
YAA CING

SPRING, 2008

The Newsletter of the Young Adult & Children's Services Section of BCLA

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CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

We would love to hear from you!

YAACING is published four times a year and is always looking for submissions that might interest our membership. If you have tried something new at your library, would like to write a column, report on a conference session, or know of an upcoming event of interest, please share it with us. Mail, email or fax your material to:

Phillippa Brown
Branch Head, Emily Carr Branch
Greater Victoria Public Library
3500 Blanshard St.
Victoria, BC V8X 1W3
Phone: 250 475-6100; Fax: 250 475-6102
pbrown@gvpl.ca

Joanne Canow
Children's Ready to Read Outreach Librarian
Hastings Branch
Vancouver Public Library
2969 East Hastings St.
Vancouver, BC V5K 1Z6
Phone: 604-788-5799; Fax: 604-665-8704
joanncan@vpl.ca

Deadlines are as follows:

Spring issue for March/April – Feb 1st

Summer issue for May/June – April 1st

Fall issue for September/October – August 1st

Winter issue for December/January – November 1st

Next Deadline:
Summer Issue: April 01, 2008

Message from the Editors

I would like to extend my best wishes to Phillippa Brown and her colleagues at the Greater Victoria Public Library. They have been locked out by their employer since February 17th, 2008. Having experienced a recent protracted strike here in Vancouver, I sincerely hope that she will be back to work by the time this issue of YAACING reaches you, sometime in March.

Despite our repeated requests for submissions through the YAACING listserve, this issue is very thin. Sadly, this makes my job easier. This issue is more newsletter than journal.

All is not lost, though. I have taken the opportunity to promote some of our fabulous local literacy initiatives, including 2008's hugely spectacular BC Books for Babies Bags, a welcome announcement that the Red Cedar Book Award website is now free of charge, and a fact sheet about, "Welcome to Kindergarten".

I hope many of you were able to attend the recent Serendipity event which featured storytelling, presentations, and beautiful books published by local and Canadian First Nations authors and illustrators. It was a fabulous conference, coinciding nicely with Richard Van Camp's lovely new boardbook, "Welcome Song for Babies."

Serendipity gave cause to reflect on the many needs, including literacy, of our growing First Nations communities. Recent newspaper articles highlight the injustice, neglect, and poverty First Nations peoples continue to experience in our cities, province, and country. In February, BC agreed to give full responsibility for First Nations foster children in Vancouver to the Vancouver Aboriginal Children and Family Services Society. There was also an article about the Prince George School Board's decision to develop a K-12 First Nations School. Prince George educators plan to include significantly more First Nations programming in all their classroom and extra-curricular activities. This is good news. Having First Nations people and communities play a central role in planning education programs that are relevant to their children is a very positive step forward. First Nations families and children must be able to participate in and be proud of their heritage in order to succeed.

In this spirit, I have included the work of a local (Lower Mainland) First Nations elementary school teacher (from Norquay Elementary School in Vancouver) who is a talented artist, writer, puppeteer, TV producer, and musician. Kim Soo Goodtrack has published early and emergent literacy books which celebrate her heritage and include amazing packages of craft related activities. Kim Soo has agreed to publish an example of an activity sheet for our use (just photocopy, credit, and make use in your programs). Her website address is listed for purchasing these great First Nations resources for your library and programming initiatives.

Spring is here and well on its way to blooming in many BC communities! Wishing you the best!

Joanne Canow
Co-Editor of YAACING

Dear Educator,

The 'ABC's of Our Spiritual Connection' by Kim Soo Goodtrack, is now available in black outline reproduction sheets. Now every young student can learn about First Nation's Spiritual life! The new illustrations are accompanied with text describing Spiritual concepts. The detailed drawings encourage children to add colour as they are read the text. Pre-schoolers will enjoy this book. Each school or centre will receive the right to copy.

The original 'ABC's of Our Spiritual Connection' was featured on APTN's Wakanheja, and Sesame Street. The ABC book also received the Children's Choice Award. This informative and colourful book has been a favourite to many! Now they can be reproduced for all.

If you are interested in ordering a set of 26 black outlines for in-school reproduction, please fill out the order form. They come in a folder to help keep the originals organized.

There is also a 1234 First Nation's Explore Activity book for reproduction. There are many activities for children to enjoy, for example: cut and paste, connect the dot, a game, symmetrical challenges, drawing, letter puzzles, and more! Each school or centre is given permission to copy! This is a wonderful way to count as well as learn about our Culture.

Also available, in full colour, are two illustrated booklets: *'The ABC's of our Spiritual Connection'* and *'1234 First Nation's Explore'*. They are both full of First Nation's information. To view a few illustrations & text, please go to:

www.kimsoogoodtrack.com

Thank you for your time and taking the time to teach children about First Nation's beautiful Spiritual Cultural beliefs.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact: Gerry Potter

Wakanheja Holdings Ltd.

Distribution

geraldpotter@netzero.net

Phone or fax 604 525-9408

WAKANHEJA Holdings Ltd.

Presents



ABC's of Our Spiritual Connection

The ABC's of Our Spiritual Connection is a coloured illustrated children's book that has received the Children's Choice Award and was featured on Sesame Street. This revised edition is full of First Nation's Spiritual ways that connect all First Nation's. Our Sacred has survived even though it was denied and outlawed.
ISBN 0-9781823-0-8 978-0-9781823-0-4
19.99 plus gst & shipping



1234 First Nation's Explore

1234 First Nation's Explore is a counting book full of interesting information accompanied with coloured illustrations. From button blankets to the pegs of a teepee, the children will be encouraged to count as they learn.
ISBN 0-9781823-2-4 978-0-9781823-2-8
19.99 plus gst & shipping

Kim Soo Goodtrack is a Lakota teacher, artist and author. She is currently teaching grade 5 in Vancouver, B.C. She has also created children's shows for APTN. Her heart has always been to recognize children as WAKANHEJA, meaning Sacred One in the Lakota language. To view pages from either book go to www.kimsoogoodtrack.com

To place an order, fax attached order form to
604-525-9408 or

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact: Gerry Potter
Distribution/Sales
geraldpotter@netzero.net

Accompanying B/W reproduction activity resources available on www.kimsoogoodtrack.com

Examples: Completed Craft Activity Sheets

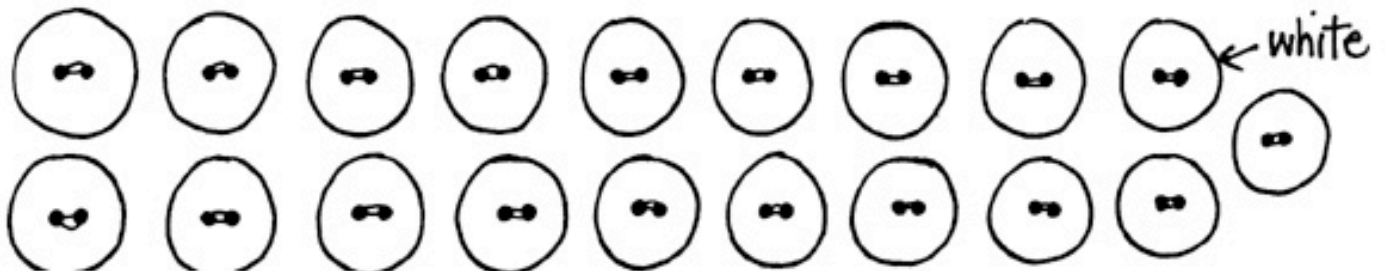
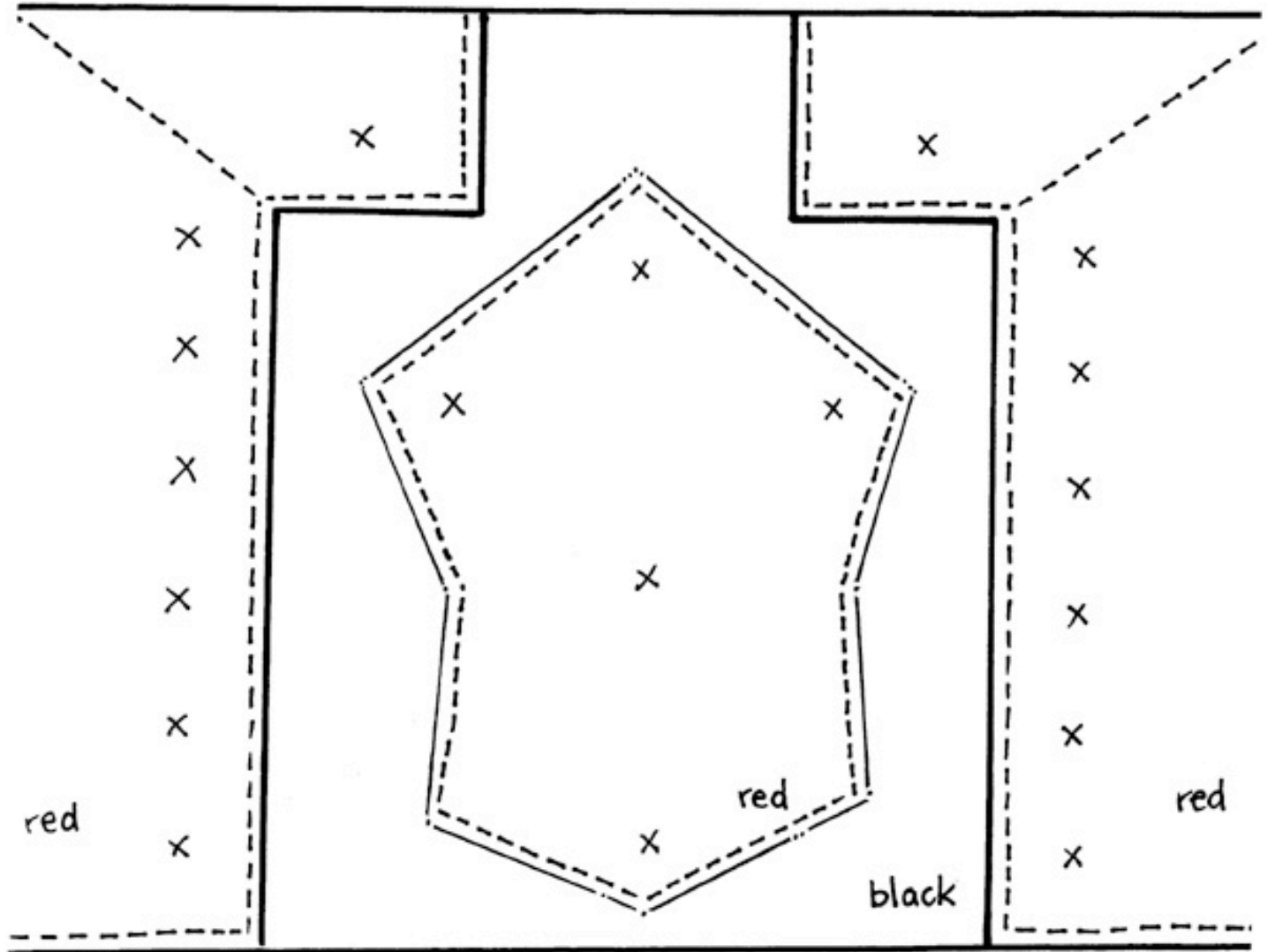


19

• glue the buttons on
the X's

nineteen

Cut and glue the 19 buttons on the button
blanket.

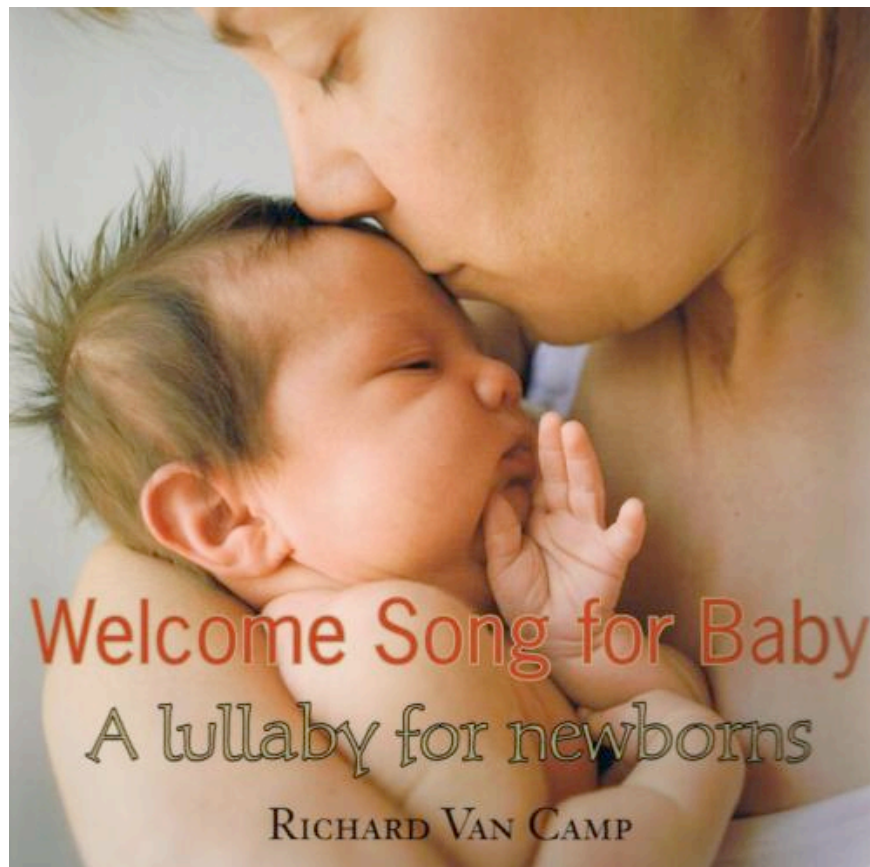




Books for BC Babies Bag, 2008

Books for BC Babies has a new "first" to celebrate in 2008. This special board book celebrating our diversity and written by one of our First Nations authors and storyteller extraordinaire, Richard Van Camp, is being distributed in 2008 Books for Babies bags.

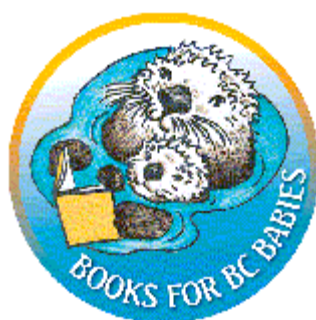
Welcome Song for Baby: A lullaby for newborns was commissioned and published specifically for our program.



In addition, each bag contains a copy of the fabulous new CD, ***Dances With Dreams***, a collection of multicultural songs and lullabies performed by a host of musicians, and produced by the CBC for the Books for Babies Program. This CD is also available for purchase to raise funds for the BC Books for Babies Committee.



Jim Looney & The Books for BC Babies Committee
<http://books4babies.bclibrary.ca>



2008 Red Cedar Book Awards Update!

Pop Quiz:

1. Is the Red Cedar Award Program free of charge this year?
2. In order to have your readers' votes count, do you need to register your group?
3. Do you need to register a group in order to send representatives to the Gala in Surrey?

Answers: YES! YES! YES!

We've been able to eliminate registration fees for the Red Cedar Book Award program, thanks to a grant from the Public Library Services Branch.

However, group leaders still need to register their groups so they can submit their readers' votes online in April, and buy tickets for the Gala (May 10th in Surrey).

The Red Cedar Book Awards are BC's children's choice literature awards for kids in grades 4-7. Throughout the year, children read nominated titles, write reviews that are published online, and participate in group activities led by teachers, librarians, and other enthusiastic adults.

Registered group leaders are able to download resources from the Red Cedar website, <http://www.redcedaraward.ca>.

Group leaders coordinate their children's votes and submit totals online during BC Book and Magazine Week, April 19-26. The yearly Gala Award ceremony will take place on May 10th, and tickets are expected to go on sale in March.

Please email your questions to info@redcedaraward.ca, and one of our volunteers will answer as soon as possible.

Happy reading!

Jennifer Caldwell
President, Young Readers' Choice Awards of BC

Storytelling invites participation and stimulates discussion. On the one hand, it is fun and exciting; on the other, it challenges. Storytelling helps to facilitate learning. Stories can be based on legend, myth, history, even on science, mathematics, music, or friends and family. Stories can help the audience to step into the past, into other cultures, into the imagination; worlds so different from their own that they are helped to better understand their place in this world and this time. The listener learns how to listen, how to focus his or her thoughts. Communication skills are improved: those of diction, the use of language, phrasing, sentence structure, the unfolding of a theme. Storytelling is a joyful experience, an act of theatre on a small yet grand scale, a true celebration and a gift of love.

Robert (Max tell) Stelmach

Robert (Max Tell) Stelmach is a writer, storyteller, and educator. His latest of four CDs, an audio book, “Little Johnny Small and Other Stories”, in English and Spanish, was recently released. One of his latest stories, “Feizo, the Book Burro”, was runner-up for the 2007 ‘Writing for Children’ competition, sponsored by the Writers’ Union of Canada. For more information about his programs go to his web site: www.maxtell.ca.



FACT SHEET

What is the Welcome to Kindergarten™ (WTK) Program?

Before starting school, children across Canada are given preparatory resources and experiences to position them for school success and lifelong learning. Parents/caregivers/families are invited to attend a workshop at their neighbourhood school where they receive early literacy resources as part of the Welcome to Kindergarten Program and learn strategies for using the resources with their child.

The goal of WTK is to provide pre-school children with the resources and experiences to begin their formal education with a foundation in literacy nurtured in their home.

What is in the Welcome to Kindergarten Bag?

- ✓ magnetic letters and numbers
- ✓ concept, counting and story books
- ✓ thick crayons and pencil, glue stick, round end scissors
- ✓ a scribbler and coloured construction paper
- ✓ parent information pamphlet, **Help Your Child Get Ready For School** (translations available in Arabic, Bengali, Chinese, Farsi, French, Gujarati, Hindi, Korean, Ojibwa, Polish, Pashto, Portuguese, Punjabi, Russian, Somali, Spanish, Tamil, Taglog, Urdu, Vietnamese)
- ✓ templates of upper and lower case letters and numbers 1-10
- ✓ playdough



How does this happen?

- ✓ In early spring, school administrators, Kindergarten teachers, Teacher-librarians, **Public Librarians**/other Community Partners attend a half day workshop on implementing the WTK with parents and children.
- ✓ Resources for WTK Bags and parent orientation workshop are delivered to schools.
- ✓ Schools invite parents to WTK orientation sessions at Kindergarten registration.
- ✓ At the parent orientation meetings, families receive the resources for the Welcome to Kindergarten Program and learn activities to do with their children to help get them ready for school. Parents also meet Community partners such as the local **Public Librarian**, Community Health Nurse, etc.

Public Librarian Connections

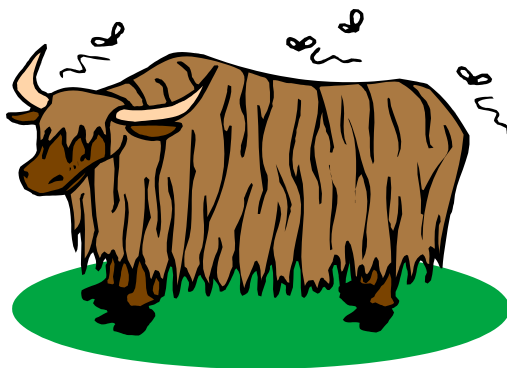
- ✓ Public Librarians plan with school teams and are included as a partner with the Teacher Librarian at the Book station where parents are shown strategies to effectively share a story book with their 5 year old
- ✓ Public Librarians share their Summer Reading program by including a copy of the program in the WTK bag that is sent home with each family
- ✓ Public Librarians "card" each 5 year old and invite them with their families to visit their local Public Library

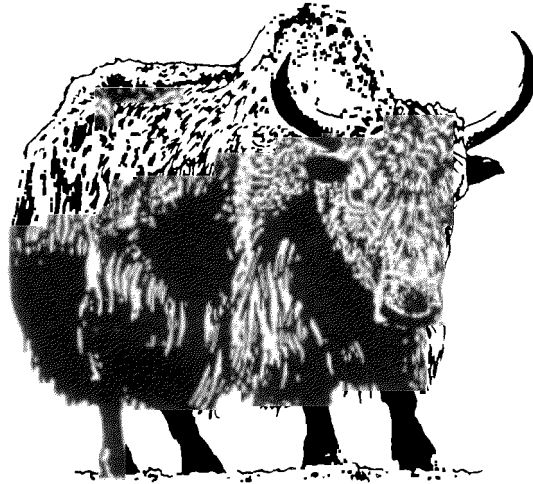
More information about the program is available on our website: www.thelearningpartnership.ca

Please contact **Patricia Shields, Program Manager** at 604 734-5565 psields@thelearningpartnership.ca

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