

April Showers: A Wet Dozen

Since we're preparing for the proverbial April showers (or, here in the Midwest, April downpours), we thought it was time for an updated celebration of water itself, whether it be tame or wild, benefit or threat. If you want to get in even deeper, look also at our previous water dozen from May 2002 (<http://bccb.lis.uiuc.edu/0502doz.html>)

*Deborah Stevenson, Editor
April 2009*

THE BULLETIN

OF THE CENTER FOR CHILDREN'S BOOKS

The *Bulletin* Dozen is a monthly theme-based booklist available from the Bulletin's website. Since we're awfully fond of bakers here at the Bulletin, we thought we'd adopt their philosophy of generosity and throw in an extra one or two when we have them to offer — so don't expect an even dozen.

Please feel free to copy, download, link to, and freely distribute these lists. We ask only that you cite the source.



See the Bulletin's website for more Dozens:

<http://bccb.lis.uiuc.edu/>

A Publication of the University of Illinois
Graduate School of Library and Information Science
501 E. Daniel Street, Champaign, IL 61820

April Showers



A Wet Dozen

*A Bulletin Dozen
Booklist*

April Showers: A Wet Dozen

Choi, Yangsook. Peach Heaven; written and illus. by Yangsook Choi. Foster/Farrar, 2005. 5-8 yrs

In this picture-book memoir of a childhood event, weeks of rain flood Korea and spell doom for the area's crucial peach crop unless people can band together to save the delicate and tempting fruit. (BCCB 6/05)

Cooper, Elisha. Beach; written and illus. by Elisha Cooper. Orchard, 2006. 5-9 yrs

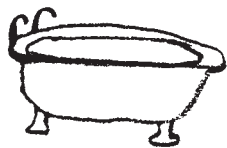
Cooper's lithe watercolors and observant text document the various possibilities of a day at the water's edge amid crowds of interesting beachgoers and marine enthusiasts. (BCCB 7/06)

Doyle, Malachy. Splash, Joshua, Splash; illus. by Ken Wilson-Max. Bloomsbury, 2004. 2-5 yrs

In this vivid picture book tribute to splashing, Joshua and Granny are out for a gloriously wet day, feeding the ducks in the pond, marching through puddles, and playing in the fountain before they return home in the rain. (BCCB 11/04)

Evans, Lezlie. Rain Song; illus. by Cynthia Jabar. Houghton, 1995. 3-6 yrs

Rain may stop backyard play for this two little girls, but watching the storm from inside and joining in with its sounds provides its own delightful game. (BCCB 3/95)



Guiberson, Brenda Z. Rain, Rain, Rain Forest; illus. by Steve Jenkins. Holt, 2004. 5-8 yrs

The rain of the rain forest gets the credit in this overview of the various forms of life it drenches into life. (BCCB 6/04)

Kerley, Barbara. Cool Drink of Water. National Geographic, 2002. 4-10 yrs

This handsome photoessay documents the various ways people around the world obtain their drinking water, quietly making the point about the resource's value. (BCCB 9/02)

Kinsey-Warnock, Natalie. Nora's Ark; illus. by Emily Arnold McCully. HarperCollins, 2005. 5-7 yrs

Based on a real event (the Vermont flood of 1927), this lively picture book tells of a farmhouse becoming a shelter for a neighborhood of humans and animals in the face of rising water. (BCCB 9/05)

Kurtz, Jane. River Friendly, River Wild; illus. by Neil Brennan. Simon, 2000. Gr. 2-5
Accessible free-verse poems, based on the author's experience, describe a family's travails as the Red River overtops its banks and swallows their town. (BCCB 2/00)

Levine, Shar. Ultimate Bubble Book: Soapy Science Fun; by Shar Levine and Leslie Johnstone; illus. by Simon Shaw. Sterling, 2003. Gr. 3-6

Add a little magic to water and you can get amazingly effervescent outdoor fun, as this guidebook to bubble creation demonstrates. (BCCB 6/04)

Lucke, Deb. The Boy Who Wouldn't Swim; written and illus. by Deb Lucke. Clarion, 2008 6-9 yrs

Everybody in town loves the pool except for young Eric, who's afraid of the water and who hides it behind sulking and pranks; once he's

finally in the pool, though, he just as stubbornly refuses to leave it. (BCCB 6/08)

Martin, Jacqueline Briggs. The Water Gift and the Pig of the Pig; illus. by Linda S. Wingerter. Houghton, 2003. 6-9 yrs

This warmly folksy wonder tale follows the narrator's grandfather, gifted with the ability to find water and proud owner of a most excellent pig, as his luck seemingly deserts him. (BCCB 5/03)

Sidman, Joyce. Song of the Water Boatman & Other Pond Poems; illus. by Beckie Prange. Houghton, 2005. Gr. 4-7

Gifted poet Sidman offers eleven eloquent and lyrical poems treating denizens of the water, paired with sturdy and vigorous woodcut illustrations. (BCCB 7/05)

Singer, Marilyn. How to Cross a Pond and Other Poems about Water; illus. by Meilo So. Knopf, 2003. Gr. 5-9

Singer treats thirsty poetry fans to nineteen clever, playful poems about water. (BCCB 10/03)

Stojic, Manya. Rain; written and illus. by Manya Stojic. Crown, 2000. 3-5 yrs

Stojic's sensory tribute to the blessing of rain in an arid climate chronicles African animals' joyous response to the oncoming downpour in simple text and bold, rhythmic illustrations. (BCCB 7/00)

