



Accelerated  
Reader



# 'Twas the Day Before Zoo Day

By Catherine Ipcizade

Illustrated by Ben Hodson

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2009 IRA-CBC Children's Choices List  
2008 Book Sense Summer Children's Pick



"Children will love this story for its bold colors and familiar meter. Parents and educators will enjoy using the educational materials, which include a picture-word matching exercise, animal fun facts table, a zookeeper fact sheet and an online supplement." - *ForeWord Magazine*

## 'Twas the day before Zoo Day, and all through the park...'

This delightful adaptation of the children's classic, *'Twas the Night Before Christmas*, takes readers to the zoo, as preparations are underway for "Zoo Day." But things aren't going according to plan . . . The llamas won't quit spitting, the giraffes are drooling, and the zebras aren't happy at all with their stripes. Meanwhile, the zookeepers scurry this way and that, clean up poop, ring mealtime bells, and try to get the animals bathed. But are the naughty elephants listening? Not a chance. And if that weren't bad enough, a poor alligator mistakes a bee for a fly, and instead of eating supper, he gets stung in the eye! Does it all work out? Will the zookeepers end up spending the night at the zoo? Will "Zoo Day" go off without a hitch, or will the dancing monkeys take over?



Thanks to Norah Farnham, Zoo Keeper, of the American Association of Zoo Keepers, for verifying the accuracy of the information in this book. **The "For Creative Minds" educational section includes:**

- Animal Adaptation Matching Activity
- An animal fact facts chart
- All about zoo keepers
- Creative Sparks: Imagine you are a zoo keeper
- Animals include: Alligators, antelopes, black bears elephants, flamingos, geckos, giraffes, gorillas, lions, llamas, meerkats, monkeys, rhinos, snakes, toucans, turtles, zebras

Arbordale Publishing's Web site, [www.ArbordalePublishing.com](http://www.ArbordalePublishing.com), helps parents and educators expand the learning possibilities with free **Audiobooks**, **Comprehension Quizzes**, and **Related Websites**. Find free cross-curricular **Teaching Activities** and engage children in Language Arts, Math, Science, Geography, and Character.



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## About the Author and Illustrator

**Catherine Ipcizade** (pronounced *ip-chi-zah-deh*) has written for numerous publications, both in print and online, and also works as an assistant editor for *Thirteen Minutes Magazine*. In addition to writing and blogging, Catherine likes to spend time with her husband and two children, cozy up with a good book, spend time in the kitchen cooking and baking and practicing photography. Catherine is a member of SCBWI and volunteers for The Little Owl Mentoring Program, a program that pairs published writers with high school students who wish to be writers. In addition to **'Twas the Day Before Zoo Day**, she also has also written *African Animals: Giraffes*; *African Animals: Lions*; and *African Animals: Zebras*. Catherine and her family live in southern California. To learn more, visit her Web site: <http://catherineipcizade.blogspot.com>.



### **What advice do you have for parents who want to get their kids excited about reading?**

To help your children get excited about reading, don't be afraid to break out of the standard confines. There are so many books available in the market that parents don't know about. If your child is a reluctant reader, find out what they like. Say, for instance, your child enjoys skateboarding, but at a trip to you local bookstore you couldn't find anything. Don't stop there! Try the library; do an Amazon.com search. The books are out there. Sometimes kids just need their parents to do a little detective work to find something they will like.



**Ben Hodson** illustrates from his home in Ottawa, Canada. In addition to **'Twas the Day Before Zoo Day**, he has illustrated *In Arctic Waters* and *How the Moon Regained Her Shape* for Arbordale, as well as *I Love Yoga*; *Pigs are Dirty*, *Bears Aren't Slow and Other Truths about Misunderstood Animals*; and *Wishes and Worries: A Story to Help Children Understand a Parent Who Drinks Too Much Alcohol*. Ben's artwork for *How the Moon Regained Her Shape* was selected for the Society of Illustrators' 26th Annual Original Art Exhibition, and Ben was the recipient of the Glass Slipper Award at the 2004 SCBWI Canadian Conference.



## Contact Information

For additional information about **'Twas the Day Before Zoo Day** and other Arbordale books, please contact our sales team at 877-243-3457 or [Orders@ArbordalePublishing.com](mailto:Orders@ArbordalePublishing.com).

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