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ANNOUNCEMENTS

New: Reading Buddies

Reading Buddies (Monkey Man and Little Toad), books, and postcards now offered as sets! Check out the website!

Free Shipping on orders over \$100 'til May 31, 2018

La Stella

Conferences Galore

BY JEN FEN

Shine On exhibited at SERRA in Myrtle Beach (January) and the National Reading Recovery & K-6 Literacy Conference in Columbus, OH (February). We met so many wonderful classroom and Reading Recovery teachers from all over the country. It truly was an amazing experience! Thanks to everyone who stopped by our booth.

We successfully introduced our new Reading Buddies, books, and character postcards and notecards. Our Reading Buddies are needle-felted: locally made with hand-sheared sheep's wool and organic dyes. They make reading even more fun. Postcards and notecards encourage writing to family and friends. Students can even write to the author (Jen Fen) and I'll write back!

Spring is just around the corner with daffodils popping up all over. As we go to press, new books are being illustrated!

Keep Reading,

Note: We've changed our name to Shining Readers to reflect our web address! Take note!



National RR Conference



Reading Buddies



www.shiningreaders.com
www.facebook.com/shiningreaders/



Call to Action Book Reviews

* *Calling all customers!*

* *Write a review and we'll send you a **free book**. How?*

1. *Submit a review on our website.*
2. *Send an email to jenfen@shiningreaders.com with an address and we'll send the book.*



Snow Cones

*Smells like happiness.
Tastes like many flavors.
Feels so ...
Sounds ...
Looks ...
My birthday.
I love snow cones.*

Primary Student

Reading & Writing Tip In the Classroom

These past several weeks I had the opportunity to teach in a primary classroom with students ranging from below grade level in reading to reading way above grade level. Magic truly does happen when time is taken to build relationships with students. I worked on building a sense of community with high expectations and I embraced the chance to teach reading, writing, and vocabulary, across the content areas. In linking known to unknown and guiding the students into making connections in their learning, we celebrated each step of their progress.

One very special snippet of my time was spent teaching poetry. I find the most effective strategy is sharing other students' poetry with the class. For example, sensory poems are one of the easiest and most enjoyable for children to relate to and to write. Why? All children write successfully about a topic they intimately know, no matter their reading or writing ability.

Marie Clay believed that a reciprocal relationship existed between reading and writing, each supporting the other. As the teacher encourages and guides both simultaneously, the child accelerates more quickly in their literacy learning. Thus, writing the poetry they read, enabled students to appreciate and understand better the poetry read. It also provided an opportunity for creative and purposeful writing. The result? A poetry booklet to be proudly shared with family and friends.