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BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS BOOKS

Kids' America by Steven Caney. New York: Workman Publishing Company, 1978, introduction, index, 414 pp. \$6.95

In his "Introduction," Steven Caney, author of *Toybook* and *Playbook*, says that *Kids' America* can be read as a "story book, crafts book, recipe book, practical reference, and even a history book." It is all that and more, and although it is not a folklore text, *Kids' America* does contain a lot of children's lore.

Each section of the book has some folklore in it. "Eating in America" is primarily a cookbook; but there is information on regional foods and on Johnny Appleseed, and there is a side bar explaining "lunch counter lingo." The "American Know-How" section, however, is full of folklore, from weather superstitions and candlemaking to folk remedies and butter churns. And the other chapters are similar mixtures of folklore and other materials.

Kids' America is over 400 pages of crafts, games, passtimes, hobbies, and other activities. It is a book which kids will like and which adults interested in kids' activities will like.

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World Folktales by Atelia Clarkeson and Gilbert B. Cross. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1980, preface, appendixes, selected bibliography, 450 pp. \$20.00

World Folktales is a "Scribner Resource Collection" which attempts to "bridge the gap between folklore and children's literature."

The first section of the book, ten pages, relates a brief history of and commentary on folktale study. It also explains the basic reference works, from *The Types of the Folk Tale*, Aarne and Thompson, to the *Annotated Bibliography and Index to Single Editions*, Zeigler.

The second section, over 350 pages, contains 66 folktales from all over the world. Each tale is a reprint from a previous collection or journal, the oldest from *Fairy Legends and Traditions of the South of Ireland*, 1825. Each tale is followed by a commentary almost as long as the tale itself, a list of the principal motifs, and a list of parallel stories.

The appendixes discuss using folktales in the elementary and college classrooms, list popular tale titles, and index motifs and tale types. The bibliography contains over 375 items.

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