

## Transitional Non-Fiction

### Winner

#### **Never Smile at a Monkey: and 17 Other Important Things to Remember**

Written and illustrated by Steve Jenkins, Houghton Mifflin Books for Children, 2009

Steve Jenkins introduces 18 deadly animals, and cautions with gentle alliteration, such as “Never pet a platypus...” Beautifully illustrated tissue paper collages suggest the allure and danger of each species.

### Honors

#### **Nic Bishop Butterflies and Moths**

By Nic Bishop, Scholastic books, 2009

Nic Bishop has given us truly awesome photographs of the world of butterflies and moths; the simple text gives a wealth of information about these insects. Bishop’s story about getting the photographs shows the dedication of a true professional.

#### **Nubs: The True Story of a Mutt, a Marine and a Miracle**

By Major Brian Dennis, Kirby Larson and Mary Netherery, Little Brown and Company 2009.

We all need friends from time to time, Nubs, a “small, thin” dog who lived in Iraq, finds one in Brian, a U.S. Marine. Together they protect Brian’s squad through good and bad, with Nubs never being very far from his best friend.

#### **Moonshot: The Flight of Apollo 11**

Written and illustrated by Brian Floca, Jackson Books/Atheneum, 2009

A poetic retelling the famous 1969 NASA mission and the three astronauts who travelled to the moon. Large pages with delicate line and wash drawings for a new generation of nonfiction picture book readers.

## Members of the 2010 Committee

### **Kit Bloom, Chair**

Enoch Pratt Free Library

### **Tess Goldwasser**

St. Mary’s County Library

### **Eileen Kuhl**

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### **Susan Kusel**

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### **Tina Thomas**

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For more information on the Maryland Blue Crab Young Reader Award, visit:

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## Maryland Blue Crab Young Reader Award 2010



Children’s Services Division

Maryland Library Association

1401 Hollins Street

Baltimore, MD 21223

## Beginning Fiction

### Winner

#### Good Dog, Aggie

By Lori Ries, illustrated by Frank W. Dormer, Charlesbridge, 2009

“Aggie is a good dog.” She is not always a good listener which gets her into trouble. She goes to school to be a better listener, but it doesn’t work. She even tries training in the park, but still Aggie gets into trouble. What will it take for Aggie to learn how to sit and stay?

### Honors

#### Max Spaniel: Dinosaur Hunt

By David Catrow, Orchard Books, 2009

Max Spaniel is on a quest to find dinosaur fossils. He takes us into his backyard where he shows us several fossils, that look remarkably like the belongings of a family with children, but make up a tall and fearsome tyrannosaurus rex.

#### A Birthday for Bear

By Bonny Becker, illustrated by Kady Denton, Candlewick, 2009

Mouse wants to give his friend, Bear, a good birthday. Bear resists at every turn, but Mouse is ingenious and determined. Eventually, Bear realizes what a good friend Mouse is, and enjoys a gala birthday.

### Birds

By Kevin Henkes, illustrated by Laura Dronzak, Greenwillow Books, 2009

With brilliant colors and spare text, Birds catches the essence of birds in a child’s life by showing birds’ shapes, colors and their mysterious ability to fly.

## Beginning Non-Fiction

### Winner

#### My People

By Langston Hughes and Charles R. Smith, Jr., Atheneum Books, 2009

Photographer Charles Smith brings images as fresh as tomorrow to create a feast of words and pictures to this 1923 Hughes’ poem that will engage the beginning reader over and over again.

### Honors

#### Big and Small, Room for All

By Jo Ellen Bogart, illustrated by Gillian Newland, Tundra books, 2009

This nearly wordless picture book explores the concept of size, from with the vast universe to microorganisms with realistic water color illustrations.

#### About Penguins: A Guide for Children

By Cathryn Sill, illustrated by John Sill, Peachtree, 2009

Simple sentences and large watercolor paintings teach children about penguins, how they look, what they eat, and where they live.

### One Wolf Howls

By Scotti Cohn, illustrated by Susan Detwiler, Sylvan Dell, 2009

Equally entertaining and educational, readers will marvel at the gorgeous illustrations, while learning about the majestic wolf, its habitat, the seasons, and counting skills.

## Transitional Fiction

### Winner

#### How Oliver Olson Changed the World

By Claudia Mills, illustrated by Heather Maione, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2009

Oliver Olson, an overprotected third grader, partners with Crystal on a school project about the planet Pluto. Will he be able to take stand, and do his own homework?

### Honors

#### The Amazing Trail of Seymour Snail

By Lynn E. Hazen, illustrated by Doug Cushman, Henry Holt and Co., 2009

Seymour Snail, an aspiring artist, gets a job at an art gallery delivery person. Bug humor and illustrations pull the reader through the story, encouraging a new reader to overcome his own obstacles in the path of reading success.

#### The Dunderheads

By Paul Fleishmann, illustrated by David Roberts, Candlewick Press, 2009

A band of misfits and underdogs unite to complete a caper their tyrannical teacher Miss Breakbone won’t soon forget. Using teamwork, and each kid’s quirky talents and skills, the Dunderheads seek justice with style and flair!

#### The Magical Ms. Plum

By Bonny Becker and Amy Portnoy, Knopf Books for Young Readers, 2009

Third grade teacher Ms. Plum has a magical storage closet. A pupil is sent inside to find an animal that teaches a gentle lesson to the whole class.