

arrivée à écrire des livres pour enfants. Ainsi *Je boude*, comme tous les albums de la série des "Pichou", contient des images importantes, occupant la plus grande partie de la page. Les illustrations, aux teintes vives et gaies, ont une fraîcheur et une naïveté qui ne peuvent manquer de séduire les enfants. Le texte et les images, travaillés simultanément par l'écrivain-artiste, se complètent parfaitement, marquant cet album du signe inimitable de Ginette Anfousse.

Ginette Anfousse connaît, comprend et aime les enfants. Plus important encore, elle n'a pas perdu le pouvoir privilégié de voir le monde à travers les yeux d'un enfant. Dans *Je boude*, comme dans tous les albums de la série des "Pichou", elle sait toucher l'enfant dans chacun de nous.

Sandra Beckett est professeur adjointe au Collège Redeemer d'Ancaster, Ontario, où elle enseigne la langue et la littérature françaises. Elle s'intéresse à la littérature provençale et son livre sur La Quête spirituelle chez Henri Bosco paraîtra chez José Corti en 1987.

VISUAL DELIGHTS FOR YOUNG READERS

Colours, Shirley Hughes. Illus. author. Douglas & MacIntyre, 1986. 16 pp. \$5.95 cloth. ISBN 0-88894-515-9; **New shoes, two shoes**, Shirley Hughes, Illus. author. Douglas & MacIntyre, 1986. 16 pp. \$5.95 cloth. ISBN 0-88894-516-0; **All shapes and sizes**, Shirley Hughes. Illus. author. Douglas & MacIntyre, 1986. 16 pp. \$5.95 cloth. ISBN 0-88894-514-7.

Shirley Hughes presents a triple treat in her colourful and whimsical collection for the nursery set. In the book, *Colours*, she does not adhere to the primary colours, but blends and softens the pigments. This introduces very poignant and subtle shades into the illustrations. Two pages are devoted to each colour. For the colour yellow, the word is brightly highlighted by the colour and then three small illustrations of shining buttercups, a harvest moon and dripping syrup light the page. The facing page contains a larger illustration filled with Van Gogh-like sunflowers, jarred honey, and yellow overalls on a capricious toddler. The whole effect is one of warmth and security. Each colour follows the same pattern offering the reader a feast of colours. The only inconsistency was noted by my five-year-old granddaughter, Amy, who, after looking at the page for black, stated that pumpkins were not black and that she thought it must be inside-out.

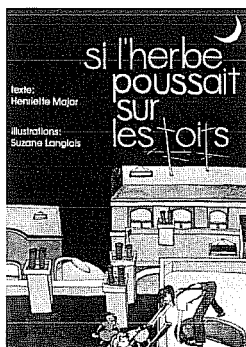
I, with adult superiority, had not noticed the black pumpkin with the orange eyes.

This visual celebration is not restricted to *Colours*. The illustrations in *All shapes and sizes*, and *Two shoes, new shoes*, continues this enjoyable assault on the senses. The cover illustrations visibly convey the contents very effectively. Even newly-two-year-old grandson, Joshua, recognized the different objects on each cover quite readily. The vocabulary used in all three books is simple with its soft rhyming verse. It is very accessible to younger children who seem to enjoy the musical sound of words regardless of comprehension. The character drawings are consistent throughout the books and when they are read as a trio, the young child enjoys seeing the same faces reappearing in each book along with the marmalade cat and the floppy toy dog.

Shirley Hughes' books are a sensory experience with their delightful and poetic drawings. The only complaint I could make is that the children sometimes appear like little old people dressed in overalls. Their faces are not as youthful as they should be. However, this is a minor and personal observation which does not in anyway detract from the general beauty of the illustrations and the pleasure they invoke.

Sylvia Markle-Craine is a mother of four and has three grandchildren. She is a full-time student at the University of Guelph. Some of her creative writing has been read on CBC radio.

RUS IN URBE: UN CONCEPT CLASSIQUE POUR ENFANTS MODERNES



Si l'herbe poussait sur les toits, Henriette Major. Illus. Suzanne Langlois. Montréal, Leméac, 1985. 23 pp. 8,95\$ broché. ISBN 2-7609-9836-3.

Disons-le tout de suite: comme de coutume, Henriette Major fait aux jeunes un récit alléchant, tout en leur donnant un message de la plus haute importance. Comme de coutume, elle s'est associée à une illustratrice de mérite, à qui revient cette fois l'idée même, ce qui crée un mariage particulièrement uni d'images et de texte.