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BOOKS FOR THE HOLIDAYS
Reviewed on "Across the Fence" on WCAX
Tuesday, December 1, 2009, 12:10 p.m.

by Amy Howlett, Hannah Peacock, and Judy Simpson

Bluemle, Elizabeth. **HOW DO YOU WOKKA-WOKKA?** Candlewick, 2009. \$15.99.
ISBN 978-0-7636-3228-1. Hardcover. Preschool- Age 5.

Some days you wake up and you just gotta wokka. Everybody has their own wokka styles and moves. Show us yours!

Deedy, Carmen Agra. **14 COWS FOR AMERICA.** Illus., Thomas Gonzalez. Peachtree, 2009. \$17.95. ISBN 978-1-56145-490-7. Hardcover. Ages 4-10.

In 2002, Kenyan Maasai people donated 14 sacred healing cows to their American brothers and sisters, a symbol of hope after the September 11th attacks.

Eggers, Dave. **THE WILD THINGS.** McSweeney's, 2009. \$28.00 ISBN 978-1-9347-8162-3. Fur-covered edition. Adult/ High school.

The story of Max and the wild things is revisited for the older crowd.

Elliott, David. **FINN THROWS A FIT!** Illus., Timothy Basil Ering. Candlewick, 2009. \$16.99. ISBN 978-0-7662-56-2. Hardcover. Preschool.

What parent hasn't experienced the embarrassment of a child's temper tantrum? Just remember, it will likely be over as quickly as it started.

Fox, Mem. **TEN LITTLE FINGERS AND TEN LITTLE TOES.** Illus., Helen Oxenbury. Harcourt, 2008. \$16.00. ISBN 978-0-15-206057-2. Preschool.

A perfect baby book, designed to enchant every baby and new parent.

Freeman, Castle. **ALL THAT I HAVE.** Steerforth Press, 2009. \$13.95. ISBN 978-1-58642-151-9. Paper. Adult.

The sheriff figures out the real story to a break-in at "Disneyland." The Vermonter point of view makes this novel a winner.

Hall, Julie. **THE BOOMER BURDEN**. Thomas Nelson, 2008. \$14.99. ISBN 0-785-22825-X. Paper. Adult

Practical advice on dealing with the emotional and physical contents of parents' lives. Get your game plan in place before you need it.

Harris, Robie H. **IT'S PERFECTLY NORMAL**. Illus., Michael Emberley. Candlewick, 2009. ISBN 978-0-7636-4483-3. \$22.99. ISBN 978-0-7636-4484-0. \$12.99 (Paper). Gr. 5 and up.

Basic information about sex, in a friendly format for parents and children.

Lockhart, E. **THE DISREPUTABLE HISTORY OF FRANKIE LANDAU-BANKS**. Hyperion, 2008. \$16.99 ISBN 978-0-7868-3818-9. Grades 7-12.

At her exclusive prep school Frankie Landau-Banks, unhappy with its male members only policy, infiltrates the Loyal Order of the Basset Hounds.

Martin, Bill, Jr. **THE BILL MARTIN JR BIG BOOK OF POETRY**. Illustrated by Alikei, et.al. Simon & Schuster, 2008. \$21.00. ISBN 978-1-4169-3971-9. Preschool-Gr. 4.

About 200 child-friendly poems illustrated by current artists in many media.

McGowan, Keith. **THE WITCH'S GUIDE TO COOKING WITH CHILDREN**. Henry Holt, 2009. \$15.99. ISBN 978-0-8050-8668-3. Grades 3-6.

A creepy and darkly hilarious modern retelling of the tale of Hansel and Gretel. Full of mystery and spine-tingling suspense.

Medeiros, Tracey. **DISHING UP VERMONT**. Scott Dorrance, photographer. Storey, 2008. \$19.95. ISBN 978-1-60342-025-9. Paper. Adult.

Local Vermont recipes with many specialty farm products, featuring restaurants around the state. Inspirational and enjoyable guide to localvore trends.

Smith, Roland. **PEAK**. Harcourt, 2008. \$6.95. ISBN 978-0-1520-6268-8 (pap.); Harcourt, 2007. \$17.00. ISBN 978-01-5450-3813-3. Gr. 7 and up.

Stirring fiction: a fourteen-year-old boy, son of a famous climber, attempts to be the youngest person to reach the top of Mount Everest.



This publication is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, a federal agency, through the Library Services and Technology Act.