

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**“That’s one small step for man...”**
July 20 is Moon Day

MT. PLEASANT, S.C. (July 14, 2008) – On July 20, 1969, Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin became the first human beings to set foot on the moon. “That’s one small step for man,” said Armstrong, “one giant leap for mankind.” History will forever remember these two men as brave explorers, and July 20th will always be the day when they made their marks on the moon.

How the Moon Regained Her Shape (Sylvan Dell Publishing, 2006) by Janet Heller tells the inspiring story of our beautiful moon. Influenced by Native American folktales, this fascinating story deals with bullying, self-confidence, and understanding the phases of the moon. After the sun insults and bullies her, the moon gets very upset and disappears - much to the chagrin of rabbits that miss their moonlight romps. With the help of her friends, the moon gains more self-confidence each day until she is back to her full size.

MOON FACTS from *How the Moon Regained Her Shape*:

- The months as we know them (January, February, etc.) are solar, based on how many days it takes the earth to revolve around the sun, roughly divided by twelve. A moon-th, or lunar (moon) month, is based on how long it takes the moon to orbit around the earth.
- A lunar (moon) month starts on “day one” with a new moon. The sun and the moon are in the same position and rise and set together. We can’t see the new moon.
- As it approaches full, the moon appears to be getting bigger and is visible in the east in the afternoon. About two weeks after the new moon, the full moon rises when the sun sets and sets when the sun rises. The full moon reaches its highest point in the sky at midnight.

ACTIVITIES from *How the Moon Regained Her Shape*:

- Look up the moon-rise in your newspaper, in an almanac, or on the Internet. Mark the new moon as “day one” on a calendar. Each day, keep your eyes open to see whether you see the moon. Draw a picture of what it looks like on your calendar. Do this for one full lunar month.
- Learn more about gravity. How do you think it would feel to be weightless and walk on the moon? Walk around in slow motion and pretend you are weightless.
- To learn more about the phases of the moon and view moon graphics, go to the ***How the Moon Regained Her Shape*** home page at www.SylvanDellPublishing.com.

#

About Sylvan Dell Publishing

Sylvan Dell Publishing, based in Mt. Pleasant, S.C., is on a mission to create picture books that excite children’s imaginations, are artistically spectacular and have educational value. The company specializes in “Science and Math Through Literature” and provides free supplemental parent/teacher resources for every title. To buy Janet Heller’s ***How the Moon Regained Her Shape*** or for more information about Sylvan Dell’s books, educational resource grant and free parent/teacher resources, visit www.SylvanDellPublishing.com.