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ANIMALOGY RECEIVES A SILVER INDEPENDENT PUBLISHERS MEDAL

Mount Pleasant, S.C. (May 7, 2012) – Author Marianne Berkes and illustrator Cathy Morrison have received the Independent Publishers Award (IPPY) silver medal for their collaborative work on *Animalogy: Animal Analogies*.

The Independent Publishers Award (IPPY) honors the best of small independent publishing. *Animalogy* is among a group of 372 entries selected for a 2012 medal. The 16th annual IPPY Awards is comprised of a variety of categories and 5,200 entries, where the winners represent 44 states, 7 Canadian Provinces and 10 overseas countries.

Animalogy allows children to compare and contrast different animals through predictable, rhyming analogies. Children can find the similarities between even the most incompatible animals . . . bat is to flit as eagle is to soar; dog is to bark as lion is to roar. Comparisons include sounds, physical adaptations, behaviors, and animal classes, readers learn without even realizing it. Although the analogies are fun, the information is scientifically accurate and verified by Loran Wlodarski, Science Writer at SeaWorld Orlando.

Ms. Berkes is a retired teacher and librarian who turned her love of nature and teaching into writing informational picture books. In addition to *Animalogy*, Ms. Berkes has written eleven other picture books including: *Going Home; The Mystery of Animal Migration; Over in the Ocean, in a Coral Reef; Over in the Jungle, a Rainforest Rhyme; Going Around the Sun, Some Planetary Fun*, and *Marsh Morning*. Also for Sylvan Dell watch for Ms. Berkes *The Tree that Bear Climbed* coming this fall.

Cathy Morrison has been a freelance illustrator for over twenty years. Though she began her career in animation, she discovered her passion for children's book illustration while raising her two children. In addition to *Animalogy*, she has also illustrated *Three Little Beavers* for Sylvan Dell. She has won several awards for her picture books, including the Moonbeam Children's Book Award, ForeWord Magazine's "Book of the Year" and BookSense silver and bronze medals.

Sylvan Dell Publishing's mission is to excite children's imaginations with artistically spectacular science, math and nature-themed stories. Founded in November of 2004, Sylvan Dell has grown to include more than 75 authors and illustrators in the United States and Canada, and 70 titles – honored as finalists or winners of over 70 book awards. Our Science and Math through Literature Program integrates reading, science, math, geography, character skills, and language learning through fun, cross-curricular activities. Sylvan Dell provides more online educator resources than any other publisher in the United States.

For more information, please contact Heather Williams at (877) 243-3457, by email at heatherwilliams@sylvandellpublishing.com or visit <http://www.sylvandellpublishing.com>. For information for Ms. Berkes visit www.MarianneBerkes.com. More information for Ms. Morrison is available at <http://www.cathymorrison.blogspot.com>.

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