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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
**Press Release**

January 14, 2010

# The Wartime Escape of Curious George's Creators

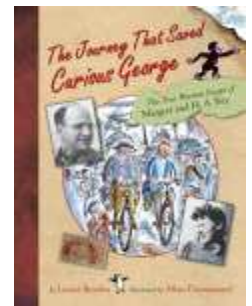
## Main Library Exhibit Tells the Harrowing Tale Through March 10



More than three generations of Americans have grown up reading the stories of an irrepressible little brown monkey known in this country as “Curious George”. But few people know about the incredible journey made by his creators, Margret and H.A. Rey, to escape the Nazi invasion of Paris at the start of World War II. Stashing a few precious belongings and manuscripts in their knapsacks and the baskets of their bicycles, the Jewish couple fled Paris in June 1940, starting a five-month odyssey by bike, train, and boat that would eventually bring them to American shores in October 1940.

If you're curious about this amazing true story and the creators behind Curious George, stop by the Main Library through March 10 to view *The Wartime Escape: Margret and H.A. Rey's Journey from France*. This fascinating exhibit tells the story of the Reys' journey with archival images from the extraordinary holdings

of the DeGrummond Collection of Children's Literature at the University of Southern Mississippi. The exhibit also includes 27 framed prints by artist Allan Drummond. The exhibit is based on *The Journey that Saved Curious George: The True War-Time Escape of Margret and H.A. Rey*, written by local author Louise Borden and illustrated by Allan Drummond.



*The Wartime Escape: Margret and H.A. Rey's Journey from France* is a program of Exhibits USA, a national division of Mid-America Arts Alliance, and The National Endowment for the Arts. It is co-sponsored by the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County and The Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education.

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### Curious about the Library's collection of stories about George?

The Library's collection includes copies of each of the original titles by Margret and H.A. Rey, including a few in Spanish, French and German! Curious George is also featured in board books to help children learn their ABC's, colors, numbers, and shapes. You can also check out local author Louise Borden's book about the wartime escape of Margret and H.A. Rey.

George's adventures come in other formats, too. Curious George DVDs and audio books on CD are available for check out, and you can even download George's adventures to your computer from our Virtual Library! Visit the Library's homepage [www.CincinnatiLibrary.org](http://www.CincinnatiLibrary.org) for more information about accessing digital materials like e-books, videos, and more. For more information, visit [www.CincinnatiLibrary.org/](http://www.CincinnatiLibrary.org/).

**See Page 2 for other Curious George events and Photo Captions.**

## Curious George Events at the Main Library

- **Simply Saturday** – Kids of all ages are invited to the Children’s Learning Center’s Simply Saturday Program for Curious George-themed activity!  
Saturday, January 23, 2:00 p.m. | Main Library, 800 Vine St., 369-6900 - Children's Learning Center
- **Teacher Workshop & Exhibit Tour** – Please join the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County and The Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education for the Wartime Escape Teacher Workshop and Exhibit Tour. CD with teacher resources will be provided free of charge to registered participants. Registration is required. To register, email [bchristensen@holocuastandhumanity.org](mailto:bchristensen@holocuastandhumanity.org) or call (513) 487-3055.  
Monday, February 1, 4:30 p.m. | Main Library, 800 Vine St., 369-6900
- **Movie Mania** - Children and their families are invited to watch *Curious George* the movie!  
Saturday, February 13, 2:00 p.m. | Main Library, 800 Vine St., 369-6900 - Children's Learning Center

## Photo Captions

1. On bicycles Hans fashioned from spare parts, the Reys fled Paris with a few supplies and five manuscripts – one of which was *Curious George*.
2. The exhibit is based on *The Journey that Saved Curious George: The True War–Time Escape of Margret and H.A. Rey*, written by local author Louise Borden of Terrace Park.