

# A WORD FROM THE LIBRARY

February 2009

## Your Librarians

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## CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING

Here are some of the books we read in the library during February:

### K:

- \* **The House in the Night** by Susan Marie Swanson, illustrated by Beth Krommes - the 2009 Caldecott Winner.
- \* A new beginning reader book entitled **Stinky** by Eleanor Davis – the 2009 Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor Book
- \* **Thing-Thing** by Cary Fagen, a new book with a central theme about loving (Valentine's Day) .
- \* **Over in the Artic** by Marianne Berkes, illustrated by Jill Dubin. Jill is the illustrator who will be visiting on March 4<sup>th</sup> to talk about her work using cut paper collage technique in children's book art.

### 1<sup>st</sup> :

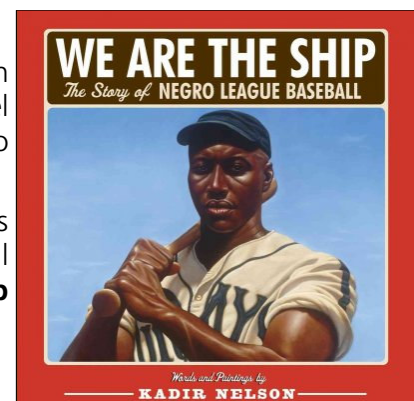
- \* The newest Caldecott Award book **The House in the Night** by Susan Marie Swanson, illustrated by Beth Krommes. We compared this book to other styles of art found in Caldecott winners and likened the tone of this book to **Kitten's First Full Moon** and **Goodnight Moon** by Margaret Wise Brown.
- \* *ASK Magazine* – I gave the children an overview of titles we have here and honed in on *ASK*. We read from and discussed the departments that are consistent with each magazine and features which are particular to every issue.
- \* **Roxaboxen** by Barbara Cooney and **Home** by Jeannie Baker. Both of these books deal with creating community and neighborhood /city environments.

### 2<sup>nd</sup>:

- \*The newest Caldecott Award book **The House in the Night** by Susan Marie Swanson illustrated by Beth Krommes . We compared this book to other styles of art found in previous Caldecott winners and likened the tone of this book to **Kitten's First Full Moon** and **Goodnight Moon** by Margaret Wise Brown.
- \* *Cricket Magazines*- I introduced the monthly features and departments found in *Cricket* and the children read aloud from the "Cricket League" section which has the winners of the monthly kids writing/art contests.
- \* **Rocks in His Head** by Carol Otis Hurst - a book about a man whose passion is to collect rocks and minerals.
- \* Fairy/folktales from **The Serpent Slayer and Other Stories of Strong Women** by Katrin Tchana. This is a collection of classic folktales from around the world which showcase strong women (heroines) overcoming difficult situations and fearsome challenges.

### 3<sup>rd</sup>:

- \* The newest Caldecott Award book **The House in the Night** by Susan Marie Swanson, illustrated by Beth Krommes and the Theodore Seuss Giesel Award book for beginning readers, **Are You Ready to Play Outside** by Mo Willems.
- \* **Uncle Jed's Barbershop** by Margaree King Mitchell, illustrated by James Ransome - a Coretta Scott King Award book and tie-in with the unit on Civil Rights. I also showed the kids the 2009 C.S.King winner **We Are The Ship the Negro Baseball Leagues** by Kadir Nelson.



\***Koala Lou** by Mem Fox and **Thing-Thing** by Cary Fagan, books with a central theme about love, which we compared and contrasted.

\* Two versions of the same myth **King Midas**. One book was retold by John Warren Stewig the other by Neil Philip. We discussed the similarities and differences between them.

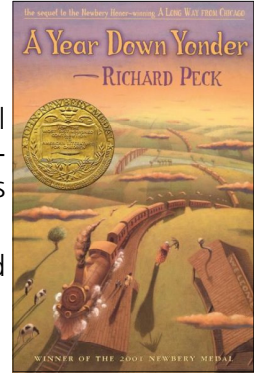
4<sup>th</sup>:

\*We are still reading and discussing the details of the two Avi books: **Crispin The Cross of Lead** and **The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle**. The kids are captivated!

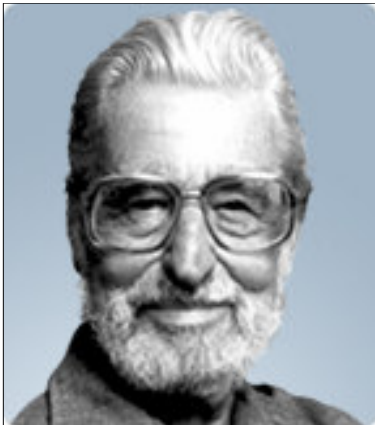
5<sup>th</sup>:

\*We are still reading **The Year Down Yonder** by Richard Peck. We read some biographical information about how he became a writer and his thoughts on teaching children about reading and writing. He has said, "I want to write novels that ask honest questions about serious issues. A novel is never an answer; it's always a question." And,

"What started me on a career as a writer? A mother who read to me before I could read, and teachers who never put a grade on a rough draft."



## DR. SEUSS' BIRTHDAY — MARCH 2



Be sure to stop by the library and check out a Dr. Seuss book to celebrate his birthday. We have over 40 books written by Dr. Seuss and many of them are on display in the library. You can also pick up a Seuss book mark while you are there. For more Dr. Seuss fun, visit the official website at [www.seussville.com](http://www.seussville.com) for games, activities, and more information about the author. You can also visit <http://www.target.com/readacrossamerica> for Seuss related activities and to find out about a special storytime available in all Target stores on Sunday, March 1 at 1:00.

