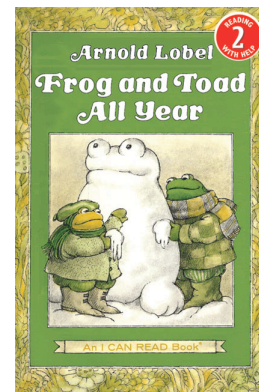
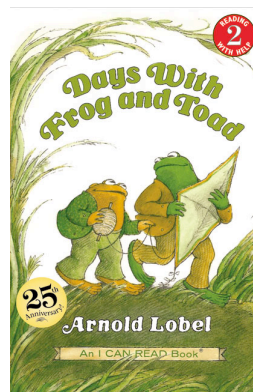
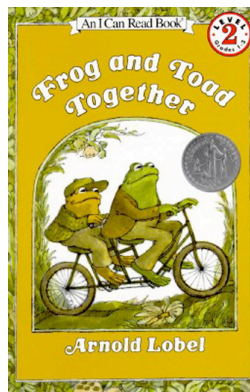
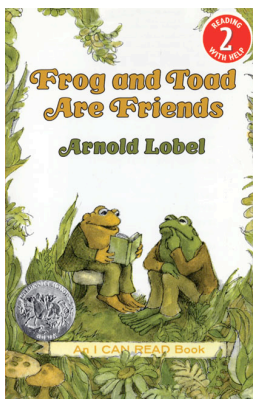


A Year With Frog and Toad

A hit on Broadway, *A Year With Frog and Toad* was nominated for 3 Tony Awards - including Best Musical. Now, for the first time, an all-new production will tour across North America. Arnold Lobel's beloved characters hop from the page to the stage in Robert and Willie Reale's musical *A Year With Frog and Toad*. Developed by Mr. Lobel's daughter, Adrienne Lobel, the stage musical remains true to the spirit of the original stories as it follows two great friends, the cheerful and popular Frog and the rather grumpy Toad through four fun-filled seasons. Waking from hibernation in the spring, they proceed to plant gardens, swim, rake leaves and go sledding, learning life lessons along the way, including a most important one about friendship and rejoicing in the attributes that make each of us different and special.

Grades K-6, ages 5 and up

THE BOOKS



TOURING PRODUCTION DESIGN LED BY ORIGINAL BROADWAY DESIGNER

Adrianne Lobel designs scenery for theatre, opera, and dance. Broadway productions include *A Year with Frog and Toad*, *On the Town* (1998, directed by George Wolfe), *The Diary of Anne Frank* (1997, directed by James Lapine) and *Passion*. National and international opera credits include *Lady in the Dark* at The Royal National Theatre, London, *Platée* at Covent Garden and many productions directed by Peter Sellars.

Ms. Lobel has designed for ACT, The Acting Company, The American Repertory Theater, Arena Stage (Associate Artist) The Astor Place Theatre, The Goodman Theater, The Guthrie Theater, The Hartford Stage Company, The La Jolla Playhouse, Manhattan Theater Club, The Mitzi Newhouse Theater at Lincoln Center, The New York Shakespeare Festival, New York Stage and Film, The Oxford Playhouse, Playwright's Horizons, The Roundabout, The Second Stage Company, The South Coast Repertory, The Tricycle Theater – London and The Yale Repertory Theater.

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHY



Arnold Lobel

During his distinguished career Arnold Lobel wrote and/or illustrated over 70 books for children. To his illustrating credit, he had a Caldecott Medal book -- *Fables* (1981) -- and two Caldecott Honor Books-his own *Frog and Toad are Friends* (1971) and *Hildilid's Night* by Cheli Duran Ryan (1972). To his writing credit, he had a Newbery Honor Book -- *Frog and Toad Together* (1973). But to his greatest credit, he had a following of literally millions of young children with whom he shared the warmth and humor of his unpretentious vision of life.

Though he was a born storyteller -- he began making up stories extemporaneously to entertain his fellow second-graders in Schenectady, New York, where he grew up in the care of his grandparents. Mr. Lobel called himself a "lucky amateur" in terms of his writing. Viewing himself as a professionally trained illustrator (he received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Pratt Institute), he said, "I know how to draw pictures. With writing, I don't really know what I'm doing. It's very intuitive."

In addition to the *Frog and Toad* books, *Owl at Home*, *Mouse Tales*, *The Book of Pigericks*, and many other popular books he created, Mr. Lobel also illustrated other writers' texts that captured his fancy. He viewed this as "something different and challenging." Often his illustrations for those books showed a different aspect of his personality and his artistic expertise, ranging from his meticulous dinosaurs in *Dinosaur Time* by Peggy Parish to his chilling pen-and-ink drawings in *Nightmares: Poems to Trouble Your Sleep* by Jack Prelutsky, about which *Booklist* wrote, "Young readers will be amazed that the gentle Lobel of Frog and Toad fame can be so comfortably diabolic."

In 1977 Mr. Lobel and his wife, Anita, a distinguished children's book author and artist in her own right, collaborated on their first book, *How the Rooster Saved the Day*, chosen by School Library Journal as one of the Best Books of the Year, 1977. They then collaborated on three more books, *A Treeful of Pigs*, a 1979 ALA Notable Book; *On Market Street*, a 1982 Caldecott Honor Book; and *The Rose in My Garden*, a 1984 Boston Globe/Horn Book Honor Book. Arnold Lobel died in 1987.

ORIGINAL BROADWAY CAST ALBUM



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