

Communicator Article – Favourite Childhood Books

This is the second installment in my series on Favourite Childhood Books. I have asked people in the community to share their thoughts with us. In their own words...

Michele Dean - Writer, Dance Instructor, Mother Goose Facilitator and Parent

My fave is “Where the Wild Things Are” by Maurice Sendak. As a child, I would check that book out from the library on a regular basis. When I look back, my childhood memory of that book was an entire world of imaginary creatures, wild and wonderful places, and a little boy with fierce power. When I rediscovered the book as a parent, I was amazed at how simple it was. My memory of it was so much more, which was a reminder for me how even a simple book can be a world unto itself for children.

My other favourite is “The Secret Garden” by Frances Hodgson Burnett. As a child who suffered the loss of my own mother, I could relate to the young girl and her stubborn invalid cousin. I also related to the theme of nature and it’s capacity to heal wounds and bring beauty and joy into life.

Rosemary Phillips – writer, musician.

I don’t have one favourite book for I enjoyed many. I always enjoyed reading about people and places around the world, and fairytales. One favourite was Robin Hood and Sherwood Forest. We lived near Epping Forest outside London so I related to the story and to the history.

There were some Enid Blyton books that I enjoyed, like the “Noddy” series. We didn’t own many books then, like children do now. This was post war UK. The only place I could get my reading adventures were at the library.

Our family did own a terrific set of children’s encyclopedias (Knowledge) that had a huge volume on all the great art works of the world, with colour prints, and the stories behind each of the paintings. I loved that book, and one day actually got to see some of those great paintings in the European galleries.

By the time I was 13 I was into UFO’s and George Adamski’s “Inside Flying Space Ships”. History of another sort – possibly the future?

For information on upcoming family literacy activities and programs in the Boundary please contact Lizanne Eastwood – Family Literacy Coordinator for Grand Forks and The West Boundary – Columbia Basin Alliance for Literacy

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Please let me know your favourite childhood books!