



2008

Our Library

Marsha D. Broadway

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Bunting, Eve. *Our Library*. Illustrated by Maggie Smith. Clarion, 2008. ISBN 9780618494583. \$16.00. 32 p.

Reviewer: Marsha D. Broadway

Reading Level: Preschool, Primary

Rating: Dependable

Genre: Animal stories;

Subject: Libraries--Juvenile fiction; Books and reading--Juvenile fiction; Animals--Juvenile fiction; Books--Reviews;

When librarian Miss Goose whispers to the children, "Our library is going to close forever," a young raccoon and his friends work to replace the roof, paint the building, raise money, and arrange to move the library to a beautiful meadow.

Bright watercolor and acrylic illustrations create a child-friendly environment in both the library and its community. Young readers discover what books the characters are reading by finding titles prominently displayed on book covers included in the illustrations. The story's theme, "There is nothing you can't learn to do if you have books," is echoed in the characters' actions as they read to gain the information and skills they need to save their public library. In addition to its literacy message, this picture book could be used to encourage children to be proactive in community issues and to recognize the power they have to create positive change.

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