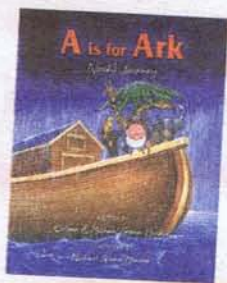


inREVIEW

new releases in books, music, software and video

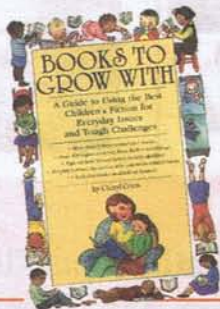
books



A is for Ark
By Colleen and Michael Glenn Monroe
Illustrated by Michael Glenn Monroe
Storytime Press
Parents; \$17.95

Children will enjoy learning this popular Bible story about how one man was asked by God to collect all the species of animals and save them from the flood. The rhyming text creates a rhythmic flow that makes the story almost sing. The beautiful illustrations portray Noah's task at hand and help relay the appreciation we should all have for a job well done!

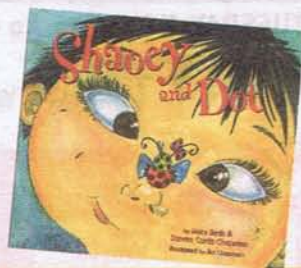
— ashley driggs



Books to Grow With
By Cheryl Coon
Lutra Press
Parents; \$17.95

Here's a wonderful compilation of suggested reading for parents who seek to enrich and guide their children with great books. Subtitled "A Guide to Using the Best Children's Fiction for Everyday Issues and Tough Challenges," there are more than 500 recommended books here on topics covering everything from bullies to siblings, helpful indexes by author and title and useful tips for helping kids get the most out of reading.

— susan day

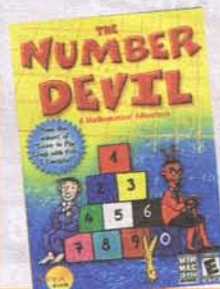


Shaoy and Dot: Bug Meets Bundle
By Mary Beth and Steven Curtis Chapman
Illustrated by Jim Chapman
Tommy Nelson
Ages 3 and older; \$16.99

Here's a lovely and moving tale about a little girl adopted from China and the ladybug who befriends her. Written in rhyming text, the story tugs at your heart to think that so many little girls are given up ... but so many are adopted by wonderful folks like the Chapmans!

— sbd

software



The Number Devil
Viva Media

Ages 8 and older; \$19.95 (Mac or PC)
Numbers can be tricky ... devilish, even. So thought young Robert, before the Number Devil showed up in his dreams to help him see math in a whole new way. Each night begins with a short lesson on concepts such as infinity, prime numbers, exponents, fractions, decimals and more, followed by a fun game to reinforce the concept. For middle schoolers, it's a great supplement to classroom learning, although younger children may need a little help from an adult.

— brenna hansen

music



Brady Rymer: I Found It!
Bumblin' Bee Records
Ages 3 and older; \$14
bradyrymer.com

Rymer won a National Parenting Publications Gold Award for his 2003 children's album, *Look at My Belly*, and on Nov. 23 he releases *I Found It!*, another delightful compilation. Former founding member of the band From Good Homes, Rymer counts his influences for this record as Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band and Bob Marley, but kids will relish in the uncomplicated musicality and fun. Top cuts include "Bathtub Soup" and the title song.

— sbd



No More Monkeys
Children's Songs by Asheba
Ages birth - 3; \$15
cdbaby.com

Children will go ape when the Caribbean beat takes over. Asheba, a renowned Caribbean children's artist, gets the feet tapping with kid favorites like "No More Monkeys" and "Miss Willie" (Miss Mary Mack) as well as original tunes like "Yummy Yucca Pie" and "Reggae Children." Even the "Reggae Lullaby" lets your imagination wander to the beaches of the Caribbean while your little one drifts off to sleep.

— ad

video/dvd



My Baby Can Talk
Baby Hands Productions
Ages 10 - 24 months; \$19.95
mybabycantalk.com

Why wait for to communicate until your baby starts forming words? It's said that if your child can wave "bye-bye" and clap her hands, then she's ready to sign. Baby signing can let you "converse" with your baby and toddler now. A friendly display by an adult of the sign followed by lively images of the word, such as "cat," will teach both you and your baby the basics. There's so much to say. Why not get started early?

— ad



On the Farm With Farmer Bob
Integrity Publishers
Ages 3 - 7; \$14.99 DVD, \$12.99 VHS
playonthefarm.com

Get to know the quirky animals on the Silent E Ranch in this quality, comical new series. In "Cocka Doodle Doo The Right Thing" and "A Friend Planting Seeds Is A Friend Indeed," animals from grumpy Hercules the rooster to loyal Jenny the dog learn Bible lessons based on the Parables. Vince Gill and Amy Grant lend their voices to the characters, and catchy songs add to the fun.

— bh