



The Magic Suitcase News

Summer 2008

Volume 1, Number 3

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Our Website

www.magicsuitcase.ca

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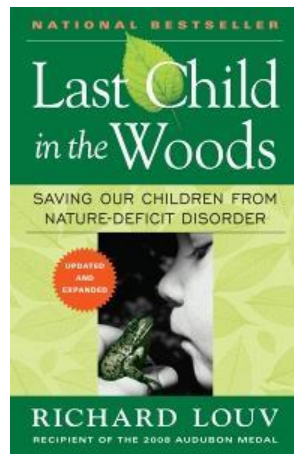
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Hazy, lazy days of summer are perfect for reading!

What are you reading this summer?

For Adults:



Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder

Price: \$16.95

Richard Louv was the first to identify a phenomenon we all knew existed but couldn't quite articulate: nature-deficit disorder. His book *Last Child in the Woods* created a national conversation about the disconnection between children and nature, and his message has galvanized an international movement. Now, three years after its initial publication, we have reached a tipping point, with Leave No Child Inside initiatives adopted in at least 30 regions within 21 states, and in Canada, Holland, Australia, and Great Britain.

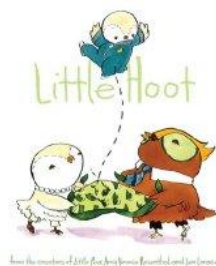
This new edition reflects the enormous changes that have taken place since the book—and this grassroots movement—were launched. It includes:

- 101 Things you can do to create change in your community, school, and family.
- Discussion points to inspire people of all ages to talk about the importance of nature in their lives.
- A new afterword by the author about the growing Leave No Child Inside movement.
- New and updated research confirming that direct exposure to nature is essential for the physical and emotional health of children and adults.

For Younger Children (3-6 years):

Little Hoot written by Amy Krouse Rosenthal, illustrated by Jen Corase

Price: \$13.95



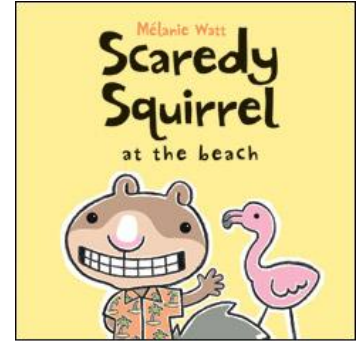
It's not fair! All Little Owl wants is to go to bed at a reasonable hour, like his friends do. But no... Mama and Papa say little owls have to stay up late and play. So Little Owl spends all night jumping on his bed, playing on the jungle gym, and doing tricks on his skateboard—but he's hooting mad about it! Children who have a hard time going to bed will love this fun twist on the universal dilemma.

For Children (7-10)

Scaredy Squirrel at the Beach written and illustrated by Melanie Watt

Price: \$16.95

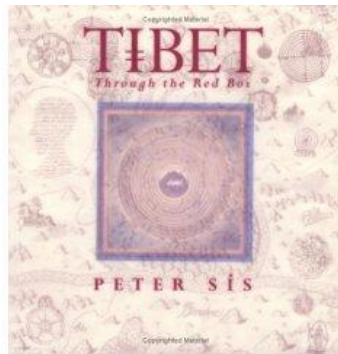
We know by now that Scaredy Squirrel only feels safe when he's at home in his nut tree, with his defenses, his emergency kit and his back-up plans at the ready. So even though the sun is shining and it's time for a vacation, Scaredy does not want to go to the beach — that vast, frightening place where a squirrel could get stranded. (Not to mention other hazards such as sea monsters, falling coconuts, seagulls, pirates and lobsters.) Instead, Scaredy builds his own safe beach getaway under his nut tree, complete with germ-free inflatable pool, artificial beach scenery, a flashlight and a plastic flamingo. Still, the lure of the genuine beach is strong — even a dedicated homebody such as Scaredy can't resist it forever. Can his back-up plans save him from its perils? Will his No.65 sunscreen protect his delicate complexion?



For Young Adults:

Tibet Through the Red Box written and illustrated by Peter Sis

Price: \$27.50



A father's diary, an artist's memoir. While my father was in China and Tibet, he kept a diary, which was later locked in a red box. We weren't allowed to touch the box. The stories I heard as a little boy faded to a hazy dream, and my drawings from that time make no sense. I cannot decipher them. It was not until I myself had gone far, far away and received the message from my father that I became interested in the red box again . . . In New York, Peter Sis receives a letter from his father. "The Red Box is now yours," it says. The brief note worries him and pulls him back

to Prague, where the contents of the red box explain the mystery of his father's long absence during the 1950s.

What's New (on our website)?

Our database of delightful picture books continues to grow! We've been busy categorizing our books to make your book search most useful. We've narrowed the scope of a search to help you zero in on the books that will meet your needs more quickly! This is a work in progress but by the end of the summer not only will you be able to search for books by curriculum area and theme, you'll also be able to search by **character trait, IB learner profile, writing trait or features of text and by grade level!**

Check it out today...try your luck at finding the perfect book and place an order through your account before August 20th to receive free shipping anywhere in Canada!

Hot Off the Press!

The following books are recently published and/or particularly noteworthy quality children's picture books. For more detailed or additional information, or to purchase these titles, click on them below.

Varmints written by Helen Ward, illustrated by Marc Craste



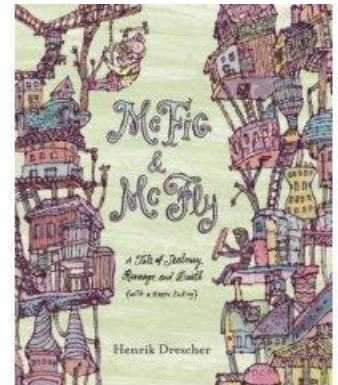
SUMMARY: Once, the only sounds to be heard were the buzzing of bees in the grass, the murmuring of moles in the earth, and the song of birds in the sky. These warmed the hearts of those who cared to listen --- until the others came to fill the sky with buildings and the air with a cacophony of noise. With dramatically lit artwork and a spare, intriguing text, *Varmints* tells of a pastoral world in need of protection and of the souls who love it enough to ensure its regeneration. Includes vellum pages and

French flaps as part of a gorgeous paperback design. **Price: \$14.00**

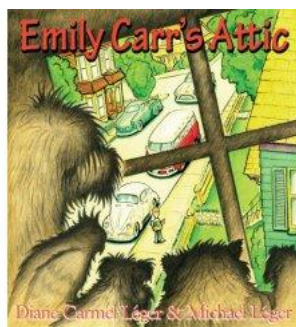
McFig and McFly: A Tale of Jealousy, Revenge and Death (With Happy Ending) written and illustrated by Henrik Drescher

SUMMARY: McFig lives with his daughter, Rosie, in a lovely little cottage far away from anywhere big and important. One day, McFly and his son, Anton, buy the land next door. At first McFig and McFly hit it off big-time and build McFly a cottage modeled exactly after McFig's house. But then the two start to add things onto their houses -- a medieval tower, a second-story playroom -- and soon McFig and McFly are in a lifelong competition to be bigger and better than each other. Where will all their obsessive one-upmanship end?

Price: \$20.00



Emily Carr's Attic written by Dine Leger, illustrated by Michael Leger.

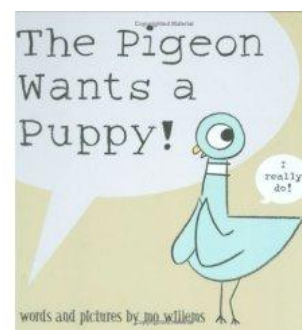


SUMMARY: When Paul and his mother move into an apartment for the summer, the old gentleman who lives next door introduces him to a menagerie of new "friends" in the attic of The House of All Sorts. What follows is both a wonderful adventure and a young boy's artistic awakening.

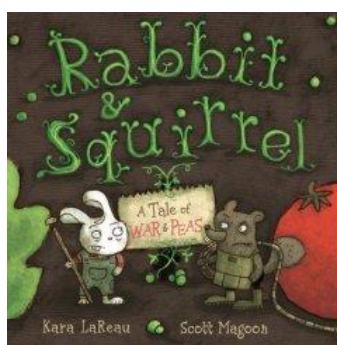
Price: \$9.95

Pigeon Wants a Puppy written and illustrated by Mo Willems
Price: \$16.99

SUMMARY: The Pigeon really, really, REALLY wants a Puppy. C'mon, he'll take good care of it! He'll play tennis with it, and water it at least once a month! Will you let Pigeon's dream come true? In this fourth entry in the best-selling Pigeon series, this now-classic character has his funniest star turn yet.



Rabbit & Squirrel: A Tale of War & Peas
written by Kara LaRue, illustrated by Scott Magoon
Price: \$17.95



SUMMARY: Rabbit loves her garden. Squirrel loves his. But then their delicious vegetables begin disappearing. And they have only each other to blame... or do they? Well, Rabbit and Squirrel don't pause to consider any other possibilities. And so, for them, there's only one option: WAR! From the team that hatched the award-winning Ugly Fish, here is a hilarious cautionary tale about how jumping to conclusions can turn minor misunderstandings into major meltdowns.

Calendar of Events

- ☐ **July 29th- 31st 2008** Monarch Teacher's Network *Teaching and Learning with Monarch Butterflies Workshop*
Brighton ON contact: monarchteacher@msn.com
- ☐ **August 5th- 7th 2008** Monarch Teacher's Network *Teaching and Learning with Monarch Butterflies Workshop*
Warton ON contact: monarchteacher@msn.com
- ☐ **August 20th 2008** Dufferin Peel Catholic District School Board
Summer Institute **Brampton ON** www.dpcdsb.org/si
- ☐ **August 22nd 2008** Busker's Kidz Day Carnival
Waterloo ON www.waterloobuskers.com
- ☐ **August 23rd 2008** Second Annual Butter Tart Trail Ride
Wellington County ON see www.magicsuitcase.ca for details!