

## Catch The Reading Bug 2007-Week One

**Sub-Theme:** Things That Bug You

**Title:** Enjoying Annoying – What Bugs Me Mobile

**Age:** 9 to 12 years olds

**Duration:** 1 hour

**Submitted by:** Helen Graham Trail & District Public Library

### Materials/Supplies:

- Paper
- card stock
- pencils
- coloured felt pens
- sticks or wire coat hangers
- string or fishing line
- one-hole punch
- blackboard or white board
- poetry books.

### Procedure:

#### 1. Writing:

- Have participants write poems mobiles about what or who annoys, or bugs them.
- Help them by: reading one or more poems about things that annoy or bug people.

Some poems you might try are: "Hurry, Hurry, Mary Dear" by N. M. Bodecker, "My Young Legs" from I Gave My Mom a Castle by Jean Little, "Unscratchable Itch" from A Light in the Attic by Shel Silverstein, "My Brother's Really Stingy" from A Pizza the Size of the Sun by Jack Prelutsky, or any other poem you like about things that bug, or annoy, people.

- Ask the participants what bugs them and write the things on a blackboard or whiteboard. It might be helpful to give a couple of suggestions, such as: people expecting too much from you, homework, when something is unfair, teasing, homework, busywork, things that need batteries, etc.
- Some participants will find it difficult to write a poem. Stress the fun not the writing. Bruce Lansky's website <http://www.gigglepotz.com/kidspoetry.htm> has a lot of good ideas. One of his ideas is a "list poem". It's a simple poem that lists things about the topic in structured sentences such as:

I Get Very Annoyed

When I have to stand in line

When I'm running late  
When people are rude  
When I forget my lunch  
When I write awful poems like this one.

## **2. Craft:**

Once the participants have written a poem on scrape paper they can make the mobile by writing the title on a long piece of card stock and each line on smaller pieces with the coloured felts. Cross two sticks, each about 30cm long, and secure them with string or fishing wire, or use wire coat hangers for the base of the mobile. Attach the title to the sticks or coat hanger. Cut the string in different lengths, tie a line of poetry to each string and attach the other end of the string to the sticks or coat hanger.

## **3. Book talk:**

Book talk some stories that are poems such as:

Creech, Sharon. Love That Dog. New York: HarperTrophy, 2001  
Glenn, Mel. Who Killed Mr. Chippendale?. New York: Lodestar Books, 1996  
Hesse, Karen. Out of the Dust. New York: Scholastics, 1997  
Service, Robert. The Shooting of Dan McGrew. Toronto: Kids Can Press, 1988  
Yerxa, Leo. Last Leaf First Snowflake to Fall. Toronto: Groundwood, 1993  
Yolen, Jane. The Ballad of the Pirate Queens. San Diego: Harcourt Brace & Co., 1995

## **Resources:**

### **Books:**

Bodecker, N. M.. Hurry, Hurry, Mary Dear. New York: Margaret K. McElderry Books, 1998

Little, Jean. I Gave My Mom a Castle. Victoria: Orca Books, 2003

Silverstein, Shel. A Light in the Attic. New York: Harper & Row, 1981

Prelutsky, Jack. A Pizza the Size of the Sun. New York: Greenwillow Books, 1996

### **Websites:**

<http://www.gigglepotz.com/kidspoetry.htm>