

A Day as Sweet as Fresh Fruit....

September 29 is Blackberries Day!

Mount Pleasant, S.C. (September 16, 2008) - Nothing tastes quite as much like the beginning of fall as the last of the summer fruits and berries before they go into winter hibernation. And nothing is quite as popular, with both animals and people alike, as juicy, hot-off-the-bush blackberries. Whether you choose to make pie, spread jam, or just pick a handful of fresh, ripe berries, Blackberries Day, September 29, 2008, is a day to celebrate for every berry enthusiast.

Blackberry Banquet (Sylvan Dell Publishing, 2008), by Terry Pierce and illustrated by Lisa Downey, is a treat that children of every age will devour. When some forest animals discover a blackberry bush growing in the middle of their habitat, the bush soon becomes overcrowded with Mouse, Fox, Robin, Squirrel, and Deer, all trying to get their share. When Bear comes along, though, there will be no room left for sharing!

FOREST FACTS from *Blackberry Banquet*:

- Animals that eat only plants are called herbivores, or primary consumers, while animals that eat other animals are called carnivores, or secondary consumers.
- Blackberries grow in clusters of fruit called “drupelets.”
- Animals help plants by inadvertently picking up seeds with their fur and dropping them elsewhere to grow in new places.

ACTIVITIES from *Blackberry Banquet*:

- Learn how to make a delicious blackberry smoothie.
- Match the animal with its position in the food chain.
- Pick out the herbivores, carnivores, and omnivores from the animals in the forest.
- To learn more about these activities, blackberries, and forests, visit <http://www.SylvanDellPublishing.com>.

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About Sylvan Dell Publishing

Sylvan Dell Publishing in Mt. Pleasant, S.C., is on a mission to excite children’s imaginations with artistically spectacular science, math and nature themed stories. Founded in November of 2004, Sylvan Dell’s family has grown to include more than 55 authors and illustrators in the U.S. and Canada, and 35 titles – honored as finalists or winners of more than 50 book awards. To buy Terry Pierce’s *Blackberry Banquet*, please visit <http://www.SylvanDellPublishing.com>.
