

BOOKS TO GROW WITH NEWSLETTER: AUGUST 2005

EDITOR'S NOTE

This month, we focus exclusively on the best books for "back-to-school." We also have exciting news about curriculum kits, distance learning opportunities and updates to *Books to Grow With!*

DISTANCE LEARNING COURSE

We had a great time this summer learning together; I'll be doing it again in the fall and the winter, and offering it for credit as well. The course offers an expanded opportunity to explore choosing and using children's books to help kids, as well as topics of particular interest to participants. If you'd like to know more, contact me for details at cherylcoon@lutrapress.com.

CURRICULUM KITS

New this fall, these kits are available for educators on selected topics at selected grade levels. Each kit includes: one copy of each of the recommended books (kits have 3-5 recommended books), tips for using the books, suggested discussion questions, follow-up activities, and information on other language versions in print and audio. If you'd like to know more, contact Abby for details at alotz@lutrapress.com

2005-06 UPDATES

Updates to all topics covered in *Books to Grow With: A Guide to Using the Best Children's Fiction for Everyday Issues and Tough Challenges*, as well as the addition of new topics and books, will be available in October!

Pre-order your update in any of the following formats:

Format	Pre-order Price
• CD (in plastic case, ready for attachment within book), postage not included	\$9.95
• Downloadable PDF	\$6.95

To order, contact Lily at order@lutrapress.com.

THIS MONTH'S RECOMMENDED BOOKS

In addition to the books discussed below, I've just posted new book recommendations on the Lutra Press website at <http://www.lutrapress.com/idea/>.

Topic: Back to School
For: Preschool to Kindergarten
Title: *Kindergarten Rocks!* By Katie Davis. Harcourt. 2005.
Synopsis: Dexter is starting kindergarten and he has lots of worries. But his sister reassures him and school starts off well. Great cartoon illustrations and believable dialogue.

Topic: Back to school
For: Preschool to Kindergarten
Title: *Tucker's Four-Carrot School Day.* By Susan Winget. HarperCollins. 2005.
Synopsis: Animal characters are soft and reassuring; their worries are very real.

Topic: Back to School
For: Kindergarten to 2nd Grade
Title: *Brand-New Pencils, Brand-New Books.* By Diane DeGroat. HarperCollins. 2005.
Synopsis: A charming opossum experiences lots of jitters and a scary first day but ends by making a new friend.

AND DON'T FORGET THESE TERRIFIC BOOKS FROM 2004!

Tom and Small: A Big Moment in a Little Boy's Life, by Clara Vulliamy. Trafalgar Square/Collins. 32 pages. 2004. Lush and romantic illustrations combine with cheerful text to portray a young boy's worries about starting school the next day.

My Kindergarten, by Rosemary Wells. Hyperion. 96 pages. 2004. Beloved author Rosemary Wells aptly portrays the range of experiences that are a part of the kindergarten year, from Back-to-School night to learning to read. Ample opportunities for learning activities contained within the story. Likely to inspire great enthusiasm!

Enrico Starts School, by Charlotte Middleton. Dial Books. 32 pages. 2004. Another terrific choice for a new kindergartener, featuring cats. Enrico, a four-year old, brims with confidence until he starts school. At school, he feels shy and insecure and has trouble making friends. Luckily, his younger brother offers Enrico some good advice--just be yourself—and finally Enrico succeeds in making a friend.

If you have received this newsletter in error or do not wish to continue to receive it, please let me know at cherylcoon@lutrapress.com.