

A full-page photograph of actor Jason Momoa. He is standing, leaning against a light-colored wall or window frame. He has long, dark dreadlocks and a goatee. He is wearing a dark navy blue blazer over a white t-shirt, and a dark scarf with a white skull pattern. His right hand is in his pocket.

movie  
entertainment

FEATURE

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MARCH 2012 \$3.95

### Politically correct

HBO's *Game Change* nails  
2008 U.S. election

### The Lorax

Unlike *Borax* in a thorax  
Seuss movie is groovy

### Sand and ski wear

Eye-popping fashion  
for beach and slopes

### Payback time

Margaret Atwood  
on film adaptation  
and the nature of debt

# Jason Momoa

in *Conan the Barbarian*  
on The Movie Network

# You've got Kids

Cindy McGlynn

Regardless of what proverbs say, March tends to be all lion, from start to finish. Best bet is to bundle up – or cuddle up with some wonderful books and games. We've got a few great picks, along with accessories for junior jet-setters and some wonderful touring entertainment. All that, and an indoor cupcake garden, should help dull the winter's mighty roar.

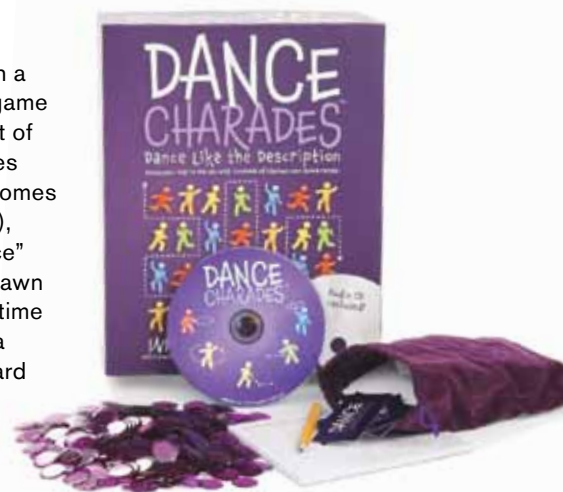


## ON THE ROAD AGAIN

If March break means jet-setting to warmer climates, the bag-makers at Beatrix New York have the ultimate accessory for the kid-on-the-go. These sweet little carry-ons come adorned with your choice of ladybug, fuzzy bear, scary dinosaur and a handful of other designs. They're made for kids but built to last with a sturdy frame covered with heavy-duty nylon and an adjustable handle that goes all the way up to lock at grown-up height, too. Free of PVC, lead and phthalate, 13 x 16 x 6.5 inches. \$94 US at [beatrixny.com](http://beatrixny.com)

## GOT GAME?

Dance Charades is charades with a twist – literally. This lively family game comes with recorded music, a set of 300 charades cards and directives to bust a move. When your turn comes up (each player gets 40 seconds), you crank up the tunes and “dance” out items for players to guess (a lawn mower ... a sprinkler, etc.). Every time someone guesses right, you get a point. Plus, other players can award you up to three bonus points for awesome dance moves. All ages. \$19.95 at [mastermindtoys.com](http://mastermindtoys.com)



Peter Pan is still looking for his elusive shadow in a special episode of *Jake and the Never Land Pirates*.

## YO HO HO!

On March 23, families won't need to take the second star to the right and then travel straight on till morning to see Peter Pan, as Never Land's most famous resident returns to television screens in a special episode of *Jake and the Never Land Pirates*, premiering on Disney Junior. Peter Pan makes his first appearance on the hit preschool show to enlist Jake and the rest of his pint-sized crew in a search for his lost shadow. The special 45-minute episode also features six original pirate songs.

## READ MUCH?

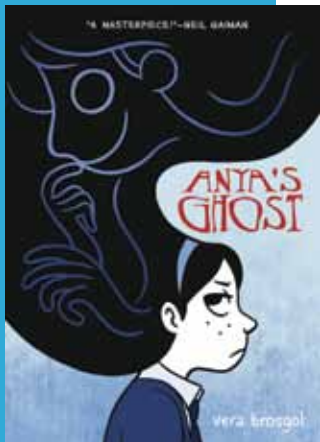
### The Wormworld Saga Chapter 2, The Journey Begins

On Christmas Day 2010, writer and illustrator Daniel Lieske delighted readers with the first chapter of his lavishly illustrated online graphic novel *The Wormworld Saga*. *Chapter 1, The Last Day of School* introduced us to the story of a young boy's mysterious summer adventure at his grandmother's farmhouse. Then last Christmas, Lieske launched *Chapter 2, The Journey Begins*, which finds our young protagonist, Jonah, becoming more bold in his imaginary adventures and getting into some real-world trouble, too. Lieske's show-stopping work – aimed at grade-school readers but easily enjoyed by anyone – is available free online at [wormworldsaga.com](http://wormworldsaga.com)



### Anya's Ghost

Widely acclaimed as one of the best 10 books of 2011, *Anya's Ghost* is the first book by Vera Brosgol, a Russian-born American author with a Canadian connection: she's a graduate of Sheridan College in Oakville, Ont. This graphic novel tells the story of a young teenager dealing with the usual trials and tribulations of her age: body image, friendship, social awkwardness. Anya's personal narrative is complicated by the fact that her family came to America from Russia when she was five, but all Anya wants is to be an all-American girl. Her life is further complicated by the fact that her new BFF is a ghost, with some dark intentions. Beautifully illustrated and written in an engaging tone, the whole package is reminiscent of the French-language autobiographical comic *Persepolis* by Marjane Satrapi. Which is to say, Brosgol is in good company and an author to watch. Available at [amazon.ca](http://amazon.ca)



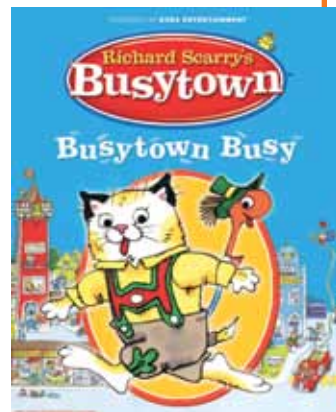
## GET ME A BLOOMIN' CUPCAKE!

Move over, Easy-Bake Oven. Blooming Cupcakes bring the garden to the kitchen with cute cupcake molds that go directly into a full-sized oven to bake tasty, potted cupcakes. Top each cupcake with fluffy frosting, and then decorate with the icing pen and sprinkles to make grass and flowers! The kits come with six oven-safe silicone flowerpots, chocolate cupcake mix, vanilla frosting mix, sprinkles and an icing pen. \$19.95 at [mastermindtoys.com](http://mastermindtoys.com)



## A REALLY BIG SHOW

Everyone knows Huckle Cat is one smart cookie. But can he sing? Find out in *Busytown Busy*, a new live-action show based on *Richard Scarry's Busytown* (produced by the folks behind the popular Doodlebops and Backyardigans tours). *Busytown Busy* finds Huckle Cat and friends Sally Cat, Lowly Worm, Sergeant Murphy and others all getting ready for the Busytown talent contest. Terrific costumes, a talented cast and plenty of audience interaction make this colourful musical production a great fit for the pre-school crowd. Visit [busytownmysteries.com](http://busytownmysteries.com) for more information.



### Select Busytown Busy Show Dates:

- March 3** – Richmond Hill Centre for Performing Arts
- March 4** – Oakville Centre for Performing Arts
- March 5** – Guelph River Run Centre
- March 6** – Orillia Opera House Theatre
- March 8** – Sarnia Imperial Theatre
- March 10** – Hamilton Place
- March 16** – Niagara Falls Scotiabank Convention Centre
- March 18** – London Centennial Hall
- March 23** – Sault Ste. Marie Kiwanis Community Theatre
- March 25** – Thunder Bay Community Auditorium