budding at a wide variety of animals, they respond to her
ten, and finally pleasing someone: the bat. In fact, I laughed out loud at
this ending as I could sense things building—I just did not know what to expect. Kroll uses alliteration and rhyme
along with other word play to create an enjoyable tale.
Repetition of one line in particular sets the stage for a
fun read-aloud storyline. LePlatt’s colorful illustrations, with
the mosquito’s size exaggerated, are a fine addition to
this clever story. There is also a short fact page about
mosquitoes at the end of the book. This book is sure to
be a hit with children. Laura D’Amato, Library Media
Specialist, Berea, Ohio

**Ketteman, Helen**

**If Beaver Had a Fever**


Little Bear wonders how Mama Bear would treat his animal
friends if they were sick. Written in couplets, he imagines an
illness for each animal: what would Mama do with a beaver with a fever, Weasel with the measles, or a chimp with a limp?
Mama replies each time with a silly, imaginative cure. The
verses are mainly natural, predictable, and fun. Mama and Little Bear appear laughing and enjoying their repartee, while
drawings of the animals under discussion dominate the center
of each page. Kevin O’Malley used art markers, colored pencils,
and crayons to create a contrast between the Bears and the
crayon-colored drawings of the other animals. As much fun as
this story is, its message is warm and reassuring. MaryAnn Karre, School Librarian, Horace Mann & Thomas Jefferson
Elementary Schools, Binghamton, New York

**Kirk, Katie**

**Eli, No!**


Eli is a typical dog who gets into trouble when he wants to eat
a lot, chases animals, wets where he shouldn’t, and spreads
out on the bed. Although his owner constantly says, “Eli, no!”
he is certainly loved. Katie Kirk’s story of a mischievous pet will
delight young readers with bright bold illustrations that add
to the humor. Kirk’s lesson goes further than a pet: it deals
with unconditional love. This is also a good selection to teach
the responsibility that comes with owning a pet. Jo Drudge,
Educational Reviewer, Rome City, Indiana

**Kroll, Virginia**

**Mosquito**


A pesky mosquito meets her demise in a humorous way
in this amusing picture book. Mosquito goes around

**MacRae, Tom**

**When I Woke Up I Was a Hippopotamus**


In this eye-catching, well-written, rhyming tale, the reader meets
a young boy with a wild imagination. He becomes an assortment
of creatures and manmade objects, depending on his mood. He
begins as a hippopotamus not wanting to get out of bed and
fits through a robot, statue, monkey, monster, rocket ship, and
giant. His parents, fed up with his antics, turn into dragons. The
boy finally decides to be himself after realizing he’s gone a little
overboard. The colorful, detailed drawings are laugh-out-loud
funny. Children are sure to take great delight in just looking at
the pictures. The imaginary friends enable children to laugh at the
craziness of the boy’s actions, but also realize that his methods
of release aren’t always appropriate. Overall, this is a fun book
that encourages using one’s imagination and is sure to appeal
to a wide variety of youngsters. Bridget Slayden, Educational
Reviewer, Rogersville, Missouri

**Metzger, Steve**

**The Dancing Clock**


This rollicking, rhyming story is about a monkey named Milo,
who escapes his cage so he can visit a magical clock in the
Central Park Zoo. Milo is hungry and ready to return to his
cage but the gate is locked. The zookeeper returns him to his
place and all his friends are happy to see him. This picture
book has bright and colorful illustrations with an entertaining
story. Some words may challenge new readers. There is a
brief informational section about the dancing clock located
in New York City’s Central Park Zoo. Jo Monahan, Librarian,
University of North Texas Libraries, Denton, Texas [Editor’s
Note: Also available in paperback.]

**Nolan, Dennis**

**Sea of Dreams**

*2011. 40pp. $16.99 hc. Neal Porter Books (Roaring Brook
Press). 978-1-59643-470-7. Grades 2-6*

Ah, imagination at its finest. Nolan’s wordless book provides
a basis to boost the imagination of any reader. This stunning
book, set between a deep blue ocean with frothy waves and the
rocky shoreline, tells of a little girl who builds a simple sand
castle. After she leaves for the day the tide flows in; the big
rocky shoreline, tells of a little girl who builds a simple sand
castle. After she leaves for the day the tide flows in; the big
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