



## **TEACHINGBOOKS SPIRIT**

### **Summer, 2004**

This is the newsletter for <http://www.TeachingBooks.net>. — Generating enthusiasm for books and reading by providing easy access to authors, illustrators and exceptional book resources — all in one place!

From one easy-to-use website, TeachingBooks makes instantly available original, in-studio movies of authors and illustrators, audio excerpts of professional book readings, guides to thousands of titles and a wealth of multimedia resources on children's and young adult literature.

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**TeachingBooks.net** continually identifies, catalogs and maintains reliable links to curricular resources that help you share books in the classroom, library and home. **TeachingBooks Spirit** highlights specific links to give you a flavor of what the site has to offer.

#### **Learn More About TeachingBooks**

Download our latest brochure at: <http://teachingbooks.net/WhatIsTeachingBooks>.

#### **TeachingBooks' Exclusive Author Up-close Program: David Small**

[http://www.teachingbooks.net/spec\\_athr.cgi?name=Small%2C%20David](http://www.teachingbooks.net/spec_athr.cgi?name=Small%2C%20David)

In TeachingBooks' original movie, see and hear David Small show us his sketchbooks and explain their importance, reveal insights into the artwork of *The Journey* and other books and discuss his working relationship with his wife, author Sarah Stewart. David Small has earned numerous awards, including the Caldecott Medal for *So You Want to Be President?*. Includes an additional movie providing a glimpse into the creation of one of his dramatic drawings from *The Gardener*.

See many other award-winning authors and illustrators in our exclusive TeachingBooks Authors Up-close programs at [http://www.teachingbooks.net/athr\\_upcls.cgi](http://www.teachingbooks.net/athr_upcls.cgi), including Sharon Creech and Rosemary Wells.

#### **Additional Author Program: Allen Say**

<http://www.janmstore.com/musicforalice.html>

TeachingBooks continually identifies, catalogs and maintains reliable links to multimedia interviews with children's book creators. While TeachingBooks does not create these programs, we believe that you'll really enjoy them.

Read the Japanese American National Museum's article with Allen Say about his book, *Music for Alice*. Includes a link to a trivia quiz about Allen Say's books.

#### **Author's Personal Website: Margaret Read MacDonald**

<http://www.margaretreadmacdonald.com>

The personal website for storyteller, folklorist, author and children's librarian Margaret Read MacDonald features project and workshop collaborations; sample school visits; public appearance calendar; books, videos and audio tape information; biographical information and more.

#### **Book Award: Carnegie Medal**

<http://www.carnegiegreenaway.org.uk/carnegie/carn.html>

Jennifer Donnelly, an American, won the United Kingdom's Carnegie Medal this year for her book, *Gathering Light* (Bloomsbury Children's Books). It was published in the United States as *A Northern*

*Light* (Harcourt Children's Books). The award is sponsored by the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals, and honors a title of outstanding literary quality for children and young people.

**Book Guide:** *The Earth, My Butt, and Other Big Round Things* by Carolyn Mackler

<http://candlewick.com/cwp/bookxtras.asp?isbn=0763619582&id=&browse=Title&view=readersguide&prd=&bktitle=The+Earth%2C+My+Butt%2C+and+Other+Big+Round+Things>

The reader's guide to this Printz Honor book includes a book summary, discussion questions, a read-alike booklist and class activities. The guide was contributed by Amanda Witman, a former library assistant at Memorial Hall Library in Andover, Massachusetts.

**Book Reading:** *The Outcasts of 19 Schuyler Place* by E.L. Konigsburg

<http://www.randomhouse.com/audio/listeninglibrary/catalog/display.pperl?isbn=0-8072-2325-5>

Enjoy an audio excerpt of Molly Ringwald reading from Konigsburg's latest book. Click on the yellow "Audiobook Excerpt" button on the left side of the web page. (RealPlayer is needed to hear this program.)

**Thematic Booklist:** *School Library Journal's* article, "The 1st to the 100th Day of School"

<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/article/CA429322?display=Focus+OnNews&industry=Focus+On&industryid=21352&verticalid=152>

An annotated list of books that were "chosen in the hope that sharing them with primary-grade students during the first days of school, as well as through the 100th and beyond, will replace feelings of worry and anxiety with feelings of anticipation, enthusiasm, and self-confidence." –Lisa G. Kropp of *SLJ*

**Take Note:** *The Polar Express* — The Movie!

<http://polarexpressmovie.warnerbros.com>

We're beating the rush and linking you to the website for the movie based on Chris Van Allsburg's award-winning picture book, *The Polar Express*. The film opens in November.

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These featured links from our database connect you to material that highlights the personality and spirit within the best of children's and young adult literature — enjoy!

**TeachingBooks Is For Your Entire Community!**

Did you know that TeachingBooks is designed to be used by everyone in your school community? To make it easy for you to tell everyone about TeachingBooks, we have created a customized flyer and email for you to distribute. We also have created an easy way for you to train your colleagues on accessing and using TeachingBooks. Our distribution and training tools can be found on the "TeachingBooks for Your Entire Community" page at: <http://www.teachingbooks.net/show.cgi?f=community>.

To learn more about what's happening at TeachingBooks, go to our News page at <http://www.teachingbooks.net/news.cgi>.

Thanks again for your interest in TeachingBooks.net, and stay cool this summer.

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