

Oh, the Thinks You Can Think

And the winner of the 2013 Caldecott is...



It's that time of year again, awards season! Sure the Oscars and Golden Globes may get the most media attention, but the announcement every children's librarian looks forward to is the Caldecott Medal. Each year the Caldecott Medal is awarded by the Association for Library Service to Children to "the artist of the most distinguished American picture book for children". The ALSC may also name a few runners-up, or Honor Books. We'll learn the 2013 medal winner tomorrow, Monday, January 28th.

So who will win the 2013 medal? In anticipation of this year's announcement our Children's Department pulled as many contenders as we could find. We chose our books based on recommendations from School Library Journal, Horn Book, and the more populist list put together by Goodreads. We dubbed our cart of thirty-some books "The Caldecart" and over the past week we've read as many of them as we could, making notes and picking our favorites. Was there a consensus? Nope! But here are a few of the books we liked the best and a few on which we couldn't quite agree. [Read more](#)

Posted by Aubrey D. on January 27, 2013

[Caldecott Award](#)

[Caldecott Honor](#)

[Picture Book](#)

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I Spy with My Winter Eye...



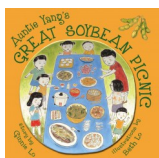
At MCPL, we think it is important that families come to the library to learn and play. One of the ways we enrich our environment is through interactive displays, "early literacy spots." These displays are designed to promote language and knowledge for preschool children. Here's what to look for winter: [Read more](#)

Posted by Christina J. on January 8, 2013

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Mahjong, Soybeans, and Sisters: Growing Up Chinese in Indiana



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[Auntie Yang's Great Soybean Picnic](#) and [Mahjong All Day Long](#)

I'm a bit biased about how wonderful are. Full disclosure: I'm from Illinois and I've lived in Indiana. And I'm moving to China in a month! (And I have 2 awesome sisters!) So, they're the perfect books for me, but they might just be great for you too. They are such a sweet celebration of family traditions, so culturally specific and yet so universally heartwarming, that I can't help but want to share them with everyone I know! So let's travel from place to

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Posted by epackard on January 8, 2013

[Auntie Yang's great soybean picnic](#)

[Mahjong all day long](#)

[Family Relationships](#)

[Sisters](#)

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Animals in Winter: Preschool Science and Math



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As any parent knows, young children are curious about the world. At the library, we explore a range of topics during Preschool Science and Math. When the weather turns cold, I turn to one of my favorite themes for preschool science: Animals in Winter. Here are some of the activities we did in December!

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Posted by Christina J. on December 11, 2012

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[Science & Nature](#)

[Winter](#)

[Oh, the Thinks You Can Think](#)

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Playaways!



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Did you know MCPL now has Playaways? In Children's Services, we have over 30 titles available for check-out (or for placing a hold if already checked out). Simply insert an AAA battery and some headphones, and you've got yourself a portable audiobook. The player itself is smaller than a deck of cards, and they're packaged in bright orange cases. We've placed them near our books-on-cd. Come check one, or more, out! (3-week check-out.)

Posted by Ellen A. on November 16, 2012

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Many parents and teachers have also turned to TumbleBooks, an online collection of animated picture books and "read-along" chapter books, as another way to access ebooks for children. Available for free through the library's website, TumbleBooks offers a variety of fiction and nonfiction titles especially for young children. (Find a link to TumbleBooks on the right side of the Children's Services home page: mcpl.info/childrens.) [Read more](#)

Posted by Lisa C. on November 8, 2012

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