

**Leonard P. Kessler papers, 1972**  
**FLP.CLRC.KESSLER**

**Finding aid prepared by Garrett Boos**

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This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

November 20, 2013

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Free Library of Philadelphia: Children's Literature Research Collection  
1901 Vine Street  
Philadelphia, PA, 19103  
215-686-5370

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	Free Library of Philadelphia: Children's Literature Research Collection
<b>Creator</b>	Kessler, Leonard P., 1920-
<b>Title</b>	Leonard P. Kessler papers
<b>Date</b>	1972
<b>Extent</b>	2.34 Linear feet
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	This collection consists of production materials for the book <i>How to Play Better Football</i> (1972) by children's author C. Paul Jackson, illustrated by Leonard P. Kessler. The collection includes a dummy and a complete set of final art, in addition to small amounts of correspondence, preliminary art, and partial proofs.

### Preferred Citation note

[Description and date of item], [Box and folder number], Leonard P. Kessler papers, 1972, Free Library of Philadelphia, Children's Literature Research Collection.

## Biographical/Historical note

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Leonard P. Kessler was born on October 28, 1921 in Ohio. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II and was awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star. He received his B.F.A. from Carnegie Institute of Technology in 1949. He began writing and illustrating books for children with *What's In a Line?* (1951) and *Farther and Faster* (1953). Many of his books were co-written with his wife, Ethel, including *Plink, Plink! Goes the Water in My Sink* (1954) and *Art is Everywhere* (1958). Most of the illustrations in Kessler's work were simple and childlike, and the text showed a good understanding of children's vocabulary. He was awarded the New York Times best illustrated children's books award three times: in 1954 for *Fast Is Not a Ladybug* and in 1955 for *Heavy Is a Hippopotamus*, both by Miriam Schlein; and in 1957 for *Big Red Bus*, which was co-written by his wife, Ethel. Throughout his prolific career, Kessler has created illustrations for over 200 books.

### Bibliography

*Something About the Author*, vol. 14.

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## Scope and Contents note

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This collection consists of a dummy, preliminary art, a partial galley proof, and final artwork for the book *How to Play Better Football* (1972) by children's author C. Paul Jackson, illustrated by Leonard P. Kessler. There is also a small amount of correspondence.

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## Arrangement note

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This collection is arranged in probable order of creation.

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## Administrative Information

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## **Publication Information**

Free Library of Philadelphia: Children's Literature Research Collection

## **Conditions Governing Access note**

This collection is open to researchers by appointment. Please contact the Curator for information on access. Final art is too fragile for researchers to handle without the supervision of the Curator.

## **Conditions Governing Use note**

The right of access to material does not imply the right of publication. Permission for reprinting, reproduction, or extensive quotation from the rare books, manuscripts, prints, or drawings must be obtained through written application, stating the use to be made of the material. The reader bears the responsibility for any possible infringement of copyright laws in the publication of such material. A reproduction fee will be charged if the material is to be reproduced in a commercial publication. Some of the materials in this collection may be too fragile for use without the Curator's supervision.

## **Immediate Source of Acquisition note**

Gift of Leonard P. Kessler, 1973.

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## **Related Materials**

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### **Related Archival Materials note**

University of Minnesota: Leonard Kessler Papers, 1955-1990, CLRC-639.

University of Southern Mississippi: C. Paul Jackson Papers, 1949-1972; no date, DG0502.

University of Southern Mississippi: Ethel and Leonard Kessler Papers, 1958-1991, DG0547.

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## **Controlled Access Headings**

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### **Genre(s)**

- Drawings (visual works)

- Dummies (printed matter)
- Illustrations

**Personal Name(s)**

- Jackson, C. Paul (Caary Paul), 1902-
- Kessler, Leonard P., 1920-

**Subject(s)**

- Children's authors--20th century
- Children's literature--20th century
- Illustrated children's books--20th century
- Illustration of books--20th century

## How to Play Better Football

## Collection Inventory

How to Play Better Football 1972		
	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Dummy, graphite, pen and ink, and grey wash on paper and tracing paper with text pasted in, 120 pages		2
	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Preliminary art for page 99, pen and ink on tracing paper	1	2
"About the Illustrator," corrected typescript	1	3

Complete set of final art, pen and ink and grey wash on tracing paper mounted to layout board with text pasted in, 121 sheets

	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Graphic materials		1
	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Text	1	1

**General note**

Pages 208-212 are housed with Children's Literature Research Collection original framed artwork.

	<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>
Partial galley proof, 3 sheets	1	5

**How to Play Better Football**

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Memorandum from Thomas Y. Crowell Company to Leonard Kessler  
regarding completed art 1972 October 6

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