

The Storytellers



Not a Box

Written/Illus. by Antoinette Portis
HarperCollins, 2006, Ages 2+

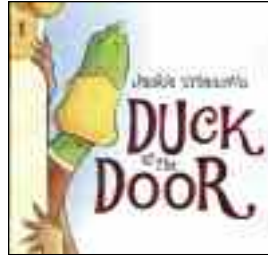
A young rabbit pretends that the plain box in which he is sitting is not a box, but a racecar, a mountain, a burning building, and a robot. Simple line drawings and repetition of words are perfect for preschoolers who are learning word recognition.



Duck at the Door

Written/Illus. by Jackie Urbanovic
HarperCollins, 2007, Ages 4-7

Born in the spring, Max decides to stay behind when his flock flies south for the winter. Seeking warmth, Max makes himself at home with Irene and her menagerie of pets. Max learns to use the TV remote control, discovers a flair for cooking, and hogs Brody's blanket. He finally rejoins his flock to the disappointment of the family, but next winter Max returns, this time with the whole flock.



A Mama for Owen

Written by Marion Dane Bauer
Illus. by John Butler
Simon & Schuster, 2007, Ages 2-6

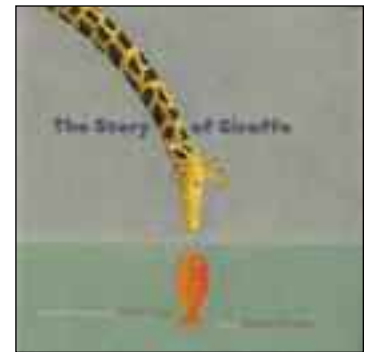
A young hippo is washed down the Sabaki River by a flood, separated from his family, and pulled back to shore by the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami. Young Owen finds and bonds with a 130-year-old male tortoise, Mzee, who becomes an accepting and loving adoptive parent. Written for younger children, this version is softer and less traumatic than other versions.



The Story of Giraffe

Written by Ronald Hermsen
Illus. by Guido Pigni
Front Street, 2007, Ages 4-7

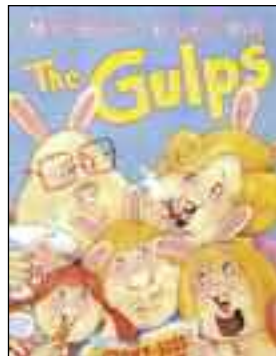
Giraffe must find a girl giraffe before he can join Noah's ark. Other animals teach him valuable lessons, but none can help. When the rain begins, Giraffe decides to ask Fish for swimming lessons. Originally published in the Netherlands, children will enjoy the happy ending.



The Gulps

Written by Rosemary Wells
Illus. by Marc Brown
Little, Brown and Co., 2007, Ages 4-7

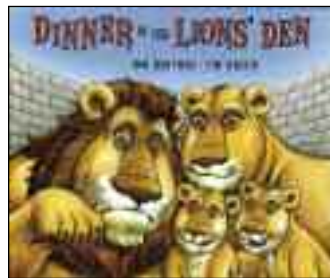
On their way to Dizzyworld, a human-like, bunny-eared, overweight, junk food-munching family takes a detour when their RV breaks down from the excessive weight of its passengers. Find out how sensible eating, exercise, and a little side trip to Farmer Spratt's farm redeems this family from a dreadful future of obesity.



Dinner in the Lion's Den

Written by Bob Hartman
Illus. by Tim Raglin
G. P. Putnam's Sons, 2007, Ages 4-8

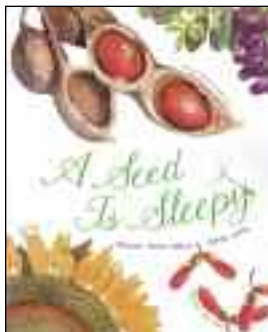
A family of hungry lions looks forward to a tasty meal, when Daniel is thrown into their den. Daniel prays to God; and an angel appears and convinces the lions that instead of dinnertime, it's scratching time, belly-rubbing time, and sleeping time. In the morning Daniel is still safe, but now his enemies face a similar fate. Clever and amusing illustrations add to this classic story of faith and redemption.



A Seed Is Sleepy

Written by Dianna Hutts Aston
Illus. by Sylvia Long
Chronicle Books, 2007, Ages 5-10

The creators of "An Egg Is Quiet" offer another elegant and informative book about seeds, both common and exotic. Poetic phrases, science concepts, helpful charts, and general information depict the growth of seeds into adult plants. The attractive illustrations and interesting information will help children develop an interest in basic botany.



Gone Wild: An Endangered Animal Alphabet

Written/Illus. by David McLimans
Walker Books, 2006, All Ages

In this impressive alphabet book, each page features a black and white letter incorporating characteristics of each animal, the animal's English and Latin name, and an upper case letter and lower case letter. Not only is this unusual book a tool for raising awareness of the problem, but it is a very effective art book for students above the elementary grades.

