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Sharon Creech (1945-)



Something About the Author. Vol.139 (2003)

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ten. As well, both works emphasize the need to preserve such natural wonders, encouraging children to take an interest in conservation of endangered habitats. Calling the author's text in *The Forest in the Clouds* "focused and coherent," Carolyn Phelan of the *Booklist* believed that Collard "gives a clear sense of the diversity of life to be found in a cloud forest and the need to protect it." Writing in the same periodical about *Horsetails*, critic Randy Meyer offered strong words of praise for the author, claiming that "thanks to the unimpaired pen of science writer Collard, the scientific Shangri-la comes to life."

Focuses on the development of animals, Collard has written three books sharing with children how small creatures are created, cared for, and eventually survive on their own. In *Golden Doodle*, he introduces young readers to the many different ways that fathers take care of their young, from keeping them safe in building shelters to even birthing them, as in the case of subornes. Illustrated with paper-dollage pictures by Steve Jenkins, *Golden Doodle* addresses both a younger and older audience through Collard's use of a simple text printed in large type across the page for small children and a more detailed paragraph on the same spread explaining more difficult concepts for older children. Writing in *Booklist*, Carolyn Phelan found the work "attractive," while a *Packhorse* library critic called *Animal Atlas* an "eye-catching book," featuring "a celebration of all the things human and animal dads do."

Using a similar split-text technique, Collard continues his exploration into the animal world with *Miniature Animals Rules*. Here the author explains how animal young come into the world, discussing the different methods by which creatures reproduce. Using a wide variety of living things, including sea animals, insects, and mammals, Collard not only shares with young readers how babies come about, but also some of the mating rituals animals perform, how embryos develop, and how babies are born. Described as "an interesting

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MLA 7th Edition

APA 6th Edition

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