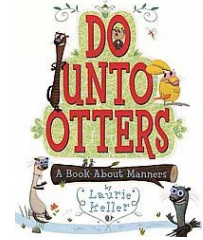


**Vote for Books 2008-2009**  
**Book Extensions for the**  
**Florida Reading Association Children's Book Award**

**Do Unto Otters: A Book About Manners**  
 by Laurie Keller



**Summary**

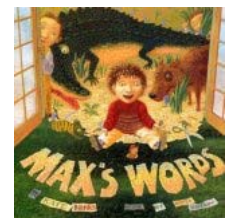
Mr. Rabbit's new neighbors are otters. OTTERS! But he doesn't know anything about otters. Will they be friends? Will they even get along? Just treat otters the same way you'd like them to treat you, advises Mr. Owl. Follow Mr. Rabbit as he learns how to be a good friend and neighbor by simply following the Golden Rule.

**Internet Links and Extensions**

- [http://www.lauriekeller.com/books/otters\\_01.html](http://www.lauriekeller.com/books/otters_01.html) - there are activities and fun things to do on the author's website
- [http://teacher.scholastic.com/products/westonwoods/study\\_guides/do\\_onto\\_otters.pdf](http://teacher.scholastic.com/products/westonwoods/study_guides/do_onto_otters.pdf) - teacher's guide from scholastic
- [http://www.nationalgeographic.com/coloringbook/river\\_otters.html](http://www.nationalgeographic.com/coloringbook/river_otters.html) - this site has a river otter printable coloring page
- <http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/Animals/CreatureFeature/River-otter> - facts, pictures, and videos of river otters
- ABC Teach has non-fiction activities on otters

**Max's Words**

Written by Kate Banks  
 Illustrated by Boris Kulikov



**Summary**

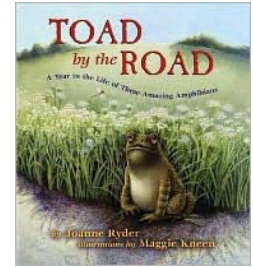
Max's brothers have grand collections that everyone makes a big fuss over. Benjamin collects stamps and Karl collects coins, and neither one will share with their little brother. So Max decides to start a collection of his own. He's going to collect words. He starts with small words that he cuts out of newspapers and magazines, but soon his collection has spilled out into the hall. All the while, his brothers are watching. Benjamin brags that he has one thousand stamps. Karl is just a few coins short of five hundred. But a thousand stamps is really just a bunch of stamps, and a lot of coins is only a heap of money. A pile of words, however, can make a story.

**Internet Links and Extensions**

1. <http://www.justonemorebook.com/2007/04/20/hands-on-language-maxs-words> - a neat podcast with a review of the book
2. [http://teacher.scholastic.com/products/westonwoods/study\\_guides/maxs\\_words\\_back.pdf](http://teacher.scholastic.com/products/westonwoods/study_guides/maxs_words_back.pdf) - teacher's guide
3. [https://www.roundrockisd.org/docs/9-max\\_swords.pdf](https://www.roundrockisd.org/docs/9-max_swords.pdf) - activities from the Armadillo Readers' Choice Award

**Toad By the Road**  
**A Year in the Life of These Amazing Amphibians**

Written by Joanne Ryder  
 Illustrated by Maggie Kneen

**Summary**

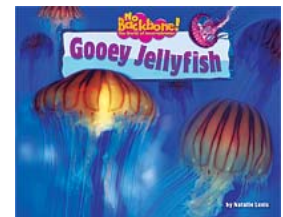
Toads are small and often unseen by human eyes, but their world is rich and varied. The toads in these eloquent poems describe their many wonders, from sticky fly-catching tongues, to the way they shed skin, and camouflage. Joanne Ryder traces the life cycle of amphibians as they change from springtime tadpoles into full-grown toads that hibernate in winter. Maggie Kneen's illustrations showcase toads in their natural habitat with precise, dramatic detail. You'll never think of toads the same way again!

**Internet Links and Extensions**

- Periodical found poetry – use magazines or newspapers to let students cut out words or sentences on a given topic, like toads. Have them put together their words to make a found poem.

**Gooey Jellyfish**

Written by Natalie Lunis

**Summary**

Jellyfish don't have eyes. They don't have brains, either. So how do they catch food and stay safe from enemies? The answers are just some of the fascinating facts children will discover as they enter the weird and watery world of these gooey sea creatures.

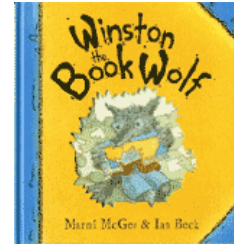
**Internet Links and Extensions**

- <http://library.thinkquest.org/CR0215242/jellyfish.htm> - research on jellyfish

- <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/ngkids/9608/jellyfish> - fun facts from National Geographic

## **Winston the Book Wolf**

Written by Marni McGee & Ian Beck



### **Summary**

Winston the Wolf is very, very hungry. And when he's hungry, there's nothing he loves to do more than eat books! His eating habits get him banned from the library, so Rosie takes him out into the woods to teach him how to read books, not eat them. Winston finds that words taste even better when he devours them with his eyes. But now that he's learned the right way to treat books, he needs to find a way back into the library. . . maybe Rosie's grandmother's clothes would be the perfect disguise to fool the librarian! This hilarious takeoff on Little Red Riding Hood, complete with fabulous art and a die-cut cover, highlights the importance of books and the joy of reading.

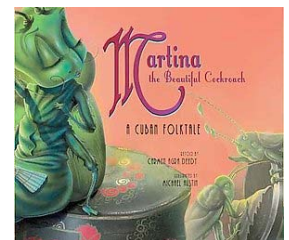
### **Internet Links and Extensions**

- <http://www.walkeryoungreaders.com/books/catalog.php?key=580&type=hfeature> – download a poster
- <http://www.walkeryoungreaders.com/2003/wbcontent/books/winston/Winston%20poster%20back.pdf> – teacher's guide

## **Martina the Beautiful Cockroach A Cuban Folktale**

Retold by Carmen Agra Deedy

Illustrated by Michael Austin



### **Summary**

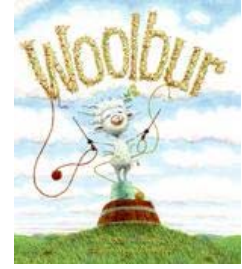
Martina is now 21 days old and ready to get married. People in her family offer her things to make her even more lovely, but her Abuela gives her some strange advice instead, recommending the coffee test on each suitor to see how they respond when angry. Martina doesn't really think it will work, but her Cuban Abuela insists. Martina is astonished to see how each person's demeanor changes when she dumps a cup of coffee on their feet. That is until she finds exactly the right suitor.

### **Internet Links and Extensions**

- <http://www.beautifulmartina.com> – this is the book's own official site
- <http://readingtokids.org/Books/BookView.php?pag=5&bookID=00000692> – discussion questions and craft ideas

## Woolbur

Written by Leslie Helakoski  
Illustrated by Lee Harper



### Summary

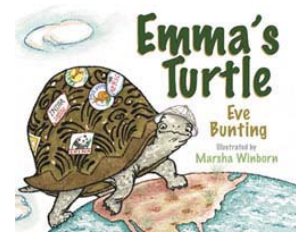
Woolbur is not like other sheep. He hangs out with wild dogs, cards his own wool to avoid the shearing barn, and even dyes his wool blue. "Don't worry!" says Grandpaa when Maa and Paa fret that Woolbur is different. But when they tell their son to follow the flock, the opposite happens—the flock follows him! Soon everyone is copying his wild hairstyles and taking turns on the spinning wheel. Leave it to Woolbur to find a new way to step ahead of the herd.

### Internet Links and Extensions

1. <http://www.countingsheepvt.com/kids.htm> - this is a fun site with all kinds of things about sheep including a downloadable activity book.
2. [http://first-school.ws/t/craft/handprint\\_sheep.html](http://first-school.ws/t/craft/handprint_sheep.html) - a site that has a cute sheep that looks a lot like the sheep in the book:
3. <http://www.first-school.ws/ACTIVITIES/CRAFTS/ANIMALS/FARM/HANDPRINT-LAMB.HTM> - this site has activities you can do with the template.
4. <http://jas.familyfun.go.com/arts-and-crafts?page=CraftDisplay&craftid=10129>  
Make a very cute "Sheep Egg" (\*\*\*\*\* rating!).
5. <http://www.alphabet-soup.net/goose/popcornsheep.html> - another cute sheep pattern/template.

## Emma's Turtle

Written by Eve Bunting  
Illustrated by Marsha Winborn



### Summary

Emma's turtle lives in a backyard pen. He enjoys snacks that Emma feeds him. He also loves to listen to Emma as she tells him about faraway places such as Africa, Australia, and China. Emma's turtle has a good life, but he often dreams of those faraway places. One day he decides to stop dreaming and see the world beyond his pen. Eve Bunting's adorable story of an adventurous turtle is delightfully illustrated by Marsha Winborn.

### Internet Links and Extensions

- <http://www.readingrockets.org/books/interviews/bunting> - an interview with the author Eve Bunting
- <http://www.picadome.fcps.net/lab/currl/lifecycles/turtles.htm> - a complete turtle unit with crafts and links to informational sites