# <u>Play Day Books Spring 2009</u> Celebrating Books of Journey and Adventure!



#### Ladybug Girl

Lulu's older brother says she is too little to play with him. Her mama and papa are busy too, so Lulu has to make her own fun. This is a situation for Ladybug Girl! Ladybug Girl saves ants in distress, jumps through shark-infested puddles, and even skips along the great dark twisty tree trunk—all by herself. It doesn't matter what her brother says, Ladybug Girl is definitely not too little!

#### Where Do Baloons Go?

Where do balloons go when you let them go free? It can happen by accident. It's happened to me. Do they tango with airplanes? Or cha cha with birds? Can plain balloons read balloons printed with words? When one little boy accidently lets go of his balloon, his imagination takes him on its journey.





#### Oh, the Places You'll Go!

This is an incredible story for children and adults of all ages. We all need reminders that world is always in the palm of our hands. Life is constant self discovery and Dr. Seuss reminds us that we are in control of our own life journey.

#### <u>Someday</u>

A small girl dreams of someday digging for dinosaur bones and finding a "T. rex," even if today what she is digging for are "coins/under the sofa cushions/Quarters! Dimes! Nickels!/ maybe enough for a Popsicle." Someday she will be an Olympic gymnast, even if today she is practicing cartwheels in the backyard mud. The plain, poetic words and the clear, exuberant, double-page collages show not only the girl's wild fantasies of global adventure, but also the fun at home right now, whether she is shaking food flakes into the bowl of her pet goldfish, watching two baby owls get ready to fly for the first time, or gobbling jelly beans.



#### Glass Slipper, Gold Sandal: A Worldwide Cinderella



Once upon a time, in Mexico... in Ireland... in Zimbabwe... there lived a girl who worked all day in the rice fields... then spent the night by the hearth, sleeping among the cinders. Her name is Ashpet, Sootface, Cendrillon... Cinderella. Her story has been passed down the centuries and across continents. When Cinderella has nothing to wear, for example, a crocodile swam up to the surface—and in its mouth was a sarong made of gold [Indonesia]... a cloak sewn of kingfisher feathers [China]... a kimono red as sunset [Japan]. Even the last line of text is patched from several sources: Such a wedding it was, and such an adoring couple [Iraq]... and such a wondrous turn of events [Korea]... that people today are still telling the story.

#### <u>Elmer</u>

Elmer is a colorful character. His heady optimism and unbridled sense of humor keep the entire community in a cheery mood. Elmer's unusual multicolored checkerboard hide is the wonder of all the other elephants who are characteristically gray. In spite of his sunny disposition Elmer begins to feel conspicuous. When he finds a berry juice that makes him as gray as the other elephants he finds it becomes rather dull. The practical joker in Elmer emerges reminding us all how tender the journey to self is.





#### Harold and the Purple Crayon

Join Harold and his purple crayon on a journey of the imagination. Harold's purple crayon takes him on one adventure after another. From boats, to planes, to faraway places Harold and his purple crayon remind us how precious our imaginations truly are.

#### A House for Hermit Crab

Eric Carle's magnificent collage illustrations invite readers and viewers on a breathtaking underwater tour where brilliantly-colored sea creatures dazzle and delight the eye. His modern-day fable is both wise and simple; based on the true habits of the hermit crab, if not only introduces young readers to the wonder and beauty of the marine environment but also contains an encouraging message for small children facing the inevitable challenges of growing up. Children who must change schools, move to a new town, or even just be promoted to a higher grade will empathize with Hermit Crab's situation, and will take heart as they see that growing up is not really so alarming after all.





### Curious George

The first adventure in this highly popular series tells how the little monkey Curious George, caught in the jungle and brought back to the city by a man in a yellow hat, can't help being interested in all the new things around him. Though well meaning, George's curiosity always gets him into trouble. Young readers can easily relate, and Rey's cheerful illustrations celebrate Curious George's innocence.

## Horton Hatches the Egg

This is a great story that looks at the journey of parent hood and responsibility. Horton promises to help a lazy bird sit on her egg so she can take a break and spread her wings. When she never returns Horton is left either stand by his word and guard the baby egg or break his promise? Despite the ridicule from his jungle friends and being removed from the jungle to be placed in a circus far from his home. When the egg finally hatches Horton is given the best present of all.





### Dazzle the Dinosaur

With his beautiful glittering spines, Dazzle is the most spectacular dinosaur ever. When he and his friend Maia the Maiasauraus set out on an adventure, they meet a friendly Stegosaurus, a hungry T-Rex, a helpful Apotasaurus....an the terrible Dragonsaurus. Will Dazzle's shining spines save the day?

## Where the Wild Things Are

Max is being so terrible that his mother sends him to his room without supper. But Max doesn't care -- he sails off to the land of the Wild Things, and they make him his king. There, Max can be as terrible as he pleases, and the Wild Things join in the rumpus. Finally, Max is tired of being wild, and yearns to go home. Marvelous pictures and the superb story combine to make this a quintessential picture book. In it, readers will recognize their own wild side.



# WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE

STORY AND PICTURES BY MAURICE SENDAK