



The Village School's Children's Book of the Month

'Hold This'

Written by Carolyn Cory Scoppettone
Illustrated by Priscilla Alpaugh

"Hold This," written by Carolyn Cory Scoppettone and illustrated by Priscilla Alpaugh, tells the story of young Mika as she walks along with her father. Mika is exhilarated by all the sights, sounds, and textures nature has to offer, from the "galumph, galumph" of the frog to a squishy mushroom.

If she had her way, Mika would bring all the treasures of the great outdoors home with her, but, as she soon realizes, the wonders of nature are not easy for one little girl to carry on her own.

Mika asks her father to carry each of her new discoveries along the way, but he reminds her that she is a "big girl" who can carry them on her own and that there are some treasures that even a big girl cannot carry. After several drops and spills Mika realizes that although she is indeed a "big girl," some treasures are not meant to be held onto.

Ultimately, both father and daughter realize that the best treasure of all is one we do not outgrow, a hand to hold on the journey.

This story, filled with playful and rich language and colorful illustrations, will delight young readers and adults alike. Many parents will relate to the familiar request to "hold this." This heartwarming story will leave your child asking you again and



Book reviewed by
Carol Mercier,
math teacher



again to "hold this" book as you cuddle up together for a story.

You can meet the illustrator, Priscilla Alpaugh at the Central Mass. Children's Book Festival on Saturday, Nov. 12, at Mount Wachusett Community College from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Priscilla will be signing books, along with a number of other authors and illustrators. You can purchase "Hold This" and talk with Priscilla. Bring the children to this child centered event. For more information, go to www.centralmasschildrensbookfestival.org.