

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Find out *What's New at the Zoo?*

IL author Slade teaches math through literature with 2009 release

MT. PLEASANT, SC (July 23, 2009) – Libertyville resident, Suzanne Slade, is the author of over 60 children's books. For Slade, inspiration comes as a surprise, even after years of experience. Her newest picture book, **What's New at the Zoo?** (Sylvan Dell Publishing), shares fascinating facts about baby zoo animals as well as basic addition skills, and it's thanks to her unexpected discovery of peachicks.

"One day, I was researching peacocks for a non-fiction book I was working on and discovered baby peacocks are called peachicks," said Slade. "That name was so cool, and I'd never heard it before! It got me thinking about the other interesting names for baby animals. This one surprising discovery became the idea spark for **What's New at the Zoo?**"

In this 2009 Sylvan Dell release, author Slade takes readers along on a wild ride as she introduces mother, father, and baby zoo creatures while practicing math along the way! Do you know what pandas feed their cubs? Or what penguins and their chicks do for fun? The imaginative illustrations of Joan Waites bring the zoo right into your own backyard as you join monkeys swinging in the trees and brown bears as they snuggle and cuddle. A peacock, giraffes, even fruit bats—how many animals will you count at the zoo?

What's New at the Zoo? nicely supports Sylvan Dell's mission of bringing science and math to children through literature and brings the company's number of educational picture books to 45. Every Sylvan Dell title includes a 3-5 page "For Creative Minds" educational section in the back of the book. Plus, on their website, children, parents, and teachers will find 40-50 pages of additional cross-curricular teaching activities, three interactive quizzes, and eBooks (auto-read, auto-flip, and selectable English and Spanish text and audio) for each book.

As an engineer who once worked on NASA rockets, Slade now writes full-time and finds inspiration for stories in unlikely places. "I get new ideas for books all the time - usually when I'm not thinking about writing at all," she said. "The funny things my kids say have been a source for many new manuscripts. News stories often get me thinking of an idea for a book, particularly an amazing science discovery or stories about animals."

In celebration of her new release, Slade will be featured at an upcoming Libertyville event August 7, at 7:30 PM, at Lamb's Farm for a book launch party. For event details and a full listing of Slade's upcoming appearances, visit <http://sylvandellpublishing.com/events.htm#NewZoo>.

For more information about her book, visit <http://sylvandellpublishing.com/NewZoo.php>. For more about Suzanne, visit her website at <http://www.suzanneslade.com/>. For all interview requests or media queries, please contact Sylvan Dell's publicist, Sara Dobie, at (877) 958-2600 or SaraDobie@SylvanDellPublishing.com.

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