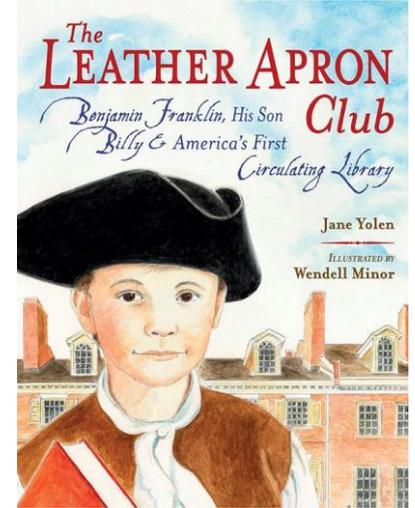




Jane Yolen

The Leather Apron Club



By: Olivia McCall & Isabel MacLean

About the Author

Jane Yolen

- Jane was born in 1939 in New York, NY
- She attended University of Massachusetts Amherst and Smith College

At her time at Smith College, Jane was president of the press board, won the journalism award, and all of the poetry awards.

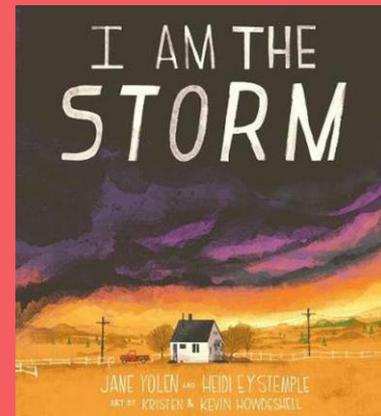
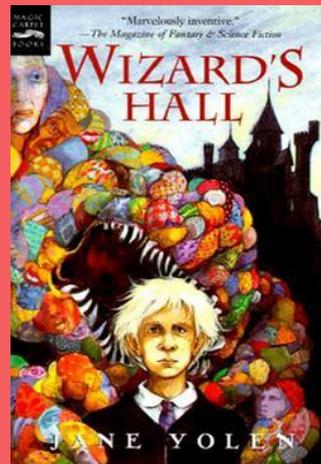
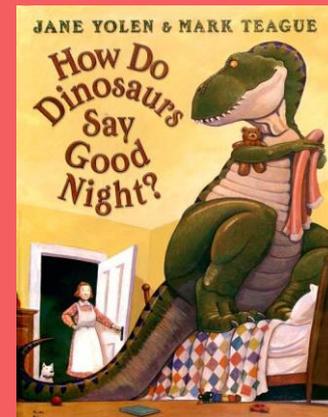
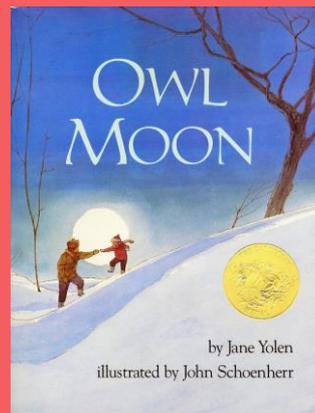
On her 22nd birthday, Jane sold her first children's book- *Pirates in Petticoats*

Jane has worked on over 400 books that include a variety of children and adult books.



Other Books by Jane Yolen

- *Owl Moon*
- *How do Dinosaurs say Goodnight*
- *Wizard's Hall*
- *I am the Storm*



Common Themes in Jane Yolen's Books

- Jane Yolen writes mostly children's books
 - Magic
 - Myths
 - Folklore
 - Tends to use animals or inanimate objects
 - Some include powerful goddesses and heroines
- Has some historical books as well
 - The Holocaust
 - The Leather Apron Club



Awards

- Caldecott Medal
- Two Nebula Awards
- Two Christopher Medals
- Three World Fantasy Awards
- Three Mythopoeic Fantasy Awards
- Two Golden Kite Awards
- The Jewish Book Award
- The Massachusetts Center for the Book award



Awards Continued

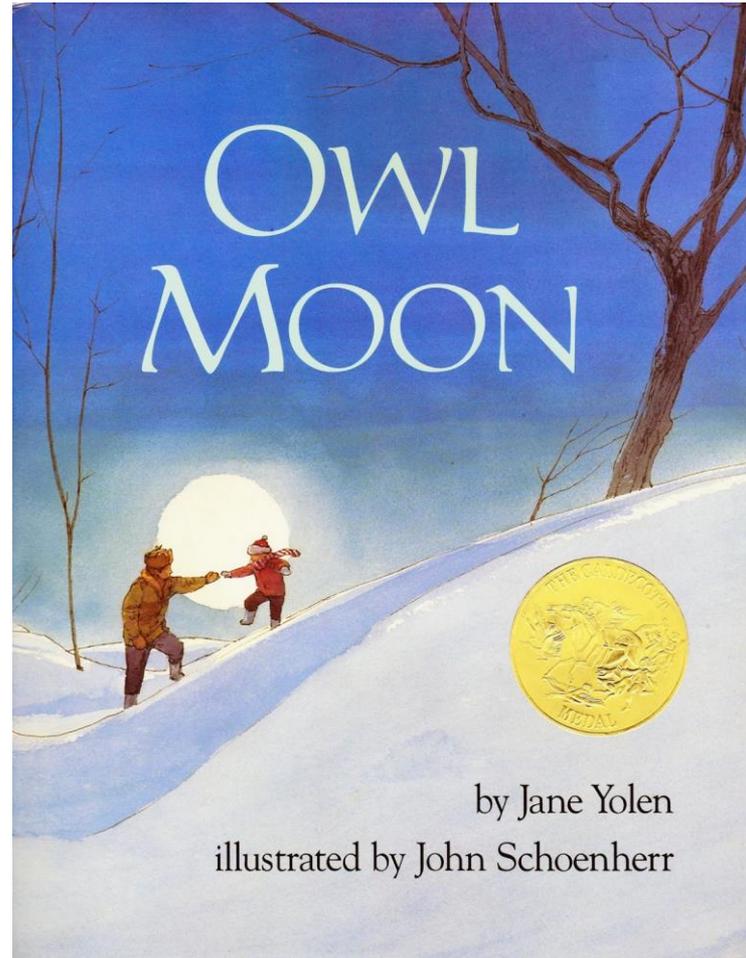
- World Fantasy Association's Lifetime Achievement Award
- World Fantasy Association's Lifetime Achievement Award
- The Science Fiction Writers of America's Grand Master Award
- Science Fiction Poetry Association's Grand Master Award
- Association of Jewish Libraries Award
- Catholic Libraries Medal
- DuGrummond Medal
- Kerlan Award
- Ann Izard storytelling award



Caldecott Medal

Jane has won an incredible number of awards, including the notable Caldecott Medal

- Owl Moon features a young girl and her father on an expedition to see an owl. Although the girl was warned she might not be able to spot an owl, she luckily gets the opportunity to see one.



Interview

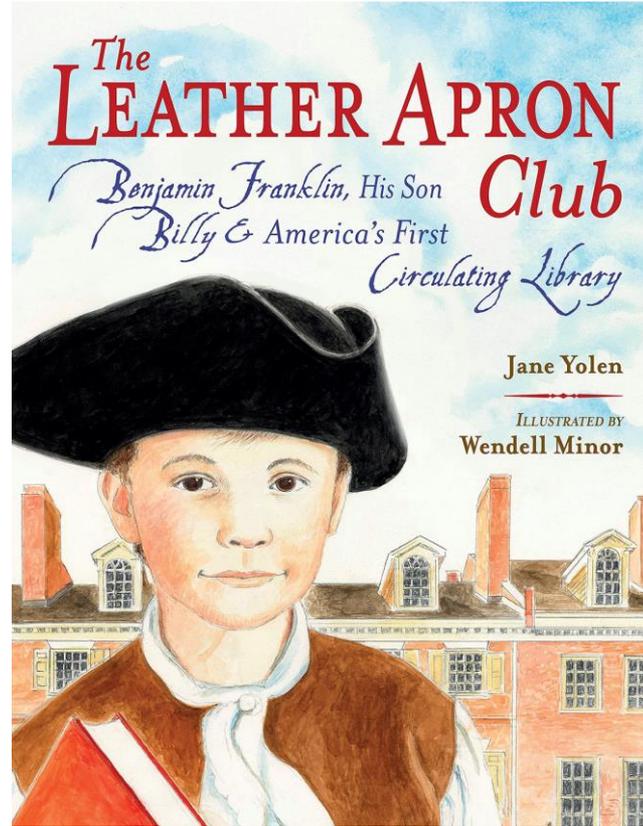


“For me, folktales became great stories and they've become so recognized as great stories that people have continued to tell them and retell them and we shape them to fit our lives.” (2:44)

“One of the things I’ve done for years is to recount or retell these stories in other ways so children can see that there is more to these stories than Walt Disney” (4:24)

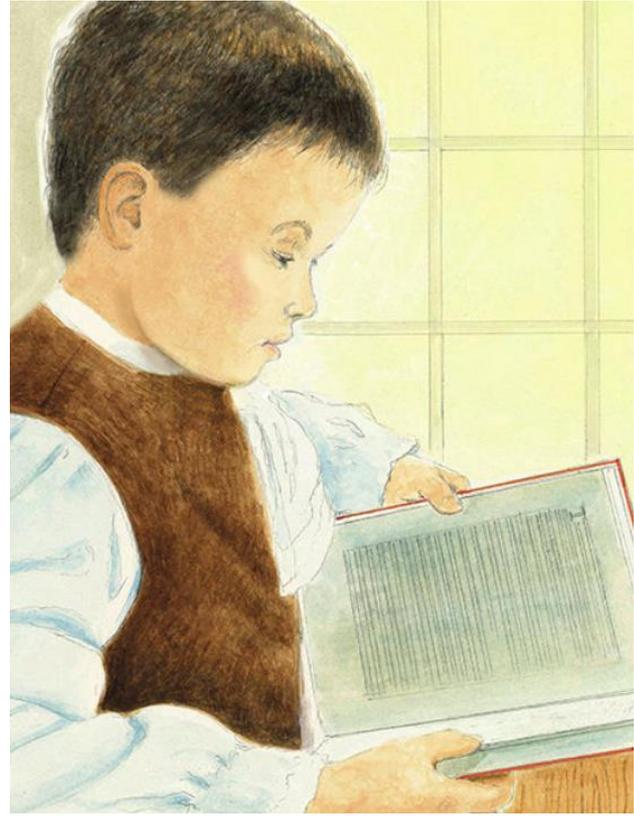
The Leather Apron Club

The Leather Apron Club features two young boys, Billy and James, who seem more interested in playing and being outside than learning and reading. When Billy's father, Benjamin Franklin, tells the boys that they will be getting a tutor, they are immediately uninterested. Although they start out uninvolved with what their tutor is reading with them, Billy very soon after becomes enthralled with the story.



Summary Continued

Billy becomes obsessed with books and reading and how it opens him up to worlds previously unknown to him. Although his friend remains uninterested with books, Billy decides that it is too important to him to give up. He dreams about joining “the leather apron club,” a club with his father and others where he gets to read and talk about books with people who are just as interested as he is.



The Leather Apron Club Themes

- **Changing Friendships:** Billy and James start out as friends and soon come to find out that their differing interests create tension

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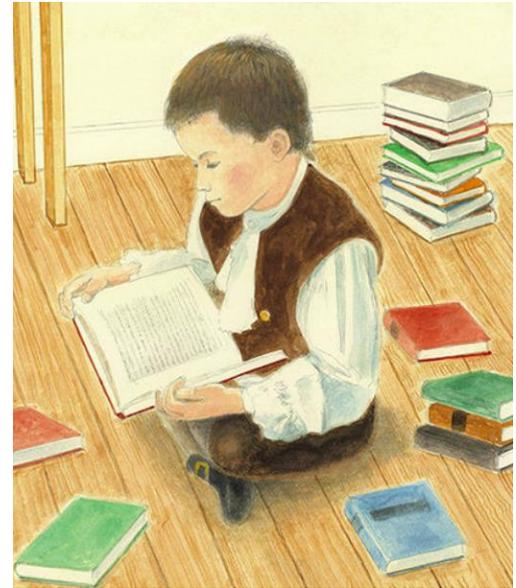
- **Family Relationships:** Relationship between Billy and his father, the famous Ben Franklin, shows great connections and similarities, while Billy and his stepmother are not as close

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The Leather Apron Club Themes

- **Growth in Education:** Billy learns to love books and finding knowledge
 - -----
- **Maturity:** Billy went from playing all day and not taking anything too seriously, to having a tutor and reading. He finds that he genuinely enjoys the new way of life that was introduced to him.
 - -----
- **History:** Benjamin Franklin and the first library established during colonial times



Why Students Should Read *The Leather Apron Club*

- To learn the history of Benjamin Franklin and the first library
- Billy matured and faced growth when he found his love for reading
- When reading this book children can learn about the doors that reading can open to the imagination and the importance of education
- The Leather Apron club is a good historical story that can help readers understand the time and learn about the various topics



Sources

The Leather Apron Club

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