



PRESS RELEASE

County of Dufferin
55 Zina Street
Orangeville, ON L9W 1E5

For Immediate Release: Date 17 Dec 2013

Announcing the Nominees for the 3rd Annual Preschool Reads Award!

Dufferin – Wee Read unveiled the nominees for its third annual **Preschool Reads Award** at its Play with Literacy All Year' (PLAY) conference in Fergus.

The award was established in 2011 by the Wee Read Committee as a way to promote early literacy, while highlighting quality Canadian children's literature and illustration. Through the award, Wee Read hopes to encourage families and communities to come together to support young children by celebrating their love and enjoyment of reading. Wee Read has also created resource sheets filled with fun and engaging games and activities to go with each book.

"Four outstanding Canadian picture books have been selected which inspire and encourage parents and childcare providers to read with their children. We are really excited to see which book will win!" states Tina Gute Bowering, Speech Language Pathologist and Wee Read Co-Chair.

This year's nominated books include: [I Want My Hat Back](#) by Jon Klassen; [Where Do You Look](#) by Marthe Jocelyn and Nell Jocelyn; [The Yoga Game](#) by Ruth Kathy Beliveau and Farida Zaman; and [Nat the Cat Can Sleep Like That](#) by Victoria Allenby and Tara Anderson. Childcare Centres, Early Years Centres, libraries and literacy organizations across Wellington and Dufferin are reading the books to children in their programs, and then gathering the votes. The final date to submit votes is January 20th 2014.

Wee Read partners include Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health, County of Dufferin Children's Services, Guelph Early Years Centres and Action Read Community Literacy Centre of Guelph. These agencies help children develop 'emergent' literacy skills - everything children need to know and do before they learn to read and write. As a program of Wee Talk, the Preschool Speech and Language Program in Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph, Wee Read partners offer fun, hands on programs for parents, caregivers and childcare staff. Wee Read believes that language and literacy are interwoven, and acknowledges the important role of parents and educators in supporting early literacy skill development.

Wee Read will announce the winner on Family Literacy Day, January 27, 2014. For information on the award, resource sheets, or voting, please contact Lisa Taylor in Dufferin County at ltaylor@dufferincounty.ca or Tina Gute Bowering in Wellington County at tbowering@gmch.fergus.net.

For more information, please contact:

Keith Plamer, Director Community Services
kpalmer@dufferincounty.ca
519.941.6991 ext. 2020