

A curious mouse and a macho frog

Nellie & Cezar

INGRID GODON & BETTE WESTERA

Nellie the Mouse and Cezar the Frog have been inseparable for over twenty years and are best friends to little children. There's a whole string of books and other publications around these two figures: from picture, text and activity books to a television series and hand puppets. Illustrator Ingrid Godon and author Bette Westera have now joined forces to give the franchise a fresh new overhaul. In their series about Nellie & Cezar, Godon and Westera make picture books for infants and board books for toddlers.

So far, two picture books have been published.

In 'I'm Happy', it's raining and Nellie and Cezar have lots of fun tramping through the puddles with Fons. But then suddenly some less pleasant things start happening. 'I'm happy!' addresses recognisable feelings for pre-schoolers: anger, joy, fear, sorrow, surprise and lots more.

In 'The Four Seasons', Nellie & Cezar take infants with them on adventures: riding a sleigh and making a snowman in the winter, camping in the spring, sailing a boat and swimming in a lake in the summer, and stepping through leaves in the autumn.

A feast of detail with lots of bright, cheerful colours

DE LEESWELP

Toddlers too can get to know Nellie & Cezar better in two board books.

'I Count to Ten' is a colourful counting book: there is one Nellie who is celebrating her birthday, two strawberries on the cake, three party hats and four presents. And how many balloons did Cezar blow up and how many little flags decorate the house?

In 'The Pool Is Cool' toddlers get to know new friends of Nellie and Cezar. They all have their own things and games. Sometimes they share these with each other, and sometimes they have rows about them. Concepts such as 'you and I', 'mine and ours', 'she and he' are central in this book.



AUTHORS



Ingrid Godon (b. 1958) enjoys international renown as an illustrator with her own style: stripped down and distilled to the essence. Her series of 'Nellie & Cezar' was made into cartoons that have been broadcast all over the world. With 'I Wish' she set a new course, a series of portraits which also appeal to adults. *Photo © Margot Krizsa* **Bette Westera** (b. 1958) has written many children's books, among them picture, poetry and nonfiction books. In her seemingly simple texts, she manages to combine serious issues and humour. She has won several awards and her work is often compared to that of Annie M.G. Schmidt.

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