

Librarian's Shelf by Brad Hruska

"Warm Cookies & Holiday Reads!"

With the Thanksgiving festivities now behind us, many families are tasked with wrapping last minute gifts, baking tasty treats, and decorating trees. All while jamming out to great Christmas music! To provide a needed break from the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, I would like to recommend a few great picture books the whole family will enjoy.

"What Santa Can't Do" by Douglas Wood, provides children with a behind the scenes look into the life of Jolly Old St. Nick by explaining how he is both similar and different compared to the average person. For example, Santa can find every house in every town in every country, but he can't always find his favorite red slippers. This insightful tidbit demonstrates that, like us, sometimes Santa is forgetful.

"Mouse's First Christmas" by Lauren Thompson, features Thompson's popular children's character, Little Mouse. The story begins with "Twas a night still and starry and all through the house, not a creature was stirring...just one little mouse." The rest of the book chronicles the adventures the furry little beastie has as he encounters various Christmas décor, such as candy canes, jingle bells, and Christmas trees. Towards the end of the tale, Little Mouse encounters a very special visitor.

"If You Take a Mouse to the Movies" by Laura Numeroff, is a delightful book about what happens when a young boy decides to treat his fuzzy friend to a movie. Though the title mentions nothing about Christmas, readers soon discover that this is indeed a holiday text. The story begins in the movie theater with the little mouse asking for some popcorn. He soon becomes bored with the show and starts to string the kernels together. The reader is then taken on an adventure, where Mouse encounters a number of Christmas symbols, such as tree ornaments, carols, and snowmen.

If your loved ones find that they are in need of a break from the craziness of the holiday season, invite them to visit the Columbus Public Library and check out a few of the nearly 300+ Christmas themed picture books. I guarantee that you will find the right book to put next to the cookies that you leave out for Old St. Nick! If you would like more information on other great holiday reads, please contact me at (402) 564-7116 opt. 4.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR...

- December 7, December's Super Sensational Saturday event, "A Christmas to Remember," will take place from 10 AM to noon.
- December 9, the library's Monday Night Book Adventure program is scheduled from 6:30-7:30 PM.
- January 9, Story Time/ART starts up again after taking a bit of a break the last two weeks of December.
- January 25, the library's annual winter carnival will take place, with more details to come!

Don't forget that the library's children's department offers a monthly calendar highlighting the many events that take place in the Children's Room. To have this agenda sent to your inbox, email me at bhruska@columbusne.us.