

Spotlight on Books
April 11th & 12th, 2008

I thoroughly enjoyed the entire event and was so glad that all the presenters were able to make it in spite of the weather. Jim Trelease had an informative presentation in which he discussed the value of providing daily classroom time for students to read books of their choice, the importance of parent and teacher time spent reading aloud to children and how that relates to building knowledge for future success, understanding that humans do things repetitively when they enjoy it and reading should be a pleasurable experience, and concluding with book talks about good books he would recommend.

After listening to the three authors' presentations and looking at their books, I could hardly wait to share them with the students at school. Most of the books I purchased were checked out immediately, and I have done a read-aloud with Mary Casanova's book, One-Dog Canoe, to Pre-School and Kindergarten students. They all joined in for parts of the book and loved the illustrations. A gal had taken a picture of Mary Casanova autographing the book and emailed it to me at school so I was able to show the children what the author looked like.

The showcases were great. I'm always looking for good books with appropriate content to purchase for the library. Since I am a teacher as well as the school librarian, limited time makes it more difficult to search out and pre-read books. The book talks, lists of recommended books, and being able to actually view the books were very helpful.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Donna Kennedy". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background. The letters are fluid and connected, with a prominent loop at the end of the last name.