

MILK & HONEY



“Excuse me. I hate to bother you, but are you from that place that gave my daughter a book yesterday at school?” she asked in earnest. She had approached Ms. Amanda in the grocery store check out line.

“Yes,” said Amanda, pointing to the sunshine logo on her shirt. “I’m Ms. Amanda and I teach music and movement for The Craddock Center. We were at school for music and storytelling, and the Story Express gave away a free, new book to all of the children here.”

“Well, my daughter LOVES her book! She is so excited! I read it to her when she got home, then she read it to our dog and to her grandma. She fell asleep with her book in her arms and insisted on taking it to school again today.” said the mom, clearly proud. “Thank you so much.”




WOW! **Thank you** for giving this little girl THREE books this year! The day described by this mom was a special day at that particular Head Start/Pre-K. We were filming new footage for a video short about The Craddock Center, so it was an exciting day for our four-year-olds. I could tell as each class entered the room that their teachers had told them about the cameras and had warned them to be on their best behavior.


As each class finished, they lined up outside the Story Express, where volunteers were poised to help them climb aboard to choose a new book. I chatted with several children about their selections as they came off the Story Express, but the pictures tell the most powerful story.

Take a look at our two little friends. With my teacher hat on, I see engagement in pictures. It’s a critical pre-literacy skill: understanding that those pictures support the story will free their little brains to focus on words once they start reading. And take a look at the photo below. They are engaged not only in the story, but also in the other aspects of the book; in this case, references to OTHER books in this series—yet another element that builds solid reading readiness: noticing features of books.

Taking my teacher hat off, I see their faces, particularly in the first photo. THAT is “happy & hope”! Wouldn’t it be great to give away FOUR books next year??? —JJJ



 **The Craddock Center Board**
2016 Those Darn Squirrels



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 **The Craddock Center Board**
Fred B. Craddock



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IN A LOT OF THE MOUNTAIN

CHURCHES when I was moving among these mountains, [there was] on Wednesday prayer meeting time...Bible study and prayer meeting--very little Bible study and sometimes not much praying, but a lot of talking and visiting. It was a good time. There were testimonies: people give testimony of Christian experience. Some of the churches, in order to join, you had to give a testimony of some experience of God, or an experience of beating the devil, or something like that to be admitted to membership.

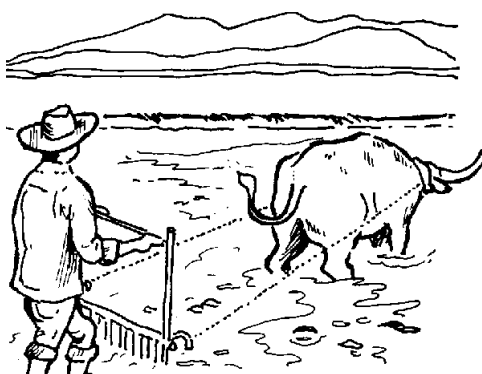
I remember one night at one of those churches, a man in the community, a small farmer, gave an unusual testimony. Essentially, this is what he said:

I was plowing yesterday. And when I got to the end of the row, there was Jesus Christ sittin' on a fence...At least I think it was Jesus Christ. It coulda been God. They tell me they look pretty much alike.

I thought he was getting ready for a joke. He was very serious. And one of the people in the congregation said, Well, what *did* he look like? This fella said:

Well, he looked just like his picture.

But did he *say* anything?



No, he didn't say anything. But I could tell by the expression on his face he wanted me to quit and go in the house and rest. And that's what I did.

—FBC, as recounted at *Winged for the Heart*, 2002

BY the Numbers

3 new books
our preschoolers
receive 2015-16

books donated
in March **1217**

19 volunteer hours spent
processing books

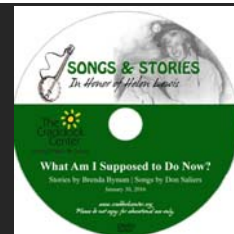
volunteers who
processed books **6**

4 new book
distribution
goal '16-'17



Don't let this happen to *your* Milk & Honey! Please let us know if we need to update your contact information, send you our newsletter via email, or temporarily suspend your mailings. Thank you for helping us steward your generosity efficaciously! Missing a story? Archived newsletters can be found at craddockcenter.org.

Didn't get to attend *Songs & Stories* in January? Contact us at the Center. We can circulate the DVD to you via mail or pickup.



Check out Camp Craddock "Buckets" pinterest.com/craddockcenter



The Craddock Center
Happy & Hope. We Deliver.
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