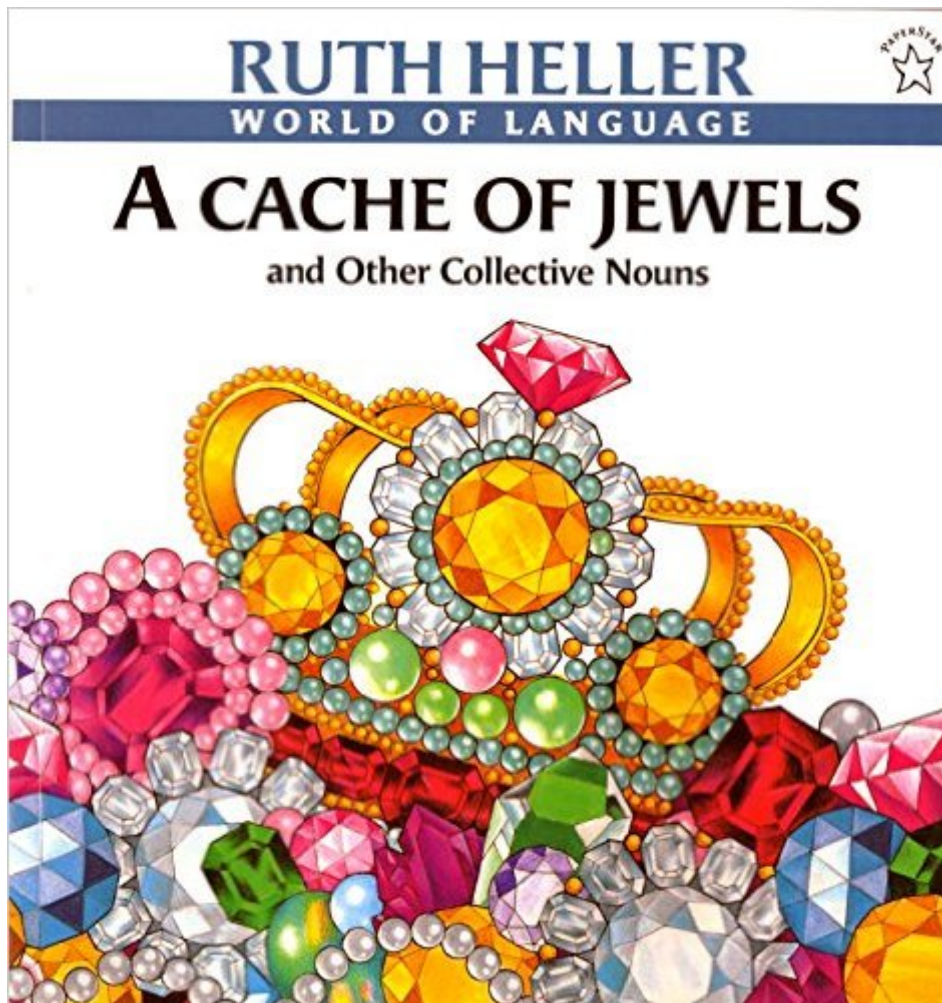


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# A Cache Of Jewels (World Of Language)



## Synopsis

Highly informative and lushly illustrated. An unbeatable combination for pleasure and learning. --Children's Book Review Service The illustrations and the vocabulary will delight small eyes and ears. --School Library Journal Q&A - Ruth Heller - A Paperstar Profile Ruth Heller - Profile How did you become interested in writing books for children? I loved reading to my own children, and when they started school, I became the P.T.A. library chairman. I was the one who got to pick and choose and spend a nice fat budget for the elementary school library. I feel as though I've been surrounded by children's books for years. I suppose this and my strong art background are what prompted my trying to write. What is the biggest influence in your style of writing, and how has it changed since you first began? Hillaire Belloc, Gilbert and Sullivan, Edward Lear? I grew up reading all of them. I love their rhythm, and I loved reading Dr. Seuss to my children. No question, these were my influences. I think I've become wordier, not quite as minimal and succinct as I used to be. What made you decide to write a series on the parts of speech? Take a peek at the back end paper of the hardcover edition of A Cache of Jewels. You'll see that I committed myself, in print, to writing a book for each part of speech. Here I am, ten years later, thankfully completing the very last book in this series. It will be published in 1998. Do you begin with the words or pictures when you are developing a book? How does the second part come together? The first step is to decide what I am going to say on each page. Then I can begin to visualize my illustrations. The words dictate what the illustration will be, but that still gives me many options. Sometimes the two come together easily, sometimes not. If not, I pursue new research material until something clicks. Did you learn anything new about the parts of speech while writing these books? I learned many things I had forgotten, and some new information and rules that I had never known. I also learned that the textbooks that I used for research were difficult to understand and somewhat boring, and that I am guilty of frequent misuse of the English language. How do you choose the images in your book? An art teacher once told me to "fall in love" with whatever I was drawing. So I choose images that I love: candy, ice cream, butterflies, sea creatures, carousels, jewels, etc.

## Book Information

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Series: World of Language

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[Reference > Reading & Writing > Vocabulary & Spelling](#) #76 in [Books > Children's Books >](#)

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## Customer Reviews

Good fun for 3-8 yrs. Everybody knows that a group of fish is a school, or a bunch of ships is a fleet.

But what do you call several peacocks, or a group of kittens, or a gathering of witches?

Puzzled? This is the first children's book I have come across that could answer those questions for children, with many more collective nouns to spare. Good illustrations, relatively quick read, and interesting and easy for children to follow. Mega points for originality!

My wife and my granddaughter loved the book. Well written and illustrated, and kids should love it. Ruth Heller has produced a classic children's book that Mom and Dad may sneak out for a quick read. It should go next to Dr. Seuss books (she loved Dr. Seuss books) on your child's bookshelf.

In addition to being a great way to learn about what groups of objects are called (I even learned a few new ones) the vibrant colors of the illustrations are incredible. I even got a used copy to take apart so I could put some of the pictures up in my son's playroom - they are that nice.

This is a great way to teach about collective nouns. It also makes a great starting point for students' own writing pieces and word collections.

I am a teacher and one of our standards in 2nd grade is to understand collective nouns. Let me tell you that there is not much on collective nouns. This book made my students completely understand. They were even quoting collective nouns they found and related it to the book. Great for learning!

We have the language series by Ruth Heller, and love it. The illustrations are incredible, and really

help make learning language fun. Plus, we use the books for our homeschool art classes too! They are a tremendous inspiration for the girls when painting.

This book is a wonderful adventure into the world of language for young children. I am an ESL teacher for grades K-2 and this book is one that engages and teaches the function of nouns as well as providing beautiful illustrations. The kids love them and it provides a valuable tool for enhancing reading and writing skills. I discovered these books in a graduate level class and they are all a wonderful addition to any classroom teacher's library. Ms Heller is truly an artist and an author that captivates a young child's creative spirit.

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