

2007 Readers' Choices for Grades K ~ 2  
compliments of Windham County Reads

P=Picture Book, E=Early Reader, T=Transitional/Early Chapter Book.

**T. Abbott, Tony.** *Secrets of Droon.* 1998-2007. Eric and his friends discover a secret door and rainbow stairs leading to the magical world of Droon. A series of fantastical adventures awaits!

**P. Arnold, Caroline.** *The Terrible Hodag and the Animal Catchers.* 2006. Minnesota's deep woods are home to the Hodag, a truly unusual creature who is equal parts ox, bear, dinosaur and alligator. When animal catchers try to trap him for a zoo, local lumberjacks decide to take action. John Stanford's stunning black and white art captures this tall tale of the north woods.

**P. Banks, Kate.** *Max's Words.* 2006. His brothers refuse to share their collections of stamps and coins, so Max decides to cut words out of magazines and start one of his own. Soon he's creating stories, and his older brothers want in on the fun.

**P. Bond, Michael.** *Paddington Treasury.* 1999. This small brown bear has a way of making the most ordinary occasions exciting. Though he bumbles his way from one adventure to another, there is always a happy ending.

**P. Brown, Marc.** *Arthur's Baby.* 1987. Arthur keeps his distance from his new baby sister until one day when she just won't stop crying. Fortunately, he knows exactly what to do.

**E. Capucilli, Alyssa.** *Biscuit.* 1996. Beginning readers will enjoy this delightful story about a lovable yellow puppy, as well as its many sequels.

**P. Carle, Eric.** *10 Little Rubber Ducks.* 2005. Carle takes an actual incident, when numerous bathtub toys fell off a container ship and floated to various places, and creates a marvelous counting/concept adventure. Cut-paper collages burst with color, texture, light and motion.

**P. Christelow, Eileen.** *Five Little Monkeys with Nothing to Do.* 1996. Young readers love all of Christelow's *Five Little Monkeys* stories. In this one, five bored monkeys manage to make even more of a mess when their mother puts them to work cleaning their room.

**P. Cole, Joanna.** *Magic School Bus series.* Field trips are always exciting with Ms. Frizzle and her magic bus. In each book, the class literally explores a new topic of science, from the human body to hurricanes, and the cartoon-like illustrations brim with energy and details.

**E. Eastman, P.D.** *Are You My Mother?* 1960. Quite a few of the books on this readers' choice list are oldies but goodies. This well-loved classic follows a confused baby bird as he asks everyone, including a steam shovel, the Big Question.

**T. Krulik, Nancy E.** *Katie Kazoo, Switcheroo series.* When Katie becomes a hamster in the first book of this zany series, the class bully is transformed into a nice boy. Many titles follow.

**E. Lobel, Arnold.** *Frog and Toad are Friends.* 1970. Two best buds hop along through five stories in this perennial favorite illustrated in earthy browns and greens.

**P. London, Jonathan.** *Froggy Learns to Swim.* 1995. All frogs know how to swim, but Froggy doesn't get comfortable in the water until he's wearing flippers, mask and snorkel. Then, of course, he won't get out! Don't miss his other adventures with soccer, bicycles and more.

**T. Lowry, Lois.** *Gooney Bird Greene.* 2002. Second grader Gooney Bird wears pajamas and cowboy boots her first day at a new school, and she insists that her outrageous stories are all "absolutely true." Lots of fun to read aloud.

**P. Mayer, Mercer.** *Just for You.* 1975. All of Little Critter's attempts to help his mother have unintended and often humorous results. Lively illustrations show an appealing creature of undetermined species.

**T. Osborne, Mary Pope.** *Magic Tree House series.* Magic abounds in many series selected by young readers. In this one the source is a tree house. Each book takes us on a unique adventure, from *Dinosaurs Before Dark, #1*, through *Dragon of the Red Dawn, #37*.

**T. Park, Barbara.** *Junie B. Jones and the Stupid Smelly Bus.* 1992. What's to like about riding on a bus? In the first title of another popular series, Junie B. deals with loud kids that look mean, a door that closes on you when you don't expect it, and a dreaded cloud of bus breath.

**T. Roy, Ron.** *A to Z Mysteries.* Twenty-six mysteries, one for each letter of the alphabet (*The Absent Author, The Haunted Hotel, The Orange Outlaw*), have the added attraction of appealing illustrations by Brattleboro's own John Steven Gurney.

**E. Rylant, Cynthia.** *Henry and Mudge and the Tumbling Trip.* 2005. Henry and his dog Mudge take a trip out west to tumbleweed country in the 27th installment of this easy to read series. Illustrators Stevenson and Bracken deserve more credit for bringing these characters to life.

**T. Selden, George.** *The Cricket in Times Square.* 1960. Though Chester the Cricket is hailed as the most famous musician in New York City, he misses his peaceful life in the Connecticut countryside. This engaging classic is beautifully illustrated by Garth Williams.

**E. Seuss, Dr.** *The Cat in the Hat.* 1957. *Hop on Pop.* 1963. Revolutionary when first published, and still in great demand half a century later, these easy to read books feature uncomplicated, monosyllabic rhymes and wild and wonderful illustrations.

**P. Tavares, Matt.** *Mudball.* 2005. Andy Oyler, the shortest player in his baseball league, hit the shortest home run in history back in 1903. Pouring rain turned the field to mud, and no one could find the ball until all four runners crossed home plate! Come meet author, illustrator and baseball lover Matt Tavares at the Brattleboro Literary Festival this coming September.

**P. Wells, Rosemary.** *Max's ABC.* 2006. Max's ants escape from their ant farm, beginning a funny, episodic story that proceeds through each letter of the alphabet and only ends when the tired ants fall asleep.

**P. Wheeler, Lisa.** *Mammoths on the Move.* 2006. Buoyant language and vivid artwork depict the annual migration of the massive woolly mammoth. Kurt Cyrus's scratchboard and watercolor illustrations complement a vocabulary-rich poem that has a changing refrain.

**E. Willson, Sarah.** *Diego Saves the Tree Frogs.* 2006. Diego loves nature, especially animals, and this time the tree frogs need help. How can he save them?

**E. Wiseman, Bernard.** *Morris Goes to School.* 1970. Morris the Moose can't read or count so he decides to go to school, where he also has fun hoof-painting and playing make-believe.