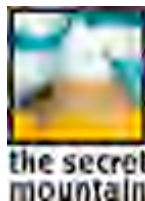


# PRESS REPORT

SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 2011





***Chicken Joe Forgets Something Important*** book/  
CD set  
(Trout Fishing in America)



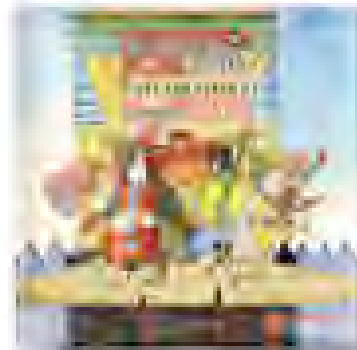
The plot to this entertaining sequel to *My Name Is Chicken Joe* is pretty simple: Everyone on the farm knows today is a special day--everyone but Chicken Joe. There's enough barnyard humor and silliness to keep the kids laughing but not so much that it slips into stupidity, which would drive the dads away.

But what really makes this CD/book combo sing (if you'll pardon the pun) is the spunky narration and witty original songs about friendship and forgetfulness from a four-time Grammy Award nominated band (which means the music is excellent).



## HEAR IT

### *Chicken Joe Forgets Something Important*



Performed by the nationally touring acoustic folk/rock duo *Trout Fishing in America*—a witty pair with a flair for childlike fun—this hilarious sequel to *My Name is Chicken Joe* is a book-and-music combo with a story line that will tickle your funny bone and tunes that are sure to put a bounce in your step.

*The Secret Mountain Club*

# School Library Journal

For Children's, Young Adult and School Librarians

K-Gr 3—Chicken Joe is back after his debut in *My Name Is Chicken Joe* (2009). In this story, the unusually named cat just knows he's forgotten something important, but what? The farm seems normal. His friends all appear busy but not as communicative as they might be. It turns out that he forgot it was his birthday—but, luckily, his friends remembered. Written and performed by the Grammy-nominated Trout Fishing in America's Keith Grimwood and Ezra Idlet, the story is followed by 11 original songs, all filled with humorous lyrics and toe-tapping rhythm with a bluegrass influence. The story is illustrated by Stephanie Jorsch in bright colors and amusing details. While the tale is rather silly, fans of the musical duo will rejoice in the accompanying songs. A fun sing-along.—Teresa Bateman, Brigadoon Elementary, Federal Way, WA

# CATFANCY®

VOLUME 55 • NUMBER 2

FEBRUARY 2012



## I FORGET

In *Chicken Joe Forgets Something Important*,

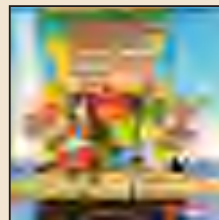
by Trout Fishing in

America's Keith Grim-

wood and Ezra Idlet, the main character is a cat who sleeps in the hen house. One morning, he is woken up much too early by a rooster's crow. Everyone on the farm knows it's a special day, but sleepy Chicken Joe just can't seem to remember. With a lit-

tle help from his friends, he might just be able to figure it out. The story is followed by 11 original songs on an accompanying CD. Find out how to get a free download of the song "16 or 17 Hours of Sleep," at [CatChannel.com/ChickenJoeSong](http://CatChannel.com/ChickenJoeSong).

**\$16.95.** The Secret Mountain; 514-483-9281; [www.thesecretmountain.com](http://www.thesecretmountain.com)







## Musical Authors Include Bookstores on Tour

By Claire Kirch - PUBLISHERS WEEKLY CHILDREN'S BOOKSHELF

Sep 15, 2011

It seems only appropriate that the musical duo that named itself after the Richard Brautigan book *Trout Fishing in America* would expand its repertoire to include books. Of course, it also makes sense that any book written by a couple of folk musicians would include music.

On September 9, Trout Fishing in America musicians — Keith Grimwood and Ezra Idlet — kicked off a bookstore and concert tour extending through the rest of 2011 for their newly released children's storybook and music CD package, *Chicken Joe Forgets Something Important*, a follow-up to their 2009 release, *My Name Is Chicken Joe*. Both book-and-music-CD packages were illustrated by Stéphane Jorisch and are published by The Secret Mountain, a Canadian company with offices in Montreal and Paris. Since 2003 the company has published approximately 40 book/CD packages, predominately in English and French, with one title in Spanish. The Secret Mountain is distributed in the U.S. by IPG.

Trout Fishing in America's 2011 tour will include readings from *Chicken Joe Forgets Something Important*, as well as performances of the 11 songs contained on the CD. Of the 23 venues on the 21-city tour, six are bookstores: Nightbird Books, Fayetteville, Ark.; Barnes & Noble, Baton Rouge, La.; That Bookstore in Blytheville, Blytheville, Ark.; Bookpeople, Austin, Tex.; and Anderson's Bookshop, Naperville, Ill. More bookstore stops are expected to be added to the duo's 2012 itinerary.

Lisa Sharp, the owner of Nightbird Books, ordered 100 copies of *Chicken Joe Forgets Something Important* and 30 copies of *My Name Is Chicken Joe* before the September 12 performance at her five-year-old store. "People love this duo live," Roland Stringer, publisher of The Secret Mountain, said, adding that his company regularly tours its musician-authors. "This is the best way to market this book."

*My Name Is Chicken Joe* sold nearly 1,200 copies through retail outlets, and another 3,000 copies from the stage at concerts. *Chicken Joe Forgets Something Important* has a 3,500 initial print run.

Other performances include a September 25 concert billed as "A Secret Mountain Celebration" at the 760-seat Peter Jay Sharp Theatre Symphony Space in New York City, where the duo will be joined by fellow singers — and Secret Mountain collaborators — Michelle Campagne, Lucy Kaplansky, and Connie Kaldor. Trout Fishing in America will performing selections from *Chicken Joe Forgets Something Important*, the other performers will tell stories and perform selections from their own Secret Mountain releases.

Besides the two storybook/music CD packages, Trout Fishing in America, which has been performing since 1979, has produced 20 music albums for both families and adults. They've been nominated four times for a Grammy Award in the best musical album for children category.

***Chicken Joe Forgets Something Important* by Trout Fishing in America, illus. by Stephanie Jorisch, The Secret Mountain, \$16.95 Sept. ISBN 978-2923163741**

# Gone Trout Fishing

Scott & White series welcomes award-winning duo to TC stage

BY JORDAN OVERTURF  
TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

One look at Trout Fishing in America and it's easy to see why kids and adults have been hooked onto this band for more than 30 years.

Keith Grimwood and Ezra Idlet will bring their eclectic brand of music to the Mary Alice Marshall Performing Arts Center for two performances on Saturday. The concerts are sponsored by the Scott & White Humanities Series at Temple College. The 2:30 p.m. show is geared toward kids and will be about an hour long. The 7:30 p.m. show is a bit longer and features songs and music for adults.

Grimwood and Idlet started playing together in Houston when the two met up in a band and began touring the country. The band fell to pieces, and the guitar and bass player were left in Santa Cruz.

"Trout Fishing in America started as a survival method," Idlet said during a conference call with Grimwood on Tuesday. "We started with an open guitar case on the street."

In those days, both musicians learned quickly that if they wanted to eat, they had to be entertaining. Their songwriting skills grew sharp as the odd couple began finding their way off the street and into venues in 1979.

As life progressed, so did Trout Fishing in America. Grimwood and Idlet started families and with children around, the inspiration for kid's music was abundant.

The idea for the youth-infused music came when the duo was asked to perform at an elementary school. Neither knew any songs for children, but gladly put on a show for the class. The kids loved it, and so did Grimwood and Idlet.

In 1986, the first kid's song, "Big Trouble" was written and a slew of fan favorites have followed.

Most recently, Trout Fishing in America released a children's book, "Chicken Joe Forgets Something Im-



Keith Grimwood and Ezra Idlet make up the delightful duo that is Trout Fishing in America. The group has won numerous awards and been nominated for four Grammy awards. Trout Fishing in America will perform a show for children and parents Saturday at 2:30 p.m. and follow up with a 7:30 p.m. show for adults at the Mary Alice Marshall Performing Arts Center in Temple.  
*Courtesy of Trout Fishing in America*

## If you go

**Who:** Trout Fishing in America

**What:** Concert for kids and adults

**When:** Saturday at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

**Where:** Mary Alice Marshall Performing Arts Center, 2600 S. First St., Temple

**Tickets:** The afternoon concert is free to the public, however, tickets are still required. Cost for the evening show is \$10 for adults and \$5 for students.

For information, call 254-298-8555 or visit [www.templejc.edu](http://www.templejc.edu).

## What are they like?

Because Trout Fishing in America has such an eclectic mix of styles, the band held a contest one year to see if fans could describe the band in six words. The closest one fan could come was describing it as "music for people who take their fun seriously."

To find out more, visit the band's website at [www.troutmusic.com](http://www.troutmusic.com).

portant," which includes a CD filled with songs about the book and an audio-book recording for kids to follow along. The book features Chicken Joe, a cat that sleeps in the chicken coop, Miss Kitty the dog, King Kong the parakeet and other humorous animals.

The Saturday afternoon show will feature songs from the Chicken Joe

CD, as well as other Trout Fishing in America favorites like "18 Wheels on a Big Rig," "My Hair Had A Party Last Night" and more.

Grimwood said he likes the uncensored responses from kids during the shows.

**Please see TROUT FISHING, 3D**

# Trout Fishing

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Continued from 1D

“Kids haven’t learned to be polite. If they like it, they really like it ... I love the honesty of the response.”

Idlet said adults and kids have their own responses, while he and his cohort act as instigators regardless of the audience’s age.

For the grownups, Trout Fishing in America will play songs from their more adult-themed albums, including 2010’s “Lookin’ at Lucky.” The evening set on Saturday will feature guitar solos and material that is relatable to adults.

“You wouldn’t put a song about love in a kids’ show,” Idlet said.

And whether the lyrics are for kids or adults, one thing is for sure: The music is fun, exciting and accessible to everyone.

“If you play a lot of music in

your house, then [your children] will grow up with an appreciation for it,” Idlet said.

All the music is family-friendly, and Trout Fishing in America encourages parents and kids to enjoy live music.

“When I was a kid and I saw live music for the first time it was so powerful,” Grimwood said. “The response from hearing live music is different.”

For Grimwood, that first experience was seeing a symphony. Idlet, growing up in Houston, recalls his mother dropping him and his siblings off at a biker bar one night to see Lightnin’ Hopkins perform.

Perhaps for your children, this Saturday’s Trout Fishing in America concert could be cemented in their memories. It’s certainly a lot safer than a biker bar.

[joveturf@tdtnews.com](mailto:joveturf@tdtnews.com)





## Trout Book/CD Features Farm Life

BY KATHY O'CONNELL



Mark Sept. 6 as a happy day with **Trout Fishing in America's** release of the second entry in their Chicken Joe book/CD series, ***Chicken Joe Forgets Something Important***. The title sums up the plot.

As their first kid fans become parents themselves, Trout fishes for new generations of listeners with this series about the exploits of Chicken Joe, "the cat who sleeps in the henhouse."

The tale is told in upbeat new songs about "Rock and Roll Roosters" and a "C-A-T in the H-E-N House." None of songs depends upon the book or a knowledge of farm animals, but the modernistic drawings of old-fashioned farm life enhance Trout's usual combination of great music and fun lyrics.

Humans and cats may wish for "16 or 17 Hours of Sleep," sung to a punk rock beat that defies slumber. I enjoyed the bluegrass air of "Through the Pines" and a pretty guitar/violin mix in the sweet silly "The Fish Swim Backwards in the Sky." Bluesy funk is the genre for "Hello, My Chicken Thinks He's a Dog."

There are lots of danceable tunes and not a lullaby in the bunch. The range of styles and the brilliance of their playing makes this another winner by my favorite band. And the real-life Chicken Joe is a great cat.

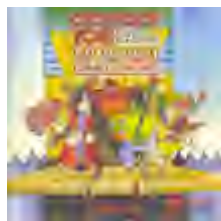


DECEMBER 12,  
2011

**BOOK  
REVIEW:  
Chicken Joe  
Forgets Something Important by**

**Trout Fishing In America**

Chicken Joe is back in the delightful new storybook-music CD, **Chicken Joe Forgets Something Important**.



Chicken Joe, is caught up in a new adventure. This time, Chicken Joe awakens to realize that he's forgotten something kind of important. But, what could it be? Chicken Joe sets off to solve this mystery. Along the way he meets up with various friends who are planning something memorable, but are keeping this inside secret from their good friend—it's a big happy birthday to Chicken Joe! What he doesn't know is that his friends have planned a big surprise birthday party in his honor.

Come and celebrate with Chicken Joe and some of his good friends. This entertaining title is packed with twelve new songs on the supplemental CD, sung by Trout Fishing in America. Dance to fun tracks like, "16 or 17 Hours of Sleep" and "C-A-T in the H-E-N House". Also, check out our earlier title, *My Name is Chicken Joe*, also written and performed by Trout Fishing in America.

There is nothing I can say that is wrong with this book/CD combo, it is an excellent addition to any library. The music is wonderful, the story is delightful and the illustrations by *Stephanie Jorsch* are just a perfect blend of colour and magic.

I loved how all of Chicken Joe's worked to make a memorable day for Chicken Joe. The thought of a cat named Chicken Joe who lives in a hen house is hilarious and then there's the dog named, "Miss Kitty". The whole premise of the characters are charming, the story has purpose with wondrous results and a happy ending is to be found by all. I loved the music on the CD, it's kind of a rock'n'roll folk sound that keeps your toes a'tappin' and your fingers a'snappin'. My kids and I boogied around the room on a few of the more happening tunes, like "Rock'n'Roll Roosters" and "You've Got A Funny Name", which has a country twang to the tune. My kids said to tell everyone to go and get this for their collection, it is a great book with awesome music.

I would give *Chicken Joe Forgets Something Important* a five out of five stars. It is original in content and has many hilarious antics and songs. My children love it and it has been played numerous times over! With six thumbs up, how can you go wrong??

**[www.creatingchildhoodmemories.com](http://www.creatingchildhoodmemories.com)**



Chicken Joe, a very sleepy cat living on a farm, wakes up one morning, knowing that he forgot something important. He doesn't get much help from the other animals he encounters along the way that morning and eventually falls asleep, without breakfast, in an empty house.



*Chicken Joe Forgets Something Important* isn't just a book, there's also an audio CD included, which doesn't stop with the narrated story, but adds some rock and roll music based on the story, providing twelve tracks in total. The book/CD was co-produced by Trout Music and Secret Mountain Publishing. The songs are performed by Keith Grimwood and Ezra Idlet, the duo who make up Trout Fishing in America. (Find out more about the book by visiting [Trout Fishing in America](http://TroutFishinginAmerica.com)'s website.) The book is hardcover and features lovely full color drawings by Stéphane Jorish that are very pleasing to the eye

and attractive for the little ones.

My daughter loves the book — which she calls "kitchen Joe" — and wants to take it in the car whenever we go out for a drive, so she can listen to the CD and go through the book (which is a lovely way to have her stay in the seat!). The music is very upbeat and invites us to dance and sing along. The only downside for me is that the narrator has a very strong, stereotypical American accent; but this doesn't seem to bother my daughter. Whereas it bothers me in the narration, it does go very well with the accompanying music.

I would certainly recommend this book for kids who like narrated books and catchy songs.

**[www.authenticparenting.info](http://www.authenticparenting.info)**



I LOVE [this](#) new book and cd combo. I take my job as a classroom reader for my children's classes quite seriously. I seek out ridiculously fun books and songs. I want these kids to love to read as much as I do, and to see how fun it can be. Hey, it's a tough job but somebody's gotta do it.

[Trout Fishing in America](#) is a first rate musical group for the kindie set. Now, they can add authors to their belt as well. Chicken Joe is lovable, silly and not a chicken! Your kids (and their classmates) will love the story and the accompanying songs about the cat named Chicken Joe.

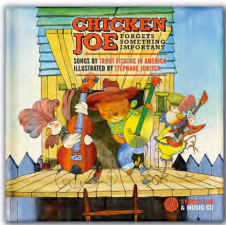
You will be the hit of the elementary school set. No doubt. Your adoring fans may not be able to wait until next week.

**[www.minivanblues.com](http://www.minivanblues.com)**



# Today's **Woman** Blog

The new CD/ book “Chicken Joe Forgets Something Important,” is the sequel to the award-winning “My Name is Chicken Joe.” The hard cover story book and accompanying CD is a cute Christmas idea for your little ones. Christmas may be a few months away, but it is not too early to begin shopping.



Chicken Joe, the cat who sleeps in the hen house, is happily dreaming about rock and roll. A rooster’s raucous crow wakes him up way too early. Everyone on the farm knows today is a special day, but in his sleepy morning haze, Chicken Joe can’t remember just what it is. Even Joe’s best friend, a city dog named Miss Kitty, won’t tell him. Find out why this is Chicken Joe’s big day in Chicken Joe Forgets Something Important, the latest book-and-CD release from The Secret Mountain.

The Secret Mountain is known for their book and audio CD combinations, and Chicken Joe Forgets Something Important by Trout Fishing In America is not to be missed.

Chicken Joe Forgets Something Important offers gentle messages about friendship and forgetfulness. After all, cats who need 16 or 17 hours of sleep each day are bound to miss a few things going on in the barnyard. They need a little help from their friends. The new story, written and spryly narrated by Trout Fishing in America’s Keith Grimwood and Ezra Idlet spoken-word tale is followed with 11 great songs.

Children will love the fully illustrated story book that mom can read to them while they enjoy listening to the songs. Stephanie Jorisch has done a fantastic job illustrating the book. The characters in the story and all of the songs were inspired by real people and animals in Ezra and Keith’s lives. The song “Hello, My Chicken Thinks He’s a Dog” was written during a workshop with 6<sup>th</sup> graders in their home state of Arkansas.

I enjoyed the bluegrass air of “Through the Pines.” Rock and Roll Roosters will have ~~you~~ your children up dancing. The songs on this disc go from Rock-and-Roll, to Country, to Blue-Grass and more. The songs are wonderful for children to dance and jump around to. Each song gives you a little peak into the life of Chicken Joe and his friends. Each song is delivered with such enthusiasm. The CD runs for 38 minutes.

**[www.todays-woman.net](http://www.todays-woman.net)**



# Hooked On Fun

Thursday, September 15, 2011

By Scott Smith TIMES RECORD

**A northwest Arkansas-based duo will blend education and humor with memorable lyrics and arrangements in an effort to reel in new fans in Alma next month.**



The Grammy Award-nominated Trout Fishing in America will perform songs for children, as well as their parents, grandparents and other relatives, at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 6 at the Alma Performing Arts Center, 103 E. Main St. in Alma. Singer-bassist Keith Grimwood said he and singer-guitarist Ezra Idlet will come armed with guitar, bass and two sincere, long-lasting smiles.

“The kids we play for, they are fabulous,” said Grimwood during a recent telephone interview. “Kids are so honest, and it’s great when you can see their faces light up when we play.”

Nominated for four Grammy Awards, Trout Fishing in America was recently called “the Lennon and McCartney of kids’ music” by National Public Radio, a proclamation that humbles and intimidates Grimwood.

“That’s a very nice quote, but that’s a lot of pressure, too,” he said with a laugh. “I can see the reference in that John Lennon and Paul McCartney were a team — those guys did better together as a team than apart. Ezra and I are a songwriting team, and we connect with those kids. And with kids in the audience are parents, and the parents seem to like the music, as well.”

Trout Fishing also is touring to promote its new children’s book, “Chicken Joe Forgets Something Important,” which is published by the Canadian company, The Secret Mountain. The book features artwork by Stephane Jorisch and includes a compact disc with 11 new Trout Fishing songs.

“Chicken Joe is based on a real, live cat,” Grimwood said. “Chicken Joe is my cat, and he is a cat who, as a kitten, would sleep with the hens. We would look for him in the morning, because on the mountain here in Prairie Grove, it gets cold. But Chicken Joe would be sleeping with the hens because hens are warm.”

The book, which is a sequel to Trout Fishing’s “My Name is Chicken Joe,” also includes Chicken Joe’s best friend, a dog named Miss Kitty. The uniquely named dog is modeled after Ezra’s mother’s dog.

"She said she thought it would be funny to say, 'Kitty Kitty,' and have a dog run up, so she did," Grimwood said while laughing. "That shows that you are what you are, no matter what you are called." In the story, Chicken Joe's peaceful sleep with the hens is disrupted by the rattling calls of nearby roosters, who are called "Rockin' Roosters," he said.

"I learned when I moved here from the city that roosters don't go cock-a-doodle-doo; the roosters I heard would sit on trees and yell, 'Rock and roll!'" Grimwood said. "So Chicken Joe is woken by these Rockin' Roosters and he says, 'Don't these guys realize that cats need 16 or 17 hours of sleep?'"

The quote is one of numerous examples that include educational material for children, he said.

"We are telling children here that cats do need 16 or 17 hours of sleep a day, although we don't get overly detailed about a cat's life span," Grimwood said. "This way, the book includes beautiful art, words on a page and music, so you have reading, art and music, all right there.

"Those are things I want to share with kids," he added. "Those are things I personally love, and I want to share them."

Trout Fishing's desire to entertain and educate children began in 1977 and continues today via school performances. Grimwood and Idlet also conduct songwriting workshops in schools, revealing numerous tips on how to compose a song with another person.

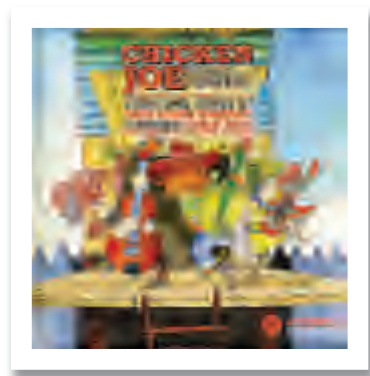
"The first time we played 'Chicken Joe' in concert, a kid went and bought the book and then looked at the book while we played," Grimwood said. "He was reading along with the story as we played, and I almost cried. That's how I want this to work. I want kids to see the art, to read and to enjoy the music. When that happens, that's a win-win situation for everyone."



## Chicken Joe Forgets Something Important

by Trout Fishing in America

The dynamic duo of kids' music is back with a new book/CD combo that will delight children in both preschool and early elementary grades. Poor, confused Chicken Joe just can't seem to remember...something. But what? Kids in kindergarten and older will grasp what the forgotten item is (Chicken Joe's own birthday) but younger children may need a bit of help. Still, they'll enjoy the lively artwork that accompanies this sweet story. The accompanying CD provides a seven-minute narration of the book, as well as a series of songs in the romping tradition for which Trout Fishing in America has become so famous. NOTE: Trout Fishing in America will play at BookPeople on Oct. 14 at 6 p.m.



—Kim Pleticha is the editor of Parent:Wise



## CHICKEN JOE FORGETS SOMETHING IMPORTANT

This hard cover story book and accompanying CD is quite cute for your little ones. The book is fully illustrated and the CD accompanies the book by reading it out loud. The CD then delivers the following songs after the book narration.



I really like the narrator, Keith Grimwood. His partner, Ezra Idlet delivers guitar rolls that prove amazing! Keith and Ezra are also the lead vocals on the songs. The CD includes string bass, bass guitar, synthesizer, hand claps, harmony vocals, banjo, mandolin, spoons, bouzouki, percussion, violin, accordion, frottoir/rub board, lap steel, and piano. **Their jumpy lyrics are wonderful for kids to dance and jump to, for the vocals are delivered with such enthusiasm and joyous raucousness, that I could not for the life of me stop jumping up and down!** I LOVED 16 or 17 Hours of Sleep (possibly because that's me to a T!).

Darling vocals and lyrics from Trout Fishing in America. The hard cover book is beautifully illustrated for youngsters to enjoy thoroughly and Chicken Joe assumes the role of our fav rock and roll chicken!

**I am impressed with this darling book/CD combo and can't wait for the next book and album to come out – I think I'm in love with Rock and Bluesy Chicken Joe and his barnyard buddies!**

[www.theviewbroads.com](http://www.theviewbroads.com)



## **KidLit + KidTunes + Trout Fishing in America = A Memorable Combo**

Author: Bob Etier

Published: September 09, 2011 at 10:46 am

Chicken Joe Forgets Something Important is Trout Fishing in America's second book/DVD combo for The Secret Mountain featuring Chicken Joe, a cat who sleeps in a henhouse. Trout Fishing in America ("Music for people who take their fun seriously) is Ezra Idlet and Keith Grimwood, "a nationally touring acoustic/folk rock duo whose music has garnered four Grammy nominations and legions of devoted fans," hailing from Arkansas.

Imagine being rudely woken up by rock 'n roll roosters, realizing you're forgetting something very important. As you encounter your farmyard pals, they seem involved in silly things and are talking nonsense. Looking for breakfast, you find there's no food. What else can you do but take a nap? (Well...that's what I'd do.) This is how the day begins when Chicken Joe Forgets Something Important.

In an amusing storybook, Chicken Joe's predicament seems nearly unsolvable, and cats do need sixteen or seventeen hours of sleep every day. After an hour's nap, Chicken Joe awakens again to music and finds that he may have forgotten something important, but his friends haven't.

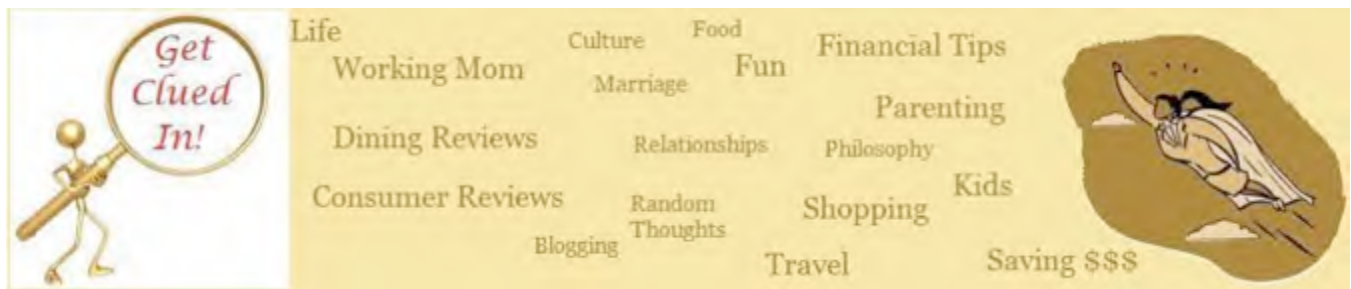
The CD that accompanies Chicken Joe Forgets Something Important starts with the spoken-word story augmented with some fine music, flavored with rock and blue grass. Eleven original songs relating to the story complete the CD. The songs sparkle with wordplay and kicky music—kids will delight in singing along with "For Me to Know and You to Find Out," a song they'll probably continue singing without the CD accompaniment.

"16 or 17 Hours of Sleep" is a counting song that expounds on the glories (and necessity) of frequent naps that are frequently long. "Hello, My Chicken Thinks He's a Dog" offers a new excuse for missing assignments: "My chicken ate my homework, it wasn't my fault, that psycho chicken thinks he's a dog." The blue-grass infused "You've Got a Funny Name" may even have the kids clogging—or doing a neat approximation.

Kids can read along with the CD, or take it on car trips where they can listen to an entertaining story that emphasizes friendship (The final song, "Dance with Me," is a Zydeco-tinged, sweet salute to friendship), and sing-along with Trout Fishing in America's kicky music—without the driver suffering a saccharine overdose.

Brightly illustrated by Stéphane Jorisch, Chicken Joe Forgets Something Important is fun for groups—whether families or pre-school classes—to share, but one must expect that there will be dancing.





## CHICKEN JOE FORGETS SOMETHING IMPORTANT



It's a cute little story which made me want to use a Southern accent when I read it. Maybe 'cause I'm from New Orleans, or maybe just because the language and names of the animals inspire it or perhaps the folk/bluegrass music CD that accompanies the book. In any case, it's a truly fun book for kids and adults too. You can also play the story for them on the CD and then, after the storybook there are several songs that are both cute, funny, and fitting performed by Keith Grimwood and Ezra Idlet who make up Trout Fishing in America, a band duo that makes family music fun.

The most interesting thing about the book is how the characters are named such that you would think when hearing their names that they are a certain animal but in reality, they turn out to be something else. It is a great lesson for kids too – not to rush to judgment or judge just by names alone and to dig deeper. The illustrations are amazing and the musical accompaniment just brings the story to life.

[www.getcluedincolorado.com](http://www.getcluedincolorado.com)



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2011

## A Cat Named Chicken Joe



This week we've been listening to a hilarious and fun little story (with music, of course) called *Chicken Joe Forgets Something Important*. It's the latest release from Trout Fishing in America, a fun musical duo from the US that has been crafting silly musical fun for families for a long while now.

Ezra Idlet and Keith Grimwood met in Texas back in the 70's playing in a folk band together and have been making music for all ages ever since. Their sound could be called folk but there are so many influences, from bluegrass to rock to reggae, that it's just a mountain of good fun.

This latest effort, the adorable musical storybook *Chicken Joe Forgets Something Important*, brings a funny story about a cat who sleeps in the henhouse (and plays rock & roll!) together with musical selections to accompany and it had the kids tapping their toes and snapping their fingers as they listened.

[www.crumbsintheminivan.com](http://www.crumbsintheminivan.com)