



Contact: Katherine Miller
Sylvan Dell Publishing
(877) 958-2600
KatherineMiller@SylvanDellPublishing.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Picture Books Teach Children to Appreciate Animals

Mt. Pleasant, S.C. (October 2, 2006) – The PALS Foundation, a guiding entity in humane advocacy, has designated October “National Animal Safety and Protection Month,” and children’s author and marine animal enthusiast Donna Rathmell has several suggestions on how to teach children animal appreciation.

Rathmell, a mother of three and an exhibit guide volunteer at the South Carolina Aquarium (SCA), explains, “I have always loved marine animals, and I think it’s very important that children learn to care for and love animals at an early age.

The book, “Carolina’s Story: Sea Turtles Get Sick Too!,” was published in 2005 and journals the story of “Carolina,” a loggerhead that washed ashore on Kiawah, SC in the spring of 2004. Photos by SCA and Sea Turtle Hospital volunteer, Barbara Bergwerf document Carolina’s care and release.

“I know that every child can empathize with Carolina—and that knowledge will help them become more caring as they grow up,” Rathmell continues. “I would also recommend ‘Christmas Eve Blizzard’ by Andrea Vlahakis, ‘Loon Chase’ by Jean Heilprin Diehl and ‘Turtles In My Sandbox’ by Jennifer Keats Curtis to any parent or teacher who would like to instill a love and appreciation for animals in their children.”

“Carolina’s Story” is an Accelerated Reader title and has been vetted for scientific accuracy by educators at SCA. In addition the book’s publisher, Sylvan Dell Publishing, included an educational section that contains fun facts and conservation information on endangered sea turtles in addition to a “Make-Your-Own” sea turtle craft. The picture book was recently named “Best Children’s Nonfiction” by the Florida Publishers Association and has been endorsed by Dr. Robert Ballard, Explorer-in-Residence for the National Geographic Society.

Sylvan Dell Publishing is on a mission to create picture books that excite children’s imaginations, are artistically spectacular and have educational value. “Christmas Eve Blizzard,” “Loon Chase” and “Turtles In My Sandbox” are also scientifically accurate Sylvan Dell titles and contain a “For Creative Minds” educational section like “Carolina’s Story.” Readers can ask for Sylvan Dell titles at their favorite local or online bookstore. For more information, visit www.SylvanDellPublishing.com or call Katherine Miller at (877) 958-2600.