Inspire a Love of Reading
Author Studies for Preschoolers
Presenter: Jane Girondo – Jane.Girondo@fairfaxcounty.gov
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library
703-324-8307

Information from Presentation

Keiko Kasza
Keikokasza.com

Finders Keepers
When the Elephant Walks
The Rat and the Tiger

Don’t Laugh, Joe!
A Mother for Choco
My Lucky Day

Other books by Keiko Kasza:

Badger’s Fancy Meal
Badger is bored with the same old meals, but his search for more exciting food only leads to trouble.

The Dog who Cried Wolf
Tired of being a house pet, Moka the dog moves to the mountains to become a wolf but soon misses the comforts of home.

The Pigs’ Picnic
Mr. Pig, on his way to call on Miss Pig, allows his animal friends to persuade him to don various handsome portions of their own bodies, with an alarming result. Available in Spanish

The Wolf’s Chicken Stew
A hungry wolf’s attempts to fatten a chicken for his stewpot have unexpected results.

Author facts for adults:
• Grew up in Japan in a typical extended family.
• Came to US to study at California State and received a degree in graphic arts.
• While working as a graphic artist read the picture book, Frederick by Leo Lionni and began writing children’s books in her spare time.
• Does not like sushi.
• Last name is actually Hungarian. (husband’s family)

Author facts for children:
• Born and lived in Japan
• Has two brothers.
• Married with two sons.
• Visits her family in Japan often but lives in Bloomington, Indiana.
• Loves to play tennis and scrabble.

Information from keikokazsa.com
Other books by Kevin Henkes:

Birds
Fascinated by the colors, shapes, sounds and movements of the many different birds she sees through her window, a little girl is happy to discover that she and they have something in common.

Chrysanthemum
Chrysanthemum, a mouse, loves her name, until she starts going to school and the other children make fun of it. Available in Spanish

Egg
Three little birds crack their way out of eggs and fly away, leaving one egg sitting all alone until the three chicks come back and discover a friendly baby alligator has finally hatched.

Little White Rabbit
As he hops along a little rabbit wonders what it would be like to be green as grass, tall as fir trees, hard as rocks and flutter like butterflies.

Waiting
An owl, puppy, bear, rabbit and pig wait for marvelous things to happen.

Author facts for adults:
• Writes stories out longhand on paper, revises and finally types up on typewriter.
• Uses a light box he’s had since childhood.
• English teacher junior year of high school encouraged his writing.
• Attended University of Wisconsin.
• Working on a set of picture books with wife about the four seasons.

Author facts for children:
• Born in Wisconsin.
• Married with two children, Ruby and Max.
• Has three brothers and a sister.
• Since he was a little boy, he’s loved drawing pictures.

Information from kevinhenkes.com
**Songs Used in Presentation**

**The Author and Illustrator Song**
(Tune: “Are You Sleeping?”)

Who’s the author? Who’s the author?
What’s her name? What’s her name?
She wrote all the words to
Make this story for you.
What’s her name? What’s her name?

Who’s the illustrator? Who’s the illustrator?
What’s his name? What’s his name?
He drew pictures to view
As the story’s read through.
What’s his name? What’s his name?

**Time to Say Goodbye**
(Tune: “She’ll Be Coming Around the Mountain”)

It’s time to say goodbye to all my friends.
It’s time to say goodbye to all my friends.
It’s time to say goodbye,
Give a smile and wink your eye.
It’s time to say goodbye to all my friends.
Yee-haw! Goodbye friends.

**Author Study Nuts and Bolts**

**What is an author study?**

A unit in which the curriculum is centered on works by the same author. Author studies expose children to a variety of literature and an array of artwork.

**Why do an author study?**

- Sparks interest in an author’s stories and motivates children to want to read.
- Helps children learn interesting facts about an author.
- Means variety for your lesson plans.

**How do I have an author study?**

1. Choose an author.
   - Make sure it is one that you and the children enjoy.
   - Ensure there are plenty of books by that author. You will need at least 10-20 books.

2. Search the library catalog to see available books and place these books on hold.
3. Research author, looking for facts and activities.
   • Author websites and teacher blogs are great resources.
   • Use curriculum books such as:
     1. Teaching With Favorite (Author’s Name) Books by various authors
     2. More Story Stretchers by Shirley Raines

4. Layout the author study.
   • Choose which books you are going to read aloud.
   • Prepare extension activities.
   • Prepare author poster and bar graph materials.
     2. Google Images is a good resource for book covers and author pictures.

5. Optional – Brainstorm other materials that you can incorporate into classroom centers:
   • Puzzles
   • Puppets
   • Felt board pieces
   • Manipulatives
   • Block props
   • Games

Library Resources
You can find the following resources at research.fairfaxcounty.gov/early-literacy.

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten
The 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program is designed to help caregivers prepare children for one of life’s big milestones: kindergarten. The goal is for children to read or be read 1,000 books before he or she enters kindergarten.

Book Lists for Preschoolers: I Like Picture Books About...
Find library book suggestions on a variety of subjects for preschoolers.

Early Literacy Library Book Bags
Book bag kits with 10-20 books on a variety of school-related themes. Book bags are not available in branches. Customers must put bags on hold.

Fun With Reading!
A bi-monthly publication highlights library books and early literacy extension activities for each book.

Ready to Read Newsletter
This bi-monthly newsletter shares early literacy information and related library resources.
Available in Spanish

Thematic Resources
Library books, songs, rhymes and websites on a variety of preschool-related themes.

Read, Write, Talk, Sing, Play Poster Series
Early literacy posters that highlight a book and suggest activities to read, write, talk, sing and play with young children. Available in Spanish

What’s New in Children’s Picture Books?
This publication shares new library books published in the last several years. Available in Spanish