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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Families can Celebrate Children's Book Week with Educational Picture Book

Mt. Pleasant, S.C. (Nov. 3, 2006) – This Monday, Nov. 13, is the start of Children's Book Week, an annual event sponsored by the Children's Book Council (CBC) to encourage the enjoyment of reading for young people, and children's author and marine mammal enthusiast Loran Wlodarski's picture book is one way families can celebrate.

Wlodarski, a St. Cloud, Fla., resident, is a science writer for SeaWorld and the author of "If a Dolphin Were a Fish," which was released in April by Sylvan Dell Publishing. "Dolphin" features illustrations by St. Augustine resident Laurie Allen Klein and tells the story of a Delfina the dolphin as she imagines that she is a fish, a turtle, a bird, an octopus, a shark and a manatee.

"Children's books have a unique opportunity to entertain and educate a child, and that's part of why I decided to write," explains Wlodarski. "Sylvan Dell helped make 'Dolphin' even more educational by adding a 'For Creative Minds' section with teaching trivia, crafts and games related to dolphins and some of Delfina's sea-creature friends." In addition to the "For Creative Minds" Section, Sylvan Dell's website also contains "Learning Links" and "Teaching Activities" that educators can use to develop classroom lessons.

"If a Dolphin Were a Fish" has been vetted for scientific accuracy by educators at the South Carolina Aquarium. The picture book is also part of the Accelerated Reader Program used in over 57,000 schools, and has been reviewed by *School Library Journal*, *Science Books and Films* and National Science Teachers Association *NSTA Recommends*, who said "When I read this book, I wished I had a classroom full of children to share it with. Written for a primary audience, it explains an important science concept, adaptations, in an entertaining way."

"There's something about dolphins that children are enthralled by," Wlodarski continues, "and I hope that they will be just as excited about 'If a Dolphin Were a Fish.' Certainly Laurie's 'morphing' illustrations will do the trick!"

Readers can ask for Sylvan Dell titles at their favorite local or online bookstore. For more information about "If a Dolphin Were a Fish" or Sylvan Dell, visit www.SylvanDellPublishing.com or call Katherine Miller at (877) 958-2600. Those interested in learning more about Children's Book Week and the Children's Book Council can visit www.cbcbooks.org.