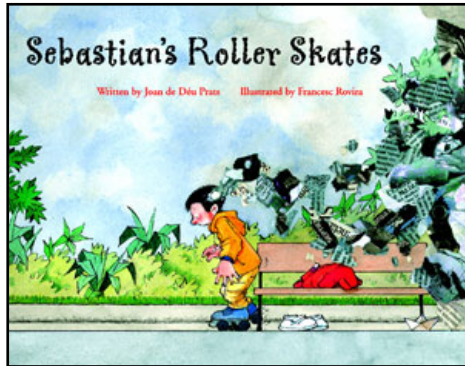


STORYLINE ONLINE PRESENTS:

"SEBASTIAN'S ROLLER SKATES"

By Joan de Deu Prats, Illustrations by Francesc Rovira

Watch online video of actor *Caitlin Wachs* reading this story at <http://www.storylineonline.net>



Sebastian didn't talk very much, even though he had a lot to say. Sebastian was shy. He was very shy. But when he finds a pair of old roller skates in the park, he learns how to do much more than skate. Children and adults alike will find that this award-winning picture book has a lot to say both about recognizing who you are, and who you'd like to be.

RELATED ACTIVITIES

- Retell this story in your own words.
- Discuss and then write about what you enjoyed most about this book.
- Have you ever been in a situation where you had something to say, but you were too shy to say it? Explain this situation to someone.
- If you have some advice to share about how you have worked through being too shy to talk, share that with someone.
- Go roller skating. Keep mental notes about what you enjoy most about roller skating. When you finish, write down your ideas.
- Make a poster of "Safety Tips for Roller Skating." Put this up to remind everyone to stay safe when roller skating.
- Watch someone else roller skate. Take notes on what they do to skate forward, skate backward, and turn in different directions. Write out directions to these moves.
- The art work in this book is very beautiful. Study the illustrations and make notes of what the illustrator did to make these illustrations. Share your ideas with someone.

MORE ACTIVITIES

- Write a "List of Helpful Hints" for someone who is shy to help them say what they want to say. Make your list into a poster to hang put on the wall.
- Research "How to Roller Skate." Make a list of what and how you would teach someone learning to roller skate. Draw sketches to go with your list.
- Find someone who doesn't know how to roller skate and teach them how.
- Take a photograph of "your student" roller skating.
- Tell or write about an experience of getting a haircut that you really liked or that you didn't like at all. How did you feel? Were you able to communicate your feelings to the person that gave you the haircut? How?

INTERNET ACTIVITIES

- Learn about the History of Roller Skating at www.en.wikipedia.com
Make a list of how the roller skating equipment has changed over the years.
- Go to www.rollerskating.org to learn about National Roller Skating Month. Make a poster advertising the events planned for this special month.
- Learn what decoupage art is at www.painting.about.com
- Learn about the history of decoupage art at www.decoupage.org
Plan and make a picture using decoupage art techniques.
- If you go to www.ccsd.edu you will find directions for a torn paper collage art project. Read the directions, collect the materials, and then make the project.
- The website www.childs.mccsc.edu has many examples of paper collage work by children. Enjoy looking at these projects, then choose one to do yourself.

ABOUT THE READER



Caitlin Wachs is a young actor with a long list of credits. Over the last eleven years she has appeared on television in: *Profiler*; *Family Affair* and most recently as one of the first daughters in *Commander in Chief*. Among Caitlin's movie credits are: *Air Bud: World Pup*; *My Dog Skip*; *The Next Best Thing*; *Thirteen Days*; and *Mary Worth*. Caitlin lives in the Los Angeles area with her parents and younger brother.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Joan de Deu Prats, a Catalan native, has written more than 45 books for young children. Her work has been translated into Italian, Korean, English and even Braille. She has twice won the Hospital Sant Joan de Deu prize awarded for excellence in children's literature.

Other Books by Joan de Deu Prats:

- "Cuentos Terroríficos de Fantasmas"
- "El Hombre Invisible/the Invisible Man (Cuentos, Mitos Y Libros)"
- "Oulembe el Zahori/Oulembe the perspicacious and curious person"
- "La Lluvia Dentro De Casa"
- "Un Topo en Un Mar de Hierba"
- "Así Era Mi Abuelito"
- "Fricando"
- "El Señor Guerra Y La Señora Paz"
- "O Home Invisible"
- "Un banco al sol: Al galope"

ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Francesc Rovira was born in Barcelona in 1958 straight into the middle of a large family. "What I mostly loved was to look at drawings, comic strips and illustrations. I would always first read the images; then I would read the text to find where the illustrator had got the ideas. Gradually I came to decide I also wanted to interpret and explain ideas through drawings."

SOME OTHER BOOKS ABOUT ROLLER SKATES:

- "A Teacher on Roller Skates and Other School Riddles" by David Adler and John Wallner
"Rabbits on Roller Skates!" by Jan Wahl and David Allender
"The Runaway Roller Skate" by John Vernon Lord
"Roller Skates" by Ruth Sawyer
"Roller Skates!" by Stephanie Calmenson and True Kelley
"Karen's Roller Skates" by Ann M. Martin
"Count Roller Skates" by Thomas Sancton
"I Can Roller Skates" by Sheila Fraser and Lisa Kopper
"Roller Skates" by Silky Sullivan and Lois Axeman
"Roller Skate Mania" by Edward Radlauer
"Roller Skating: A Beginner's Guide" by I.G. Edmonds
"Better Roller Skating for Boys and Girls" by George Sullivan
"Roller Skating: Fundamentals and Techniques" by Sharon Kay Stoll
"Roller Skating Is for Me" by Tom Moran and Marilyn Groch
"Roller Skating (Action Sports)" by Eileen Kulper
"The Complete Book of Roller Skating" by Consumer Guide

SOME OTHER BOOKS ABOUT BEING SHY:

- "I Don't Know Why---I Guess I'm Shy: A story about taming imaginary fears" by Barbara Cain and J.J. Smith-Moore
"So Shy" by V. Morrison and N. Hilb
"The Shy Little Kitten" by Cathleen Schurr

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Content developed by JAN POWELL, BookPALS National Program Director.

Storyline Online is brought to you by the Screen Actors Guild Foundation and made possible by a generous grant from Verizon Yellow Pages.

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