



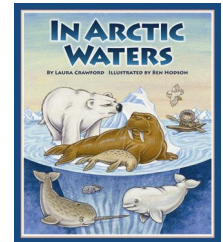
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Media Alert, January 25, 2007

Local Author Plays with Seals, Whales at Shedd, Anderson's

WHAT & WHEN: What do seals, polar bears, beluga whales and an Inuit hunter have in common with Geneva, Ill., author Laura Crawford?

They're the subject of her new picture book, ***In Arctic Waters!*** The rhythmic, read-aloud book is modeled after *This is the House that Jack Built* and follows six Arctic animals around "the ice that floats in the arctic waters." Illustrated by Ottawa resident Ben Hodson, ***In Arctic Waters*** will delight children ages three to seven.



In Arctic Waters is published by Sylvan Dell Publishing, a young company on a mission to create picture books that excite children's imaginations, are artistically spectacular and have educational value. Each of their scientifically accurate Accelerated Reader titles includes a three to five page "For Creative Minds" educational section. *Ms. Crawford's book is currently under consideration for the Accelerated Reader program.*

Sylvan Dell is releasing the picture book on Saturday, February 10, and in celebration Ms. Crawford will attend a book launch event hosted by the Shedd Aquarium from 12 to 3 p.m. Ms. Crawford will also hold her first bookstore signing at Anderson's Bookshop in Naperville, Ill. at 1 p.m. on Sunday, February 11 and another story time event at the Wheaton Barnes & Noble at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 13.

WHO: Parents, children, interested persons and media personnel are welcome to attend the events to meet Ms. Crawford and purchase autographed copies of ***In Arctic Waters***.

COST: The 32-page hardcover picture book costs \$15.95. *Ms. Crawford's book launch party will be held in the main gift shop of the Shedd Aquarium so that families will be able to meet her and purchase **In Arctic Waters** without having to purchase tickets to the Aquarium.*

INFO: Contact publicist Katherine Miller by e-mail, KatherineMiller@SylvanDellPublishing.com, or by phone, (877) 958-2600, to request more information. Media interested in attending these events should call Shedd Aquarium Gift Shop Manager Jeff Jablonski, (312) 939-2438, Gail Wetta or Candy Purdom at Anderson's Bookshop, (630) 355-2665, or Kristin Williams at the Wheaton Barnes & Noble, (630) 653-2122.