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**E-news**

**September 2009**

**Fall has arrived!**

Such a fun season for so many reasons, though it's always hard to let go of summer and get into the back-to-school mode. Still, it feels like a time of new beginnings and that's always exciting! We have new titles to release this fall (see below) and are putting together our new list of productions for 2010.

We've also just mailed out our 2009 catalog with a special offer. If you don't receive yours, [email us](#) and we'll be happy to send one to you.

If you signed up to receive our newsletter at ALA and received a Louise, the chicken stress reliever, then we are delighted to have you on board. Let us know how Louise is working for you!

**Listen, Read, Learn: Steps to Early Language Development**

**From Debra:** Like so many parents, we were fully vested in our children's early learning needs. We read to and with them from birth. That I was a preschool teacher during their preschool years was a huge bonus. But my interest in and support of early childhood learning and literacy



*Arnie and our son Jake (now 19!) enjoy some early learning.*

went back a lot further. Long before our own children came along, I was fully immersed in the world of children's book publishing and especially passionate about the books we published for the youngest children.

At Live Oak Media, we've always believed that all children deserve the opportunity to learn, and they need to be engaged from the start. We recognize that children have individual learning styles and they often need resources beyond the book to help them develop basic language skills; this is especially true for children learning English as a second language. To that end, we are committed to acquiring great books to produce on audio for the youngest child. The idea is to hook them early to the love of reading, listening and learning!

Studies have shown that young children develop language skills by seeing objects and hearing sounds around them. They then learn to associate words with these objects and sounds. If a child sees and hears at the same time, it makes a double impression in his mind, and he's better able to remember the words.

We feel that our readalongs of a children's picture book or early chapter book extend this concept of association and imprinting. In each production, we carefully combine the book illustrations, pacing of the narration, sound effects, and music, creating a reading and listening experience that help a child develop reading and language skills.

Check out our [large selection of readalongs of Early Childhood Titles](#). Email me at [debra@liveoakmedia.com](mailto:debra@liveoakmedia.com) and let us know what you think about using readalongs with your youngest listeners.

**New This Fall**

We're introducing five new titles this fall, covering all children's ages. A new Live Oak Music Maker too!



***This Jazz Man***

*Live Oak Music Maker*

Using the counting beat of the classic song



"This Old Man", nine jazz musicians are introduced in this lively, original presentation.

**Andy Shane and the Queen of Egypt**

Readalongs for Beginning Readers Fans of the series will cheer Andy's determination and the satisfying resolution, and new readers will be captivated by these engaging characters and their realistic stories.



**The Shrunken Head (Grandpa Spanielson's Chicken Pox Stories #3)**

Readalongs for Beginning Readers

Grandpa Spanielson has yet another crazy story to tell Barney and this adventure might be the most harrowing to date!

**Crandall's Castle**

Audiobooks for Age 8 and up

Clairvoyant girl. Haunted mansion. Say no more before we get goose bumps.



**Sammy Keyes and the Cold Hard Cash**

Audiobooks for Age 8 and up

In her latest mystery, Sammy Keyes feels responsible for the death of an old man who she discovers on the fire escape and who, with his dying breath, begs her to take his wads of cash and throw them away!!

**Louise, the Adventures of a Chicken**

Have you ordered your copy of **Louise, the Adventures of a Chicken?** School Library

Journal has given our summer release a starred review: "This delightful feathered frolic by Kate DiCamillo is masterfully performed by Barbara Rosenblat who reads the story with fine pacing and energy and creates unique personalities, voices, and accents for each character. Light background music and sound effects make this a treat for the ears as well as the imagination. As students enjoy the vocal presentation, they can also peruse Harry Bliss's hilarious illustrations, filled with quirky details...this fine feathered feast for eyes and ears will be enjoyed by those with a thirst for adventure." -- **Starred review, School Library Journal.**



Young children will delight in this zany tale which celebrates independence while offering the reassurances of home and friends.

**Tell a Friend**

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Did someone forward you this newsletter? Skip the grapevine. You can sign up directly with us if you [click here](#).

Now you can read past newsletters [on our website archive](#).

To make sure our newsletters are delivered to your inbox, please add [debra@liveoakmedia.com](mailto:debra@liveoakmedia.com) to your email Address Book.

**Questions or comments?**

Please write us at [info@liveoakmedia.com](mailto:info@liveoakmedia.com) or call us at (800) 788-1121.

Debra and Arnie Cardillo  
Live Oak Media

*Live Oak Media has a 29-year tradition of producing distinctive readalong recordings of classic and award-winning children's literature for ages 3-12. As a small, family-owned company,*

*we are dedicated to providing our young listeners with meaningful reading and listening experiences.*

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