



Blackberry Banquet

By Terry Pierce

Illustrated by Lisa Downey

32-Page Hardcover, \$16.95, ISBN: 978-1-934359-70-9

32-Page Paperback, \$8.95, ISBN: 978-1-934359-28-0

eBooks with auto-flip, auto-read and selectable English and Spanish text *and* audio, \$8.95*

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Spanish eBook ISBN: 978-1-934359-67-9

For Children Ages 4-8, Lexile: 680

* Price for one year. Multi-year and lifetime options available

California Readers 2010 Elementary Collection

“This charming science teaching tool will please teachers and the surprise ending will delight young readers who will giggle with pleasure unaware that they just learned some valuable lessons about food webs.”-

Epinion Review

“I loved it! Author Terry Pierce's carefully chosen words are perfect, and the illustrations by Lisa Downey are kid-friendly and hilarious.”- *Stories for Children Magazines*

Mmm-mm!

Forest animals squeak, tweet, slurp, yip and chomp over the sweet, plump fruit of a wild blackberry bush. But what happens when a bear arrives to take part in the feast? Young children will enjoy following the story by making the animal sounds, and the chaos that strikes upon the bear's arrival will surely bring on the laughter.

The cumulative, rhyming text makes for a great read-aloud.



Free online resources and support for the book at

www.SylvanDellPublishing.com include:

- “For Creative Minds” (FCM) as seen in the book: Blackberry Fun Facts, How we eat blackberries (with smoothie recipe), Plants are the bottom of the food chain, Plants and Animals, How do animals help plants? and Are plants always good?
- “Teaching Activities”: Before & After Reading Questions, Language Arts, Science, Berry

Math, Geography, Comprehension Quizzes and English and Spanish audio

- “Related websites”

Thanks to Jamie Little, Interpretive Coordinator for Oregon Parks and Recreation, and Alison Heimowitz, Education Coordinator at Clackamas Community College's John Inskeep Environmental Learning Center and Treasurer of the Environmental Education Association of Oregon, for verifying the accuracy of the information in this book.

- Aligned to National and State Science and Math Standards
- Accelerated Reader, Lexile, and Reading Counts Levels



About the Author and Illustrator



Terry Pierce is the author of 16 children's books, including picture books, easy readers, joke books and non-fiction. She was a Montessori pre-primary teacher for 22 years, before deciding to follow her dream of writing for children (what she calls, "the best mid-life crisis ever!"). Terry now writes full-time, teaches children's writing workshops and is a visiting author at elementary schools. She also proudly serves on the Ventura/Santa Barbara regional board of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators.

Where did the idea for *Blackberry Banquet* originate?

"*Blackberry Banquet* came to me one day when I was approaching my favorite wild blackberry bush (in Oregon) to pick berries for making a pie. As I neared the bush, a flurry of animals fled from it, which led me think about how my family wasn't the only ones who enjoyed the berries. The more I pondered this, the more I realized that the same scenario (big, lumbering animal approaching the bush and disrupting the smaller animals' feast) could be applied to a children's story. I substituted a bear in place of myself (not a far stretch!), added some playfulness and hence *Blackberry Banquet* was on its way to ripened perfection."

To learn more about Terry, please visit her website, www.terrypiercebooks.com.

Blackberry Banquet

Lisa Downey is a freelance artist and graphic designer. A former art teacher, Lisa also attended FIT in New York, where she studied advertising and packaging design and later taught introductory packaging design classes. "Illustration has always been just under the surface in my career as a designer. I gained valuable skills working in packaging design firms; but the six-year-old inside was just itching to jump out and run all over the drawing board," says Lisa. Her styles range from cartoonish to very representational. In addition to illustrating *Blackberry Banquet*, Lisa also illustrated *Julie the Rockhound* and *Happy Birthday to Whooo?* for Sylvan Dell. She lives in the SC Lowcountry with her very supportive husband, Len, and their cats: Pom Pom and Ophelia. To learn more about Lisa, visit her website, www.studiodowney.com.



Contact Information

For additional information about *Blackberry Banquet* and other Sylvan Dell books, please contact our sales team at 877-958-2600 or Sales@SylvanDellPublishing.com.

For media inquiries or to schedule an event for your store, please contact Public Relations at 877-958-2600 or CarolineHarris@SylvanDellPublishing.com.



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