

#### Notes to Parents and Teachers

A story about the importance of taking time to play, Floss can help launch discussions with children about balancing responsibilities with fun, and about growing up and growing old. It also offers a fascinating glimpse into life on a sheep farm in Scotland and may inspire children to learn more about farming, working dogs, and other animals that are trained to help people.

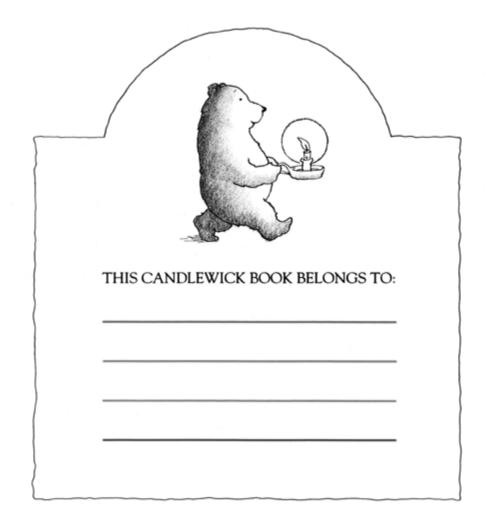
Children learn to read — and to love books — when adults share their own pleasure in reading and language. Here are a few suggestions for giving the children in your life a lasting love of reading:

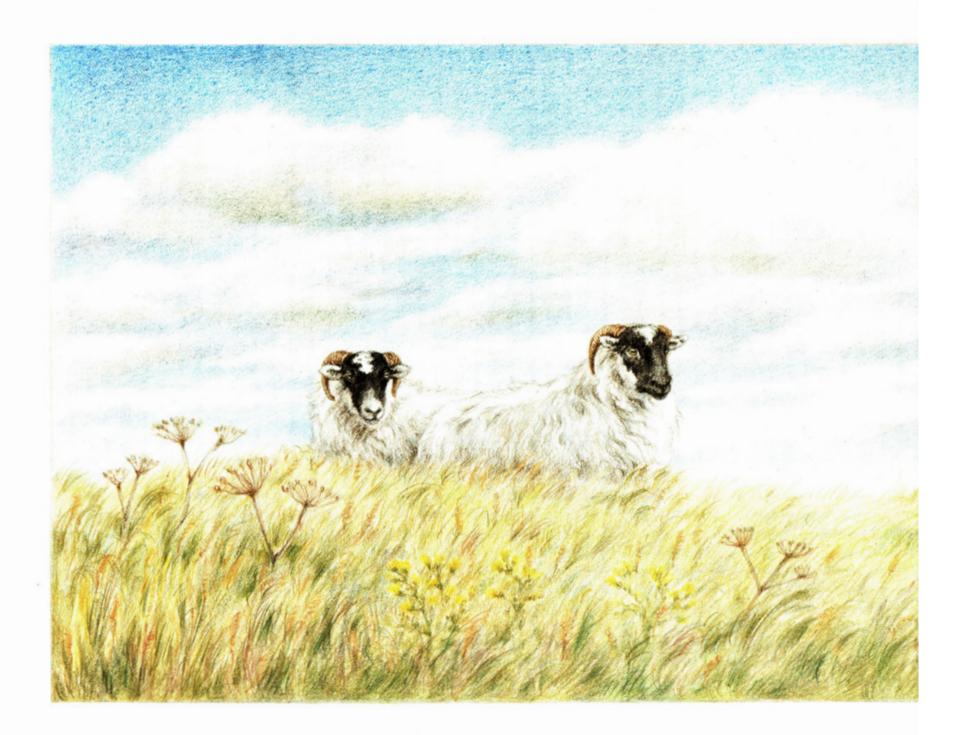
SURROUND CHILDREN WITH BOOKS AND WRITING. Visit your library regularly, and make buying new books a frequent treat. Put cloth and board books in the baby's playpen, and keep one or two books in the car for older children. Show children that words are everywhere — not just on the pages of a book, but also on cereal boxes, billboards, and street signs.

**READ ALOUD.** Read to children every day, and have older children read to you. They will associate the pleasure and intimacy of the reading experience with books.

MAKE READING AN ACTIVE EXPERIENCE. Use the books you've read as a jumping-off point for other discussions with children. Encourage children to share their own ideas and experiences through storytelling or artwork.

This book can be grouped with others about dogs, farming, and pets.







### For John Mitchell and Floss



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Summary: Even after she becomes a skilled and
hardworking sheepdog, a playful border collie never forgets
the joy of playing with happy children.
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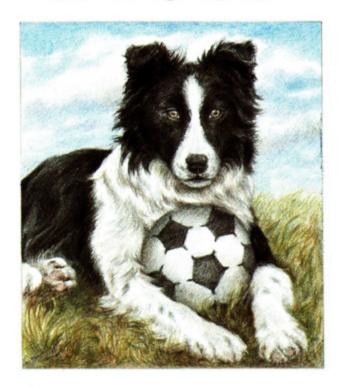
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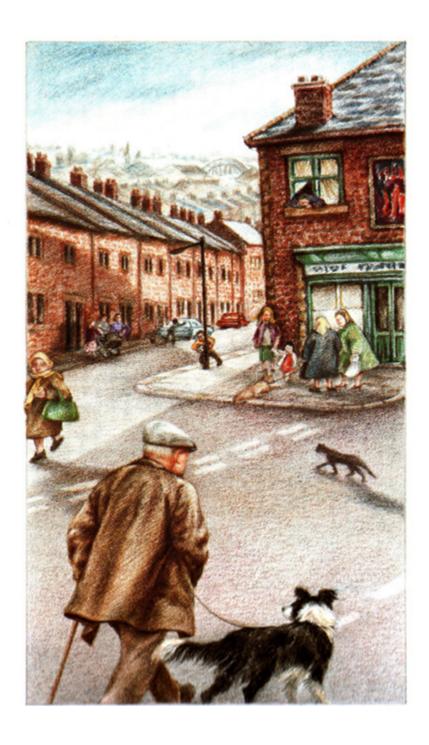
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## Floss



by Kim Lewis





Floss was a young
Border collie who
belonged to an old
man in a town.
She walked with the
old man in the
streets and loved
playing ball with
children in the park.

WHEN YOU'RE LOOKING FOR CHILDREN'S BOOKS, LOOK FOR THE BEAR.

It's your guarantee of quality.

# Floss

Floss is a young Border collie who really knows how to play ball! But when she's sent to a distant farm to become a sheepdog, there's so much work to be done that Floss has little time for fun. Will she ever get the chance to play ball again?

"Dog lovers in particular will be touched by Floss's plight and Lewis's tender, true-to-life portrayal of her diverse expressions." — *Publishers Weekly* 

"A veritable armchair tour through the mountainous wilds of northern England and its working sheep farms." — School Library Journal

"The drawings of Floss are particularly lively." — Booklist



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