweden. With the support of her brother and classmates, and indeed the entire nation, she ties with a Serbian girl for first place and the two are rewarded with exchange visits to each other's countries.



8 Fatima Pam • K. Ofori Pani, ill.
Amina the Milkmaid
 Longman Nigeria, 1988 • ISBN 978-139-793-4

This is a romantic fairy tale set in ancient northern Nigeria. During an everyday trip to market, Amina is kidnapped and begins a long journey into slavery farther north across the desert. Bought by a king, Amina is so good in caring for her mistress that she is given her

freedom. The tale does not end there, for on the way home she meets the prince—and they fall in love and marry. The attractive illustrations portray many aspects of life—from markets, to clothing and means of transport, to architecture and marriage customs.



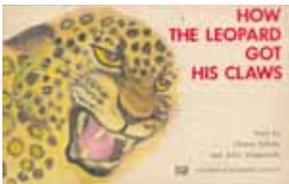
9 Sandra Slater • A. L. Satti, ill.
Just in Case
 University Press Limited, 1983 • ISBN 978-154135-0 • Outside Nigeria ISBN 0-19-575569-3

In this cat and mouse story, a hungry cat comes up with the stratagem of playing dead. The mice fall for it, arranging a feast around the cat's body to celebrate the demise of their enemy. Unfortunately, at the height of the festivities, the cat suddenly comes to life

and pounces on the chief mouse, carrying him off and eating him. And this is why mice will always run away from cats, even those that appear quite dead. The simple, repetitive text lends itself to reading aloud and the amusing cartoon drawings equally tell the tale.

10 Chinua Achebe and John Iroaganachi, with *The Lament Of The Deer* by Christopher Okigbo • Adrienne Kennaway (1979, Nwamife Ed. and 1989 East African Educational Publishers), Mary Grandpre (2011, Candlewick Press in US), ill.
How the Leopard Got its Claws

Nwamife, 1972, 1979 • ISBN 978-124-007-5 • East African Publishing House, 1976 • East African Educational Publishers, 1989 • Candlewick Press, 2011 • ISBN 978-9966463647 and 9780763648053



Previous edition: Originally published by Nwamife, Enugu, one of the first indigenous Nigerian publishers, in 1972 with black and white illustrations by Per Christiansen and in 1979 with coloured illustrations by Adrienne Kennaway. This edition is available only in occasional old stock, but there have been later editions, in Nigeria, Kenya and the United States, that are still in print. In this tragic mythic tale of a world gone wrong, kind king leopard rules without force and the animals cooperate with each other

until the dog spoils this peaceable kingdom. With his sharp teeth, he seizes control, drives out king leopard and soon has the fickle animals singing his praises. Disillusioned, the leopard goes in search of weapons that will enable him to regain his kingdom—sharp teeth and claws and a terrifying roar. He succeeds but ever after rules by force, while the dog becomes the servant of man. The 1979 edition had evocative impressionistic illustrations, but those in the new edition appear computer-generated.

BOOKS FROM Norway

The Norwegian Library Association's Section for Children and Young Adult co-operated with Norwegian IFLA members on this project in our country. The project was announced with information and publicity in Norwegian library and literature periodicals, on the internet via blogs and discussion-groups for librarians and people interested in literature. Children's librarians sent their suggestions to the Norwegian Library Association, and more than 100 picture books were nominated.

The final list of picture books consists of titles that both met the IFLA criteria and got the largest number of votes. The librarians say that these books are excellent stories to promote in their work with story-telling for children in kindergarten and primary schools. These books are highly recommended by the librarians, and we are proud to send this list to an international selection of the world's best picture-books.



1 Bjørn F. Rørvik • Gry Moursund, ill. **Bukkene Bruse på badeland [The Billy Goats Gruff in Waterworld]**

Cappelen Damm, 2010 • ISBN 9788202295882

One day the three Billy Goats Gruff set off to the hills. Suddenly they notice a sign that shows them the way to Waterworld. "Ohhh, please!" begs the littlest Billy Goat Gruff. He would rather go to Waterworld this summer. "And then we don't have to cross the bridge either. It's so

scary with that troll!" says the youngest goat. The big Billy Goat Gruff gives in and off they go to Waterworld. But when the three Goats don't cross the bridge the troll comes to Waterworld. And the troll is really angry!

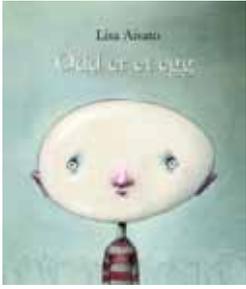


2 Stian Hole • Stian Hole, ill. **Garmanns sommer [Garmann's Summer]**

Cappelen, 2006 • ISBN 9788202259228

Garmann is anxious about starting first grade as he is not ready. He can not cycle, he does not dare to put his head under water and none of his teeth are loose yet. It's urgent – school starts tomorrow! It's the last day of summer and Garmann's three old aunts come to visit. Garmann discovers that adults are also scared

sometimes. His aunts are afraid of having to use a walker, harsh winters and of having to leave all behind when death comes. In the end Garmann isn't any less nervous about starting school, but he knows anxiety is a part of life. 2007 Bologna Ragazzi Award winner.

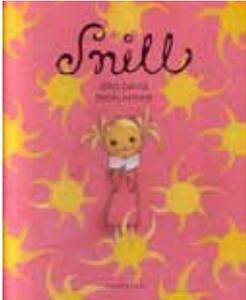


3 Lisa Aisato • Lisa Aisato, ill.
Odd er et egg [Odd is an egg]

Gyldendal, 2010 • ISBN 9788205399204

Imagine that your head is an egg. It can break any minute. What would PE (Physical Education) lessons and ball games be like? How do you think you would enjoy a walk in Pinecone Forest? Or riding your bike in dangerous traffic? Not much?

7 years old Odd is fully aware of all those things, because his head is an egg. Every morning he carefully covers his head in towels to keep it safe. Then one day Odd meets Gunn.



4 Gro Dahle • Svein Nyhus, ill.
Snill [Nice]

Cappelen, 2002 • ISBN 9788202221324

Little sweet Lussie is so nice, so nice. So nice that one day she just disappears. No one noticed her: "Her mother forgot that she was there. Her father forgot that she was there. The teacher forgot that she was there.

And all the pupils forgot that she was there". When no one sees or hears her, she slips into the wall. Will she ever be able to find the way out?

This book received the Brage Prize 2002.

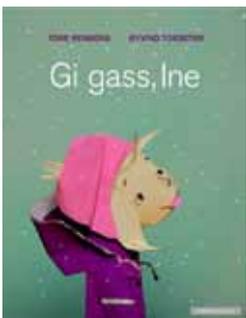


5 Henrik Hvoland • Torill Kov, ill.
Johannes Jensen føler seg annerledes [Johannes Jensen Feels Different]

Cappelen, 2003 • ISBN 9788202224462

Johannes Jensen is a crocodile that works in a tax office. He feels different and tries to find out why. Could it be that he wears a bow tie? Is he adopted? Or is it because he has a tail? He ties up

his tail but this leads to trouble balancing. He falls and hits himself and ends up at the emergency ward. There he meets Doctor Fjeld. This is a turning point for Johannes Jensen.

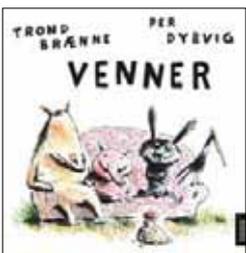


6 Tore Renberg • Øyvind Torseter
Gi gass, Ine [Step On It, Ine]

CappelenDamm, 2010 • ISBN 9788202325626

This is an imaginative and playful story about the siblings Ine and Hasse. Ine is the oldest. She has lost one tooth, is light on her feet and tough in her heart. Hasse is her baby brother with a pacifier and diapers. Whenever he is asked a question, he replies with either a "yes" or a

"tractor". Ine and Hasse are going to chop down a tree. They bring an axe into the forest. But after a while all the animals in the forest come out to watch them. And then the animals want to come home with them!

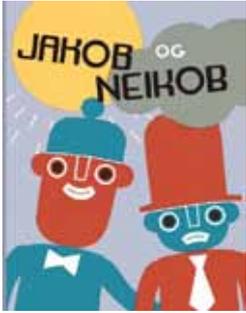


7 Trond Brønne • Per Dybvig
Venner [Friends]

Aschehoug, 2005 • ISBN 9788203246906

Five animals, who live on a farm, decide to get to know each other. They invite each other home and try to eat each other's food. This is a lovely

story which in very few words tells a lot about how friendship works.

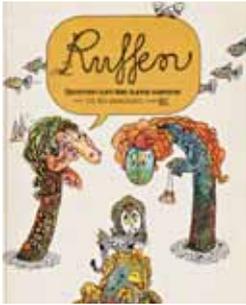


8 Kari Stai **Jakob og Neikob [Yesper and Noper]**

Samlaget, 2008 • ISBN 9788252170870

Jakob and Neikob live together and are good friends even though they are very different. Jacob says YES to everything and Neikob says NO. "Hey Neikob. You wouldn't say no to a road trip?" "NO", responds Neikob. On the road they meet a thief!

He takes their muffins and says he wants to steal their car. 'Yes,' replies Jacob, a little too fast. After several thoughtless YES answers, they end up being swallowed as crocodile-food. Will they ever be able to escape from the crocodile's stomach?



9 Tor Åge Bringsværd • Thore Hansen, ill. **Ruffen, sjøormen som ikke kunne svømme** **[Ruffen, the sea serpent who couldn't swim]**

Gyldendal, 2005 (1st ed. 1977) • ISBN 9788205313255

This is a timeless story about Ruffen who is an outsider and can not swim and play with the other young sea serpents. He is in fact afraid of water. Ruffen is afraid of water, but when the Octopus becomes stuck, Ruffen helps free

him and in return the Octopus teaches him to swim. Ruffen becomes the best sea serpent at swimming, and when a ship is wrecked in a storm, it is only Ruffen who dares to swim out and save the big American boat.

10 Alf Prøysen • Vivan Zahl Olsen, ill. **Geitekillingen som kunne telle til ti [The kid who could count to ten]**

Gyldendal Tiden, 2003 (1st ed. 1975) • ISBN 9788205278943



This is a classic story about a young goat who can count – until ten. He counts all the animals he meets. The other animals become angry and afraid when he says he is going to count them, and one after another they run after the kid. In the end they all enter a boat. But the boat

is only classified for ten animals. When the crew discovers that the kid can count, they scream: "Hurry up and count us!" Luckily they are exactly ten. The young goat remains at the boat to count passengers.

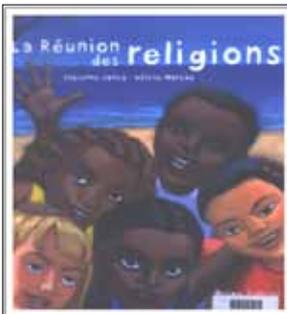
BOOKS FROM

Reunion Island

The books on this list were chosen by Mrs Samia Locate and Mrs Christelle Tiverne at the « Bibliothèque départementale » of the French Overseas Department of Reunion Island in the Indian Ocean.

1 Fabienne Jonca • Hélène Moreau, ill. **La Réunion des religions [The Mixing up of Religions]**

Océan éditions, 2010 • ISBN 978-2-36247-003-5



The better you know about the various religions that exist, the better you become tolerant and make it easier to live together. This book is accessible to children from very young age, it offers an abstract for the eight most popular religions in the world such as: Hinduism, Buddhism, the popular religion of China that include Confucius, Taoism and Buddhism, the Judaism, the Catholicism, the Orthodox, the Protestants, and Islam. Bassam lives in Réunion Island, a small island in the Indian Ocean where people about various religions live together. He is happy from this diversity; in fact he is often invited to big celebration parties by his friends. One part of the book could be classified as a documentary book which is useful for the reader because it gives answers to questions that are frequently

asked about religions such as: What are the most popular religions? What are the big events associated to these religions? And what are the most important practices of each of them? We have chosen this book because it gives a positive image of Réunion Island and its people. In fact, it gives information about their religious beliefs, culture and practices and how people live together in peace with their differences. This book is accessible to children from the age of 8; it is a beautiful book with multicoloured pictures and could be used to read aloud. At the end of the book there is an index which gives explanation for all the religious terms and expressions. It helps children learn about the variety of religions that does exist in a same country and respect them.

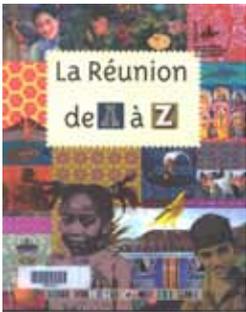
2 Robi • Maïté Chaveron, ill. **Elle a de qui tenir [She knows from whom she inherited it]**

Océan éditions, 2009 • ISBN 978-2916-533-72-8



Who are you? Where are you from? You are the fruit of your own roots, a new growing plant that will have its own way... The members of an African's crossbreed family want to find a trait of their own in a new born baby girl. This book is about people from crossbreed origin and it was inspired by a song from the singer Robi. Who has never questioned himself about the similarity in a trait of characters that his child could have inherited from himself or from a member of his close family? The book attempts to answer these questions. Through the illustrations and the beautiful rhymes the album becomes very sincere

and authentic. Furthermore the alternative between pictures that are painted and used to represent the members of the close family and those that are drawn and used to represent the growing girl are an excellent graphics choice because it reinforces the coherence between a text based on comparison of people and it is a kind of celebration for the crossbreed identity. The book has been selected for its originality. The topic it covers is a common subject but it is treated in an original way which makes it easy to read aloud with children from the age of three.

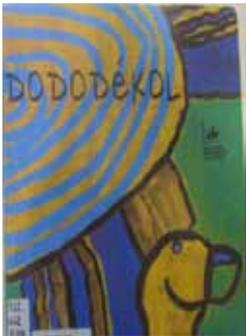


3 Baptiste Vignol, Jean-Claude Vignol • Elsa Lauret, ill.
La Réunion de A à Z, 100 mots sur la Réunion
[Reunion Island from A to Z, 100 words about Reunion Island]

Les Éditions du Boucan, 2007 • ISBN 978-295248362-9

It is an alphabet primer of 100 words that describes Reunion Island, its history, the most famous spices found and used in this country, the typical houses of Réunion Island called "cases" (huts), the rainfalls, the banana, the mosquitoes, the traditional dance called "maloya", but also details about Madagascar Island, etc... This book is an invitation to discover Réunion Island in an attractive and intelligent way,

by using 100 famous words that will relate to the island in the most beautiful way through riddles and games. The illustrations use lots of colours, humour and imagination in order to reflect closely the charm, the richness and the atmosphere of this Island. This book is a real success amongst literature for young people and is accessible from the age of 6.

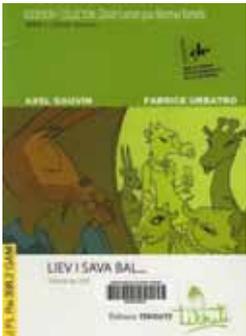


4 Arius and Mary Batiskaf • A class of year 5 from the primary school of Champcourt, le Tampon, ill.
Dododékol [The bird Dodo's take off]

Dodo vole, 2007 • ISBN 978-2-952204-3-1

This hardback square book deals with frequently asked question, anecdotal and metaphysical one that could be asked at any age from age 0 to 6. Here there are some dodo's birds who asked funny questions to their school teacher and all

of them will take off! These philosopher birds speak for the pleasure of the readers. This book has been selected for its lovely artistic illustration, it could be classified as a book of art for children.



5 Axel Gauvin • Fabrice Urbatro, ill.
Liev i sava bal... [Hare is going to the Ball]

Tikouti, 2007 • ISBN 2-916401-04-0

The king of animals organised a big ball where all the animals were invited, except those who do not have horns. A hare wanted to go so decided to make some false horns and finally was able to enter the ball and enjoy the party until the morning. The horns were made with honeycomb and melted under the sun when the hare got out and so he couldn't enter the ball again. This

is a famous story in Reunion Island used by storytellers to tell to children in reading aloud circles. The author is a very famous story teller in Reunion Island and he generally speaks in Creole (which is a French dialect spoken in the Island). By using Creole language the book uses funny jokes and expression, however this is not visible when translated into French.

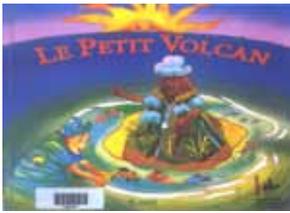


6 Florette Ratiandry • Anny Grondin, Sully Andoche, ill.
Dans mon soubik [In my Basket]

Epsilon jeunesse 2010 • ISBN 978-2-912949-35-6

This book is a collection of beautiful tales from Madagascar Island and Reunion Island. They are in French and Sakalave (a Malagasy dialect spoke in the north of Madagascar) for the tales of Madagascar, and the tales of Reunion Island are in French and Creole (a French dialect spoken in Réunion Island). This book is the result

of a co-operation between two authors, one from Madagascar Island and the other from Reunion Island and it shows the differences and similarities of cultures between the two countries through their literature and traditional tales. The book is multilingual and is accompanied by a CD.



7 Christophe David • François Carage, ill. **Le Petit Volcan [The Small Volcano]**

Hi-Land, 2005 • ISBN 2-910822-00-1

This book is about the birth of the Island, in fact this is the story of the union of the sea to the volcano which has made this beautiful island. Then beautiful birds came to live there, and beautiful fishes came to live in the sea around it. All this has made the Island a paradise where it is good to live. The book uses the famous character of the sea and the volcano which are commonly

used in literature for children. Indeed in Reunion Island we have a volcano which is still alive and does wake up once a year or once every two years. Children in this country grew up with nature around them, mountain, rivers, falls and the volcano which makes them get used to it so they don't become frightened about it in their daily life.

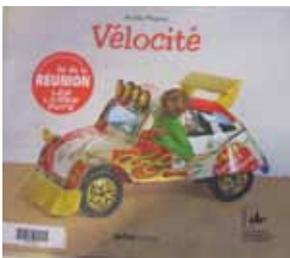


8 Joëlle Écormier • François Gonthier, ill. **Ticoulitintin [Ticoulitintin]**

Océan éditions, 2007 • ISBN 978-2916-533-34-6

A collection of traditional nursery rhymes of Réunion Island; these songs are in both languages Creole and translated into French, and these are still in use in nurseries or sung at home nowadays. At the end of the book the author has put a list of instruments that are commonly used with these songs. The book is accompanied

with a CD audio. We have selected this book because it contributes to the folklore of Réunion Island and particularly to the children's patrimony and culture that children are taught from a very young age. The book is very well illustrated and it gets good feedback in the Island.



9 Aurélia Moynet **Vélocité [Velocity]**

Epsilon, 2010 • ISBN 978-2-912949-36-3

The author and illustrator of this book is a modeller, She always makes the models, takes photos of them and uses them for the illustrations in her book. As a result the illustrations appear as if they are in 3D and it is a very nice combination of picture and drawings. Further this book is about biodiversity and recycling things. It gives a good image of how life could be beautiful when we care for the nature around us by using a bicycle instead of an engine

or a car. We have selected this book because it gives a good image about the protection of nature, the politics of recycling things and and sustainable development. This book was granted the prize "La Réunion des livres" for its illustrations in February 2011. All the models used in the illustrations are sold in the markets as toys for young children and they encourage them to appreciate playing with recycled things.



10 Marie Winter **Le Paille en Queue [The Paille en Queue Bird]**

Editions Azalées, 1993 • ISBN 2-908127-18-0

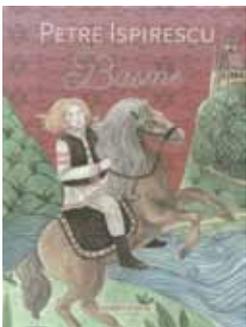
This book is a documentary book for children dealing with a typical bird that lives in Réunion Island named "Le Paille en Queue". The book is very well illustrated and gives minute details about the life of this bird. The young reader will appreciate the beautiful images of the island that are real places that he could have visited during his own life in this island. We have selected

this book because the author is one of the first authors to write documentaries books about wildlife and flora for children in Réunion Island. Her books are a real success with children as they help children to know about the typical animals that live on their Island, and probably nowhere else in the world, the same as for the typical plants that grow up here.

BOOKS FROM

Romania

An initial consultation was undertaken with colleagues from the Children and Young Adults department of the Public Library of Brasov and an initial list of the picture books was agreed. Secondly, a search for the titles was carried out in many bookshops and online in order to see them, to verify if they are eligible, appreciate them and to know if they are in stock. Afterwards, ten titles were established and the proposition was submitted to IBBY National Section Romania and to librarians from the Children and Young Adults departments belonging to all Romanian public libraries via e-mail. The Romanian National Section of IBBY operates within the Romanian Union of Publishers which means that the response of IBBY Section Romania also includes the editors' response. A response was received from IBBY National Section as well as suggestions for new titles. Further searching and verifying of titles took place and finally the ten picture books for Romania were chosen based on the co-operation of IBBY Romania and librarians.



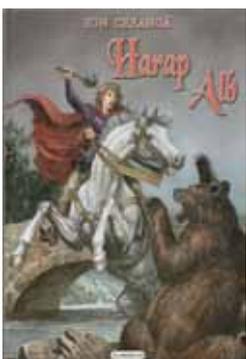
1 Petre Ispirescu • Walter Riess, Mihaela Paraschivu, Valeria Moldovan, Raluca Ilie, ill.

Basme [Fairy tales]

Corint Junior, 2010 • ISBN 978-973-128-346-3

The anthology includes the most beautiful and appreciated Romanian fairy tales, read by children and adults as well, generation after generation: "Youth without Age and Life without Death", "Aleodor the King", "The Salt in the Food", "Praslea the Sturdy and the golden apples".

All these tales were collected and published by Petre Ispirescu, a writer mostly interested in the literary traditional heritage of Romanian tales. With time, they became the tales of all the children, charming children's spirit by their imaginative world.



2 Ion Creangă • Valentin Tănase, ill.

Harap Alb [White Moor]

Flamingo GD, [2009] • ISBN 978-973-1896-13-7

The White Moor is the king's son, the youngest and most courageous one, who leaves the family, and is forced to face many challenges and difficulties. In spite of his father's advice, the prince was tricked by the Spân (the Beardless Man) who turns him into a slave and gives him

dangerous tasks that put his life at risk. Helped by Holy Friday and his horse, and also having supernatural powers, the White Moor succeeds in all his missions. Finally, the White Moor defeats his master and regains his freedom, finding his place and true love.



3 Mihai Eminescu • Anamaria Smigelschi, ill. **Făt-Frumos din lacrimă [Prince Charming from the Tear]**

Gramar, 2007 • ISBN 978-973-591-570-4

Born from his mother's tears, the Prince Charming from the Tear left his home, in search of glory. So, he saves his neighbor's kingdom from the curse of a witch, called Muma Pădurii (The Forest Witch), finding love with her beautiful daughter. At the request of his blood brother, he accepts the mission of bringing his

brother's future bride, the beautiful youngest daughter of the most powerful leader, Genar. After a lot of difficulties, he succeeds in his mission. The adventures, romantic atmosphere, magic characters and very poetic language give a special flavour to this tale, which captures any reader.



4 Elena Farago • Anamaria Smigelschi, ill. **Cățelușul șchiop [The Lamé Puppy]**

Gramar, 2006 • ISBN (10) 973-591-537-5, (13) 978-973-591-537-7

Elena Farago (1878-1954) was an well-known and appreciated Romanian poet. This is the story of a puppy badly hurt by a cruel boy and as a result becomes lame and is unable to play with other puppies or children. The boy's regrets are useless, and the kind-hearted puppy did not punish

him, being more generous than a human being could ever be. The poem, carrying a clear moral message, is one of the best poems known by children and it is often used as a nursery rhyme in schools, kindergartens and library reading activities.

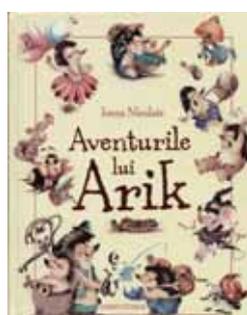


5 Otilia Cazimir • Anamaria Smigelschi, ill. **Baba Iarna intră-n sat [The Winter Old Woman enters the village]**

Gramar, 2006 • ISBN (10) 973-591-539-1, (13) 978-973-591-539-1

Many of the poems written by Otilia Cazimir (1894-1967) were dedicated to children. The author has always appreciated their tenderness and innocence. She used to tell them stories or write happy lyrics for them, describing either their world or the universe of the harmless

insects or animals. The poetry *The Winter Old Woman enters the village* is about the cold season, which is imagined like an old and gloomy woman. The words and images are very suggestive and it quickly became a beloved and well-known children's poem



6 Ioana Nicolaie • Mihail Marian, ill. **Aventurile lui Arik [Arik's Adventures]**

Corint Junior, 2008 • ISBN 978-973-128-174-2

It is the best and the most successful book of the last years, written by a very gifted poet. Arik is a little hedgehog, who has a lot of adventures searching for his brothers and saving them from the smoky hornets. He fights against them helped by his best friend, a little mouse named

Nasuri Cârne [Snub Noses]. He is also helped by a wise mole named Santa Cârț and a horse fly, named Zum. The beauty of the lyrics, the exciting adventures and the attractive illustrations, including a puzzle game, make the reading a real delight for children.

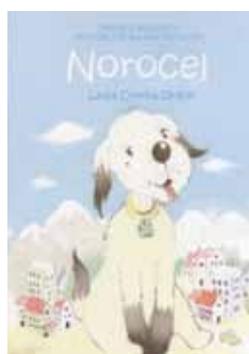


7 Gellu Naum • Nicolae Vasilescu (First Volume), Gellu Naum (second volume), ill. **Cartea cu Apolodor [The Book with Apolodor]; A doua carte cu Apolodor [The Second Book with Apolodor]**

Humanitas, 2008 • ISBN 978-973-50-2213-6; 978-973-50-2214-3

Both volumes relate the adventures of a penguin, named Apolodor, who goes through all kinds of events along with his friends, Ilie the Kangaroo and Amedeu the Lion. Gellu Naum's lyrics make a very powerful impression on young

readers and Apolodor's world is full of humor and surprises. At the same time, in these books, children discover both a lot of useful experiences, and a good model to be followed.

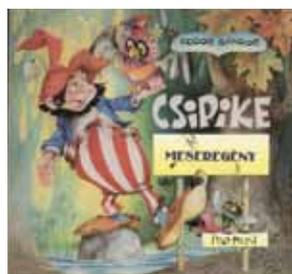


8 Laura Cristinasărăcin • Cristina Pecherle, ill. **Norocel**

Benefica, 2010 • ISBN 978-606-92754-3-6

Norocel (Lucky) is a nice dog who grows bigger and bigger. He eats more and more and there is a real danger to everything around him. Finally, Norocel demolishes his master's house. The people call the police and the dog has to run away, into the forest, causing a lot of damage there too.

Left behind by all the animals scared by him, Norocel decides to surrender to the authorities. On the road to them, Norocel meets three boys, in danger of drowning themselves and he saves them, drinking the whole water and becoming the hero of the community.



9 Sándor Fodor • Lívia Rusz, ill. **Csipike, az óriás törpe [Csipike, the Fierce Dwarf]**

ro-Print, 2007 • ISBN 978-973-8468-58-0

Csipike is a nice dwarf, sometimes grumpy, but trusted, and always available for his friends and animals of the forest where he lives, being absolutely convinced that the fate of the forest depends entirely on him. His experiences are both funny and highly educational. Time after time,

he becomes aware of his real role and starts to respect the others. Fodor Sandor's book has won many fans among children by its fully imaginative characters and events. The illustrations also have a large contribution to its success.



10 Ricarda Maria Terschak • Mihaela Tivadar, ill. **Die Bunte Omi [The Funny Grandmother]**

Sibiu, Hora Publishing House, fourth edition, 2004 • ISBN 978-973-8226-92-0

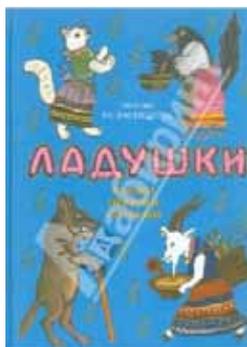
The book describes the imaginary travel around the world of six children along with their grandmother. Traveling and playing, children learn new things about people and

their particular habits in different places of the world, going through a real educative and moral experience. The illustrations are very real and convincing, making reading a real pleasure.

BOOKS FROM

Russia

This list consists of books illustrated by the most impressive Russian painters of the present and past, which have been published in recent years. One top ten list can't include all varieties of the Russian book art. However, the expert group of the Russian State Children Library, which is the federal methodological centre, have tried to find a balance between recognized classical artists among Russian-speaking children (Ivan Bilibin, Yuri Vasnetsov, Vladimir Konashevich, Vladimir Suteev, Tatyana Mavrina) and the most impressive representatives of the Russian modern book graphic arts (Gennady Spirin, Nikolay Popov, Francheska Yarbusova, Kirill Chelushkin). Also, during the process of selection the best texts (books by Alexander Pushkin, Anton Chekhov, Korney Chukovsky, etc.) and the high printing quality have been taken into account by the experts.



1 Y. Vasnetsov, ill. **Ладушки: русские народные сказки, песенки, потешки** **[Pat-a-cake: Russian folktales, songs, rhymes]**

Detgiz, Octopus, 2011

Yury Vasnetsov is one of the most famous book illustrators in Russia. His works have been recognized as classic of Russian graphic arts. This book is considered to be his very

best masterpiece (1964). Ornate, smart, decorated illustrations by Vasnetsov naturally fit for the small forms of Russian folklore.

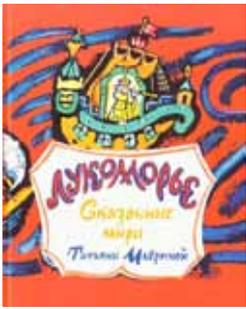


2 I. Bilibine, ill. **Русские народные сказки [Russian Folktales]**

Mescheryakov, 2009

Russian folktales with classic illustrations by Ivan Bilibine, famous artist and participant

of the artistic group Mir Iskusstva (World of Art) have been reprinted many times.



3 Tatyana Mavrina, ill.
Лукморье: сказочные миры Татьяны Мавриной
[Curved Seashore: Fantastic Worlds by Tatyana Mavrina]

Moskovskiye Uchebniki, 2010

This book comprises not only folktales, but also all fairy tales in verse written by Alexander Pushkin, such as "The Tale of the Priest and of His Workman Balda", "The Tale of Tsar Saltan", "The Tale of the Dead Princess and the Seven Knights", etc. Tatyana Mavrina is the only

Russian artist to have been awarded the "Nobel Prize for children's literature" – Gold Medal of Hans Christian Andersen Award for Illustration. Her naïve, primitive but in fact very refined manner is widely recognized both in Russia and abroad.



4 Alexander Pushkin • K. Chyolushkin, ill.
Сказка о рыбаке и рыбке [The Tale of the Fisherman and the Fish]

Azbuka, 2011

The tale in verse is about a fisherman who manages to catch a "Golden Fish" which promises to fulfill any wish of his in exchange for its freedom. Pushkin wrote the tale in 1833 and since that time it has been published with illustrations

by very many artists. We have chosen this edition because of the graphics by Kirill Chyolushkin, one of the most talented and bright modern illustrators.



5 Korney Chukovsky • V. Konashevitch, V. Suteyev, V. Duvidov, ill.
Детям [For Children]

Planeta Detstva, 2007

Korney Chukovsky is one of the most popular children's poets of the Soviet times in the Russian language. This book comprises his poems "Doctor Aybolit", "The Giant Roach", "The Crocodile", "Wash'em'clean", etc., which have been favorites with many generations of Russian children.

Each of the three illustrators has his own manner. Lyric and decorative style by Konashevitch, simple and smiling pictures by Suteyev, sincere and musical illustrations by Duvidov – all them show us the world of Chukovsky's fairy tales .



6 Vadim Gusev
Про что внутри — прочти, посмотри: рисунки со стихами ли, с рисунками стихи ли... [What is inside – read and look: either pictures with verses or verses with pictures...]

Detgiz, 2010

Vadim Gusev illustrated his own poems in the Russian constructivism manner of 1920s. His poetry seems to be an integral part of his illustrations.

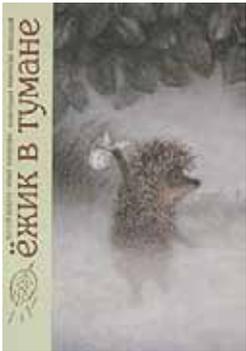


7 Nikolai Popov **Зачем? [Why?]**

Ripol classic, 2010

Nikolai Popov's wordless, thought-provoking tale about a frog who sits peacefully on a rock smelling a flower and a mouse who aggressively snatches the flower away. The absurdity of aggression and the inevitable consequences

of the violence that occurs teaches us the ugliness of war and that there are no winners. This book was selected as the best book for children in Germany, Austria and Switzerland.



8 Sergei Kozlov, Yuriy Norshteyn • Franchesca Yarusova, ill. **Ёжик в тумане [Hedgehog in the Fog]**

Krasnyy Parokhod, 2011

This is a story about a little hedgehog, who is on his way to visit his friend the bear cub. *Hedgehog in the Fog* is a 1975 Russian animated film directed by Yuriy Norshteyn. The script was written by

Sergei Kozlov and a book under the same name was published. In 2003 in Tokyo *Hedgehog in the Fog* was selected "N° 1 Animated film of all the time".



9 Junna Morits • Eugeny Antonenkov, ill. **Крыша ехала домой: стихи-хи-хи для детей от 5 до 500 лет [The roof was going home: ha-ha verses for children from 5 to 500 years old]**

Vremya, 2010

Junna Morits has attracted many young readers with her children poetry, some of which, like her adult work, became known to mass

audience through guitar singers. Illustrations by E. Antonenkov make their creative cooperation a real tandem.



10 Anton Chekhov • G. Spirin, ill. **Каштанка [Kashtanka]**

Ripol classic, 2010

"Kashtanka" by Anton Chekhov is one of the most famous short stories for children. The dog Kashtanka lives in precarious surroundings, with a drunken master and the ever-present possibility that she'll be beaten or neglected. Suddenly, she finds herself living the

good life; insofar as canine ideals go, she's hit the jackpot. However, she rejects the good life as soon as her original master calls. Illustrations by Gennady Spirin, one of the top illustrators of children's books, are considered the best graphics that have ever been created for this story.

BOOKS FROM

Senegal

The selection was made by Mané Joséphine Diouf, in charge of reading activities at the Children's library of Institut Français Léopold Sédar Senghor in Dakar, and coordinated by Antoinette Correa et Viviana Quiñones.

1 Adapt. of the text by Léopold Sédar Senghor • Abdoulaye Sadj, Georges Lorofi, ill. **Les Aventures de Leuk-le-lièvre [The Adventures of Leuk-the-Hare]**

Les Nouvelles éditions africaines du Sénégal, 2003 (1st ed. 1975) • ISBN 978-2-7236-1583-9

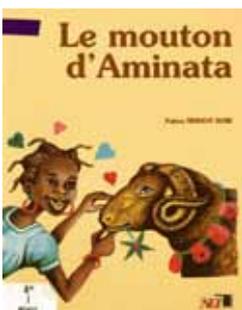


Resourceful Leuk-the-Hare has much to learn from life, from other animals, from men, to become as wise as he aspires to be... This picture-comic book tells, with jocular illustrations, some of the adventures of this traditional hero of the savannah and of other very human animals that never lose their sense of humour. First published in 1975, it is based on L.S. Senghor and A. Sadj's classic book for children *La Belle histoire de Leuk-le-lièvre*.

Leuk-le-lièvre, débrouillard, a beaucoup à apprendre de la vie, des autres animaux, des hommes, pour devenir le sage qu'il aspire à être... Quelques unes des aventures de ce héros traditionnel de la savane africaine nous sont ici présentées dans la forme d'une bande dessinée à l'illustration savoureuse dans laquelle les animaux évoluent à la manière des humains, sans jamais perdre leur humour. Réédition de l'ouvrage paru en 1975, inspiré du classique La Belle aventure de Leuk-le-lièvre de L.S. Senghor et A. Sadj.

2 Fatou Ndiaye Sow • Moustapha Ndiaye, ill. **Le Mouton d'Aminata [Aminata's Lamb]**

Nouvelles Editions Ivoiriennes, 1996 • ISBN 978-2-910190-84-2

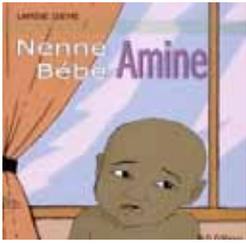


Aminata is delighted with the upcoming Muslim Tabaski festival: the tailor has sewn her a beautiful dress, the braider has made her beautiful braids... but the main thing is missing, the lamb! Aminata is very concerned. One of Fatou Ndiaye Sow's great stories, with stylized illustrations by Moustapha Ndiaye showing everyday life.

Aminata se réjouit de la fête musulmane du Tabaski à venir; le tailleur lui a préparé une belle robe, la tresseuse lui a fait de belles nattes... mais il manque l'essentiel: le mouton! et Aminata s'inquiète... Un récit de l'auteur sénégalaise Fatou Ndiaye Sow, dont les illustrations stylisées de Moustapha Ndiaye reproduisent des scènes de la vie quotidienne.

3 Lamine Diemé • Ndèye Daba Niane, transl. **Nenne / Bébè Amine [Baby Amine]**

BLD, 2009 • ISBN 978-2-916859-07-1

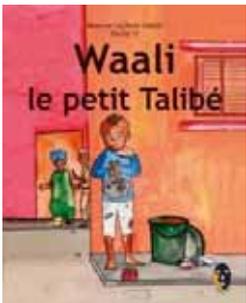


When Baby Amine wakes up alone on a big bed, his eyes show perplexity, then anxiety and finally, great anger... Fortunately, Mother is not far away. A small, square picture book, with expressive illustrations, where the story is mostly told by the image and its skilful framing. Other good simple picture books for very young children in this collection "Tété": *Dem Dikk* on the blue and yellow Dakar mini-buses, and *Colobane*, on Colobane market in Dakar. Bilingual French-Wolof.

Quand Bébè Amine se réveille seul dans un grand lit, c'est d'abord la perplexité qui se lit dans ses yeux, bientôt relayée par l'inquiétude, pour finir par une très grosse colère. Heureusement, Maman n'est pas loin. Dans ce petit album carré, aux illustrations très expressives, le récit est mené essentiellement par l'image qui joue habilement sur les cadrages. D'autres bons petits albums pour tout petits dans cette collection « Tété » : Dem Dikk, sur les mini-bus bleu et jaune de Dakar, et Colobane, sur ce marché dakarois. Bilingue français-wolof.

4 Béatrice Lalinon Gbado • Moctar Ly, ill. **Wali le petit Talibé [Wali the little Talibe]**

Bibliothèque Lecture Développement, Ruisseaux d'Afrique, 2005



Little "talibes" – children who attend Koranic schools, led by a marabout – live and beg in the streets of big cities. Starving, they sometimes snatch a passer-by's handbag and end up at the police station. This is what happens to little Wali. It is Mister Ba the shopkeeper who tells this sad story to his family, that evening. What is the best solution for these abandoned children? To send them back to their home village? The powerful, warm illustrations enhance a story whose ending may not be a happy one.

Dans les rues des grandes villes, des petits talibés – ces enfants de l'école coranique attachés à un marabout – vivent et mendient. Il leur arrive, affamés, d'arracher le sac d'une passante pour un morceau de pain et de se retrouver à la police. C'est ce qui arrive au petit Wali. Et c'est Monsieur Ba le boutiquier qui raconte cette triste histoire le soir à sa famille. Quelle solution pour ces enfants abandonnés? Retrouver leur village natal? Les illustrations fortes et chaudes mettent en valeur une histoire dont il n'est pas sûr que la résolution soit heureuse.

5 Raphaël Ndiaye • Malang Sène, ill. Mariame Kanté, Antoinette Fall Corrêa, adapt. **La Lutte [Wrestling]**

BLD, 2007 • ISBN 978-2-9527685-8-0

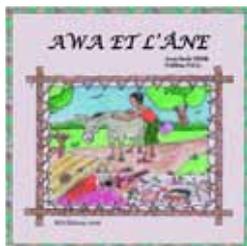


In Fadiouth village, on the island of clam shells, André explains to his cousin Leïty just arrived from France, all about traditional Serer wrestling: the origins, the training, the costumes, the different techniques, women wrestling... A quiz and charades complete this non-fiction picture book giving substantial information on a little treated subject, African martial arts.

Au village, à Fadiouth, l'île aux coquillages, André explique à son cousin Leïty venu de France, tout sur la lutte traditionnelle sérère : les origines, l'apprentissage, les tenues, les différentes prises, la lutte chez les femmes... Un quizz et des charades complètent ce documentaire conséquent, très illustré sur un sujet peu abordé, les arts de combat en Afrique.

6 Awa Ndir Seck • Falilou Fall, ill. **Awa et l'âne [Awa and the Donkey]**

BLD, 2006 • ISBN 978-2-916859-00-2

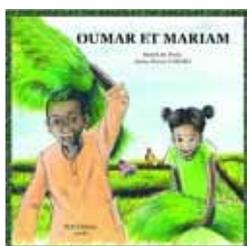


Awa, a very poor girl, meets a donkey at a rubbish dump. He is in a pitiful state and Awa takes great care of him. One night, the donkey grants Awa's greatest wish, to have a lavish home. But on one condition, the best room must belong to the donkey for ever. A tale on the importance of keeping one's promises, told by a concise text and pleasant, meaningful illustrations.

Awa, jeune fille très pauvre, rencontre un âne dans un dépôt d'ordures. Il est dans un piteux état et Awa s'en occupe avec grand soin. Une nuit l'âne exauce son souhait le plus cher : avoir une demeure somptueuse. Mais à une condition, la meilleure pièce de la maison devra appartenir à son âne à tout jamais. Un conte sur l'importance de la promesse tenue, dit par un texte concis et par des illustrations agréables et très parlantes qui occupent une large place.

7 Malick Mayabé Fall • Abdou Karim Camara, ill. **Oumar et Mariam [Oumar and Mariam]**

BLD, 2006 • ISBN 978-2-9527685-7-3

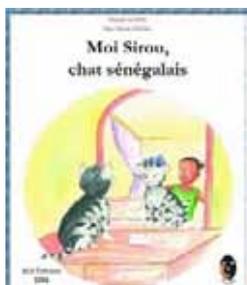


Oumar and Mariam go back to the village after spending the school year at their uncle's home in Dakar. It is a joy for them to see their parents again, and take part in the activities of every summer: help Mother cook and sell rice porridge, catch birds, harvest rice... Beautiful watercolours give charm to the book, a book serene as good family holidays.

Oumar et Mariam rentrent au village après l'année scolaire chez leur oncle à Dakar. C'est une joie de retrouver les parents et les activités de chaque été : aider maman à préparer et à vendre la bouillie de riz, attraper des oiseaux, récolter le riz... Les belles illustrations à l'aquarelle sont pour beaucoup dans le charme de cet album serein, à l'image des bonnes vacances en famille.

8 Mariame Kanté • Pape Thierno Niang, ill. **Moi, Sirou, chat sénégalais [Me, Sirou, Senegalese cat]**

BLD, 2007 • ISBN 978-2-9527685-6-6



Sirou, a kitten, tells the story. He's just arrived in a family home with its order, its rules to respect, a little girl Soukeye who wants to pamper him... and a sofa, forbidden to him but of course, soon taken over. Sirou is punished and must go back to a stray cat's life. But because he foils a thief's plans, he is welcomed back into the family. A lighthearted story, with humour and a peaceful vision of everyday family life. Cartoon speech bubbles, inserted into the illustrations, add to the book's playfulness.

La parole est à Sirou, petit chat tout juste débarqué dans une famille d'accueil avec son ordre établi, des règles à respecter, une petite fille Soukeye qui ne demande qu'à le chouchouter... et un canapé défendu et bien sûr investi : la punition ne tarde pas et c'est le retour à la vie de chat errant. Mais pour avoir déjoué les entreprises d'un voleur, le chat rentrera bientôt en grâce. Histoire légère, non dénuée d'humour et proposant une vision tranquille du quotidien familial. L'inclusion de bulles dans l'illustration proche du style BD, renforce le ton enjoué.

9 Héléne Ngone Diop, Moustapha Ndiaye, ill., Mame Daour Wade, transl. **Jinne yu mel nune – Des djinns de toutes les couleurs [Djinns in all colours]**

BLD, 2008 • ISBN 978-2-916859-06-4



First published in 1997 together with two other stories, this tale is published here alone, in a square, smaller and better suited format. It is not easy for djinns and men to live together, especially at siesta time when the little, invisible djinns make a racket... A very short text, in French and Wolof; amusing, colourful illustrations by Moustapha Ndiaye in his recognizable style.

Paru en 1997 dans une édition qui regroupait trois histoires, cette nouvelle présentation du conte, seul, dans un album carré plus petit, permet de mieux en goûter la saveur. La cohabitation entre les djinns et les hommes n'est pas facile, surtout à l'heure de la sieste quand les petits êtres invisibles ne cessent leur vacarme... Un texte très court, en français et en wolof; d'amusantes illustrations très colorées de Moustapha Ndiaye dans son style si reconnaissable que l'on a plaisir à retrouver.

All book reviews are adapted from those published in the journal *Takam Tikou*.

BOOKS FROM Singapore

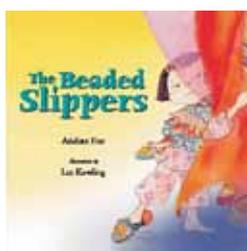
The books included in the top ten list for Singapore were chosen for inclusion because they are:

- Books that feature Singapore and/or its diverse culture
- Books with universal values such as friendship, love, family, etc.
- Of good quality in writing and illustrations (not didactic in the telling)
- Children's perennial favourites (e.g. Mooty)

Most of the books featured have received awards such as First Time Writers and Illustrators award, Hedwig Anuar award or in the case of Emily Lim's book, Independent Publisher's Book Award ("IPPY Awards") – Bronze medal in the Children's Picturebook category.

1 Adeline Foo • Lee Kowling, ill. **The beaded slippers**

Booksmith, 2008 • ISBN 9789810808044



Puteh lives in a huge house with her grandmother, Mama, and their servant, Amah. There are 4 rooms in the house, one for each of them. But, the last room remains unoccupied. Not only that, it is always locked. Amah calls it the haunted room in the hope of scaring Puteh but that only triggers Puteh's curiosity even more. One day, she chances on the

room unlocked. As both Mama and Amah are busy, she sneaks into the room and discovers something special about the room. Follow Puteh and learn about the "Peranakan" world through the illustrations and facts in this book. With the inclusion of a glossary of Peranakan terms used for a better understanding, this will definitely be an informative read.

2 Shamini Flint • Alpana Ahuja, ill. **Sasha visits Singapore**

Sunbear Pub, 2006 • ISBN 9789810565404



Sasha is in Singapore, and she is in for a treat. Follow her through a bumboat ride, the MRT and even a zebra-striped train! As she explores vibrant Singapore, she meets the famous Merlion, the white tigers in the Singapore Zoo and even a Lion Dance.

Tag along with Sasha and you will get a chance to visit Singapore's famous attractions all in one day. The illustrations capture the essence of Singapore very well.



3 Belinda Chan • Lynette Long, ill. **Ah Kong's clock**

Straits Times Press Children, 2009 • ISBN 9789814266376

Ah Kong's clock has been with the family for many generations. It is a friend as well as a member of the family. Day after day, the clock ticks on faithfully, telling everyone the time and going through important occasions with the

family. But one day, the clock stops! Is it trying to tell us something? This is a great book, and also suitable for parents to emphasize to their child on the importance of time.

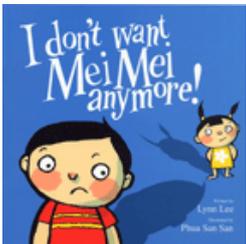


4 Jin Pyn **The elephant and the tree**

Epigram Books, 2006 • ISBN 9789810561024

This story features a unique relationship between an elephant and a tree. They are the best of friends. The story begins with a young elephant who loves wandering free. Yet he will always go back to the same tree. He goes to the tree to scratch his itching body and to share stories. As the years go by, they lose their natural

playground to humans. The elephant is shot and the tree chopped down. With one chained and the other bound, they recount the happy memories of the time they were both free. This heart-warming adventure tells of how the friendship between the elephant and the tree stands the test of time.

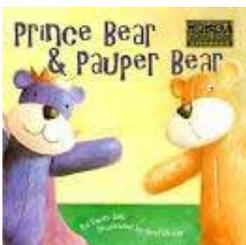


5 Lynn Lee • Phua San San, ill. **I don't want Mei Mei anymore!**

Straits Times Press, 2008 • ISBN 9789814266062

This book is about Mark and his baby sister whom he calls Mei Mei. One day, Mark gets very angry and declares that he does not want Mei Mei anymore. They sit in Mark's rocket and take off on an adventure. They land right in front of

a baby factory where Mark gets to exchange Mei Mei for another baby. Will he find the perfect baby? A simple yet beautiful story about sibling relationships.



6 By Emily Lim • Neal Sharp, ill. **Prince bear & pauper bear**

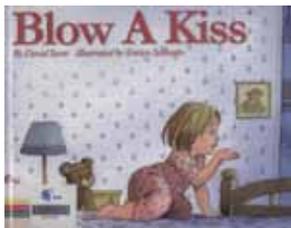
Mustard Seed Books, 2007 • ISBN 9789810590048

Prince Bear and Pauper Bear belong to the same toy store but they look very different. While Prince Bear has matching eyes and a mouth, an armour with his name on it and wears a crown and cape, Pauper Bear is plain with mismatched eyes and no mouth. Prince Bear is bought by a girl who loves him initially but neglects him

afterwards. Pauper Bear is given to a boy without much money. The grateful boy fixes his eyes and mouth and plays with him daily. A story that highlights the values of empathy, compassion and friendship. It is accompanied by child-like illustrations with gentle and cheerful colours.

7 David Seow • Enrico Sallustio, ill. **Blow a kiss**

Bonnie Books, 2010 • ISBN 9789810824938



This heart-warming story starts with a simple thought: "Can you blow a kiss? Get ready, get set, blow! Now let's see where your little kiss will go."

It then takes the reader's imagination across various countries and cultures, following the pathway of the blown kiss.

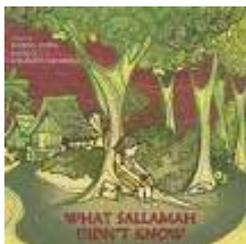
With rhyming text, this story shows how

much joy a blown kiss can bring to others.

The illustrations are charming; colourful with soft shades and full of expression! They enhance the vivid pictures that come to mind when reading the verses. The kiss finally lands in Singapore and it's the reader's turn to pass on the message of love and happiness - blow a kiss!

8 Sharon Ismail • Khairudin Saharom, ill. **What Sallamah didn't know**

Candid Kids, 2007 • ISBN 9789810589943

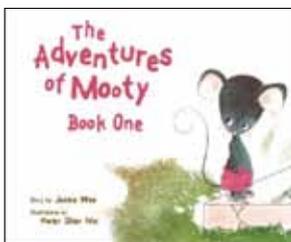


Set in early Singapore, this true story tells of a girl's journey in discovering and accepting that she is an adopted child. It all began with a Chinese baby girl who was given to a Malay family to raise as their own. The baby was named Sallamah and grew up happily amongst her many siblings in a close knit kampong (Malay for "village"). Her happiness finds an abrupt end

when she found out, by accident, that she was in fact adopted and of Chinese heritage. Soon, she learnt that some of her other siblings were also adopted as babies and were also of different races. This is a heartwarming story, beautifully written by the protagonist's daughter – of true love and kinship, regardless of the colour of one's skin.

9 Jessie Wee • Kwan Shan Mei, ill. **The adventures of Mooty**

Marshall Cavendish Children, 2009 • ISBN 9789814276559

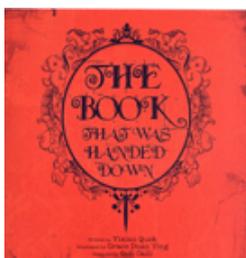


Mooty is a mouse who lives in Grandma's house but he is forced to move out when Grandma gets a cat. He finds a big hollow tree and calls it his new house. He then makes friends with other creatures – ants, lizards, birds and frogs. Mooty's adventures come in five books with ten stories.

The whole set is entertaining with Mooty getting married and having a baby at the end of the series. The illustrations are cute and children will especially get attracted to adorable Mooty in his sarong attire.

10 Yixian Quek • Grace Duan Ying, ill. **The Book that was Handed Down**

Straits Times Press, 2008 • ISBN 9789814266055



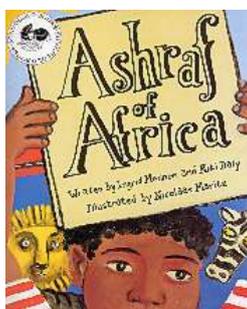
Ping is always getting hand-me-downs from her brother Ming, including this book. She does not like the book at all, that is until her brother shares the hidden wonders of stories. This is

a highly original picturebook, simple yet brilliantly put together to carry the story through its illustrations. It won the inaugural Hedwig Anuar Award in May 2011.

BOOKS FROM

South Africa

The main deliberation was done by Jay Heale and Lona Gericke who are widely considered to be the top authorities on children's literature in South Africa on (respectively) English and Afrikaans books. Additional input was received by a number of librarians in public and school libraries.

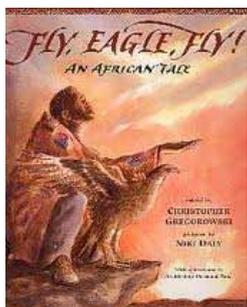


1 Ingrid Mennen & Niki Daly • Nicolaas Maritz, ill. **Ashraf of Africa**

Shuter & Shooter – Songololo Books, 1990 • ISBN 9781919888057

A bright picture book to correct the popular view of Africa as a vast savannah roaming with lions! Ashraf is an African boy of today. He lives in the city of Cape Town and the only place he has seen

wild animals is inside books. So he walks through the streets to the public library, where he renews his favourite book – about wild animals. Bold, simplistic pictures by a renowned local artist.

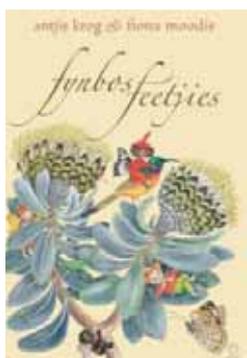


2 Christopher Gregorowski • Niki Daly, ill. **Fly, Eagle, Fly!**

Tafelberg, 2000 • ISBN 9780624039037

A farmer finds an eagle chick and puts it with his chickens where it learns to live like a chicken and, as the farmer insists, it even "thinks like a chicken". A friend tries three times to persuade the young eagle to fly, urging it "You belong

not to the earth but to the sky." Eventually he takes the eagle (and the protesting farmer) up a mountain. There, the eagle sweeps up into the sky, "never again to live among the chickens".



3 Antjie Krog (English text by Gus Ferguson) • Fiona Moodie, ill. **Fynbosfeetjies [Fynbos Faeries]**

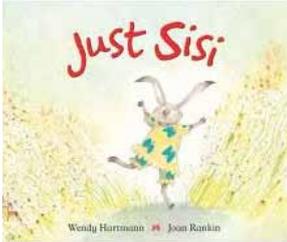
Umuzi, 2007 • ISBN 9781415200223

Totally different from the delicate *Flower Fairies* of Cicely Mary Barker. These South African floral spirits are modern and with-it. The Erica fairies wear jeans and Grandma Geranium smokes a pipe. The Afrikaans verses of Antjie Krog are

sheer brilliance. Fiona Moodie has provided our children with a pictorial encyclopedia of the fynbos: its inhabitants, its varied plants and winged visitors. A storming, stunning book.

4 Wendy Hartmann • Joan Rankin, ill. **Just Sisi**

Human & Rousseau, 2010 • ISBN 9780798152198



Sisi is a small rabbit with floppy ears – but could be any and every small girl. Five deceptively simple stories: a journey past unseen African dangers, a surprise party, painting the wall of Gogo's house, welcoming Dad home and saying

goodnight. Joan Rankin's artwork is outstanding, with so much thought to space, page position, character, humour, reader reaction. The text is minimal. The impact maximum.

5 Maria Hendriks • Piet Grobler, ill. **Makwelane En Die Krokodil [Makwelane and the Crocodile]**

Human & Rousseau, 2004 • ISBN 9780798144612



This is a big, bold, laugh-making, Africa-loving picture book about a girl outwitting a crocodile. In amongst the everyday rural necessities of fetching water, washing clothes, pounding maize meal and, of course, making music,

there is the need to be wary of danger. Piet Grobler's exuberant artwork frolics around the large pages with zest and skill, full of the flavour and humour of Africa.

6 Wendy Hartmann • Marjorie van Heerden, ill. **Nina and Little Duck**

Human & Rousseau, 2007 • ISBN 9780798148245

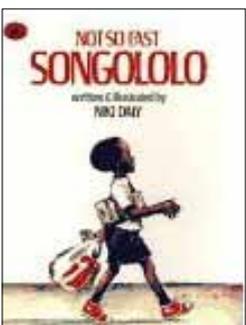


This is sheer pleasure. A large-paged picture-book collection of read-aloud stories interspersed with rippling verses, all enlivened and beloved by Marjorie van Heerden's illustrations.

The whole feeling is of life and love, personified by two vigorous youngsters, Nina and Simon, but centred around the mother figure of Little Duck.

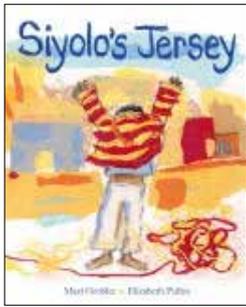
7 Niki Daly **Not So Fast, Songololo**

Frances Lincoln, (1985) • ISBN 9780711217652



An established classic South African picture book: the first to portray a black urban child as the central character. The boy goes shopping with his loving grandma and comes home wearing brand new red tackies. A large paged, enriching winner of a book.

Originally published by Human & Rousseau in 1985. Now in the process of being reissued. Available in five African languages from Via Afrika.

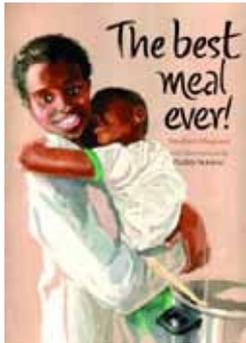


8 Mari Grobler • Elizabeth Pulles, ill.
Siyolo's Jersey

Tafelberg, 2008 • ISBN 9780624046066

Siyolo has a large, old, favourite but fraying jersey. Elizabeth's Pulles' pictures are partly in wool collage which emphasizes how Siyolo gallantly gives away bits of wool to needy causes. By the end Siyolo is saying, "Now I am cold and

my jersey is gone!" But a new one will come soon and lots of people have been made happy. Think Kindness of heart – and rejoice that there are still books as warming as this.

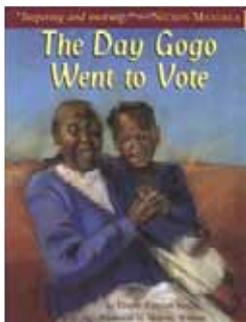


9 Sindiwe Magona • Paddy Bouma, ill.
The Best Meal Ever

Tafelberg, 2006 • ISBN 9780624042549

Siziwe is looking after her four younger brothers and sisters in Guguletu, with both parents away. There is no food in the house – nothing. In desperation she heats up a pot of water, and adds salt and pepper, stirring until the

younger ones gradually fall asleep as they wait. Then Siziwe falls to her knees and prays: "Thank you, Father in Heaven, for the gift of hope. This was the best meal ever! But, Lord, can you send us a different one, tomorrow?"



10 Elinor Batezat Sisulu • Sharon Wilson, ill.
The Day Gogo went to Vote

Tafelberg, 1996 • ISBN 9780624035484

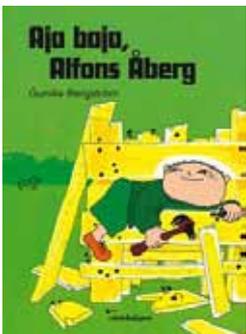
This heart-warming picture book records the occasion when a nation stood in line to vote in South Africa's first democratic election. Elinor Sisulu follows Gogo, a grandmother,

who has waited all her long life for this opportunity and insists in going to the ballot box in spite of the problems of transport and old age. Illustrated in bold, impressive colour.



BOOKS FROM Sweden

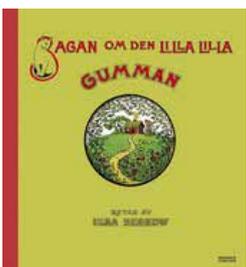
Children's librarians nominated their favourite titles and a list was made of these nominations. Voting was then done by email and the ten titles with the most votes became the list from Sweden.



1 Gunilla Bergström **Raska på, Alfie Åberg [Hurry up Alfie Atkins]**

Raben & Sjöstrom, 1976 • ISBN 9789 12 967 1254

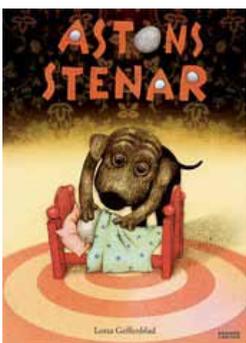
It is a busy morning. Alfie and daddy are doing all the things you have to do before leaving your home after breakfast. Hurry up Alfie, says daddy. It is time to go to pre-school. But Alfie just has to do a couple of things before they can go. Hurry up!



2 Elsa Beskow **Sagan om den lilla, lilla gumman [The tale of the little, little old woman]**

Bonnier Carlsen, 1897 • ISBN 9789 16 385 8260 • ISBN 9789 16 381 2675 • ISBN 9789 18 563 3449

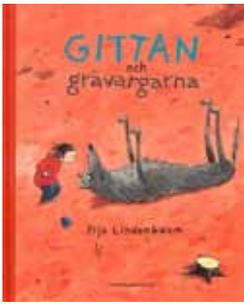
This is one of the classic Swedish picture books. The simple story is based on a rhyme the author heard as a child. It is about an old woman who lives with her cow and her cat. It has easy repetitions and a slightly dramatic ending.



3 Lotta Geffenblad **Astons stenar [The stones of Aston]**

Bonnier Carlsen, 2005 • ISBN 9789 16 384 6052 • ISBN 9789 16 385 5016 • ISBN 9789 17 221 4897

Aston is a dog. He collects stones. He thinks the stones are lonely and cold. He feels sorry for them and brings them all to his home. After a while his parents think Aston has too many stones. It gets too crowded. Here is a task to solve.



4 Pija Lindenbaum **Gittan och Gråvargarna [Bridget and the grey wolves]**

Raben & Sjögren, 2000 • ISBN 9789 12 965 5087 • ISBN 9789 12 964 8843

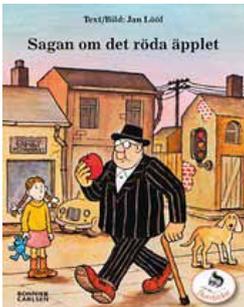
Gittans is taking a walk in the woods with her kindergarten. She gets lost and cannot find the teachers and the rest of the children. But she finds some wolves and makes friends with them.



5 Barbro Lindgren • Eva Eriksson, ill. **Mamman och den vilda bebin [The wild baby]**

Raben & Sjögren, 1994 • ISBN 9789 12 962 8593

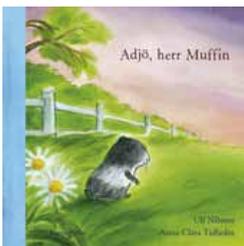
The little baby is wild and doing crazy things all the time. He makes up things and is very adventurous. His mummy is having a tough time taking care of him. The story is written with rhymes.



6 Jan Lööf **Sagan om det röda äpplet [The story of the red apple]**

Bonnier Carlsen, 1974 • ISBN 9789 16 382 6733 • ISBN 9789 16 386 5329

A man in a striped suit puts an apple in the window. The apple falls out. The book tells the story about everything that's happening to the apple and its escapades.



7 Ulf Nilsson • Anna-Clara Tidholm, ill. **Adjö Herr Muffin [Goodbye, Mr Muffin]**

Bonnier Carlsen, 2002 • ISBN 9789 16 386 4681 • ISBN 9789 16 384 5939

An old guinea pig looks back. He has had a long and joyful life. He had a beautiful wife and nice children. They were a happy family. In the end he closes his eyes and his family arranges his funeral.



8 Sven Nordqvist **Pannkakstårten [The birthday cake]**

Opal, 1984 • ISBN 9789 17 712 3354

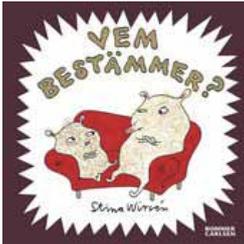
The old man lives in a house in the countryside with his cat. The cat is very special. He wants to celebrate his birthday three times a year. Here is one of those occasions. A lot of preparations have to be done.



9 Anna-Clara Tidholm **Knacka på [Knock, knock knock!]**

Alfabeta, 1992 • ISBN 9789 17 712 3354

Knock on the blue door and enter the house. Together we knock on all different doors, open them and see what is behind them. Together we say hello to the figures we find in the rooms. This is a story for young children.



10 Stina Wirsén **Vem bestämmer? [Who is deciding?]**

BonnierCarlsen, 2006 • ISBN 9789 16 385 0905

The little teddy and the big teddy are having a good time reading a story. But soon they start to fuss. Who has the right to decide? Small teddy? Big teddy? This is a story for young children.



BOOKS FROM

United Kingdom

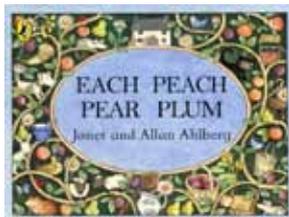
The co-ordination of the selection of the top ten picture books for the United Kingdom was undertaken by Annie Everall. In order to draw up a list of titles, members of the national committee of the Youth Libraries Group of CILIP (Chartered Institute of Librarians and Information Professionals) were asked to nominate titles against the criteria established for the project.

In addition an article was published in the Youth Libraries Group newsletter also inviting nominations from librarians across the UK. 31 titles were nominated, although one (Eric Carle – *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*) was unable to be included as it was not first published in the United Kingdom.

An electronic voting form was sent to all national committee members of the Youth Libraries Group and its branch members. It was also sent to national committee members of ASCEL (Association of Senior Children's and Education Librarians) as well as to all ASCEL members with a request to forward it on to relevant staff in their Authorities. Every delegate at the Youth Libraries Group annual conference in September 2011 was given a voting form in their delegate pack and asked to complete it and hand it in before the end of conference, with two sets of the final ten titles being offered as a prize draw for completed application forms. In addition a notice was included in the Youth Libraries Group electronic newsletter inviting librarians to request a voting form. 7,040 votes were received and when analysed the top ten titles for the UK are as listed below.

1 Allan Ahlberg • Janet Ahlberg, ill. **Each Peach Pear Plum**

Puffin • 1978 Viking Kestrel • 1989 Picture Puffin • ISBN 978 0 140 50919 9 Pbk



Awarded the CILIP Kate Greenaway Medal for an outstanding book in terms of illustration for children and young people in 1978. *Each Peach Pear Plum* is a deceptively simple, engaging picture book in which Janet Ahlberg's gentle pen and watercolour illustrations complement her husband Allan's text to give young children the pleasure and satisfaction of using their knowledge of nursery rhymes to interact with the book, spot clues and find hidden characters...

The book is very carefully designed to lead the reader through a range of settings filled with recognisable images from the literature of childhood. The reader is led from the opening, quilt like view of fields, cottage and an orchard of peach, pear and plum trees, into Mother Hubbards's kitchen, up Jack and Jill's hill and

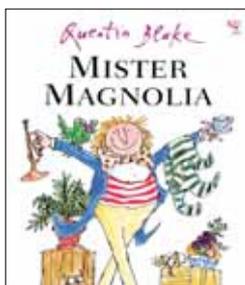
out into Robin Hood's forest. Each double page spread follows a simple picture frame format with text and a small pictorial clue on one side, balanced by a detailed full-frame illustration with objects to find on the other...

There is something very pleasing in seeing the domestic lives of familiar characters represented in such a witty way. The artists ability to depict a happily comfortable world, shown to great effect in the final full-page illustration where she completes the circular story and reunites all the characters makes this a very enjoyable and satisfying book.

Extract of a review from: 'Image & Imagination 50 Years of the Kate Greenaway Medal' by Ian Dodds and Sue Roe, CILIP Youth Libraries Group 2007
13 978 0946 512 52

2 Quentin Blake **Mr Magnolia**

Random House (Red Fox Imprint) • First published 1980 (Jonathan Cape imprint)
ISBN 978 1 862 30807 7 Pbk



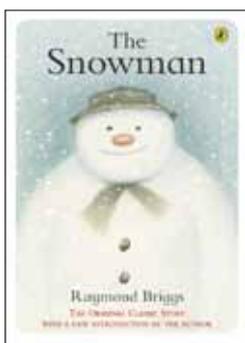
Mister Magnolia is the archetypal English eccentric dressed in a shabby frock coat, enormous bow tie, clashing colours and only one boot. This simple and charmingly dotty story, told in rhyme, reveals more about Mister Magnolia's flamboyant lifestyle and follows him in his search for that elusive second shoe. The liveliness of the rhyme is enhanced by the energetic, exuberant and humorous illustrations. Mister Magnolia and the cast of supporting characters are each drawn with confident economy, they are given their own quirky personalities through well observed arm movements, a flick of hair, a wayward scarf or a wonky ear.

There is no hesitation in Quentin Blake's penmanship and he uses broad sweeps of colour to create an immediacy and freshness on every page..... Quentin Blake is the master of simple line and wash illustrations. This book is full of joy, wild lines and vibrant colours leap from every page, making the whole work fresh, unique and memorable. It was awarded the CILIP Kate Greenaway Medal in 1980.

Extract of a review from: 'Image & Imagination 50 Years of the Kate Greenaway Medal' by Ian Dodds and Sue Roe, CILIP Youth Libraries Group 2007
13 978 0946 512 52

3 Raymond Briggs **The Snowman**

Puffin • First Published 1978 (Hamish Hamilton) • ISBN 978 0 141 34009 8 Pbk

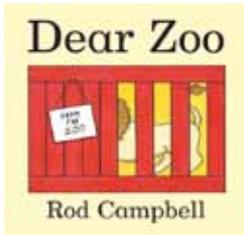


One winters' night, a snowman comes to life and a magical adventure begins for a small boy. Narrated entirely through pictures, Briggs's dreamlike illustrations perfectly capture the wonder and innocence of childhood and the magic of a child's imagination. Since its publication the book has become a world-wide

phenomenon, being published in 15 countries. The film of the book has been shown on TV at Christmas for the past 25 years and the musical stage version is now into its tenth year. It is a book that spans the generations – adults enjoyed it as children and are now sharing it with their own children.

4 Rod Campbell **Dear Zoo**

Macmillan, 1982 • ISBN 978 0330512787 Hbk

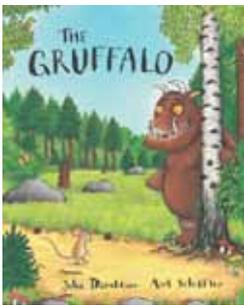


A child writes to the zoo for a pet. The zoo sends a series of unsuitable pets which all have to be sent back for different reasons, except for the last one which is just perfect. First published in 1982 and now available in many different formats including a delightful pop up version, this book has firmly established itself as a classic for the under 5's. Bright, colourful illustrations and a simple

yet engaging text make this a perfect book to read aloud and share with young children. The board book edition of *Dear Zoo* is available in dual language editions (published by Mantra Lingua), in English with Albanian, Arabic, Bengali, Chinese, Farsi, French, Gujarati, Hindi, Panjabi, Portuguese, Russian, Simplified Chinese, Somali, Spanish, Turkish, Urdu, or Vietnamese.

5 Julia Donaldson • Axel Scheffler, ill. **The Gruffalo**

Macmillan, first published 1999 • ISBN 978 0 333 710920 Hbk

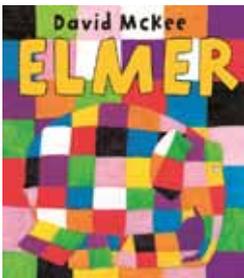


Written in rhyming couplets, this tells the story of a mouse's walk in the woods. He meets various animals who would like to eat him but he scares them off by telling them he is having tea with a monstrous creature called the Gruffalo – but what happens when he meets the real Gruffalo!! Aimed at children under seven, the richness of the text and the exuberance of the illustrations combine to create an award winning book. It won the Nestle Smarties Gold Award in the 0-5 category in 1999, the Blue Peter Best Book to Read Aloud award., the 2000 Nottingham/ Experian Children's Book Award and was voted Best Bedtime Story by BBC Radio 2 listeners in

2009. Available in multiple formats, it has also been produced as an animated film and a stage production. A sequel 'The Gruffalo's Child' was published in 2004. The author Julia Donaldson is the UK Children's Laureate 2011-2013. Translations include Dutch (*De Gruffalo*), Estonian (*Grühvel*), French (*Gruffalo*), German (*Der Gruffelo*), Hebrew (*Trofoti*), Irish, Italian (*A spasso col mostro*), Lithuanian (*Grufas*), Polish, Russian (*Груффало*), Slovene (*Zverjasec*), Spanish (*El Grúfalo*), Scottish Gaelic, Swedish (*Gruffalon*), Turkish (*Tostoraman*), Welsh (*Y Gryffalo*) and Afrikaans (*Die Goorgomgaai*).

6 David McKee **Elmer**

First published 1968 Dobson Books • 1989 Andersen Press • ISBN 978 1 84270 731 9 Pbk



Elmer is the first in a series of books featuring a colourful patchwork elephant and his friends. In this story, Elmer thinks he looks odd, because he is patchwork coloured when all the other elephants are grey, so he rolls in berries to turn himself grey. He soon realizes though that being different is a good thing and the elephants love him because he is different. Text and illustrations

full of colourful cheeky humour combine to create a modern classic that has become a firm favourite with young children all over the world. Elmer's adventures are available in printed formats as well as on a variety of digital platforms and have been published in more than 40 languages. They have also been made into a TV series.

7 Michael Rosen • Helen Oxenbury **We're Going on a Bear Hunt**

Walker, first published 1989 • ISBN 978 0 7445 2323 2 Pbk

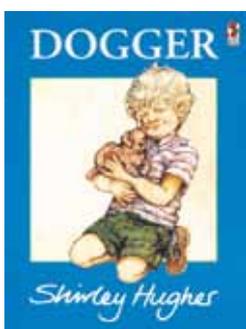


A family sets out on a Bear Hunt and find themselves wading through grass, splashing through a river, squelching through mud, stumbling through a forest and shivering through a snowstorm, in search of a bear. The surprise comes when they reach a cave and discover that finding a bear wasn't quite what they expected. The lyrical text by Rosen is perfectly

complemented by Oxenbury's watercolour illustrations. The story reads aloud beautifully and children can join in with a range of sounds and actions to extend the reading experience further. A classic book enjoyed by children and adults alike. Winner of the Smarties Book Prize in 1989, Highly Commended for the CILIP Kate Greenaway medal.

8 Shirley Hughes **Dogger**

Random House (Red Fox imprint) • First published 1977 (Bodley Head) • ISBN 978 1 862 30805 3 Pbk

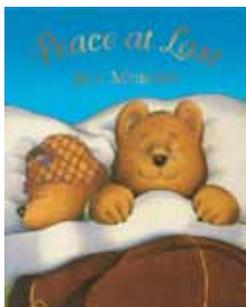


Dogger is a much loved toy dog owned by a little boy called Dave. Although his brother and sister have lots of toys, Dave only wants Dogger. Disaster strikes when at bedtime Dogger can't be found and appears to be lost, leaving Dave very sad indeed. Even a family trip to the school summer fair can't cheer him up, until the mystery is solved and his big sister Bella rescues Dogger and returns him to Dave. Many families can relate to this wonderfully heartwarming and familiar

story of a lost and found toy. Although Hughes' illustrations beautifully capture a snapshot of 1970's life in an English community, they have a quality that makes the story timeless. The book won the CILIP Kate Greenaway medal in 1977 and in 2007 was voted the 'Greenaway of Greenaways' – the favourite Kate Greenaway medal of all time, during the 50th anniversary year of the medal.

9 Jill Murphy **Peace at Last**

Macmillan, first published 1980 • ISBN 978 0 230 53241 0 Hbk

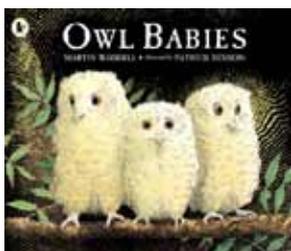


It's bedtime and Mr & Mrs Bear and Baby Bear go to bed. Mrs Bear's snoring keeps Mr Bear awake and makes him try to find somewhere else to sleep. He tries baby bear's room, the living room, the kitchen, the garden and the car but all of them have a variety of noises that keep him awake. Exhausted he returns to bed but just as he is falling asleep the morning alarm clock rings

to wake everyone up. Jill Murphy's delightful illustrations wittily capture a nighttime routine and Mr Bears' frustration at being unable to fall asleep. Children delight in the repetition within the text and the opportunity to join in with the night time noises. Highly commended for the CILIP Kate Greenaway Medal.

10 Martin Waddell Patrick Benson, ill. **Owl Babies**

Walker Books, first published 1992 • ISBN 978 0 7445 3167 1 Pbk



Sarah, Percy and Bill wake up in their tree nest to find their owl mother gone. "I want my mummy" cries Bill, and Sarah and Percy do their best to comfort him and each other while waiting for their mother's return.

An excellent story that demonstrates how a book can be used to give children a way of understanding situations that might be happening to them by putting them into

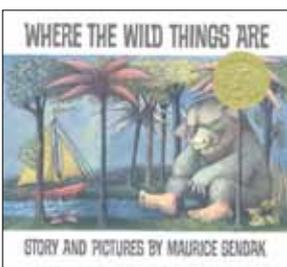
a different context. It helps children who may be experiencing the anxiety of first time separation from their parents due to starting nursery or school. It acknowledges the baby owls' fears but at the same time offers reassurance and a happy ending with the return of their mum. The illustrations empathetically work with the text and further enhance the story making this a classic book to be read and re-read.

USA

The United States members of IFLA and IBBY, represented by Barbara Genco (IFLA and YALSA, Young Adult Library Services Association) and Linda M. Pavonetti (ALSC, Association for Library Service to Children, and IBBY), created a survey for ALSC and USBBY members. The goal of our survey parallels that which members from other nations have been researching: What books do librarians believe are essential as read aloud offerings? We posted a series of questions on Survey Monkey and administered by ALSC. All members of the ALSC list serve were invited to participate. Additionally, other list serves devoted to literature for children were also provided access as were members of USBBY. Altogether, there were 171 participants. Only those books submitted through the on-line survey were counted. There were 779 individual books named, including books that were cited multiple times. Of those books, 296 titles had a unique vote and 483 were multiple-vote titles. There were comments—both informative and insightful—about most of the choices.

1 Maurice Sendak **Where the Wild Things Are**

Harper & Row, 1963 • ISBN 978-0060254920 hardcover • ISBN 978-0064431781 paperback

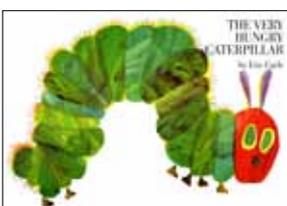


Nearing 50 years in print, *Where the Wild Things Are* remains one of the most enduring of American picture books. It is an irresistible and simple story: after he is sent to bed without supper for behaving like a wild thing, Max dreams of a voyage to the island where the wild things are. By journey's end, he finds himself safe at

home with his supper waiting. This book has been honored with some of the most significant awards in children's publishing, including the 1964 Caldecott Medal. Author-illustrator Sendak received the Hans Christian Andersen and the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award.

2 Eric Carle **The Very Hungry Caterpillar**

Philomel/Penguin, 1969 • ISBN 9780399208539 hardcover (and many other editions and formats)



The Very Hungry Caterpillar follows the progress of a hungry little caterpillar as he eats his way through a varied and large quantity of food until, full at last, he forms a cocoon around himself and goes to sleep. Die-cut pages illustrate what the caterpillar ate on successive days. This book has been translated into over 50 languages and

has become a favorite worldwide. Carle is the recipient of countless honors including the 2003 American Library Association Laura Ingalls Wilder Award for his entire body of work. He founded the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art <http://www.carlemuseum.org>

3 Mo Willems **Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!**

Hyperion Books for Children, 2003 • ISBN 078681988X 9780786819881



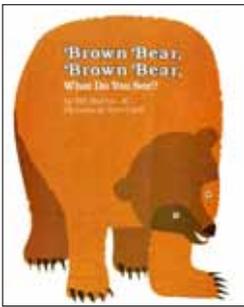
Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! is an ingeniously simple story that instantly connects with the preschooler's world view. A wily pigeon that longs to drive a bus sees a chance to make its dream come true when the bus driver takes a short break.

Funny and exciting by turns, the often hilarious

child-centric text is perfectly matched to the spare yet marvelously expressive line drawings and understated earth-toned, palette. *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!* was a 2004 Caldecott Honor Winner and an adaptation won the 2010 Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Children's Video.

4 Bill Martin Jr. • Eric Carle, ill. **Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do you See?**

Henry Holt, 1967 • ISBN 978-0805092448 hardcover (numerous other editions/formats in multiple languages)



Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do you See? has been a touchstone read-aloud for pre-school since its publication. Children see a variety of animals, each a different—and sometimes whimsical—color and finally, a teacher looking back at them. The ground-breaking approach of Martin and Carle, two picture book masters, is deceptively

simple and insightful into the world of young children. Early childhood educator Martin's repetitive, clearly patterned, and predictive question-and-answer text encourages children to participate by reading along. Carle's vivid tissue paper collages are fully integrated with the text. This book never fails to engage.

5 Jules Feiffer **Bark, George**

HarperCollins, 1999 • ISBN 978-0062051851

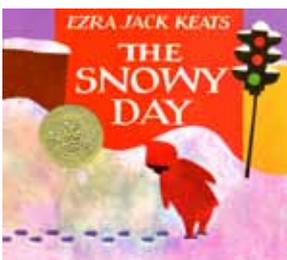


George's mother is exasperated when he refuses to bark like a good little dog. George quacks. He oinks. He moos! Finally, Mama escorts George to a resourceful vet who reaches deep down inside the errant pup, and much to everyone's surprise, pulls out a cat! Then a duck, a pig, and finally a cow.

Feiffer's pen and ink line drawings on pastel paper reinforce and expand the humorous text. Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist Feiffer provides one final surprise as George and his proud mother greet everyone on the street. Preschoolers (and even adults) are absolutely delighted!

6 Erza Jack Keats **The Snowy Day**

Viking/Penguin, 1962

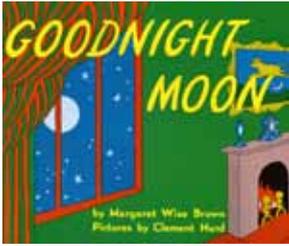


Now 50 years in print, *The Snowy Day* chronicles Peter's adventures as he explores his urban neighborhood. Peter gambols through his mysterious yet familiar snow-covered landscape experimenting with his footprints, knocking snow from a tree, and creating snow angels. Seemingly without effort, Ezra Jack Keats integrated

multi-racial characters into the previously all-white world of American picture books. Keats is acclaimed for his bold and brilliant mixed media (watercolor, gouache, collage) art as well as his impassioned humanism. *The Snowy Day*, winner of the 1963 Caldecott Medal, thrills readers as much today as it did when it was first published.

7 Margaret Wise Brown • Clement Hurd, ill. **Goodnight Moon**

Harper & Row, 1947 • ISBN 9780060775858 (and many other formats and editions)



Goodnight Moon is a deceptively simple story that endures as a bedtime favorite. Before going to sleep, a little rabbit says goodnight to each object in his “great green room”: goodnight stars, goodnight air, goodnight noises everywhere, and, of course, goodnight moon. The stylized paintings by Clement Hurd are wonderfully childlike and

deliciously full of details that complement—and extend—the text so masterfully. Although the book was initially rejected by the library world (The New York Public Library declined to purchase it until 1973), *Goodnight Moon* has become one of the best-selling American picture books of all time.

8 Ed Emberley **Go Away, Big Green Monster!**

Little Brown, 1992

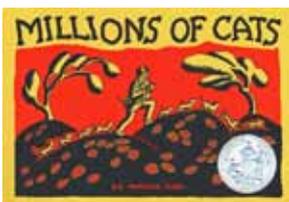


Confronting night time fears is part of childhood as Caldecott-winning artist Emberley demonstrates in *Go Away, Big Green Monster!* Readers construct—then deconstruct—the monster starting with page one where die-cut yellow eyes on glossy black heavy-duty pages dominate. Each page turn introduces additional ‘monstrous’ attributes from a “long

bluish-greenish nose” to “scraggy purple hair.” Authoritatively, the child proclaims, “YOU DON’T SCARE ME! SO GO AWAY...” Each subsequent page subtracts one of the not-so-scary features until the final, entirely black page. Emberley places control in the hands of the child-listener who states, “and DON’T COME BACK! Until I say so.”

9 Wanda Gág **Millions of Cats**

G. P. Putnam & Sons, 1928 • ISBN 978-0399233159 (and many other formats and editions)

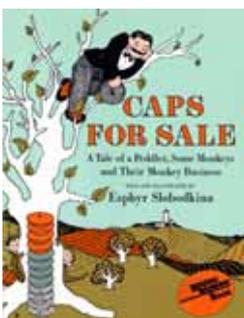


Hand-lettered text and strong, curvilinear drawings combine to tell the story of a lonely couple, searching for a cat. On a far away hillside, the husband discovers “...hundreds of cats, thousands of cats, millions and billions and trillions of cats...” After a catastrophic catfight, the very old man and his wife are left with only

an undernourished kitten that grows beautiful, nurtured by their love—a satisfying conclusion to this immensely pleasing, folk-tale inflected, story. The repetitive, rhythmic phrasing entices children to join in the telling. *Millions of Cats*, a 1929 Newbery Honor book, is considered to be one of the first modern picture books.

10 Esphyr Slobodkina **Caps for Sale: A Tale of a Peddler, Some Monkeys and Their Monkey Business**

Harper & Row, 1940 • ISBN 978-0201091472 (and many other formats and editions)



A peddler who balances his unusual wares on top of his head—bunches of gray, brown, blue, and red caps—must outsmart a band of mischievous monkeys that steal his caps as he naps under a tree. Exasperated when he can’t retrieve the caps, the peddler throws his own cap down. In a clever take on “monkey see, monkey do”...

all the monkeys throw down their caps as well. Slobodkina, a fine artist and graphic designer, created this sure-fire read-aloud from an old folk tale and imbued the illustrations with sly humor. It has been an American picture book favorite for over 60 years.