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The Chameleon and the Dragonfly

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Eliassen, Lorena. *The Chameleon and the Dragonfly*. Illustrated by Lorena Eliassen. Orchard Books, 2004. ISBN 0439523206. \$16.95. 22 pp.

Reviewer: Sandra L. Tidwell

Reading Level: Preschool, Primary

Rating: Outstanding

Genre: Toy and Movable books; Picture books;

Subject: Chameleons--Juvenile Literature; Animals--Juvenile Fiction; Book--Reviews;

This cleverly designed pop-up book tells how Pepe, a green and yellow chameleon, wishes he could change colors in order to hide from a snake. His wish is granted by a glistening silver-winged dragonfly. The large, vivid pop-ups are of Pepe, the snake, and the dragonfly. The dragonfly pop-up is particularly impressive. The insect's multiple body parts are detailed and the total figure measures about 15" wide, 4" deep, and 5" high. In addition to the pop-ups, tabs move leaves to hide Pepe and a spinning color wheel changes Pepe's colors through all the colors of the rainbow. A warning with any pop-up book; you need to be careful that little hands don't grab the intricate pieces of the big pop-ups. I recommend this book to Moms to create a memory with their preschoolers about the wonder of the world of camouflage.