

TONI BUZZEO, MA, MLIS—AUTHOR AND SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY



Both an author and School Library Media Specialist, Toni Buzzeo holds a Masters degree in English (University of Michigan) and a Masters degree in Library and Information Science (University of Rhode Island). A former college and high school English teacher, Toni Buzzeo was a practicing Library Media Specialist for sixteen years. She was named the 1999 Maine Library Media Specialist of the Year and currently serves on the Maine Association of School Libraries Executive Board and as a volunteer collaborating Library Media Specialist at her local school in Buxton, Maine.

Ms. Buzzeo writes many things including children's books (picture books and novels), professional books, and many professional articles. She has published five professional books, ***Toni Buzzeo and YOU*** (Libraries Unlimited, 2005), ***Terrific Connections with Authors, Illustrators, and Storytellers: Real Space and Virtual Links*** (Libraries Unlimited, 1999), ***Collaborating to Meet Standards: Teacher/Librarian Partnerships for K-6*** (Linworth, 2002), ***Collaborating to Meet Standards: Teacher/Librarian Partnerships for 7-12*** (Linworth, 2002), and ***35 Best Books For Teaching U.S. Regions*** (Scholastic Professional, 2002), as well as three more forthcoming, ***Read! Learn! Perform! 10 Reader's Theater Programs for Literacy Enrichment*** (Upstart 2006), ***Collaborating to Meet Literacy Standards: Teacher/Librarian Partnerships K-2*** (Linworth 2006), and ***Collaborating to Meet Standards: Teacher/Librarian Partnerships for K-6, Second Edition*** (Linworth 2007).

She has also created five picture books for young readers: ***Little Loon and Papa***, as well as companion books ***Dawdle Ducking*** and ***Ready or Not, Dawdle Duckling***, ***The Sea Chest***, and ***Our Librarian Won't Tell Us ANYTHING!*** A sixth picture book, ***A Lighthouse Christmas***, will be published in 2008.

Our Librarian Won't Tell Us ANYTHING! (Upstart Books, 2006) (ages 6-10) is the story of an exuberant library media specialist, Mrs. Skorupski, dedicated to instilling independent information skills in her students while ensuring that they feel like "Library Success Stories" in her library media center. Sachiko Yoshikawa's bright and humorous illustrations bring the school library setting and cast of characters to life with humor and fun.

Little Loon and Papa (Dial Books for Young Readers, 2004) (ages 2-6) is the story of a young loon chick who is afraid to dive. The book, illustrated in vibrant pastels by California illustrator Margaret Spengler, is a story of personal courage and the love between a father and his child. It's also a playful guessing story about animals found along the shores of northern lakes.

Dawdle Duckling (Dial Books for Young Readers, 2003) (ages 2-6) and ***Ready or Not, Dawdle Duckling*** (Dial Books for Young Readers, 2005) (ages 2-6) are companion books about a small duckling who swims to the beat of his own drummer. In the first volume, he snaps to attention when danger threatens. His dawdling nature enables him to make friends along his journey, friends who help him to win a game of hide-and-seek in the second volume. Also illustrated by Margaret Spengler, they are cheerful tales with sprightly illustrations.

Ms. Buzzeo's first children's book, ***The Sea Chest*** (Dial Books for Young Readers 2002) (ages 5-up), winner of the Crown Gallery Award and the Maine Lupine Honor Award, is set on a fictional midcoast Maine island and is based on the Maine Hendricks Head Light baby-in-the-sea chest legend. The book, illustrated in oils by Minnesota artist Mary GrandPré who has also illustrated the popular Harry Potter novels, is both Maine historical fiction and a touching adoption story.

She currently has another children's book in line for publication. ***A Lighthouse Christmas*** (Dial Books for Young Readers, Forthcoming) (ages 5-up) is a second historical fiction lighthouse story that builds on the story of the Flying Santa Service along the Atlantic coast. It will be illustrated by the award-winning children's illustrator, Nancy Carpenter.

Read more about Toni Buzzeo on her website at www.tonibuzzeo.com