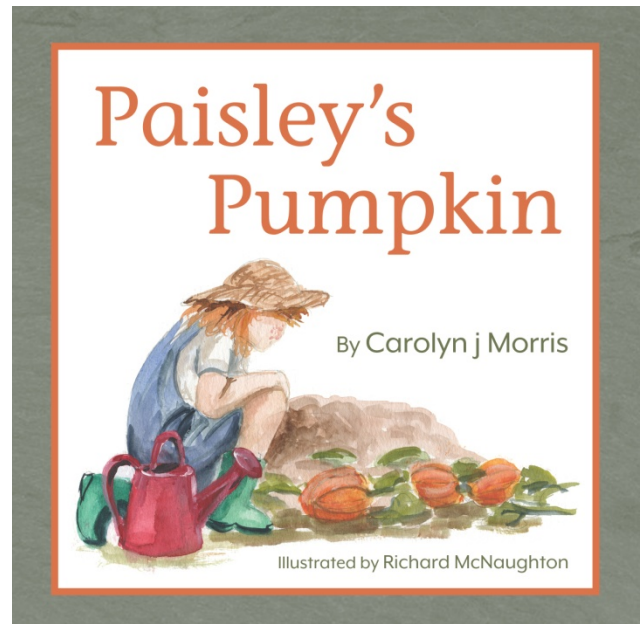

Book Review

PAISLEY'S PUMPKIN

Curiosity and wonderment are two of the most important and precious attributes of childhood. Carolyn j Morris brings these to us beautifully in her new book *Paisley's Pumpkin*. From an unexpected sprout in spring to the harvest of a pumpkin in fall, this story unfolds in the most delightful way. A pumpkin patch develops with Paisley's dedicated care and readers become involved in a story created through the curiosity of a young child. Paisley's Mom, who is a farmer, promotes an attitude of wonder for her daughter in a way that provides a role-model for parent and child conversations.

Paisley's Pumpkin is the first book in Morris's new series Railfence Bunch Kids. As in her earlier series, this author's ability to use brilliant language structures within a heartwarming story makes for a captivating reading experience. Carolyn's understanding of on-farm happenings is evident in the vocabulary used and settings portrayed on this family farm. Along with discovering how seeds root in soil, it will be easy to encourage readers to investigate other topics like compost heaps, barnyard birds, front-end loaders and first prize ribbons.



Illustrator Richard McNaughton enhances Morris's appealing text with art work that invites a reader completely into Paisley's world. Yet, there is an openness to his artwork that encourages both imagination and making connections to personal experiences.

Paisley's Pumpkin offers a spring to fall sequence of events that will be well enjoyed by young readers and by those who read with them.

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