



Monthly Booklist

September 2007

Picture books for young children
featuring missing playthings.

10 Little Rubber Ducks by Eric Carle. (2005) Ages 2-6

When a storm strikes a cargo ship, ten rubber ducks are tossed overboard and swept off in ten different directions. Based on a real incident involving a container ship.

Benny's Had Enough! by Barbro Lindgren, illus. by Olof Landström. (1999) Ages 4-8

Benny runs away when his mother attempts to wash his stuffed pig, but he loses the pig when he is scared by a nasty pig. He realizes that he loves his home and mother, finds the pig, and returns.

Catilda by John Stadler. (2003) Ages 4-8

After Catilda's parents tuck her in, she embarks on a journey to the city to retrieve her lost bear. The only text—contained in speech balloons—is the adults' speculation on her whereabouts.

Emily's Balloon by Komako Sakai. (2006) Ages 2-6

A fable-like story about a toddler whose balloon gets stuck in a tree. The ending is left open, inviting discussion about what will happen the following day. Pair with *The Red Balloon*.

I Lost My Bear by Jules Feiffer. (1998) Ages 5 and up

A little girl enlists help from her family to find her bear, and in the process, finds a lot of other toys she'd been missing. The cartoon style includes a great deal of dialogue.

Jamaica's Find by Juanita Havill, illus. by Anne Sibley O'Brien. (1987) Ages 4-8

In the first of a series of books about Jamaica, all illustrated by a Maine artist, the little girl struggles with the moral dilemma of what to do with the stuffed dog she finds in the park.

Knuffle Bunny by Mo Willems. (2004) Ages 3 and up

Dad unthinkingly throws his daughter's stuffed bunny into the wash at the laundromat and a series of miscommunications ensues before Mom and Dad go running back to retrieve him.

La La Rose by Satomi Ichikawa. (2004) Ages 4-9

A rabbit is swept up in a series of adventures in Paris's Luxembourg Gardens (depicted in stunning maps on the endpapers) before being reunited with her little girl, Clementine, at dusk.

Olivia and the Missing Toy by Ian Falconer. (2003) Ages 4-8

Olivia is busy worrying about her soccer uniform when she realizes that her best toy is missing. Olivia's response—panic and a single-minded search for the culprit—is very realistic.

Plaidypus Lost by Janet Stevens and Susan Stevens Crummel. (2004) Ages 3-8

A girl repeatedly misplaces the friend she's made from her grandfather's old shirt, as reflected in the book's refrain: "Plaidypus lost, Plaidypus found, this story goes around and around."

Polly's Puffin by Sarah Garland. (1988) Ages 3-8

Polly's brother tosses her puffin into a stranger's coat hood during a shopping trip. The setting of this story will ring true for any child who's been carted around on errands.

Tatty Ratty by Emily Cooper. (2002) Ages 3-8

Molly imagines adventures (many involving fairy tale characters) for her missing bunny. The beloved Ratty (or a new bunny good enough to pass for Ratty) is discovered in a toy store.

The Teddy Bear by David McPhail. (2002) Ages 4-10

A bear abandoned at a diner is tossed in the trash, and a homeless man picks him out of the dumpster, defying expectations by loving the bear just as much as the little boy who lost him.

That Rabbit Belongs to Emily Brown by Cressida Crowell & Neal Layton. (2007) Ages 4-8

The Queen claims Emily's bunny and offers her a teddy bear. When Emily refuses it, the Queen's guard steals the bunny and Emily must instruct the Queen in proper stuffed-animal care.

Tom Rabbit by Martin Waddell, illus. by Barbara Firth. (2001) Ages 3-8

At suppertime, Sammy leaves Tom Rabbit in the back field, where the wild rabbits roam. He can't come back for him until bedtime. How will the rabbits react to their stuffed counterpart?

The Tub People by Pam Conrad, illus. by Richard Egielski. (1987) Ages 4-8

Seven figurines live without incident by the edge of the tub until the Tub Child is washed down the drain, after which their owner moves them to a safer spot in the bedroom.

Where Can It Be? by Ann Jonas. (1986) Ages 0-4

As a little girl searches her house for her missing blanket, readers can help her by lifting flaps to reveal what's behind doors and under beds.

Where's Chimpy? by Bernice Rabe, photographs by Diane Schmidt. (1988) Ages 3-6

The plot of a missing stuffed monkey is the vehicle for a joyous, unaffected portrait of Misty, who has Down's syndrome, and her dad. Perceptive full-color photos depict the family naturally.

Where's My Monkey? by Dieter Schubert. (1987) Ages 2-6

In this wordless import from Holland, a monkey falls off a bicycle and experiences wonderful adventures with hedgehogs, mice, and other animals before finding his owner at a doll hospital.

Where's My Teddy? by Jez Alborough. (1992) Ages 3-8

Eddie is searching the woods for his lost teddy when he runs into a giant bear on a similar quest. Rhyme makes this book fun to read; the different perspectives make it great to discuss.