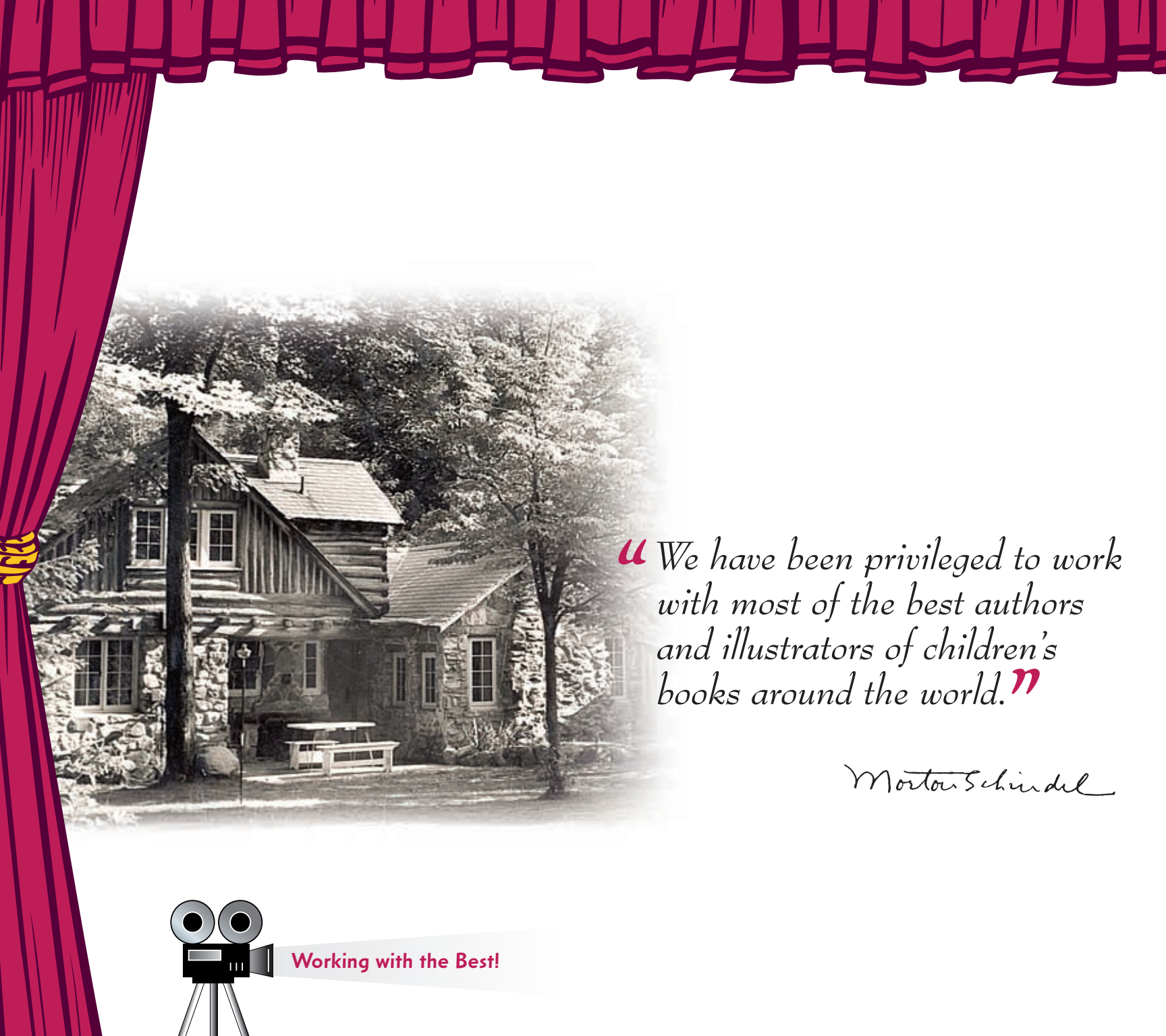


Where Books Come Alive!



“We have been privileged to work with most of the best authors and illustrators of children’s books around the world.”

Morton Schindel



Working with the Best!

*W*eston Woods' success over the years has largely been due to the wonderful quality of the books on which our productions are based. Additionally, our production team has sought out the best animators, composers and narrators whose talents have contributed a high level of artistic creativity that has brought award-winning stories to life for children.



Featured in the following pages are some of the people that have made a significant contribution to our legacy. We wish to thank them, along with countless others not listed here, for helping us to fulfill our dreams for children everywhere.



Doreen Cronin

“Videos are so important because they really act as a springboard for the books. They show children... what your imagination can do with a book – that the book is really just the beginning... where it takes you is up to you. When I first saw the video of *Click, Clack, Moo*, all I could do was laugh. I had read that book thousands of times, but to see it in that form, and in a whole new light, with so much life was just incredible to me.”



Doreen Cronin says her first book idea came to her in the middle of the night. She woke up with the phrase, “Click, clack, moo” stuck in her head, which made her laugh. That made her think of her recently deceased father, who loved to laugh. The book was published on her father’s birthday. Besides being the author of these two books, she is also a lawyer.

Betsy Lewin

“(*A Weston Woods video*) supports the reading experience in that it extends the story for a child and brings even a little bit more to the story visually than they see in the book. Because it follows the story so closely, the child harks back to the book after he’s seen the video so it doesn’t become a separate thing.”



Betsy Lewin has created over 20 children’s books and illustrated countless stories. Lewin attributes her love of books to her mother, who was a kindergarten teacher. She also creates books with her husband, author/illustrator Ted Lewin.



illustration from *CLICK, CLACK, MOO COWS THAT TYPE*

Weston Woods’ adaptations of books by Doreen Cronin, illustrated by Betsy Lewin:

Click, Clack, Moo Cows

That Type – Caldecott Honor Book
(Simon & Schuster)

Giggle, Giggle, Quack
(Simon & Schuster)

Gene Deitch

“For 35 years now I’ve been working with Weston Woods. Together we were able to win over a hundred prizes in children’s film festivals all over the world. Even pushing 80, I’m still happy to be able to take one beautiful children’s picture book after another, each with a different graphic style, each with a different kind of point of view, each one a new challenge, a new way to make a film. I hope I can continue as long as I can stand up!”

Gene Deitch is also known as the creator of the *Tom Terrific* cartoon series for the *Captain Kangaroo* TV show. His films have received countless awards, including an Academy Award for *Munro*, written by Jules Feiffer. Since 1959, Deitch has been living and working with his wife, producer Zdenka Deitchova in Prague, Czechoslovakia.



Tomie dePaola

“I remember visiting the Weston Woods complex in Connecticut to meet Morton Schindel and to discuss turning *Strega Nona* into a film. It was in the late sixties and was an astounding experience – *Happy Birthday!*”



illustration from “*CHARLIE NEEDS A CLOAK*”

Tomie dePaola has illustrated over 200 books, 90 of which he also wrote. DePaola says his dream is that at least one of his books or pictures “will touch the heart of some individual child and change that child’s life for the better.”

Weston Woods’ adaptations of books by Tomie dePaola:

“*Charlie Needs a Cloak*” (Simon & Schuster)

The Clown of God (Harcourt)

Shh! We’re Writing the Constitution

written by Jean Fritz, illustrated by Tomie dePaola (Putnam)

Strega Nona (Simon & Schuster)

Jean Fritz

“As hard as I try to make history come alive, in the end it is always Weston Woods that does the job. Writers and readers, real characters and imaginary ones, we celebrate your birthday just as we continue to celebrate you.”



illustration from *SHH! WE'RE WRITING THE CONSTITUTION*

Born in Hankow, China, the daughter of a minister and missionary, Jean Fritz has become the most respected, engaging and informative author of biographies and historical fiction for young people in the twentieth century. The winner of countless awards and



prizes, including a Christopher Medal, a Regina Medal and a Newbery Honor, Jean Fritz is currently at work on three different books.

Weston Woods' adaptations of books written by Jean Fritz:

And Then What Happened, Paul Revere?

illustrated by Margot Tomes (Coward-McCann)

Can't You Make Them Behave, King George?

illustrated by Tomie dePaola (Coward-McCann)

George Washington's Mother

illustrated by DyAnne DiSalvo-Ryan (Grosset & Dunlap)

Just A Few Words, Mr. Lincoln

illustrated by Charles Robinson (Grosset & Dunlap)

Shh! We're Writing the Constitution

illustrated by Tomie dePaola (Putnam)

What's the Big Idea, Ben Franklin?

illustrated by Margot Tomes (Coward-McCann)

Where Do You Think You're Going, Christopher Columbus?

illustrated by Margot Tomes (Putnam)

Where was Patrick Henry on the 29th of May?

illustrated by Margot Tomes (Coward-McCann)

Who's That Stepping on Plymouth Rock?

illustrated by J. B. Handelsman (Putnam)

Why Don't You Get a Horse, Sam Adams?

illustrated by Trina Schart Hyman (Putnam)

Will You Sign Here, John Hancock?

illustrated by Trina Schart Hyman (Coward-McCann)

Kevin Henkes

“I’ve thoroughly enjoyed working with everyone at Weston Woods. Remaining extremely faithful to the book while bringing it brilliantly to life is what they do so well. Neither an author nor illustrator could ask for more. Happy Anniversary!”



The creator of characters such as Lilly, Julius, Chrysanthemum, Owen, and Chester, Kevin Henkes has quietly become one of the most beloved young author/illustrators today. His first book, *All Alone*, was released in

1981. Since then, he has written and illustrated over 30 picture books and children’s novels and won numerous prestigious awards.

Weston Woods’ adaptations of books by Kevin Henkes:

Chrysanthemum (*Greenwillow*)

Owen – *Caldecott Honor Book* (*Greenwillow*)

A Weekend with Wendell (*Greenwillow*)



illustration from
CHRYSANTHEMUM

Steven Kellogg

“After having had a productive and enjoyable relationship with Weston Woods for over 30 years, and having heard their praises sung by educators during approximately 2,000 school and library visits, it is a pleasure to deliver a resounding roar of gratitude for their immense contribution to the world of children’s literature!”



Since 1967, Steven Kellogg has illustrated over 100 books for children, 30 of which he also wrote. He has been honored with many major awards for his books and for his lifelong dedication to stirring the imaginations of children.

Weston Woods’ adaptations of books by Steven Kellogg:

Chicken Little (*Morrow*)

How Much is a Million?

written by David M. Schwartz, illustrated by Steven Kellogg (*Lothrop*)

If You Made a Million

written by David M. Schwartz, illustrated by Steven Kellogg (*Lothrop*)

Is Your Mama a Llama?

written by Deborah Guarino, illustrated by Steven Kellogg (*Scholastic*)

The Island of the Skog (*Dial*)

The Mysterious Tadpole (*Dial*)

Pinkerton, Behave! (*Dial*)



illustration from
IS YOUR MAMA A LLAMA?

John Lithgow

“*Weston Woods picks wonderful kids’ books and I’m a connoisseur, so I’ve been very proud to be asked to do them. It’s a great sales job for great books for kids. They’re like advertisements – it just makes you more curious about the other books that these authors have done and these illustrators. And they’re just wonderful to watch. My own kids were crazy about them when they were small, and it was a good thing too because that was their father’s voice!*”



The remarkable acting career of John Lithgow has earned him a Tony Award, a Golden Globe, several Emmys and two Oscar nominations, plus a starring role in the hit television series, *Third Rock from the Sun*. He is now an award-winning author in his own right of best-selling children’s books.



illustration from *OFFICER BUCKLE AND GLORIA*

Weston Woods’ adaptations narrated by John Lithgow:

The Amazing Bone —Caldecott Honor Book
written by William Steig (Farrar, Strauss)

Bark, George written by Jules Feiffer (HarperCollins)

Officer Buckle and Gloria —Caldecott Medal Book
written by Peggy Rathmann (Putnam)

Sylvester and the Magic Pebble —Caldecott Medal Book
written by William Steig (Simon & Schuster)

Robert McCloskey

“ To several generations of children in his community, children across the country and throughout the world, Morton Schindel has sold the importance of reading through the medium of film. It has been a happy association for all of us: authors, publishers, libraries and people in the field of education. Mort, I am proud to celebrate your tremendous achievement and to have been an integral part of it. Thank you for our long and warm association.”



The creator of some of the most beloved children's books of all time, McCloskey has won countless awards, including two honorary doctorates. He was recently named a Living Legend by the Library of Congress, for his contribution to children's literature, and for "...advanc(ing) and embod(ying) the quintessentially American ideal of individual creativity, conviction, dedication, and exuberance."

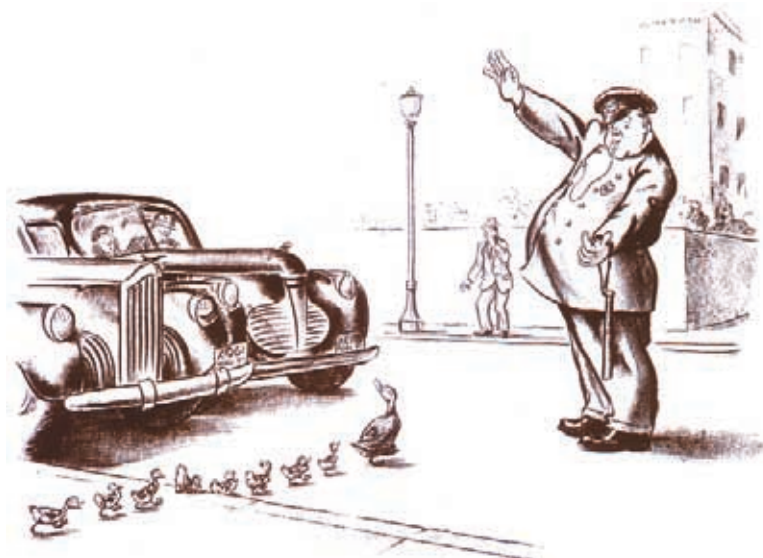


illustration from *MAKE WAY FOR DUCKLINGS*

Weston Woods' adaptations of books by Robert McCloskey:

Blueberries for Sal – Caldecott Honor Book (Viking)

Burt Dow: Deep-Water Man (Viking)

The Case of the Cosmic Comic
from *Homer Price* (Viking)

The Doughnuts from *Homer Price* (Viking)

Lentil (Viking)

Make Way for Ducklings – Caldecott Medal Book (Viking)

Time of Wonder – Caldecott Medal Book (Viking)

Jerry Pinkney

“ I wish I had a voice because I’d like to sing, ‘Happy Birthday, Weston Woods!’ But I don’t, so I’m saying it. I think the challenge for us involved with providing a young child with the opportunity to read is to deal with the challenge of the video itself and television. What Weston Woods has done through the vehicle of the video (is) to lead that child back into the front door to reading. What they have done so successfully is frame that book in such a way, and with the drama of music, narration, that it actually makes the book I think much richer and much deeper and certainly much more interesting. ”



Jerry Pinkney has created over 75 children’s books over the past 40 years and won countless awards for illustration and exemplary dedication to children’s literature. With his wife, Gloria, also a writer, he produced four supremely talented children, all writers and/or visual artists, who are making their own names in the world of children’s books.



illustration from JOHN HENRY

Weston Woods’ adaptations of books by Jerry Pinkney:

John Henry – Caldecott Honor Book
written by Julius Lester, illustrated by Jerry Pinkney (Dial)

Noah’s Ark – Caldecott Honor Book (SeaStar)

Rikki-Tikki-Tavi – Caldecott Honor Book
written by Rudyard Kipling, illustrated by Jerry Pinkney (Morrow)

The Ugly Duckling – Caldecott Honor Book
written by Hans Christian Andersen, illustrated by Jerry Pinkney (Morrow)

Maurice Sendak

“ I think Weston Woods was an amazingly ingenious idea for utilizing all the forms – there was television, there was movies – children’s books were always a very isolated world – and what (Weston Woods) did was bring it all together. The films were a whole new way... that brought you back to the book so that it was an exploration and an emancipation of the book and also was done so beautifully...”

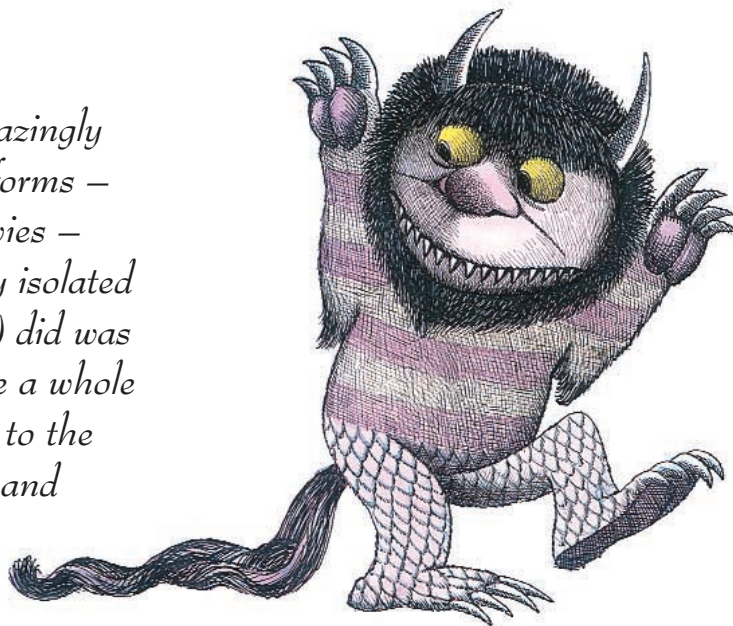


illustration from *WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE*

Weston Woods’ adaptations of books by Maurice Sendak:

Alligators All Around (HarperCollins)

Chicken Soup with Rice (HarperCollins)

In the Night Kitchen (HarperCollins)

A Kiss for Little Bear written by Else Holmelund Minarik,
illustrated by Maurice Sendak (HarperCollins)

Little Bear’s Visit written by Else Holmelund Minarik,
illustrated by Maurice Sendak (HarperCollins)

Mr. Rabbit and the Lovely Present
written by Charlotte Zolotow, illustrated by Maurice Sendak (HarperCollins)

One Was Johnny (HarperCollins)

Pierre (HarperCollins)

Where the Wild Things Are – Caldecott Medal Book
(HarperCollins)

Considered by many to be one of the most consistently inventive and challenging voices in children’s literature, Sendak has been recognized with countless honors, medals and prizes, including, along with Robert McCloskey, designation as a Living Legend by the Library of Congress. He is a long-time friend and neighbor of Weston Woods, living up the road in rural Connecticut.



David Small

“Book illustrators get accustomed to having more-or-less complete freedom in their creative work. When Weston Woods called and told me they wanted to make an animated film of my book, I was prepared for the film to look nothing like my book. I was delighted when I saw the first rough cuts, and to see this film really brought my work to life. I got involved. I made hundreds of new drawings. The Weston Woods crew made me feel included every step of the way. The film turned out to be wonderfully rich and funny, and they made me feel it was all because of me (These people are very smart!). I would work with them again in a heartbeat; I would work with them again with a nosebleed, with a busted foot, in a sandstorm. That would really hurt, but I would do it all for Weston Woods!”



illustration from *SO YOU WANT TO BE PRESIDENT?*

Weston Woods' adaptations of books illustrated by David Small:

So You Want to Be President? – Caldecott Medal Book
written by Judith St. George, illustrated by David Small (*Philomel*)

The endlessly inventive illustrator David Small began drawing at the age of two. It was not until he reached college, however, that he decided to pursue visual art as a career. Since then, he has illustrated over 30 books, several in collaboration with his wife, author Sarah Stewart, and won many prestigious awards.



Gordon Tice © 2001

William Steig

“It was always a delight to see my books animated by Weston Woods, especially Doctor De Soto. For 50 years this great company has successfully transformed wonderful books into films that children love. Happy Anniversary!”



William Steig is also known for his career as a cartoonist for *The New Yorker* magazine, for which he has created over 1,600 drawings and 177 covers. Now approaching the age of 100, he is still publishing new material. Steig's greatest achievement is his ability

to create unforgettable characters, like Sylvester, Pearl, Doctor De Soto and Shrek, that speak to the hearts and minds of children and grown-ups everywhere.

Weston Woods' adaptations of books by William Steig:

The Amazing Bone (Farrar, Straus)

Brave Irene (Farrar, Straus)

Doctor De Soto – *Newbery Honor Book* (Farrar, Straus)

Pete's A Pizza (HarperCollins)

Sylvester and the Magic Pebble
Caldecott Medal Book (Simon & Schuster)



illustration from
DOCTOR DE SOTO

Meryl Streep

“A few years ago, I had the opportunity to record the voice of *Chrysanthemum* for Weston Woods. At the time, this was one of my daughter's favorite books, and we were both excited to see it transformed into such a beautiful film. I am proud to have worked with a studio that has brought wonderful stories to so many children. Happy Birthday, Weston Woods!”



Film actress Meryl Streep has received two Academy Awards and thirteen nominations, a Golden Globe and an Emmy, although her earliest ambition was to become an opera singer. When asked who has been her greatest influence, she replied it is her “greatest producer,” her mother. Streep is herself quite well-known as a devoted parent to her four children.

Weston Woods' adaptations narrated by Meryl Streep:
Chrysanthemum by Kevin Henkes (*Greenwillow*)

Simms Taback

“It’s so satisfying to see your book come to life when Weston Woods turns it into an animated film. I am impressed with the care that Weston Woods takes in their choice of talent – animator, composer and performer. I was especially thrilled with their production of *There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly* with pop singer Cyndi Lauper.”

illustration from
*THERE WAS AN OLD LADY
WHO SWALLOWED A FLY*



Simms Taback had quite a full career as a graphic designer, art director for an advertising agency, and partner in a design/illustration office, before he had any success as a children’s author/illustrator. His perhaps most surprising accomplishment was designing and illustrating the very first McDonald’s Happy Meal box!

Weston Woods’ adaptations of books by Simms Taback:

Joseph Had a Little Overcoat – Caldecott Medal Book (Viking)

There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly
– Caldecott Honor Book (Viking)

This is the House That Jack Built (Viking)

Jane Yolen

“Weston Woods gave me my first opportunity to be a voice over for my own work. As a nascent storyteller and a lover of radio plays, it was heaven being at the Weston Woods studio. In fact, I remarked to my husband when I returned home, ‘When I die, I hope to go to Weston Woods.’”



illustration from *OWL MOON*



Jane Yolen is the recipient of some of the most prestigious awards and prizes for children’s literature, and in fact, has been given the nickname “America’s Hans Christian Andersen” for her all her varied talents.

Weston Woods’ adaptations of books written and narrated by Jane Yolen:

How Do Dinosaurs Say Good Night?

illustrated by Mark Teague (Blue Sky Press)

Owl Moon – Caldecott Medal Book

illustrated by John Schoenherr (Philonel)

Rosemary Wells

“*Weston Woods takes the very best of children’s literature and makes it into exquisite little works of art. They do a magnificent job of promoting and preserving our very best children’s books. I love Weston Woods and look forward to a further relationship and more books and more films. Thank you, congratulations and Happy Birthday!*”



Rosemary Wells has written and illustrated over 60 books for children. She has won numerous awards, and continued to reach new audiences in print and on television, with her lively artwork, good humor and knack for creating characters that are not always perfect, but always endearing.

Weston Woods’ adaptations of books by Rosemary Wells:

Benjamin & Tulip (Dial)

Max’s Chocolate Chicken (Dial)

Max’s Christmas (Dial)

Morris’s Disappearing Bag (Dial)

Noisy Nora (Dial)

Timothy Goes to School (Dial)



illustration from NOISY NORA

Paul O. Zelinsky



illustration from
RAPUNZEL

“*It’s been quite a treat to see my books reborn. I’ve always imagined that designing and illustrating a picture book is a lot like directing a movie, and when I got the chance to look at and comment on the storyboards for Rapunzel, I was delighted to have that hunch confirmed. Weston Woods has done some wonderful things and I’m happy to be part of the list!*”

Caldecott winner Paul O. Zelinsky took the first class Maurice Sendak ever taught while he was a student at Yale University. Before his career as a book illustrator he dreamed of being an astronomer, a ventriloquist, a scientist or a great architect. To date, Zelinsky has illustrated more than a dozen award-winning picture books and novels for young people.



Weston Woods’ adaptations of books by Paul O. Zelinsky:

Rapunzel – Caldecott Medal Book (Dutton)

Swamp Angel – Caldecott Honor Book
written by Anne Isaacs, illustrated by Paul O. Zelinsky (Dutton)

1953 – 2003

May the Legacy Continue...



Weston Woods is the world's largest producer of audiovisual adaptations of classic children's picture books, providing schools, public libraries and consumers with enduring children's films. Weston Woods materials are used in more than 50,000 schools and libraries nationwide, and are distributed in more than 20 countries. They are available on home video through the *Scholastic Video Collection*.

Weston Woods
a division of Scholastic Inc.
143 Main Street
Norwalk, CT 06851
Tel.: 203-845-0197
800-243-5020
Fax: 203-845-0498
email: questions@scholastic.com
website: www.scholastic.com/westonwoods



weston woods institute

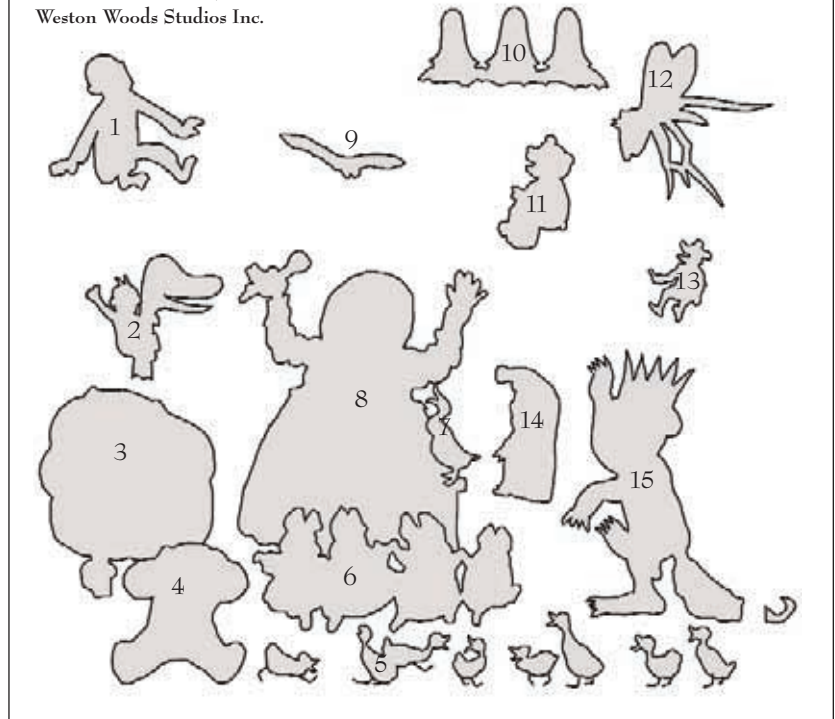
Weston Woods Institute is a non-profit organization for the development of innovative educational and cultural communications that enrich the lives of children.

A principal activity includes *The Literacy Caravan*, enchanting 35-foot mobile educational environments traveling to both rural and urban communities. Currently programming focuses on the training of preschool teachers of emergent readers.

Weston Woods Institute is a resource for both educators and practitioners in the arts and sciences in the development of their efforts directed mainly to children.

Weston Woods Institute
383 Newtown Turnpike
Weston, CT 06883
Toll Free: 866-287-3880
website: www.westonwoodsinstitute.org
Executive Director: Jerry Goehring
email: jgoehring@westonwoodsinstitute.org

Cover illustration © 2003
Weston Woods Studios Inc.



- 1. Curious George Rides a Bike**
Copyright © 1952 by H.A. Rey
Copyright © renewed 1986 by Margret Rey
- 2. Danny and the Dinosaur**
Copyright © 1958 by Syd Hoff
Copyright © renewed 1986 by Syd Hoff
- 3. Smile for Auntie**
Copyright © 1976 by Diane Paterson
- 4. Corduroy**
Copyright © 1968 by Don Freeman
- 5. Make Way for Ducklings**
Copyright © 1941 Robert McCloskey
Copyright © renewed 1969 by Robert McCloskey
- 6. Morris's Disappearing Bag**
Copyright © 1975 Rosemary Wells
- 7. The Story About Ping**
Copyright © 1933 by Marjorie Flack and Kurt Wiese. Copyright © renewed 1961 by Helma L. Barnum and Kurt Wiese
- 8. Strega Nona**
Copyright © 1975 by Tomie dePaola
- 9. Owl Moon**
Text Copyright © 1987 by Jane Yolen
Illustrations Copyright © 1987 by John Schoenherr
- 10. The Three Robbers**
Copyright © 1962 by Tomi Ungerer
- 11. Happy Birthday, Moon**
Copyright © 1982 by Frank Asch
- 12. Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears**
Text Copyright © 1975 by Verna Aardema
Pictures Copyright © 1975 by Leo and Diane Dillon
- 13. Doctor De Soto**
Copyright © 1982 by William Steig
- 14. Max's Christmas**
Copyright © 1986 by Rosemary Wells
- 15. Where the Wild Things Are**
Copyright © 1963 by Maurice Sendak

Background:
Where the Wild Things Are
Copyright © 1963 by Maurice Sendak