



Noteworthy Picture Books for Children by Roseann Polashek

Oliver Jeffers brings us a new kind of romp through the alphabet – with a story for every letter-in *Once Upon an Alphabet: Short Stories for all the letters*. An astronaut, a burning bridge, a cub in the cupboard, dangerous Delilah and 22 more. Each story is more absurdly funny than the next!

From the Caldecott Honor Artist/Cartoonist who draws the syndicated comic MUTTS, Patrick McDonnell offers a new picture book called *A Perfectly Messed Up Story*. As little Louie skips through his book he suddenly comes upon a splotch of jelly and then, turning the page is hit in the face with peanut butter. Clearly, dear reader, you should not be eating your lunch over your library book. A fun way for Louie to teach children how NOT to treat a library book.

Shh! We Have a Plan by Chris Haughton is filled with his block print stylized illustrations and another mad-cap story. Four friends creep through the wood and spy a magnificent bird. They decide to capture it, but the best laid plans just don't seem to work. Simple, charming and fun!

Clang! Clang! Beep! Beep! Listen to the City by Robert Burleigh and illustrated superbly by Beppe Giacobbe packs lots of visual appeal, including sounds and what makes sounds. This is a top pick covering important pre-reading skills.