

# Meet Jean Little

author of *Pippin the Christmas Pig*



**Scholastic Book Clubs:** Where did the idea for *Pippin* come from?

**Jean Little:** It began as a bedtime story for my great niece. She liked the story so I told it more than once and then, when our church wanted me to write a tale to sell at the Christmas bazaar, I wrote it down. As I wrote and rewrote it over the next months, it changed and grew.

**Book Clubs:** What do you want children to learn from the story?

**Jean Little:** In *Pippin the Christmas Pig*, I am not teaching a lesson; I am telling a story. I think kids will know how poor Pippin feels as she is left out. I think they will cheer for her when she goes to the rescue of the young woman and her child. And I think they will agree that "all babies are special." I want them to close the book with a smile.

## Fast Facts

- Jean was born in January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1932 in Taipei, Taiwan
- Jean graduated from the University of Toronto
- Jean is a recipient of the Order of Canada
- Jean loves baseball and animals
- She has written more than 25 children's books

