

First prize goes to a picture book with more than the usual proportion of text. In addition to excellent illustration layout and reproduction, it shows no such failings in the text. That means that someone thought carefully all the way. *Let's Play* is a book of games with a clearly visualized text with catching cartoons.

Both third-prize winners totally catch the spirit of their locales, the arid southwest and Japan, in illustration, ornamentation, and even layout.

The difficulty of judging may be reflected in the number of honourable mentions. *8 o'Cluck*, as the title might indicate, has to do with farm animals. Its collage of photograph-like animal heads and background juxtaposed with two-dimensionally drawn clothes and other details produces a most unusual lively quality.

*Bears, Bears, Bears* is in a somewhat different class: it is a book of photographs and extensive prose, for older children— even perhaps adults. Placing so much information clearly in a three-column format in so inexpensive a book is a design challenge very well met here.

Finally, *Poopini's* integration of illustration and other ornamental features and a well set text demands attention.

This year, as often in the past, a majority of the children's books acknowledged here are printed abroad. Increasingly common deficiency in the proper setting of text type is noted in the commentary on poetry above. These are even more noticeable, and more significantly detrimental, in the setting of the text of children's books. Over and over again a judge remarked on inappropriate word- or line-spacing or justification, orphan or widow lines on a page, the hiding of text in the coloured background to an illustration, or a blatantly poor choice of type face. Children must struggle to read text which simply does not "hang together". Text is becoming too often subordinate to illustration in the designer's concern. Many of the submissions got short shrift because of this failing.



1ST PRIZE

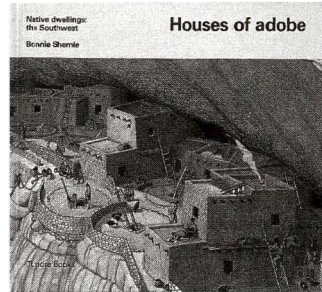
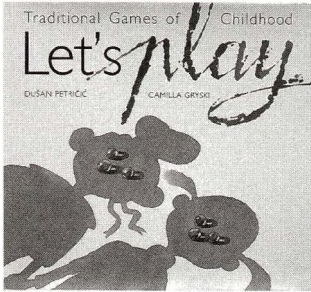
*Bone Button Borscht*, written by Aubrey Davis;  
illustrated by Dusan Petričić.

Toronto: Kids Can Press.

ISBN 1-55074-224-8 (32pp., hbk) \$14.95.

Designer: Dusan Petričić and  
Marie Bartholomew

Printer: Wing King Tong, Hong Kong

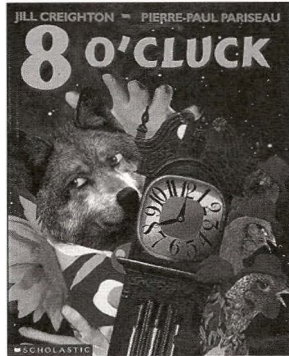
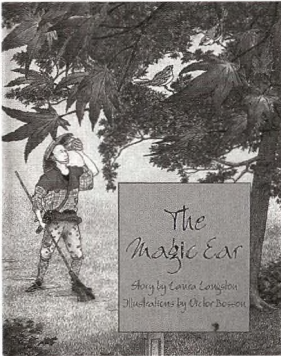


2ND PRIZE

*Let's Play: Traditional Games of Childhood*,  
 illustrated by Dusan Petričić;  
 written by Camilla Gryski.  
 Toronto: Kids Can Press.  
 ISBN 1-55074-256-6 (47pp., hbk) \$16.95.  
 Designer: Dusan Petričić and  
 Marie Bartholomew  
 Printer: Wing King Tong, Hong Kong

3RD PRIZE (tie)

*Houses of Adobe: Native Dwellings, the Southwest*  
 [by] Bonnie Shemie.  
 Montreal: Tundra Books.  
 ISBN 0-88776-330-8 (24pp., hbk)  
 [also available as pbk, ISBN 0-88776-353-7].  
 Designer: May Cutler  
 Printer: South China Printing Co. Ltd.,  
 Hong Kong. [also published (but not submitted)  
 in the French-language edition]: *Maisons d'adobe*  
 ISBN 0-88776-331-6 (hbk).

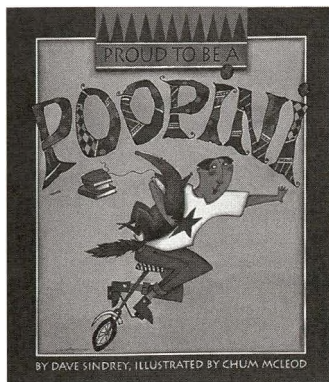
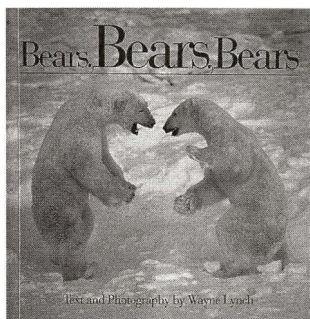


3RD PRIZE (tie)

*The Magic Ear*, story by Laura Langston;  
illustrations by Victor Bosson.  
Victoria: Orca Book Publishers.  
ISBN 1-55143-035-5 (32pp., hbk) \$14.95.  
Designer: Victor Bosson  
Printer: King's Time Ltd., Hong Kong

HONOURABLE MENTION

*8 o'Clock* [text by] Jill Creighton;  
[illustrations by] Pierre-Paul Pariseau.  
Richmond Hill: Scholastic Canada Ltd.  
ISBN 0-590-24439-6 (30pp., pbk) \$5.99.  
Designer: Yüksel Hassan  
Printer: D.W. Friesen  
[also published (but not submitted)  
in the French-language edition]: *L'heure des poules*  
ISBN 0-590-24440-x (hbk, \$6.99).



#### HONOURABLE MENTION

##### *Bears, Bears, Bears,*

text and photography by Wayne Lynch.

Willowdale: Firefly Books.

ISBN 1-895565-69-3 (63pp., pbk) \$9.95

[also available as hbk, ISBN 1-895565-72-3].

Designer: Linda J. Menyes, Q Kumquat Designs

Printer: Metropole Litho Inc.

#### HONOURABLE MENTION

##### *Proud to Be a Poopini,*

by Dave Sindrey; illustrated by Chum McLeod.

Toronto: Napoleon Publishing.

ISBN 0-929141-38-5 (32pp., pbk) \$10.95.

Designer: Maxine Cowan, Cowan Design

Printer: Love Printing

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*in Canada*

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