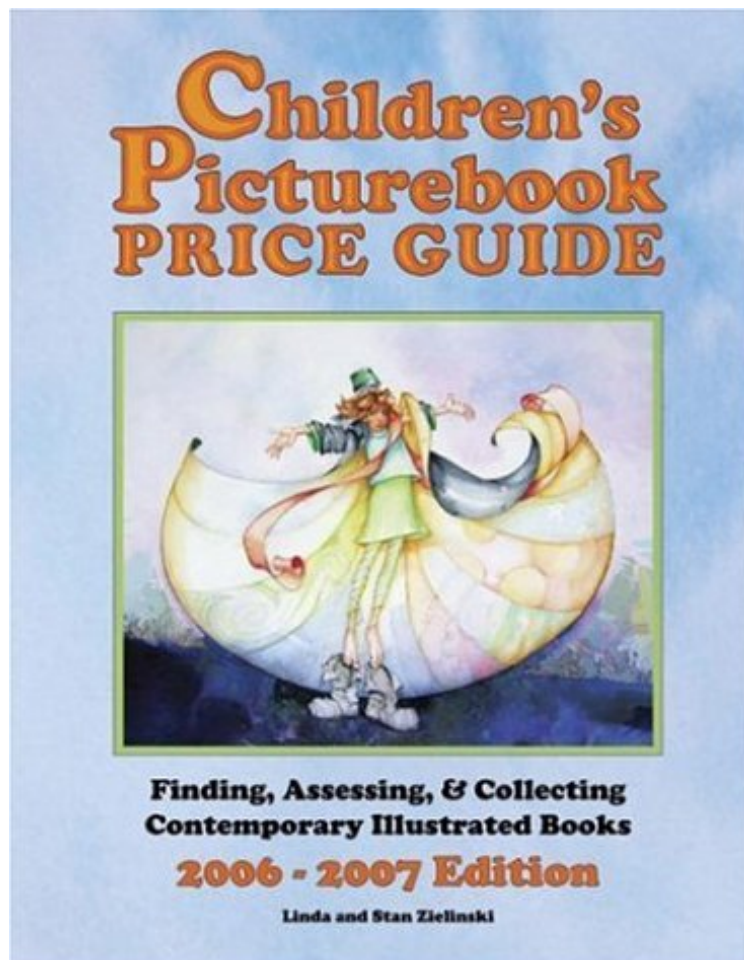


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Children's Picturebook Price Guide, 2006-2007: Finding, Assessing, Collecting Contemporary Illustrated Books

Linda Zielinski, Stan Zielinski

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not comprehensive, there is a fair amount of information. It was unavailable for far too long and not sure if prices are still relevant.

The Children's Picturebook Price Guide provides values for nearly 23,000 books, covering over 700 children's book illustrators dating from 1929 to 2006. For owners of picturebooks, the price guide is an essential tool to identify and assess their value. Today's picturebook collecting market is similar to where the comic book market was in 1970, when Bob Overstreet published his first price guide. The Overstreet Comic Book Price Guide became the definitive guide to the hobby and helped to institutionalize values. The general population now has an understanding of the value of collectible comic books. James Beckett published his first price guide to baseball cards in 1979. Once considered a child's plaything, hardly anyone would now sell their Mickey Mantle or Willie Mays cards for pennies. In the case of both comic books and baseball cards, a large and vibrant collector base existed at the time of the respective price guide's publication--however the general population was not aware of the value for either. The price guide helped to get the message out. According to the Children's Picturebook Price Guide, the most valuable picturebook is *Where The Wild Things Are*, with a first edition copy valued at over \$10,000 in today's market. The price guide lists forty-four picturebooks with a market value over \$1,000. The Children's Picturebook Price Guide is more than a price guide, as the book's first 100 pages provides an overview to collecting children's picturebooks. This overview includes a brief history of how the picturebook came to be the picturebook, and concludes with an explanation for why today is the golden era of the picturebook. Today there are more illustrators and authors who make their living by creating picturebooks than at anytime in the past. Chapter 2, "Factors Affecting Collectibility", provides details about the six key factors which impact a first edition book's collectibility and value. This is important, since it clearly and concisely provides the reader with information to assess a book's collectibility. Usually, a first edition book's value is prescribed through some altogether unknown process. By providing factors the reader can weigh, they can make more educated purchase decisions--and acquire books they feel the market is currently undervaluing. Subsequent chapters describe different strategies or approaches to collecting picturebooks; identifying first editions; grading books; and also discussion/lists of the most valuable children's picturebooks, categorized by decade (i.e. "The Most Valuable Picturebooks of the 1990's").

From the PublisherThe thoughts put forth in the Children's Picturebook Price Guide will help all potential booksellers and book collectors. Book collectors of any kind, and not just children's book collectors, will benefit from the logic and rationale put forth to assess a book's collectibility and value. If you, or someone you know, have children's books to sell, then the information contained in the Children's Picturebook Price Guide could make you hundreds, perhaps thousands of dollars. From the AuthorWe have been collecting children's picturebooks for over fifteen years, and have over 4,000 first edition books in our collection. We have spent over six years combing bookstores, libraries, and the internet to acquire information for the Children's Picturebook Price Guide. We love collecting children's picturebooks, and feel the general population currently underappreciates the art form. From the introduction, "The objective of this Price Guide is to expand the children's picturebook collecting hobby by providing visibility to the estimated market value of first edition picturebooks. Our hope is that the general population will come to understand that first edition children's picturebooks have significant market value, and in turn, will lead to new collectors being attracted to the hobby." From the Back CoverDo you own \$1000's in children's books? First edition children's picturebooks have escalated in value in recent years. Many first edition books now routinely sell for thousands of dollars everyday. Do you unknowingly have a treasure trove of books lying on your shelf or in your attic? You will learn from this essential Price Guide:

- Current market prices for over 22,000 illustrated children's books
- Prices for Caldecott Medal and Honor books, many worth over \$1000
- Key factors that affect a book's value
- How to identify first edition books
- How to identify first edition Caldecott Medal books
- How to identify first edition Dr. Seuss books, several worth over \$5000
- The most valuable picturebooks from 1930 to 2006
- Where to find first edition picturebooks

>b>Book buyers sellers will benefit from this Price Guide!