



Sommer-Time  
Adventure  
DVD's  
pgs 12-15



Bilingual  
Sommer-Time  
Stories  
pgs 16-21



Quest for Success  
Graphic  
Novels  
pgs 24-28



Sommer-Time  
Stories  
pg 4-8



Awards  
pg 3

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*Advance*  
PUBLISHING, INC.

# More than just storybooks...



**...growing great kids**

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# Why these are more than just storybooks...

## We aim to motivate children to live successful lives

Advance Publishing seeks to provide exciting and motivating character-building resources that train and motivate children with positive virtues and life skills, which enable them to live successful lives, resulting in stronger families, better schools, and a safer and more productive society.

## We're committed to promoting timeless virtues

The books, DVD's and other materials you'll find in this catalog are much more than pretty pictures and entertainment (though the pictures and stories are great and entertaining). They plant the seeds for instilling those timeless virtues and character-building traits that make for growing great kids.

## We believe learning should be exciting and fun

The virtues are brought out within the context of compelling stories that kids love to read. You'll find these books, CD read-alongs, and DVD videos are filled with adventure, action, mystery, and lots of fun. Just read some of the comments.

## We endeavor to help all students, including struggling and reluctant readers

In response to the huge popularity of graphic novels now targeting tweens, we are introducing a new series: Quest for Success. These digest-size graphic novels are written to motivate upper elementary students and assist struggling and reluctant readers. These books are unique in that they do something most graphic novels do not do; along with an action-packed story, these graphic novels cultivate keys for success.

## Our Commitment and Guarantee!

Whether it's for getting exciting books, read-along CDs, or DVD videos that children love into your library; or part of the character-building curriculum; or as a tool to be used by teachers, guidance counselors, or parents, we know you'll enjoy these products. We hope you'll join us in growing great kids! Money-back guarantee if you're not **COMPLETELY** satisfied!

Samples of all products can be seen at: [www.AdvancePublishing.com](http://www.AdvancePublishing.com)

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Over 375,000\* Sommer-Time Story Books Have Been Sold!



## Sommer-Time Story Books & Read-Alongs Won These Awards!\*\*



**Teachers' Choice Award** is an annual event for products around the world from Learning® Magazine. Teachers' Choice is the only awards program that is judged by teachers in the classroom. See page 23 for their comments.



**Mom's Choice Award** is given to those books whose content and design are stellar and notable. The award helps parents and teachers choose appropriate materials with positive messages for their children.



**Benjamin Franklin Award** is a yearly event for Publishers Manufacturing Association. Over 4,000 independent publishers belong to this organization. Their judges come from various relevant disciplines and are considered experts in their fields.



**ForeWord Magazine Book of the Year Award** has a jury of librarians, booksellers and reviewers to select winners and finalists based on editorial excellence and professional production.



**The Communicator Award** is an international awards competition in the communication field. The books and read-alongs have won the Crystal Award of Excellence in three fields: Writing/Creative Concept, Production/Editing, and Audio Production/Education.



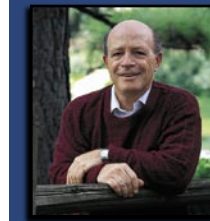
**Family Review Center Gold Award** purpose, focus, and goal is to provide a place for parents to find products they can trust for their children, their home, and their role as parent.



**iParenting Media's Award Program** provides a credible and objective method of determining the best products in the children's media and juvenile products industry.



**Family Choice Award** is one of the most family-friendly business and service consumer-award programs. The Family Choice Awards recognize the best in children's and parenting resources.



## Meet the Award-Winning Author

**Carl Sommer**, a former New York City teacher, is the author and narrator for

Sommer-Time Story and Quest for Success graphic novels that impart values and principles of success. Sommer is a successful entrepreneur and a devoted educator who has a passion for communicating values and practical learning skills to students. He has also authored other books that promote values and technical books. He is eminently qualified to impart to children principles necessary for success in an increasingly complex world.

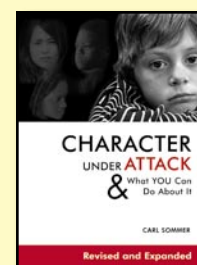
Seeing the problems and needs of America's students, Sommer proceeded to craft solutions. His exhaustive ten-year study led to his first book—*Schools in Crisis: Training for Success or Failure?*, credited with influencing school reform in many states.

Happily married since 1955, Sommer has five children and nineteen grandchildren. Out of his many and varied experiences he has written these books in order to share from his rich experiences the skills and virtues necessary for children to become great.

## Sommer-Time Story Books Have Also Won the Children's Choice Award



**The Children's Choice Award** is a project of the International Reading Association and The Children's Book Council where **CHILDREN** choose the books.



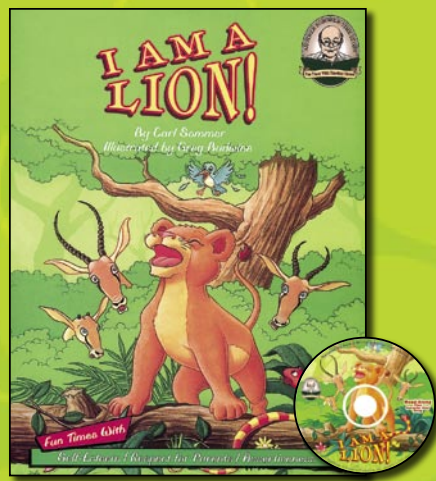
## CHARACTER UNDER ATTACK & What YOU Can Do About It by Carl Sommer

In a nation that has drifted far from its value system, Carl Sommer's hard-hitting exposé is a fast-read manifesto that reveals the underlying causes and offers common-sense solutions for improving America's educational and moral climate. This book pinpoints the enormous social and economical costs that are a direct result of lack of character education.

Hardcover 5 3/8" x 7 1/4" 112 Pages  
ISBN 978-1-57537-352-2 \$12.95

\*Includes foreign rights sold to publishers in China, Egypt, and Korea.

\*\*The first 20 of the 24 Sommer-Time story books and read-alongs won these awards. Three of the last four won The Children's Choice Award.



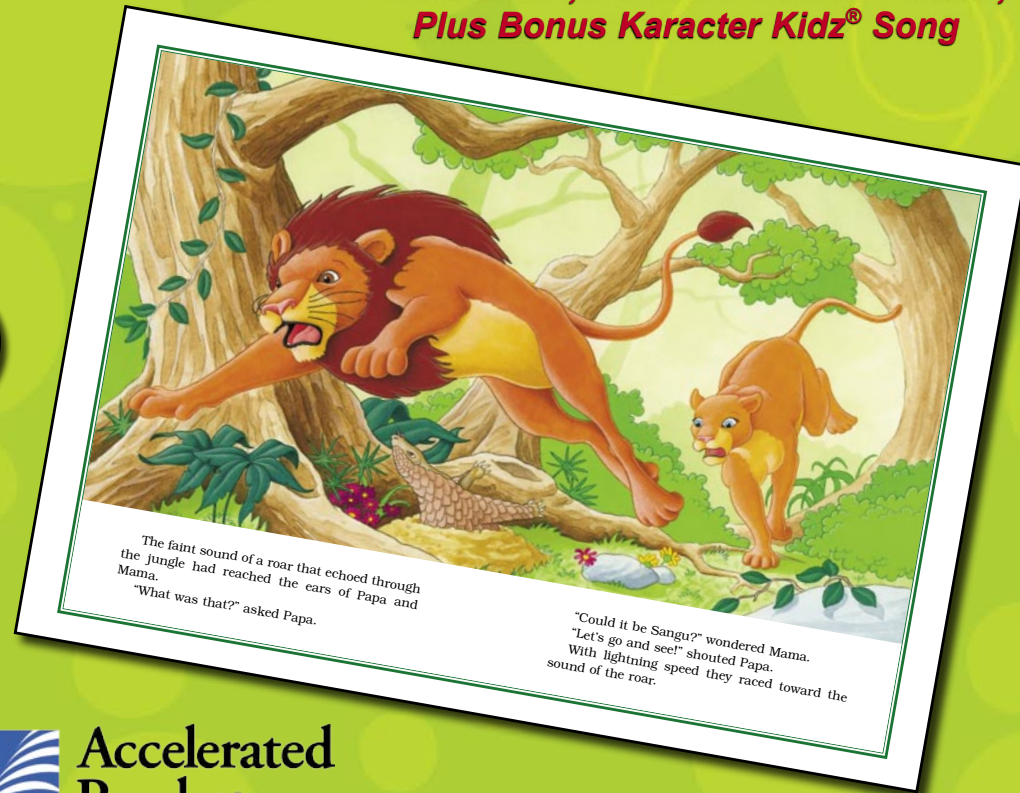
### I Am A Lion!

To grow up to be big, little lions have to learn survival skills, but Sangu doesn't want to listen. After getting lost, some gazelles befriend him and teach him their ways. After many disappointments, Sangu finally learns to accept himself. Grades K-4.

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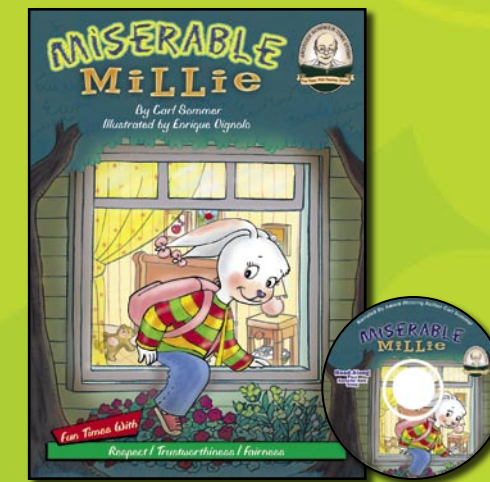
**CD Read-Alongs are Fully Dramatized Productions, Authentic Sound Effects, Plus Bonus Karacter Kidz® Song**



**"They just love them. I can't keep them in the library long enough to have another class check them out."**  
Rhee Brockman, Library Media Specialist, Oroville, California.



**"I purchased his entire set of books, sight unseen—to support the character education curriculum. They have been a HUGE success."**  
Marge Lawrence, Library Media Specialist, Roanoke Avenue School, Riverhead, New York



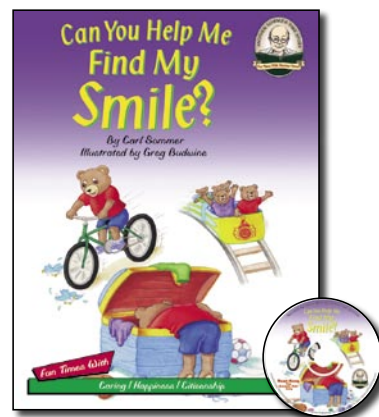
### Miserable Millie

To Millie, the whole world is unfair. Even though Millie has a loving family, she's always miserable. When things don't go her way, she runs away. Her fun adventure turns into a great disaster. Millie is transformed and becomes the happiest girl in the whole world. Grades 1-4.

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- Reinforced library binding 8 1/4" x 11 3/8"
- Over 1,000 pages of free resources
- 48 pages, full color



### Can You Help Me Find My Smile?

Teddy the grumpy bear cub lost his smile, and only one bear knows how to find it. After much searching, Teddy discovers the joy that comes from helping others. Grades K-3.

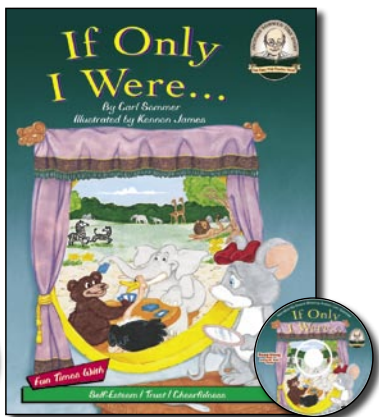
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### The Great Royal Race

A tale of fame, fortune, and true love. Three handsome suitors compete for the hand of the beautiful princess, but only one chooses wisely. He perseveres and passes the royal test. Grades 1-4.

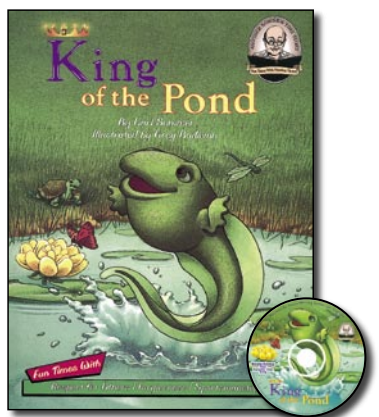
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### If Only I Were...

Missy the mouse has a very big problem—she hates the way she looks! As Missy wishes herself into becoming bigger and stronger creatures, she finally discovers that everyone has problems and learns to accept herself for who she is. Grades K-3.

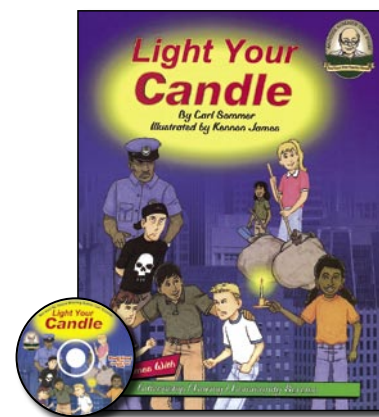
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### King of the Pond

Tombo the tadpole declares himself King of the Pond. He brags that he's the biggest, the fastest, and the strongest tadpole, and he teases and chases all the other tadpoles. Tombo finally learns that having friends is better than being King of the Pond. Grades K-3.

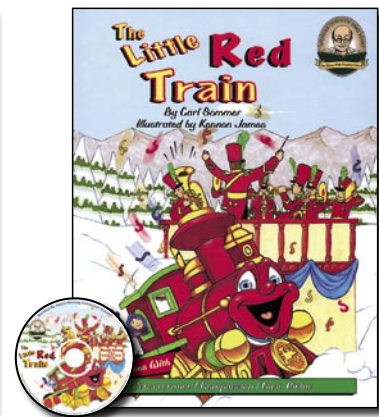
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### Light Your Candle

Stephanie witnesses the deterioration of her inner-city neighborhood and school. There are gangs and violence on the street, and chaos in the school. After much opposition, Stephanie and her two friends light their candles and transform their inner city school and neighborhood. Grades 1-4.

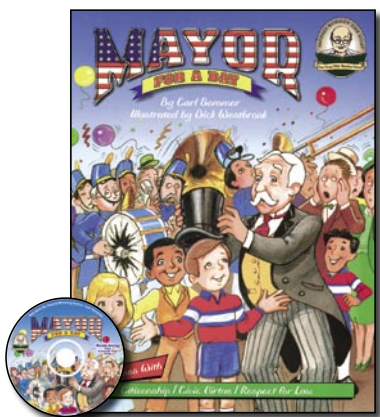
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### The Little Red Train

Three big trains refuse to go up the mountain in the deep snow to bring food to the hungry people. In spite of the ridicule from the big trains, The Little Red Train and a family of brave helpers go up the snow-covered mountain to help the starving people. Grades K-3.

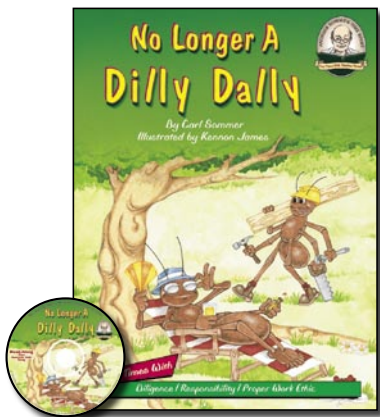
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### Mayor For A Day

Davy, the hometown soccer hero, becomes mayor for a day. Davy chooses to eliminate all rules for a day. What ensues is a rollicking and disastrous turn of events as order in school and the whole town breaks down. But Davy finally saves the day. Grades 1-4.

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### No Longer A Dilly Dally

In contrast to Family Work First, the fun loving Dilly Dallys have a family tradition—play first, then work. But tough times convince the Dilly Dallys that they must change to survive. Grades 1-4.

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**It's Not Fair!**

"It's not fair!" shouted Buzzie the bee, when she learns worker bees do ALL the work. Before this Buzzie was a happy worker bee, but now she's furious! She starts a major revolt among the younger worker bees. Then they make a discovery that transforms them. Grades 1-4.

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**Children's Choice Award**  
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**"Thank you for your collection of books. They will be an integral part of my counseling curriculum her at Magnolia I.S.D. The topics are so perfect for large or small classroom discussions."**  
**Rebecca Raborn, Elementary School Counselor in Magnolia**



**The Richest Poor Kid**

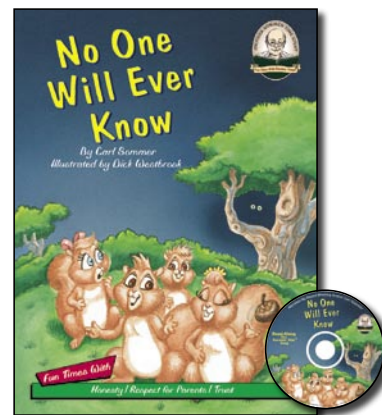
Even though Randy is loved at home, he hates being poor. When offered two wishes, he quickly wishes everything he touches turns to gold. As he holds his lifeless gold dog, he realizes happiness is more than possessions. His last wish transforms him. Grades 1-4.

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**Children's Choice Award**  
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**Teachers' Comments:**  
**"This series is a great curriculum addition for character education. The tapes, CD's and number of books makes it a great addition to any classroom."**  
**"Great asset to any classroom, wonderful gifts, even the website is of good quality."**

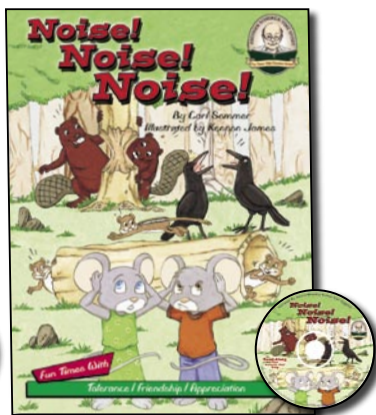


**No One Will Ever Know**

Ignoring the rules, four young squirrels listen to their friends and sneak away to eat big, delicious acorns. But trouble strikes when they meet a hungry wolf. Barely escaping with their lives, the squirrels learn to disobey is wrong even when you think no one will ever know. Grades K-3.

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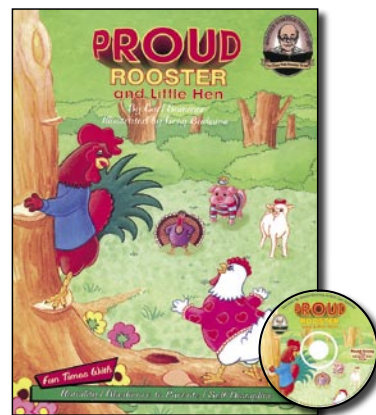
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**Noise! Noise! Noise!**

Two persnickety mice, Marcus and Marcella, keep complaining about the noise and the hard work in the forest. After moving to the farmhouse their dreams come true. Reality quickly sets in and they discover the forest is a wonderful place to live. Grades K-3.

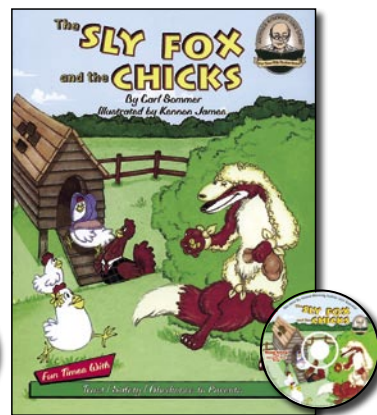
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**Proud Rooster and Little Hen**

Always ignoring everyone's advice, Proud Rooster gets into all sorts of trouble. But Proud Rooster's final hard lesson changes him forever. While lying on a hospital bed, he's glad to learn that it's not too late to obey. Grades K-3.

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**The Sly Fox and the Chicks**

Mama and Papa have always warned their chicks to avoid strangers. But the sly fox disguises himself as a little lamb and manages to trick all the chicks but one. Wendy escapes and finally discovers why chicks should listen to their parents and never talk to strangers. Grades K-3.

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**Spike the Rebel**

Spike the rebel is a mean-spirited bully in his neighborhood and school. Everywhere he goes he causes trouble. After Spike hits one of his bike traps, his life is radically transformed and discovers he's much happier having friends and helping others. Grades 1-4.

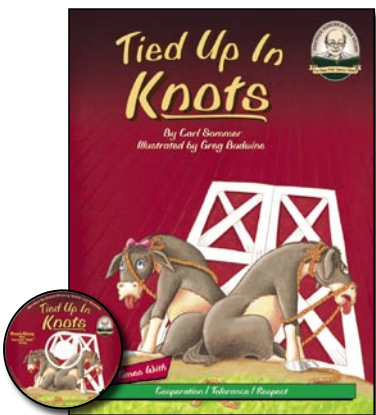
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**Three Little Pigs**

The three little pigs were warned by their parents to build strong houses. Hardy built a strong house, but Dozey and Pokey built shabby ones. After narrowly escaping from the wolf, Dozey and Pokey have a dramatic change of mind. Grades K-3.

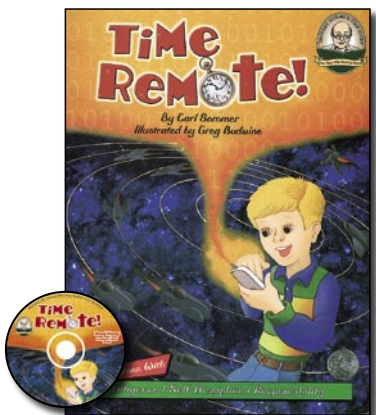
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**Tied Up In Knots**

"That's my mule! I'm not sharing!" cries Sally about Stuffy her mule. Benny and his mule Bossy feel the same way. Dad ties the mules together so they learn that in order to eat, they must cooperate. In the process Benny and Sally also learn that to be happy they must share. Grades K-3.

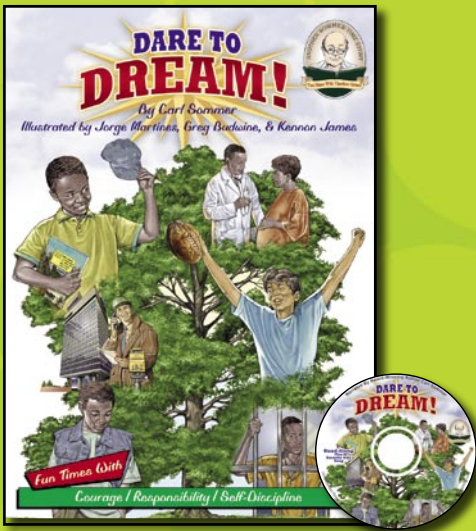
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Hardcover/CD	978-1-57537-503-8	\$	16.95
Library Ed./CD	978-1-57537-703-2	\$	23.95



**Time Remote!**

Christopher has great dreams of becoming an inventor, but he dislikes anything requiring work. He acquires a time remote allowing him to avoid all of his problems. As he leaps through time, he finally realizes the misery of an easy life. Grades 1-4.

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Hardcover/CD	978-1-57537-512-0	\$	16.95
Library Ed./CD	978-1-57537-712-4	\$	23.95

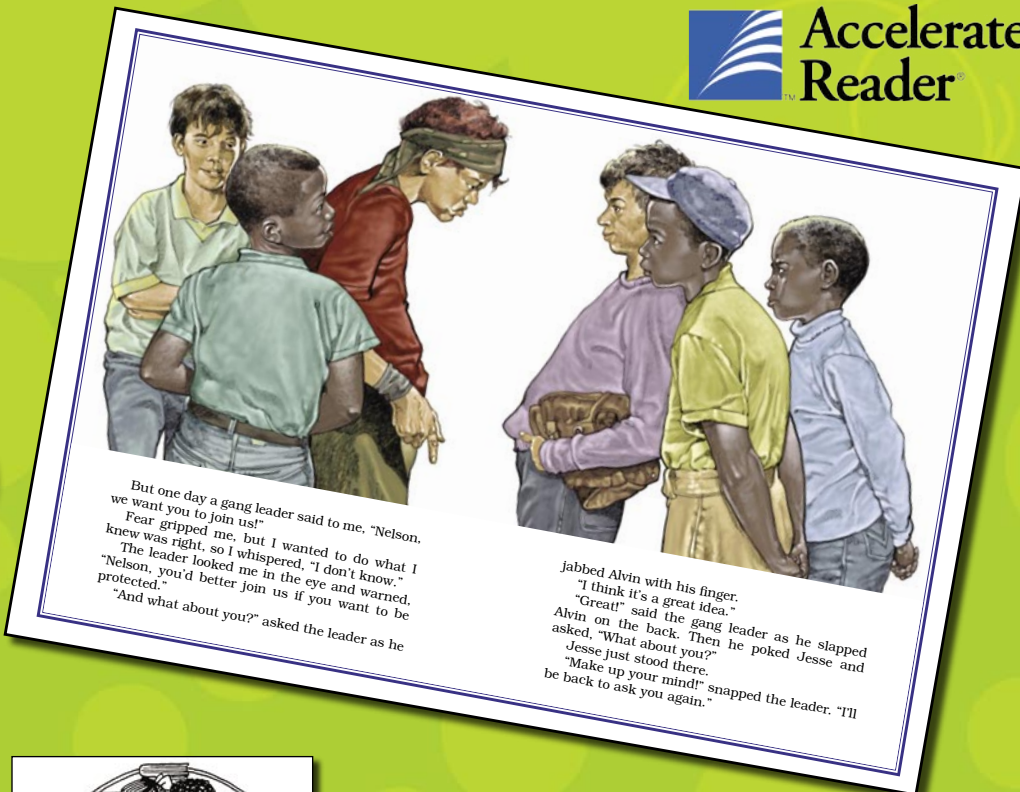


### Dare To Dream!

Three boys grow up in the same drug-infested, gang-ruled, poverty-stricken neighborhood. Nelson becomes a successful doctor, his best friend Jesse, an award-winning architectural engineer, but Nelson's brother Alvin ends up in jail. Grades 1-4.

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But one day a gang leader said to me, "Nelson, we want you to join us!" Fear gripped me, but I wanted to do what I knew was right, so I whispered, "I don't know." "Nelson, you'd better join us if you want to be protected."

"And what about you?" asked the leader as he jabbed Alvin with his finger. "I think it's a great idea." "Great!" said the gang leader as he slapped Alvin on the back. Then he poked Jesse and asked, "What about you?" Jesse just stood there. "Make up your mind!" snapped the leader. "I'll be back to ask you again."



**Children's Choice Award**  
A project of the International Reading Association and The Children's Book Council

**Comment from Winner Reviewers Choice Award**  
*"This book will give young readers insight into how their choices in their childhood and teen years will impact their lives as adults. This is an awesome book which I think all kids should read. Even the more advanced readers could learn something about the importance of daring to dream!"*

# 24 Another Sommer-Time Story™ CD Read-Alongs

Fully Dramatized Productions, Authentic Sound Effects, plus Bonus Karacter Kidz® Song

## All CD Read-Alongs Narrated by Award-Winning Author Carl Sommer



These stories come to life with fully dramatized productions and authentic sound effects that will keep children on the edge of their seats. The music in each story is based upon a musical theme that will develop the child's ear for music and can also be used in a music appreciation class.

These character-building stories are sure to captivate readers of all ages. This fun is timeless just like the virtues these songs and stories teach!



Each CD Read-Along has a bonus Karacter Kidz® song at the conclusion of the Sommer-Time Story.



### Another Sommer-Time Story™ Books and CD Read-Alongs

Individual Titles	
Hardcover with CD	\$16.95
Library Edition with CD	\$23.95

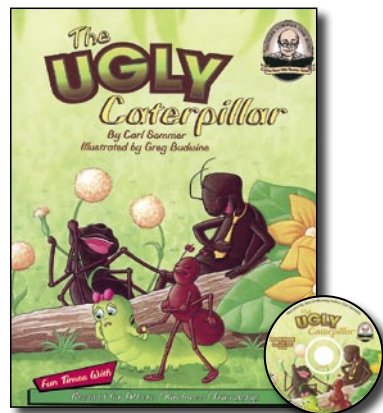
Read-alongs are ideal for librarians to use when reading to children. Use a CD player and a remote, and press stop whenever comments need to be made.

Tracked by page turns.



To order individual CD titles, download an order form from:  
[www.advancepublishing.com/orderform](http://www.advancepublishing.com/orderform)

## Listening Center

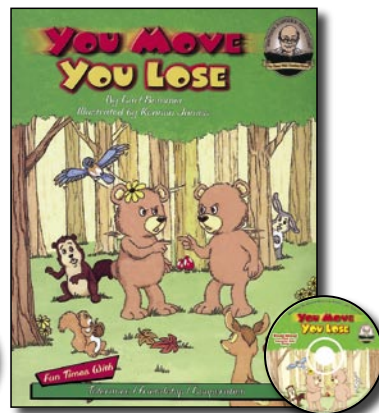


### The Ugly Caterpillar

Speckles and Crumbs think Katy the caterpillar is much too ugly to be their friend, but not Annie. When Katy is transformed into a beautiful butterfly, Speckles and Crumbs learn about true beauty, friendship, and the pitfalls of judging others by their appearances. Grades 1-4.

	ISBN		
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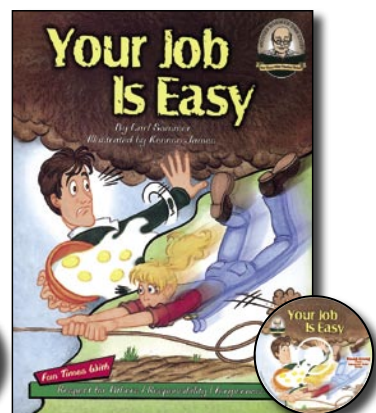
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The bear cubs Stubby and Prissy can't seem to agree on anything. After playing a game of "You Move, You Lose," two raccoon bandits teach the cubs a lesson they will never forget: the folly of stubbornness and the importance of friendship. Grades K-3.

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### Your Job Is Easy

When Jane complains to Sam about the crooked rows he had plowed, they decide to switch jobs for a day. But many unexpected experiences await them as they do each other's "easy" job. They end up laughing at their misconceptions and learn to appreciate one another. Grades 2-4.

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- See Millie change from the most miserable girl to the happiest girl in the whole world.
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- Watch two stubborn bears play a contest of You Move You Lose.
- And much, much more!

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"I have been a counselor for over twenty years and have used many books and resources for teaching Character Education. I just wanted to let you know how excited I am about Carl Sommers' books...."

"Just last week, I was in a counselors' meeting with the school system. One of the counselors that had attended my cluster meeting last year mentioned the books and wanted to know how to get them. Many of my students this year have

asked me to read the books to them again this year.

"Research has proven that individuals learn more effectively if they are presented material that is visual, auditory, and kinesthetic. Also, students learn more effectively if the material is multi-colored and bright. Well, Carl Sommers books, tapes, and activities provide all of the above."

**Runez O. Downs**, Guidance Counselor, Rosebank Elementary School, Nashville, TN

## Comments from Children



"I liked all your books. They are all fun to read! They are exciting and interesting."  
Donovan

"They're so much fun to read and they teach you things."  
Matthew

"I liked all of your books. They were great. I learned a lot from these books. These books are great. You should never stop writing these wonderful books. I really enjoyed them!"  
Debbie

"Carl Sommer books are the best books in the world. If I met you I would flip out. I would hug you and run up and down the walls. You are the best author in the world."  
Chris

"I like your books a lot. the thing I really like about your books is that they're fun to read and teach you a lesson."  
Tracy

"I Love your books. I am a big fan of yours. All those books were great."  
Ameya



**Children's Choice Award**  
A project of the International Reading Association and The Children's Book Council

"I stopped opening my [Christmas] presents and started reading your books."  
Christopher

"I liked reading all your books. I think you should write more books."  
Anna

"I love your books a lot. I Read them many, many times."  
Evan

"Thank you for letting us read your books. I like your books because they have lessons that I can learn."  
Michael

"My favorite book you wrote was, Can You Help Me Find My Smile. I like that book a lot. I think everybody who read that book would try to do the same thing. I tried it as soon as I read the story."  
Nick

"I think you're one of the best authors and you're my favorite author in the world."  
Rachel

"You are a very good author Mr. Sommer. I think you were born to be an author."  
Nicole



# Books Children Love to Read

## Teachers Want the Whole Set



"The reaction at our school has been very positive. I suggested it to several teachers, and when they checked out one, they wanted to get the whole set....And the students want to check them out too. They don't stay on the shelf very long."

**Miriam Hartman**, Librarian Media Specialist, Lakeview Elementary School, Portsmouth, Virginia

## A HUGE Success



"I purchased his entire set of books, sight unseen—to support the character education curriculum. They have been a HUGE success. I can't keep them on the shelves, and they are great teacher read-alouds."

**Marge Lawrence**, Librarian Media Specialist, Roanoke Avenue School, Riverhead, New York

## Had to Separate Books Due to Demand

"We had to put those books separate from the rest of the books because the students were asking for them so much. Now that they are used to them, they just go to the shelf and get them, and they check them out two at a time, which is their limit on books. They love the books."

**Jan Millet**, Library Media Specialist, Harwood Elementary School, Rigby, Idaho

## One of the Most Popular Series in Our Library

"My 3-5 graders can't get enough of these books! Once they read the 1st one they haunt the library waiting for the others to return so they can read the next one. This is one of the most popular series in our library."

**Linda Lopez**, Librarian, Dessau Elementary School, Austin, Texas

## Books Stay Checked Out All the Time



"The children love them. The books stay checked out all the time. We don't shelve them with the regular books, we have put them in a special place where they are easily accessed. We keep them available, and we really love them."

**Carolyn Pulley**, Librarian Media Specialist, Lawrenceburg Public Elementary School, Lawrenceburg, Tennessee

## Can't Keep Them on the Shelves

"The kids just thought they were fabulous, and the teachers too. They loved the drawings, the stories, everything. I like them too. I can't keep them on the shelf, either. One brings them in, and another one in the same class wants to check it out. They're very popular."

**Cindy Harris**, Librarian Media Specialist, Lone Elementary School, Jackson, California

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his compassionate and dynamic expressions. We have purposely kept these costs low so schools can afford to purchase the entire DVD video set.

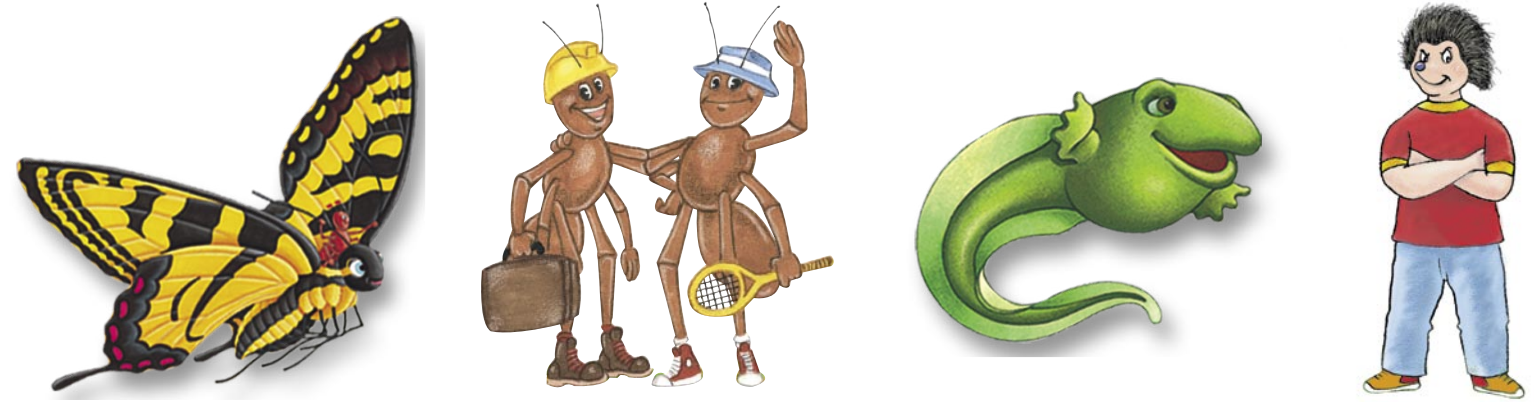
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Imagine for the low cost of \$16.95 per DVD, every school and library can now have an award-winning author visit. Schools and libraries can buy the whole set of DVDs and it will be cheaper than sponsoring one author visit. (Set of 24 DVD videos is only \$406.80.)

Many authors like to receive a six to twelve month commitment to schedule their visits. Then funds have to be raised to have the author visit the school. Now with the DVD author visit, there is no need for honorariums, transportation, meals, and accommodation costs. In addition, these DVDs may be shown over and over again.

Carl Sommer, a former teacher, passionately reads an award-winning story, coupled with music and sound effects, as the pictures of the story book move and slide across the screen. Then out his rich professional experiences from teaching children, Sommer shares the principles of how students may become successful. Sommer's storytelling is unique, and children will love

**All 24 videos are currently seen on the largest worldwide children's television network**



Travel with author Carl Sommer on these exciting and thrilling adventures as various scenes from the book move across the screen. Listen as he narrates these action-packed stories filled with mystery and adventure. Children will not only have fun, but they'll uncover important secrets

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What's a song without a music video? These days most kids find it's not enough just to hear a song. Each book has a contemporary and uplifting song associated with it, plus a cool music video, that takes the teaching from each story and brings it to life in another way!

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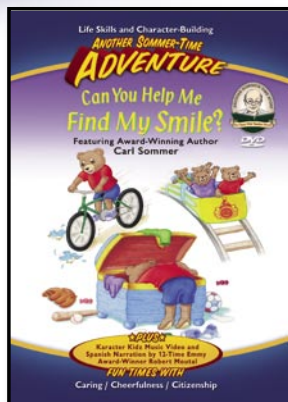
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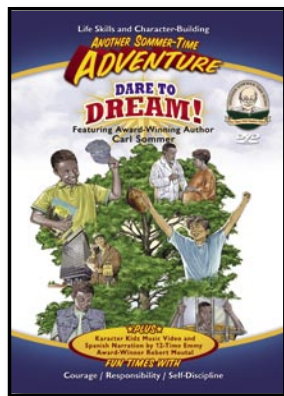
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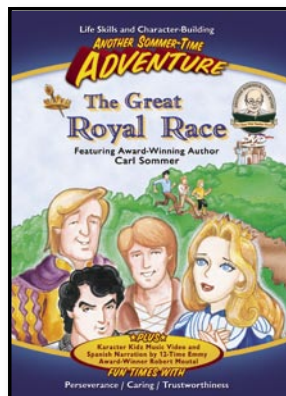
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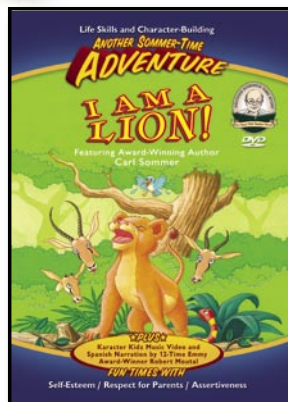
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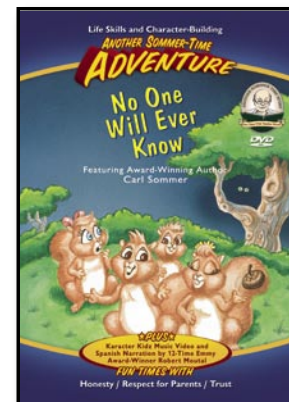
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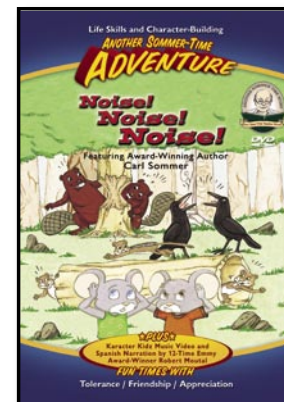
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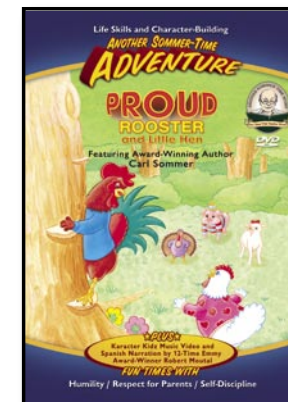
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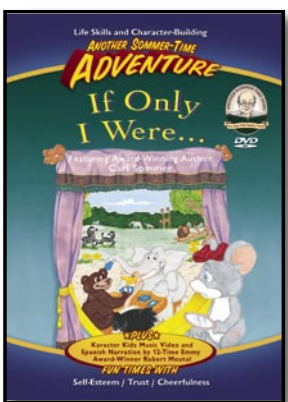
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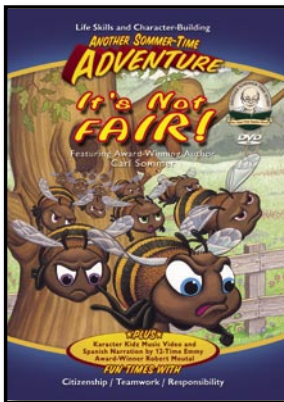
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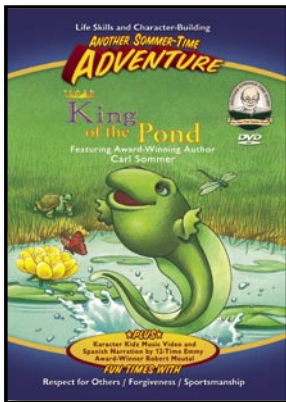
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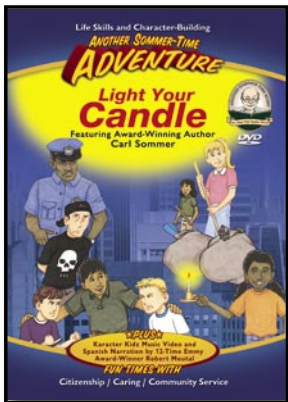
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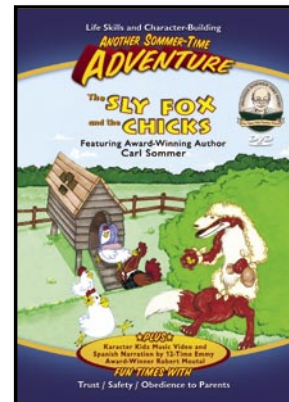
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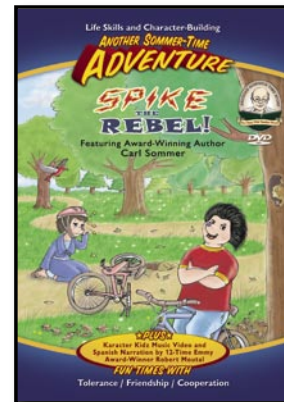
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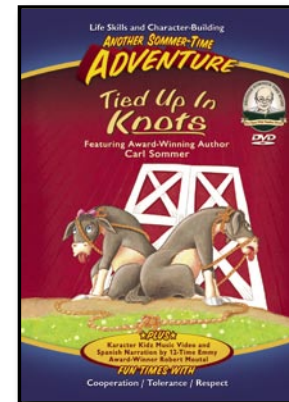
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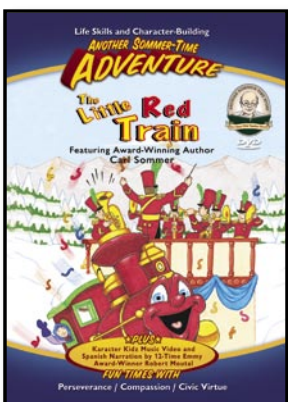
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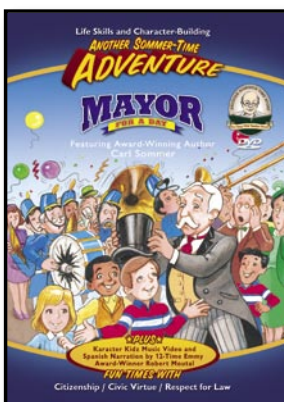
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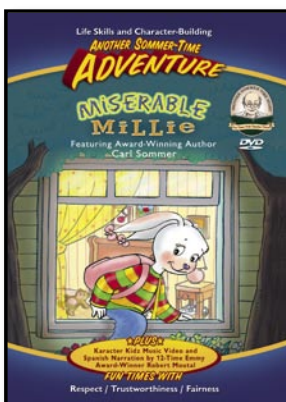
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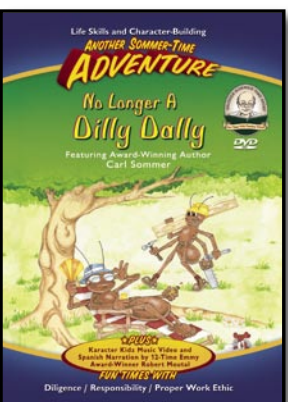
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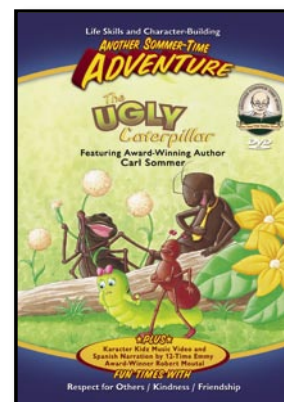
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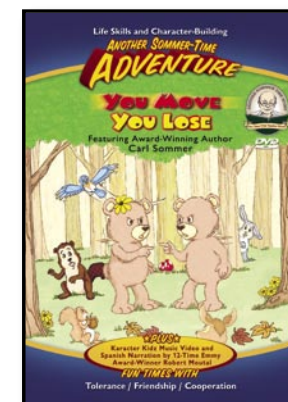
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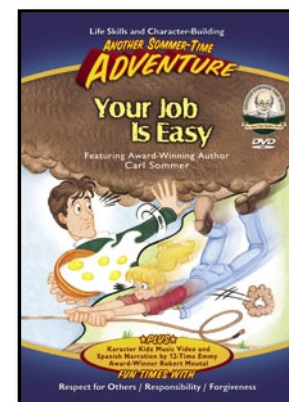
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The Another Sommer-Time Story™ bilingual books, CDs, and DVDs not only entertain, but motivate by teaching virtues on how to become successful. Family ties are extremely strong in Hispanic families. In addition to learning to speak English or Spanish, these character-building resources strongly support family values. Now Spanish-speaking families may read books with their children, listen to a CD, or watch a video that strongly supports the values they believe.

learning a foreign language becomes easier because students will enjoy reading these books. Reading books is also a powerful way for family ties to be strengthened because these character-building graphic novels support family structure and harmony.

In addition, the full-color illustrations makes reading all the more exciting. This will greatly help students to learn in school, for being able to read is critical for their future educational success.

A great advantage of bilingual picture books is

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Students learning a foreign language enhance their mental development. Numerous tests have shown students learning another language helps them on standardized tests.

- English Books have won numerous prestigious awards
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- Exciting way to introduce a foreign language

- Books strongly support family values
- Librarians have bilingual books to offer their students and parents
- Above all—kids love to read these stories and will read them again and again

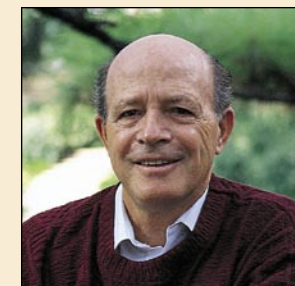
After drying her wings, Katy said, "Hop on my back, Annie. We'll go for a ride."  
Up climbed Annie, and away they went. Katy and Annie flew high above the trees and over Crystal Lake. They flew all around the countryside, visiting many wonderful places.

Después de secar sus alas, Katy dijo, "Súbete a mi espalda, Annie. Iremos a dar un paseo".  
Annie se trepó y a volar se fueron. Katy y Annie volaron muy alto, sobre los árboles y sobre el Lago Cristal. Volaron por todo el campo, visitando muchos lugares maravillosos.

"This is fun up here!" shouted Annie.  
Then they flew over Annie's home. From above the tree tops, Katy happened to see a spider and a crickets ol' cricket. "Look!" she yelled. "It's Speckles and Crumbs!"  
"Let's go say hi," said Annie.

"¡Es divertido aquí arriba!", gritó Annie.  
Después volaron sobre la casa de Annie. Desde arriba de las copas de los árboles, a Katy le pareció ver a una araña y a un grillo. "¡Mira!", le gritó. "¡Son Manchitas y Migas!"  
"Vamos a saludarlos", dijo Annie.

## Both English and Spanish On Same Page



**Author & Narrator**  
Carl Sommer  
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**Accelerated Reader** Quizzes in English and Spanish



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**Proud Rooster and Little Hen**  
*Gallito Orguloso y Gallinita*

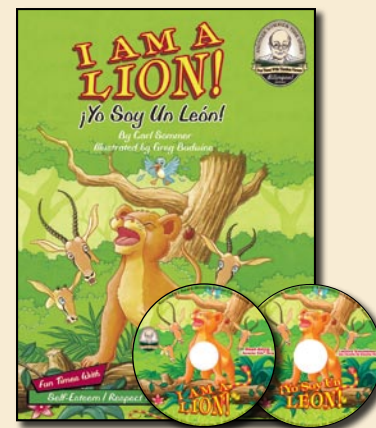
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Missy the mouse has a very big problem—she wants to be like Horace the cat! Tired of being chased, Missy tries wishing her problems away. To her great delight, she learns that being herself is best. Grades K-3.

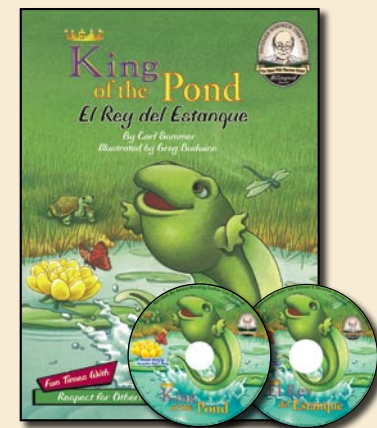
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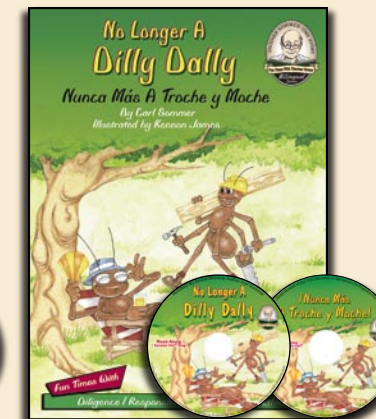
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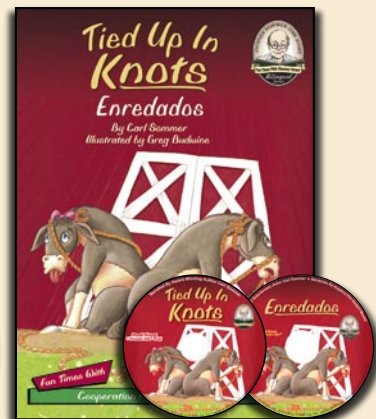
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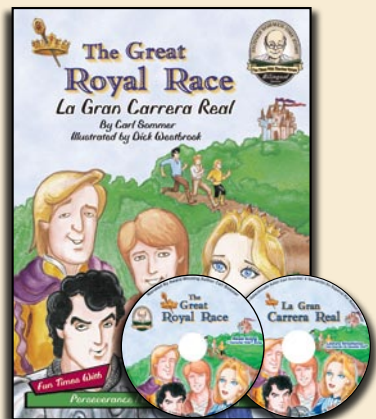
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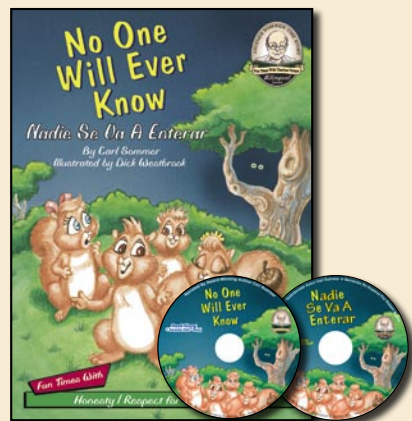
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Ignoring the rules, four young squirrels listen to their friends and sneak away to Mr. Smith's farm to eat big, delicious acorns. But trouble strikes when they meet a hungry wolf. Grades K-3.

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Johnny's forest friends came to see him. He told them all about the big, bad wolf. When he was finished, he pointed to his short tail and said, "I was foolish for listening to others." From then on Johnny listened to Dad and Mom. And in spite of his short tail, he became a very happy squirrel. And most of all, he was glad to learn: To disobey is wrong, even when you think no one will ever know.

Los amigos de Johnny del bosque vinieron a verlo. El les contó todo sobre el gran lobo malo. Cuando terminó, apuntó a su cola y dijo, "Fui tonto por escuchar a otros." Desde entonces, Johnny escuchó a Papá y Mamá. A pesar de su corta cola llegó a ser una ardilla muy feliz. Y más que nada, estaba contento por haber aprendido. Desobedecer está mal, aun cuando pienses que nadie se va a enterar.

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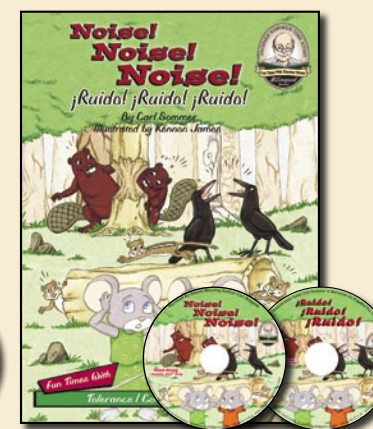
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The three little pigs were warned to build strong houses. Hardy built a strong house, but Dozey and Pokey built flimsy ones. After narrowly escaping from the wolf, Dozey and Pokey have a dramatic change of mind. Grades K-3.

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Marcus and Marcella hate the noise and work in the forest. At the farmhouse their dreams come true. But then their dreams are shattered. After barely escaping, they discover that the forest is a wonderful place to live. Grades K-3.

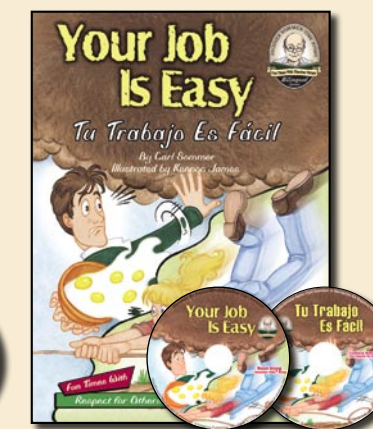
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Three big trains refuse to go up the mountain in the deep snow to bring food to the hungry people. The Little Red Train with its brave helpers save the village. Grades K-3.

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After Jane complains about the crooked rows Sam had plowed, they decide to switch jobs for a day. But many unexpected experiences await them in this humorous adventure as they do each other's "easy" job. Grades 2-4.

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The Ugly Caterpillar  
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Speckles and Crumbs think Katy the caterpillar is too ugly to be their friend, but not Annie. Katy is transformed into a beautiful butterfly. Speckles and Crumbs finally learn about beauty, friendship, and caterpillars. Grades 1-4.

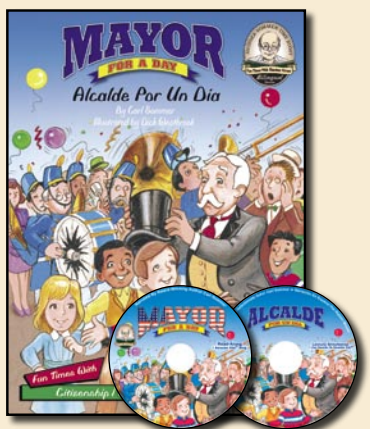
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Life couldn't have been better for Buzzie Bee. But she heard something that made her furious! Buzzie and the younger bees revolt and start a new hive. It's a disaster! They discover that leadership and teamwork bring happiness. Grades 1-4.

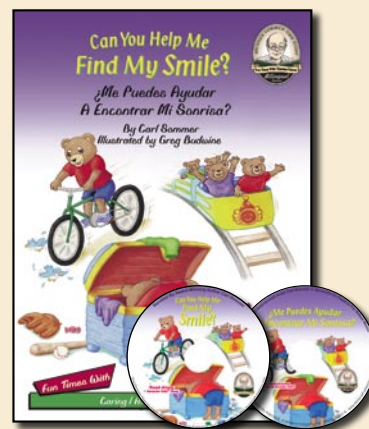
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Davy, the hometown soccer hero, becomes mayor for a day. Davy chooses to eliminate all rules, causing chaos throughout the whole town. But Davy finally saves the day. Grades 1-4.

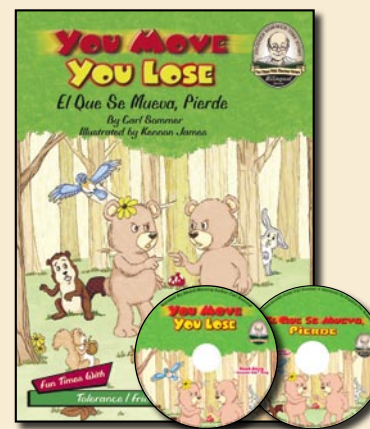
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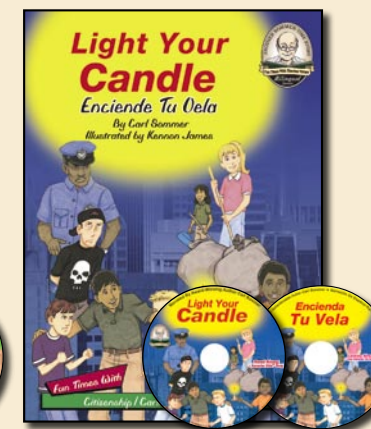
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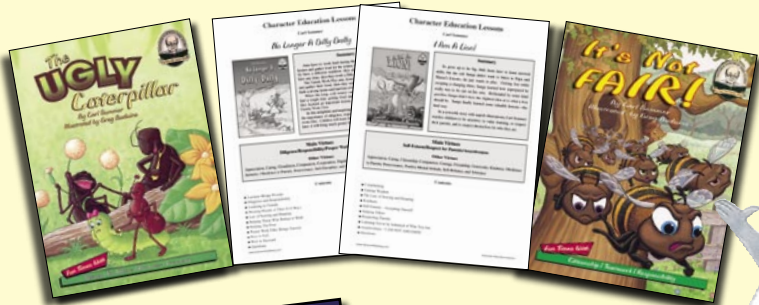
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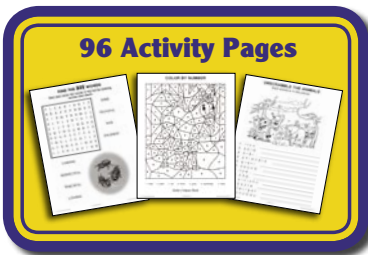
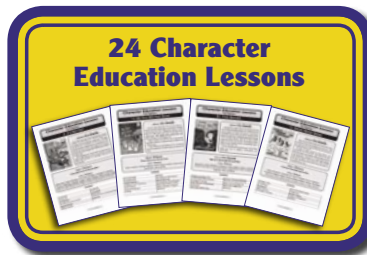
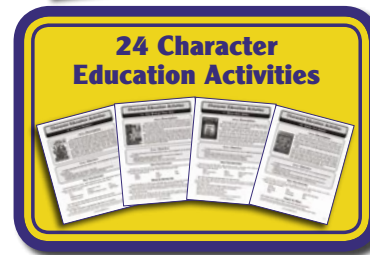
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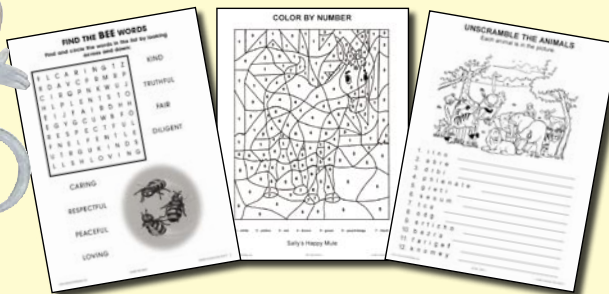
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Excerpts from Winning 11th Annual Teacher's Choice<sup>SM</sup> Award for 20 English Sommer-Time Stories and Read-Alongs

**What aspects of the product did you like the most?**

- These books by Carl Sommer's are absolutely fabulous! I liked the fun illustrations and the interesting stories. The books teach life skills without preaching. The children connect with the stories and remember the events.
- I really like the cute stories. I like the option of letting the students listen to the stories from a CD. I also liked all of the resources that are made available on the accompanying website.
- I liked the stories and illustrations. I also like the website link that provides lesson plans, activities and awards that support the message given in each book.

**How did you make use of the product, or integrate it into your lesson plans?**

- I read a book at our class meeting and we discussed the implications of the text. We then related it to life in our classroom. Then I put it in our listening center for independent reading.
- In my classroom, we have been using this product to talk about the traits of a good friend, what it means to persevere. I also connected to the web site that provides lesson plans, words to the songs which are on the CDs. We use the songs for shared era.
- We have been using this product to build community in our classroom. We are using the stories to help us learn how to get along and solve problems.

**How did your students react to the product, if applicable?**

- The students love the books. They ask me to read them over and over! They love to make connections between the books and their lives.
- The boys and girls have really enjoyed the stories. They often ask if we can read them again and again.
- The children enjoy the stories. They often refer to them in class discussions. They often ask if we can read them again and again.

**What skills could this product teach?**

- Social skills! So many children come to school lacking basic socialization. Listening skills could also be taught using these books and concepts of print, left to right, top to bottom. Story retelling (acting out various scenarios) and fluency.
- These books can be used to help build a sense of community in a classroom. They can be used to help children learn how to treat each other; how children can persevere through hard times or difficult situations; how children can be good members of our country.

**Do you feel this product effectively helps you meet state/national standards?**

- Absolutely. Our standards specially target life-long learners and caring, productive citizens. Without a solid social curriculum and material content to support that curriculum, teachers can not foster altruistic behaviors and maintain effective classrooms.
- This product can be incorporated with our district character counts program.

**If funds were available, would you purchase this product OR recommend this product for the teacher at the appropriate grade level? Why or why not?**

- Yes, I would recommend this product. It is imperative that schools foster character education as well as academic content in order to educate the whole child.
- I think these books are very valuable. I would encourage other teachers to purchase them because I think the books would be helpful in teaching self-esteem, social skills and work ethics. I think these books would be especially helpful for elementary school.
- I would buy this product because I think it can be used in a variety of ways to teach several topics. I am very impressed with this product. It would be a great school wide character-ed program. It is also very effective in building a classroom community.

### Short Comments from Teachers for the Sommer-Time Stories

- I haven't seen this much reaction even with the Harry Potter books.
- The students love them. We can't keep them in.
- They have been a big success. I was very pleased.
- The books are just flying out of the library.
- They don't stay on the shelf very long.
- Boy, these books! They have the kids in the palm of my hand.
- The pictures are very vivid and colorful.
- They are the most popular books in the library.
- The books stay checked out all the time.
- I can't keep them on the shelf. They're very popular.
- I love the format, and love the illustrations. They are great!
- I can't keep them in the library long enough to have another class check them out.
- When I read a story to the children, they sit so quiet.
- The kids just thought they were fabulous, and the teachers too.
- They loved the drawings, the stories, everything.
- They have been a HUGE success. I can't keep them on the shelves.

Read Their Entire Testimonies—[www.AdvancePublishing.com](http://www.AdvancePublishing.com)

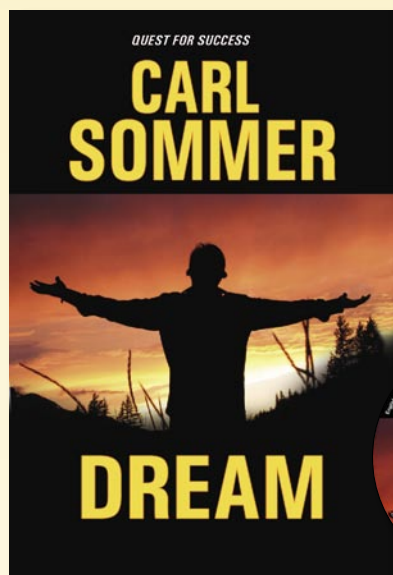
NEW

# Quest for Success Series

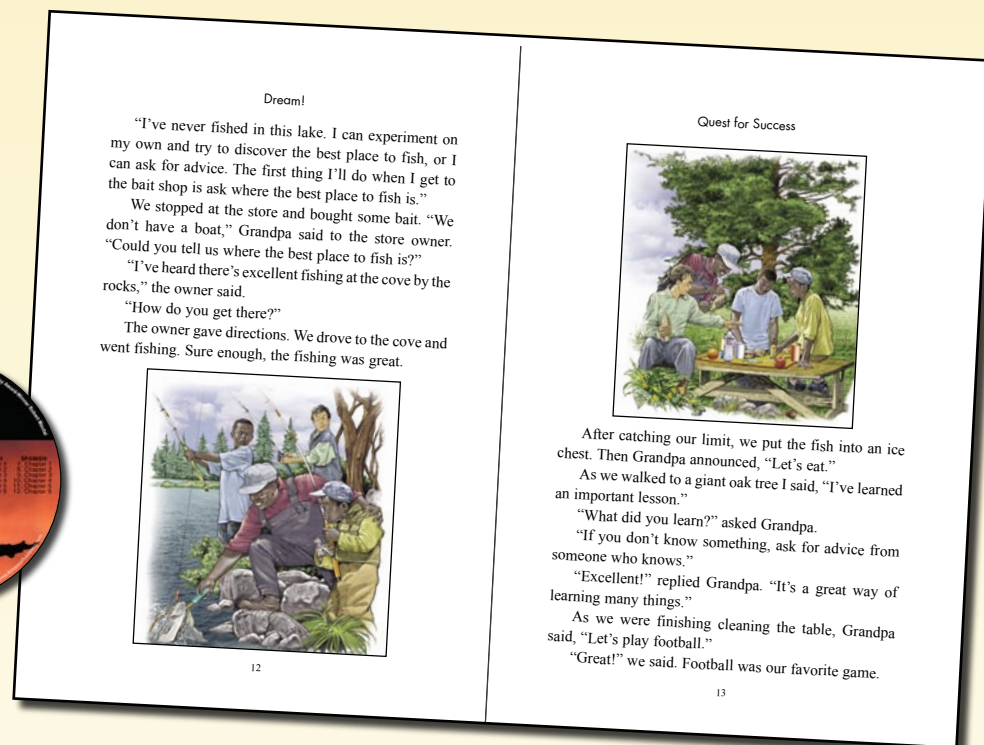
## Graphic Novels for Motivation, Excitement, and Adventure

### For Elementary Students and Reluctant Middle and High School Readers

The Quest for Success graphic novels are short stories jam-packed with interesting information that will not only motivate students to read but also teach them principles of success.



Grades 4-12



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## Character-Building Graphic Novels

Teachers, librarians, and parents all agree that literacy is an essential skill for students to achieve success in school and for their future well-being. Language arts teachers in particular want their students to love literature. However, the classroom reality is that many students are unmotivated to pick up a long novel. What can be done?

Graphic novels are novels in which a narrative is combined with text and art. They are proving to be a great motivating tool for struggling and reluctant readers. In *Bringing Graphic Novels into a School's Curriculum*, Bucher and Manning stated, "Growing up with television and video games, contemporary young adults look for print media that contain the same visual impact," (Bucher and Manning 2004, 67).

The *Quest for Success* character-building graphic novels are short action-filled illustrated stories that will not only motivate students to read, but also within the

story provide practical applications on how they may become successful. The graphic illustrations in these novels provide interest and textual clues to assist struggling readers who would otherwise refrain from reading full-text books. Yet the content of these graphic novels may contain greater vocabulary than other books. But because of the interesting graphics and action-filled stories, reluctant readers will finish the book.

There are students who find full-text books boring. They have not developed a sense of imagination from reading books with text alone. Since they are unable to visualize the text-filled story, these students don't read. Since graphic novels are complete stories that use illustrations to convey their message, they can become an excellent transitional tool to help these students become life-long readers. Graphic novels can also be used for upper elementary students to help them transition from picture books to full-text books.

# Quest for Success Writing Prompt Generator and Discussion Questions

NEW

## Questions from the Book—Dream

### Quest for Success Writing Prompt Generator

1. Write a report on how *Dream* supports the author's passion for equipping students with virtues and real-life skills to help them live a successful life and create a better world.
2. Make a chart with two columns. Label the two columns: The Path of Success The Path of Failure  
Nelson and Jesse Alvin  
List in the columns the reasons for Nelson and Jesse's success and the reasons for Alvin's failure.
3. Write a report about the reasons for the successes of Benjamin Franklin, George Washington Carver, Helen Keller, and Abraham Lincoln.
4. Choose any four of the Dare to Dream Guidelines and write about their importance for successful living.

### Quest for Success Discussion Questions

1. Why do many individuals join gangs and do harmful things to their bodies?
2. What are Grandpa and Grandma trying to teach the boys?
3. What is Grandpa's advice when everything looks hopeless?
4. What common trait for success do we find in Benjamin Franklin, George Washington Carver, Helen Keller, and Abraham Lincoln?
5. How did Nelson and Jesse react when they heard about the struggles of Benjamin Franklin, George Washington Carver, Helen Keller, and Abraham Lincoln?

## 12 Quest for Success Graphic Novels



Quest for Success Guidebook

ISBN 978-1-57537-643-1 \$14.95

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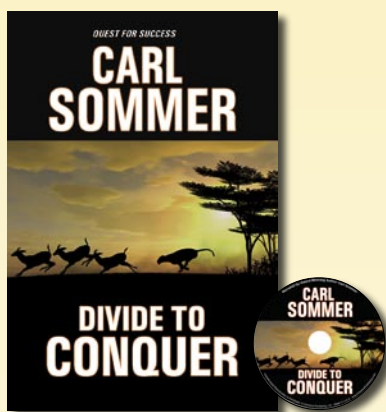
## Benefits of Character-Building Graphic Novels

- Character-building graphic novels provide excellent opportunities for classroom discussion.
- Graphic novels provide engaging models for writing.
- These comprehensive novels present abundant information in a few pages. This enables teachers to read the entire book in one class period.
- Students can polish their oral language skills as they practice reading aloud, dramatizing, or storytelling.
- The novels present provocative topics that will encourage creative thinking and problem solving.
- These novels greatly benefit foreign language students and reluctant readers in that the stories consist of words with sequential illustrations that convey information to enhance the story.
- Students will evaluate and learn the various virtues and life skills that will help them live successful lives.

## Not Just Simple Story Books

Quest for Success graphic novels are not simple story books; they require critical thinking skills to decode and comprehend the story. In addition to an action-oriented story, important character values are given to help readers become successful. These novels can be springboards for exciting class discussions about values.

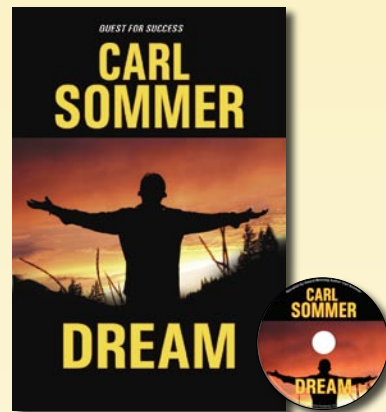
The language is not "dumbed down" in *Quest for Success* novels. Due to the high interest these novels create, students' reading ability will be enhanced. In addition, there are read-alongs for each book to help students master the required vocabulary to read the book.



**Divide to Conquer**

Three bulls were the best of friends until they listened to a cunning fox. After nearly losing their lives, they finally learn never to listen to those wanting to destroy their friendship. 40 pgs

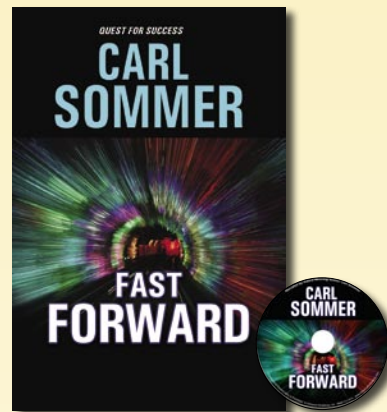
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**Dream**

Three young men grew up together surrounded by poverty, gang pressure, and a drug-infested environment. They are encouraged to dare to dream big dreams; two become successful and one ends up in prison. 56 pgs

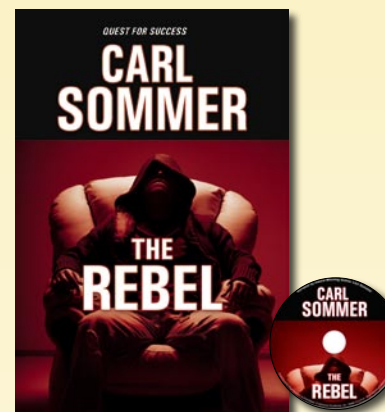
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Christopher has big dreams—from avoiding school to inventing the first airmobile. He acquires a time remote, and it sends him quickly through life trying to avoid problems. When he discovers a new button, he's engulfed in fear. 56 pgs

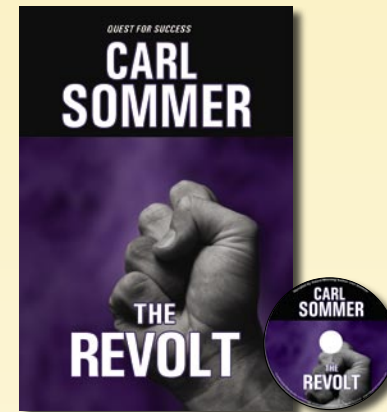
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**The Rebel**

Spike the troublemaker makes his mark by bullying the area kids, pulling girls' hair, tripping kids, tattling, and hurting others. But his plan of bullying backfires when he's caught by one of his own traps. 56 pgs

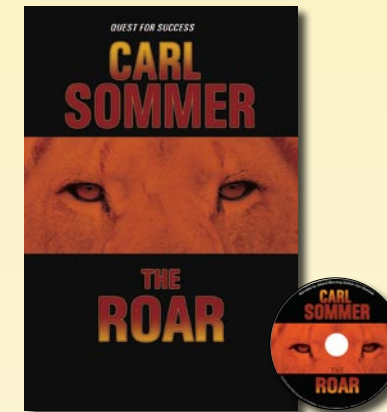
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**The Revolt**

Life couldn't have been better for Buzzie Bee. But she heard something that made her furious! Buzzie and the younger bees revolt and start a new hive. It's a disaster! Then they make a great discovery. 56 pgs

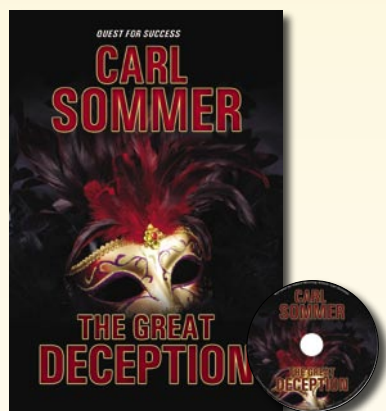
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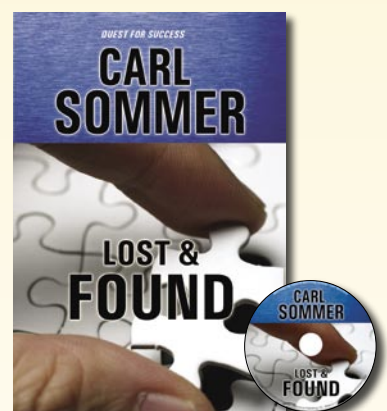
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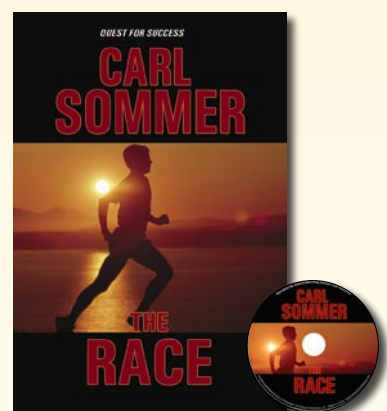
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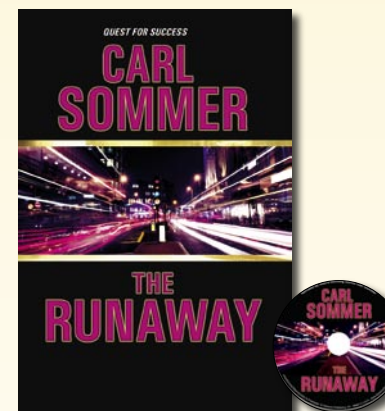
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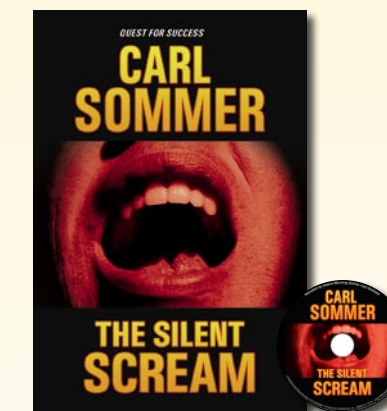
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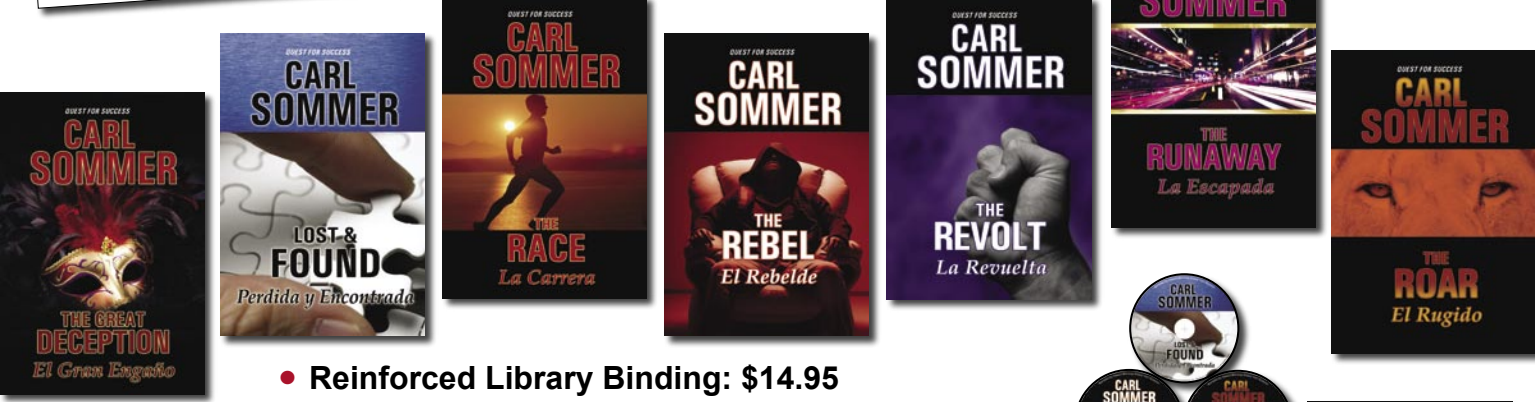
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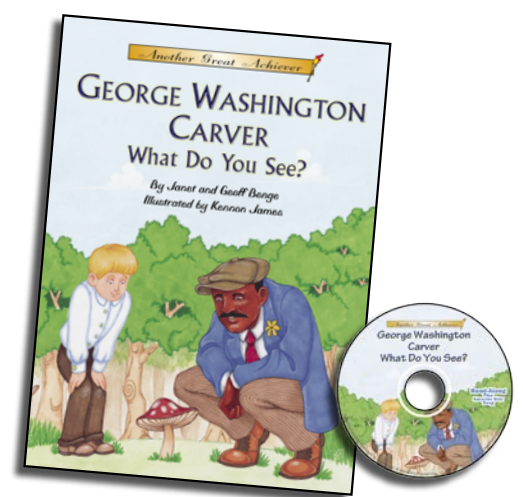
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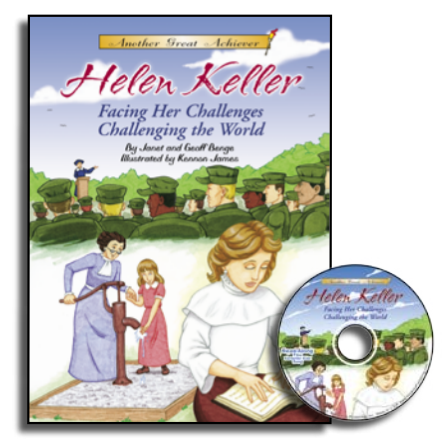
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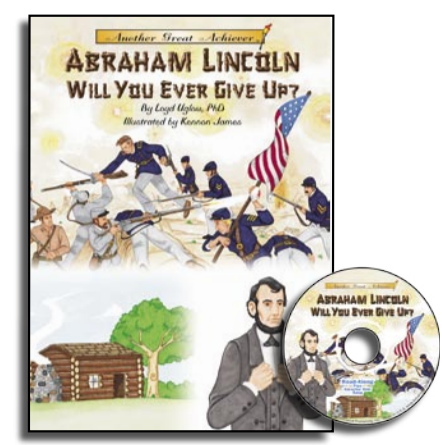
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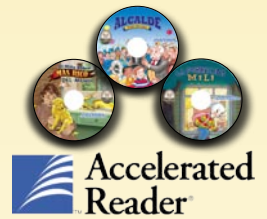
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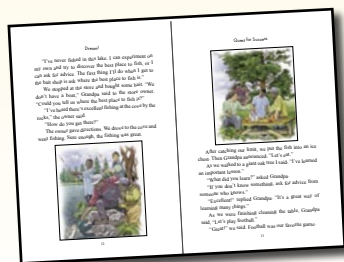
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