

2013 WCCPBA Nominees

Title: 11 Experiments That Failed

Author and Illustrator: Jenny Offill

Publisher: Schwartz & Wade, 2011

Synopsis: Is it possible to eat snowballs doused in ketchup-and nothing else-all winter? Can a washing machine wash dishes? By reading the step-by-step instructions, kids can discover the answers to such all-important questions along with the book's curious narrator.

Title: Betty Bunny Loves Chocolate Cake

Author: Michael Kaplan

Illustrator: Stephane Jorisch

Publisher: Dial, 2011

Synopsis: When Betty Bunny eats chocolate cake for the first time, she declares, "I am going to marry chocolate cake." She loves it so much that she takes a piece to school with her in her pocket and refuses to eat anything else. Mommy tells Betty that she has to eat healthy food first, and have patience because cake is for dessert, not pockets. But Betty doesn't want to have patience; she wants to have chocolate cake!

Title: Bridget's Beret

Author and Illustrator: Tom Lichtenheld

Publisher: Henry Holt, 2010

Synopsis: Bridget loves to draw, and she likes to wear a beret for inspiration. So when her beloved hat blows away, Bridget searches for it high and low. She files a Missing Beret Report. She even considers other hats, but none of them feel quite right. It's no use; without her beret, Bridget can't seem to draw. How will she overcome her artist's block?

Title: Can Hens Give Milk?

Author: Joan Betty Stuchner

Illustrator: Joe Weissmann

Publisher: Orca Books, 2011

Synopsis: On a small farm in Chelm, a man and his daughter set out to find a way to get milk from their hens, and the results are not only funny, but also wacky.

Title: Chicken Big

Author and Illustrator: Keith Graves

Publisher: Chronicle Books, 2010

Synopsis: On a teeny little farm, in an itty-bitty coop, a very small hen laid a big, giant egg. And out of this egg came one big, humongous . . . something. "It's big!" clucked the little rooster. "It's enormous!" clucked the small chicken. "It's an elephant!" peeped the smallest chicken. "Run for your lives!" they cried. No matter how they try, these clueless chickens can't make sense of the gigantic new member of their family until he saves the day.

Title: Chopsticks

Author: Amy Krouse Rosenthal

Illustrator: Scott Magoon

Publisher: Disney/Hyperion Books, 2012

Synopsis: Meet Chopsticks! They've been best friends forever. But one day, this inseparable pair comes to a fork in the road. And for the very first time, they have to figure out how to function apart.

Title: Doodleday

Author and Illustrator: Ross Collins

Publisher: Albert Whitman, 2011

Synopsis: Mom has just one thing to tell Harvey on Doodleday-no drawing allowed! But surely drawing one little fly can't hurt. Not until Harvey's fly comes to life and starts to wreck the kitchen, that is! What can Harvey draw that will catch it? A spider! But the spider proves to be even more trouble. Only one thing is capable of stopping Harvey's rampaging doodles and Mom!

Title: Even Monsters Need Haircuts

Author and Illustrator: Matthew McElligott

Publisher: Walker & Co, 2010.

Synopsis: Just before midnight, on the night of a full moon, a young barber stays out past his bedtime to go to work. Although his customers are mostly regulars, they are anything but normal after all, even monsters need haircuts. Business is steady all night, and this barber is prepared for anything with his scissors, rotting tonic, horn polish, and stink wax. It's a tough job, but someone's got to help these creatures maintain their ghoulish good looks.

Title: The Gingerbread Man Loose in the School

Author: Laura Murray

Illustrator: Mike Lowery

Publisher: G.P. Putman's, 2011

Synopsis: When a class leaves for recess, their just-baked Gingerbread Man is left behind. But he's a smart cookie and heads out to find them. He'll run, slide, skip, and (after a mishap with a soccer ball) limp as fast as he can because: "I can catch them! I'm their Gingerbread Man!" With help from the gym teacher, the nurse, the art teacher and even the principal, the Gingerbread Man does find his class, and he's assured they'll never leave him behind again.

Title: How to Teach a Slug to Read

Author: Susan Pearson

Illustrator: David Slonim

Publisher: Marshall Cavendish, 2011

Synopsis: A boy uses simple reading rules to help Mama Slug teach Little Slug how to read.

Title: Pete the Cat: I Love My White Shoes

Author: Eric Litwin

Illustrator: James Dean

Publisher: Harper, 2010

Synopsis: Pete the Cat wears his new white shoes while walking down the street, and as he steps into piles of strawberries, blueberries, and other messes--and the color of his footwear changes--he keeps on moving and singing to himself without being bothered.

Title: The Princess and the Pig

Author: Jonathan Emmett

Illustrator: Poly Bernatene

Publisher: Walker & Co, 2011

Synopsis: When a new baby princess accidentally changes places with a piglet, both of their lives are forever changed.

Title: Prudence Wants a Pet

Author: Cathleen Daly

Illustrator: Stephen Michael King

Publisher: Roaring Brook Press, 2011

Synopsis: Prudence wants a pet. Desperately. "No," says Dad, "pets cost too much to keep." "No," says Mom, "pets make noise." But Prudence is determined. She finds her own pet. It is a...branch. But Branch isn't exactly the pet of her dreams, and neither are Twig, Mr. Round (a car tire), or her baby brother Milo. Poor Prudence. Will she ever find the perfect pet?

Title: Rain School

Author and Illustrator: James Rumford

Publisher: Houghton Mifflin Books for Children, 2010

Synopsis: The children arrive on the first day of school and build a mud structure to be their classroom for the next nine months until the rainy season comes and washes it all away.

Title: The Runaway Wok

Author: Ying Chang Compestine

Illustrator: Sebastia Serra

Publisher: Dutton Children's Books, 2011

Synopsis: When Ming goes to the market to buy food and comes home with an empty old wok instead, his parents wonder what they'll eat for dinner. But they soon learn that Ming brought home a wok with a mind of its own.

Title: Snow Dog's Journey

Author and Illustrator: Loretta Krupinski

Publisher: Dutton Children's Books, 2010

Synopsis: Anna builds a dog of snow, which the Frost King admires and takes away with him, but when Anna's love and faith eventually reunite her with Snow Dog, they each get their fondest wish.

Title: Star of the Sea

Author: Janet Halfmann

Illustrator: Joan Paley

Publisher: Henry Holt, 2011

Synopsis: An ochre sea star hunts for shellfish along the rocky shore one morning, and when she takes too long, the tide flows back to the sea without her, making her an easy target for predators.

Title: Squirrel's New Year's Resolution

Author: Pat Miller

Illustrator: Kathi Ember

Publisher: Albert Whitman, 2010

Synopsis: Squirrel cannot think of a New Year's resolution until she realizes that by helping her friends, she has made one after all.

Title: The Sunflower Sword

Author: Mark Sperring

Illustrator: Miriam Latimer

Publisher: Andersen Press USA, 2011

Synopsis: In a land filled with fire and smoke and endless fighting, where knights fight dragons, there lives a little knight who wants to be big like the others, and fight like the others, and have a sword like the others. But his mother won't let him. Instead of a sword, she gives him a sunflower, which, as it turns out, can be mightier than a sword.

Title: Wonder Horse: The True Story of the World's Smartest Horse

Author and Illustrator: Emily Arnold McCully

Publisher: Henry Holt, 2010

Synopsis: In the late 1800s, former slave and veterinarian Bill "Doc" Key realized that his new foal, Jim, was no ordinary horse. Believing in the power of kindness and patience, Doc taught Jim to spell, recognize the primary colors, and even make change from a cash register!

Performing in shows across the country, Jim stunned audiences with his incredible skills. But when some people called Jim a fake, Doc set out to prove them wrong and to show the world that, thanks to the power of kindness and patience, Jim was truly a wonder horse.