Inaugural Killaloe Kids' BookFest

Frieda Wishinsky



MSc. Special Education, teacher of children with learning disabilities; award-winning author

Picture Books

Jennifer Jones Won't Leave Me Alone (2003) explores feelings and opposite sex friendships in elementary grade children. A boy writhes at being the object of Jennifer's crush, but courageously learns to cope with friendship.

Please, Louise 2007 portrays a sibling bond: Jake tries everything to make her go away but Louise is an irresistible

force, determined to be as close to her brother as she possibly can.



Non-fiction

Everything But the Kitchen Sink (in collaboration with Elizabeth MacLeod, 2008) contains 10 chapters of wacky food facts, fascinating trivia, superstitions, records, questions, traditions, inventions and more from around the world.

Canadian Flyer Adventure Series



Transported back through time on the magic Canadian Flyer, Emily and Matt experience the past firsthand. Each thrilling adventure takes them to a different part of the country at a fascinating point in history. For example, #5 Flying High! takes them back to February 23, 1909, to witness Alexander Graham Bell's Silver Dart's thrilling flight – the first flight in Canada. In #15 Make it Fair! they are transported to Winnipeg in 1914 to join forces with activist Nellie McClung in the flight for women's right to vote.

Presentation Options

Grade 1-3 (45 minutes to an hour)

We turn *Please Louise* or another picture book into a play. I share how I develop ideas for stories from my own life. I encourage students to think of their own lives and their own stories. We rhyme some of my books and poems together. We talk about how and when rhyme works. I talk about how I use history in my time travel series, the *Canadian Flyer Adventures*. Students share their new ideas for the series. We have a lively Q & A.

Grade 4 and up 45 minutes to an hour

I share how to turn personal experiences into stories, while showing pictures from my childhood and explaining how I find story ideas by "remembering". We discuss how to research non-fiction and historical fiction and then turn that into lively writing. We talk about how to work on a project with a partner (As I did for *Everything But the Kitchen Sink*). We have a lively Q & A.

Her website contains much more information about her and her work: www.friedawishinsky.com