

Special Opportunity to Schools: Author Visit & Book Reading with No Speaker Fee!

As the new school year quickly approaches, NOW is the time to secure a unique and stimulating learning opportunity for your students!

Greetings!

My name is Amy Tubbs, author and publisher of the children's book, *Flakey the Naked Snowman*, a story about a snowman who gave away all his clothes to comfort someone in need. This story is about helping others and realizing even the smallest acts can make a big difference.

Building on the success of the past 2 years, once again, I'm launching a full-scale book tour to local schools in Virginia and the greater Washington DC area- and I'd love to share my story with your students!

In addition to simply reading the story, I discuss my inspiration, the creative process, and the symbolism behind many of the characters. The students also get an opportunity to see up close the snowman models used in creating the book's dimensional images.

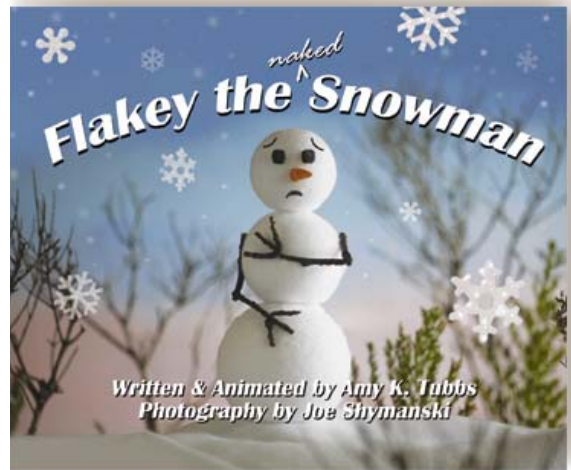
The following pages explain my reading presentation in greater detail and give you a look inside *Flakey the Naked Snowman*. **Flakey readings will be booked on a first-come, first-served basis.** It's easy to request a date, simply fill in the online form, or fax in the form found on page 7.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me by phone: 703-587-2610, or by e-mail: amy@dopscotchpress.com. I look forward to the opportunity to engage your students in this exciting learning experience!

Sincerely,



Amy Tubbs
Author & Publisher, *Flakey the Naked Snowman*
A publication of Dopscotch Press



Flakey the Naked Snowman was published in November 2008 and has rapidly been growing in popularity amongst children and adults alike.

Visit www.DopscotchPress.com/Programs.html
to schedule a reading.

A LOOK INSIDE THE BOOK!



“Giving is a lot like a snowflake
—such a little thing can amount to so much.

You never know because of your kindness,
whose world you’ll truly touch.”

A fun, memorable cast of characters:

- Mrs. BrrrBerry
- Mayor Chill
- Fridge
- Pinky
- Skeebum
- & of course, Flakey!



“Sure, my body is made of ice and snow,
but my heart is loving and warm.

There’s no reason to fret or be upset,
I have all I need to weather the storm.”



“Skeebum was a wild one,
and WOW, could he go fast!

Up one hill and down another,
STAND BACK when he flies past!”

Teachers & students alike have
already enjoyed *Flakey the
Naked Snowman* programs at:

Apple Pie Ridge Elementary
Winchester, VA

Kilby Elementary
Woodbridge, VA

St. Luke School
McLean, VA

Blessed Sacrament
Alexandria, VA

Congressional Schools of Virginia
Falls Church, VA

Sycolin Creek Elementary
Leesburg, VA

*“Both students and staff have
commented many times about how
much they enjoyed hearing about
how you wrote and published
‘Flakey.’ Amy has a very natural
way of interacting with children.”*

- Jackie, Redbud Elementary School

*“Thanks for putting into print what
we try and practice.... My 5 kids
enjoyed the lesson so much better
from your book, than hearing from
one of my soap boxes again!”*

- Maura, Parent

*“I believe everyone should have
this book regardless of their age.”*

- Brenda, Parent & Scout Leader

THE FLAKEY READING & PRESENTATION

Meeting learning requirements

Scheduling a *Flakey* reading for your school is an exciting learning opportunity for students, and can be tailored to fit each grade's curriculum objectives:

- How a person becomes an author
- The role of publishers / self-publishers
- Writing a first draft, editing and making revisions
- Artistic choices –from illustration to photography
- Symbolism and characters
- Ways to give back to our community
- The concept of 'Alternative Giving'
- The graphic design and printing process

Furthermore, the story teaches these valuable lessons:

- Little things can add up to big things
- Not to judge someone based on their appearance
- Not to value 'things' more than people
- The importance of charity and helping others

The presentation

I begin each program by reading the story and talking a bit about the inspiration behind creating the book. Next, I guide students through the creative process, describe how I crafted the models used in making the book, discuss the reason I moved from illustrations to photography, and explain the theme of the book. With younger students, I concentrate on the ideas of character development and the writing process, while with older students I discuss editing, revision, and publishing.

A highlight among students is having the opportunity to see the actual models used in the making of the book. I always set aside additional time so that students may ask questions and examine the models more closely in small groups. **A typical program is 30-45 minutes per classroom or grade.**

IMPORTANT: I highly encourage the readings to be broken down by grade. Or, if you have a small school, divide the groups into K-1, 2-3, and 4-5. If time does not allow for 3 readings, a breakdown of K-2, and 3-5 at a minimum. The reason for this is to tailor the reading for the appropriate age. When the various ages are all lumped together, I feel that the older students especially don't get as much out of the program as they would otherwise with peers their own age.

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ABOVE: Author, Amy Tubbs, explains how she created the scenery used in making the book.



ABOVE: Readings were done assembly-style at Redbud Elementary in Frederick County, VA.

BELOW: A special display decorated the halls of their school in preparation of 'Flakey Day.'



FLAKEY WILL INSPIRE YOUR STUDENTS

What other schools have done

In years past, some schools turned their *Flakey* reading into an entire educational day. They integrated writing exercises, artwork, studies about snow and weather, and even a 'snowball' fight in gym! One school hosted a writing competition where students shared stories about helping others. Another school had students create new characters for future *Flakey* stories.

Photos from last year. *Above right:* Students at Bless Sacramento convinced the librarian to make Flakey characters in honor of their favorite snowman and story. *Middle:* Students at Evergreen Elementary enjoyed a craft time featuring marshmallow snowmen *Bottom right:* Evergreen Elementary also hosted a cold weather clothing drive in honor of their special guest.

No charge to your school

I am able to forego a speaker fee by asking that schools send *Flakey* book order forms home with students prior to my visit. I can create a customized book order form for your school- see the sample order form on page 7.

I also request that schools allow the greatest number of students possible to participate in the book reading and presentation. Depending on the size of each class, an assembly-style program for each grade can be held in the cafeteria, gymnasium or library. (It's best when I can set up my snowman display and not have to move it.)



PROGRAM CHECK LIST

1. REQUEST YOUR DATE.

Complete form on page 6 and fax back to:
703-924-1693 OR register online at
www.DopscotchPress.com/Programs.html

2. PLAN YOUR CURRICULUM.

Decide on fun, creative ways to have a
'Flakey Day' at your school!

3. SEND BOOK ORDERS HOME.

I will send you a customized book order for you to distribute to your classes. I can handle all the money and fulfillment. In most cases, the books are ready to go home at the end of the reading day.

4. ENJOY THE SHOW!

About the Author

Amy Tubbs has never forgotten what it's like to be a kid. Try as she might, her varying careers over the years have landed her in three particular positions:

- A Washington, D.C.-based artist whose recognized most notably for her children's murals.
- Volunteer chairman and director for a youth camping program, and
- An author who has written her first children's story about a snowman.



ABOVE: Author, Amy Tubbs, with her cast of snowmen.

A Virginia resident since 1976, Ms. Tubbs grew up in the beautiful Shenandoah Valley amidst apple orchards and cattle farms. She attended Frederick County Public Schools where her interests always surrounded the creative fields– art, drama, writing and music. She went on to graduate Cum Laude from Mary Washington College (now University of Mary Washington) with a Bachelors Degree in fine art and business administration.

Her first 'real' job actually was in the publishing field. She worked in the mailroom of *Selling Power Magazine*- then a growing start-up company. Determined to find an exciting and dynamic career that would continue to challenge her, Ms. Tubbs tried on several hats including the fields of travel & tourism, a non-profit environmental organization, and graphic design. Ultimately, those things she always loved as a child have become her passions and the cornerstones for all that she does.

In its first holiday season, *Flakey* sold about 1,000 copies in the greater Washington, D.C. area. A few online sales sent the book as far as the U.K. and Japan. Since then, book sales have doubled and the website has been a big success with over 15,000 hits since the book's release. Amy is pleased with her first project and plans to continue pursuing a career in the publishing field with specialty areas in children's fiction, entertaining, and humor.

Contact Information for Amy Tubbs:

Address: Dopscotch Press
6210 A Old Franconia Road
Alexandria, VA 22310

Phone: 703-587-2610

On-line: amy@dopscotchpress.com
www.dopscotchpress.com
www.amytubbs-studio.com

**2011-12 Book Reading Reservation Form for
Flakey the Naked Snowman**

School Name: _____

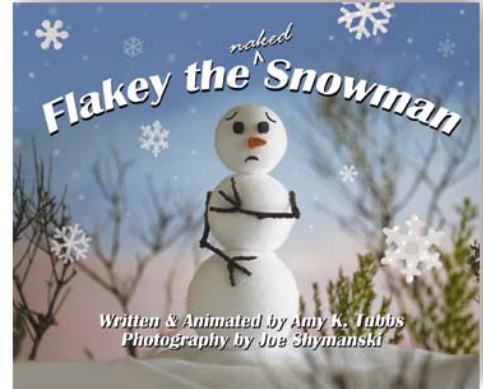
Address: _____

Contact Name: _____

Title: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____



CHOOSE YOUR DATES: Flakey Presentations are most appropriate during cold weather, November through February. Please indicate your **top three** date choices within these months..

Presentation dates are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis.

First Choice: _____

Second Choice: _____

Third Choice: _____

Please indicate the number of students the author will be reading to in each grade level:

Kindergarten: _____

3rd Grade: _____

1st Grade: _____

4th Grade: _____

2nd Grade: _____

5th Grade: _____

[] Yes, please customize the presentation to fit my curriculum. Include these special topics in my presentation: (if you need more room please attach additional pages)

Please fax completed forms to (703) 924-1693
or register online at www.DopscotchPress.com/Programs.html

AUTHOR VISIT
Friday, December 12th



If you'd like to order the book, please submit this form by Friday, December 9th to ensure delivery by the book reading date.

Student's Name:

SAMPLE

Class/ Teacher:

- Please sign my copy/copies.
- Please add a special message to my copy/copies:

PRICE: \$9.95 per book plus 5% VA sales tax =
\$10.45 for one book.

Multiple copies:

of copies _____ x \$10.45 = _____
TOTAL with sales tax

Submit payment in the envelope provided.
Make checks payable to 'Dopscotch Press.'

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ORDER!

Dear Parent,

I am delighted to be visiting your child's school and sharing with them my recently published book, *Flakey the Naked Snowman*.

It's a heartwarming tale about a snowman who's different from the others because he doesn't have a hat, scarf or mittens that typically give a snowman his character. In the end, we learn that Flakey's 'misfortune' is really a result of his generous giving spirit. It is a story about friendship, helping others, and realizing that we often don't need the things we think we do.

This book also encourages alternative giving— that is— giving a charitable donation in lieu of a gift. I encourage you to visit my website and learn more about what alternative giving is and how you can give gifts that are meaningful, thoughtful and that help those in need.

My hope is that this book inspires families to make alternative gift giving part of their annual holiday tradition.

I appreciate this opportunity to share,

Amy

Amy Tubbs, Author & Publisher
Flakey the Naked Snowman
www.DopscotchPress.com

