

The Friends of the Forest Series

for 5 and 6 year olds

Stories with alliterative paintings and songs depict creatures relating one another on a mountain in Colorado.



Portia Porcupine

As an approach to reading and writing, the stories draw from Waldorf and Whole Language. But in our approach, melody joins rhyme and rhythm to facilitate natural immersion in language.

Magic happens when colorful drawings are placed behind key words and rhyming words in the songs, which are written on chart paper. The children's eyes are drawn to the colors and shapes as they sing. They all 'read' the songs, but they don't look at the words until they are ready. With gusto the group carries everyone along, sometimes for song after song.

The children draw the characters as they listen to each story. Then come their own stories and even plays.

The animal characters in these stories have human traits and personalities. At the same time the tales record the ecological relationships on this shared Rocky Mountain biome.. Bearing in mind the importance of the synthesis of knowledge and wisdom, each story also highlights a virtue.

Rocco Raccoon



Three people, Mary Morning Dew, Bobbie Badger Tail and Gentle George interact with and observe animal characters such as Benjamin Bear, Jabbery Jay and Curling Caterpillar.

Soloman Salamander

