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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**NEW CHILDREN'S BOOK TEACHES SPICED-UP BACK-TO-SCHOOL LESSON**

Mt. Pleasant, S.C. (Aug. 1, 2007) – Walk through any mall and you are likely to see an eight-year-old on a cell phone, groups of kids zooming by on shoes with built-in wheels or families purchasing the latest toys and video games. Step into nearby schools and you will notice that interactive whiteboards and laptops have virtually replaced overhead projectors and chalkboards. And good luck finding the cartoons you remember on Saturday morning television.

Today's kids are entrenched in a new time, and – as one Arizona teacher has noticed – traditional games, stories and lessons seem to be losing effect.

“One day in class, my students wanted a project to be good but didn't want to work on it, so I said ‘I feel like the little red hen,’” explained Terri Fields, an award-winning teacher and author. “They just looked at me blankly.” Bewildered at her students' response – or lack thereof – to her “Little Red Hen” reference, Fields teamed up with Sylvan Dell Publishing in Mt. Pleasant, S.C., to put a Southwestern twist on the old tale and create the recently released “Burro's Tortillas” – a fresh recipe for teaching kids the value of hard work.

As the summer comes to an end, “Burro's Tortillas” might be worth adding to the back-to-school checklist. In a current, humorous style, Fields introduces young readers to Burro as he diligently works to turn corn into tortillas with no help from his friends – Bobcat, Coyote and Jackrabbit. In the end, Burro is rewarded with fresh, flavorful tortillas and the readers are served the seasoned lesson: Hard work is the key ingredient for success.

To add to that lesson, “Burro's Tortillas” – like all Sylvan Dell books – features a “For Creative Minds” educational section in the last three pages that is stocked with a recipe for making tortillas, a Spanish/English vocabulary matching game and a “Corn: From plant to table” activity that describes the many ways we eat corn. Vetted for scientific accuracy by Elizabeth Wolanyk, director of education and research at the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture, the story also conveys the traditional way to make tortillas.

For further educational opportunities, parents and educators can find suggested “Teaching Activities” and “Learning Links” on the publisher's Web site, www.SylvanDellPublishing.com.

Sylvan Dell Publishing is on a mission to create picture books that excite children's imaginations, are artistically spectacular and have educational value. Readers can find “Burro's Tortillas” and other Sylvan Dell titles at local or online bookstores. More information can be found at www.SylvanDellPublishing.com or by e-mailing AngieDzalamanow@SylvanDellPublishing.com.

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