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Thanks for reading my books!

Grade 2 Kids
c/o Ms. Mason
Raymore Elementary
500 S. Madison
Raymore, MO
64083 USA



Hi Kids:

Thanks for writing.

I have enclosed a poster and unpublished story. Here are some answers to questions.

Questions & Answers:

What made you want to become an author? Originally, I didn't plan on becoming an author at all. First I thought I was going to be a clown and then I wanted to be a farmer and then I thought I was going to be a Catholic Priest and then I thought I was going to be an anthropologist and then I thought I was going to be a daycare worker. When I was working in daycare I told kids stories all the time. Finally, my boss decided I should turn the stories into books and he told me to write a book. And that is how I became an author. Once I became an author I found it was very nice being an author and I wished I had done it a lot sooner than I had.

What is your favorite book? You know that changes every day. Some days I like Love You Forever most because it sold the most copies. Other days I like David's Father and Andrew's Loose Tooth and Something Good and Makeup Mess because they are the books that have my own kids in them. Other days I like Mud Puddle the best because it was my very first book.

Tell us about your family? I have a wife named Ann and three kids (who are all grown-up now) - TYA is 25 and lives in Guelph, Ontario. ANDREW is 30 and lives in Toronto. JULIE is 34 and also lives in Toronto. I have 8 brothers and sisters. Their names are Mary, Margy, Tommy, Dicky, Billy, Jimmy, Jacky and Kathy. I live in Guelph, Ontario, Canada. It has 90,000 people and a University. It is surrounded by farms. My house is next to a hill. I have an office in the basement.

Where do you get your ideas? I get my ideas for books from my own kids and sometimes from other children. Often when I am telling stories I will say I am going to make up a new story. I get a kids name to use in the story and I still don't know what I am going to say. I just say whatever comes into my head and see if it's good. Usually it isn't. But sometimes it is very good. Lots of my books have started this way.

How many illustrators have you worked with? I have worked with eleven different illustrators. **Michael Martchenko** has done most of my books, but a few of them have been done by other illustrators:

Vladyana Kryorka did A Promise Is A Promise.

Sheila McGraw did Love You Forever.

Suzanne Duranceau did Millicent and The Wind.

Sami Suomalainen did The Dark and Mud Puddle.

Gilles Tibo did Giant.

Alan Daniel did Good Families Don't, Get Out of Bed and Aaron's Hair.

Shawn Steffler did Get Me Another One

Helene Desputeaux did Purple, Green and Yellow and Where is

Gah-Ning?

Eugenie Fernandes did Ribbon Rescue

Janet Wilson did Lighthouse.

Can you visit our school? Since my stroke I have not resumed any class visits, private storytelling, festivals, fundraisers or conferences. I did do some concerts and touring but I announced just recently that I will not be touring any longer.

My newest book is called "Seeing Red" and is about a kid who wants to be just like his best friend who has red hair. His friend promises to teach him the secret trick for turning black hair to red!

Can I be in one of your books? Most of the kids who are in my books are there because I used their name when I was making up a new story during a storytelling. For example; Olivia, the kid in "Wait and See" was in kindergarten in 1985 and I was telling stories in her class. She put up her hand when I asked who wanted to be in a new story and I made up a story about her. In 1993 her story finally got into a book. So, getting in a book is a matter of being in the right place at the right time. It just sort of happens. Lots of kids ask me to be in books, but it is the kid who happens to be in front of me when a good story comes along that will be the one who gets in. Lots of the stories I make up are not really that good and they don't get into books. So there are a lot of kids whose names I use at storytellings who don't get into books because the new story isn't good enough.

What are some of your favorite things?

My favorite color is black. I am the only person I know who has black as a favorite color.

My favorite food is Mango Salad.

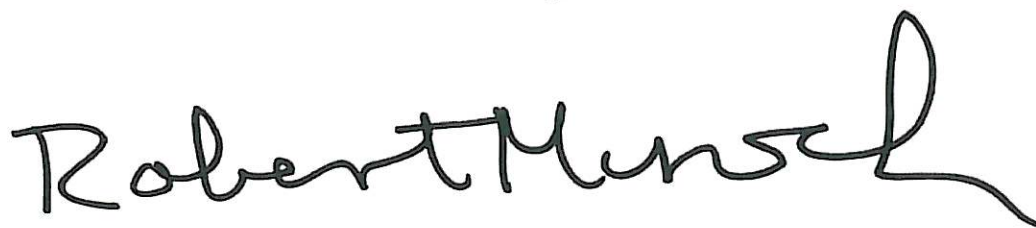
My favorite movie is a very old movie from the sixties called Mondo Cane

My favorite holiday is Halloween

My favorite animal - dogs. I have two dogs: Guinness, a large black Standard Poodle and Winston, a small Yorkshire terrier.

My favorite things to do: walking my dog, riding my bicycle and reading.

Thanks for writing,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Munsch". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

P.S. Check out my Web Site at: robertmunsch.com.

This is an unpublished story that I send to school classes that write. When I get letters I pick the names at random for the story **(if names are given or I can read them)**. If it ever becomes a book, it will have the names of the kids that I originally told the story about. **Feel free to redo the story and include other names if you want each kid in the class to have a version with their name in it or to add names to the existing story.** You can also photocopy it and give it to the kids.

Museum Surprise!

One day Zoey and Andrew went with their class to a museum and the man at the museum said “Hey, you can watch chickens come out of eggs”.

“Wonderful” said Zoey.

So Zoey and Andrew sat and looked at the eggs and looked at the eggs and looked at the eggs and all of a sudden one of them broke and out came a baby chicken.

“Neat” said Andrew. “Got any bigger eggs?”

“Why yes” said the man, “look over here. We’ve got goose eggs”.

They were really big.

So Zoey and Andrew sat and sat and sat and sat and sat and sat and sat and sat and finally the egg cracked open and out came a goose.

“Wonderful” said Zoey. “Got anything bigger?”

“Well” said the man, “we have turkey eggs. Turkey eggs. Look at this. Big eggs”.

So they sat and sat and just when they got really bored the egg cracked and out came a baby turkey.

“Wow! Well” said Andrew, “what’s the biggest egg you’ve got?”

“Oh my” said the man in the museum, “well, down in the basement, I don’t usually show this, is an ostrich egg.”

He took them down in the basement and there was this **enormous** egg, bigger than a basketball.

“Wow” said Zoey. “It looks like a dinosaur egg”.

So they sat and sat and sat and after a while the egg broke in half and out came a baby ostrich.

“Amazing” said Andrew.

“I bet” said Zoey, “I could fit inside that egg”.

“No” said Andrew.

“Yes” said Zoey.

“No” said Andrew.

“Yes” said Zoey, “watch”.

She jumped in half the egg, put the other half over her head; and Mickey came in and said “It’s amazing. Stay there. I’ll glue in back together”.

Mickey called to Gracee, Hope and Fred, “Go get the teacher and tell her it is really important”.

Gracee, Hope and Fred said “OK!”

Then Mickey glued the egg back together with Zoey inside.

Just then the teacher came in with Gracee, Hope and Fred.

She said “Where’s Zoey”?

“I don’t know” said Andrew, “but I’m listening to this egg. Listen, it can talk”.

“Eggs can’t talk” said the teacher.

“Put your ear to the egg” said Andrew.

The teacher put her ear to the egg and Zoey said “Hello”.

“Oh no” said the teacher, “it talked. This is amazing. An egg talks!!!”

“And” said Andrew, “it can add. Egg, one + one”.

The egg said “two”.

“What a smart egg!” said Gracee, Mickey and Fred.

“Incredible” said the teacher, “this egg is smarter than the kids in my class. This is amazing. I’m going to see how smart it really is” said the teacher.

She looked at the egg and said “Egg, how much is 243 divided by 146?”

“Duhhhhh?” said the egg.

“Aaawww” said the teacher, “you’re a dumb egg.”

And Zoey jumped out of the egg and said “No, I’m not dumb.”

And the teacher was so surprised she fainted and fell right over.

“You know” said Zoey, “maybe we could fit the teacher in the egg”.

“Good idea” said Gracee, Mickey, Hope, Andrew and Fred.

They took the two pieces of egg and put them around the teacher, taped it all up together and when the teacher’s aide came down they said “Look, they said we could have this ostrich egg. It’s already hatched”.

So they took the egg back to school, put it inside the classroom and the teacher’s aide went to find the teacher.

The principal came and said “Alright, where’s the teacher? She didn’t come back from the museum”.

“We don’t know where the teacher is but look at this egg” said Gracee, Mickey, Andrew, Zoey, Hope and Fred, “it can talk”.

“Eggs can’t talk” said the principal. He went over to the egg, knocked on the egg and said “Hello” and from inside the egg someone said “Hello”.

“Oh no” said the principal, “it’s an egg and it can talk”.

“It’s more than that” said Mickey, “it can add”.

“Yo, egg, how much is one + one?”

“Two” said the egg.

“It can add. It’s smarter than some of the kids at this school. I’m gonna see how smart it really is though” said the principal.

He said to the egg, “How much is 436 divided by 231 times 15 plus 32 minus 1”.

“Ahhhh three” said the egg.

“Ahhhh! You’re a dumb egg!” said the principal.

And the teacher jumped out of the egg and said “I am not a dummy!!!”

And the principal ran screaming back to his office and the teacher spent the whole rest of the day trying to figure out 436 divided by 231 times 15 plus 23 minus 1.

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