



The ScribbleBooks® Company, Inc.

A Headstart on Creativity!®

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Dear Teaching Professional,

As you know, children start out loving to scribble and create masterpieces. But by fourth grade, except for the identified “artists”, most children no longer feel good about creating art and become self-conscious about both the process and the product. What happens before fourth grade? Rules. Kids learn they need to follow rules in order for art to be acceptable. Grass must be green, wheels must be round, people must have noses. Their creations are no longer theirs, but become carbon copies of everyone else’s in the class. There is no room for individuality, no margin for creativity. Kids need tools to encourage creativity and individuality, not conformity. ScribbleBooks do just that. There are no rules when coloring in a ScribbleBook, because there are no lines to stay within! There is no wrong way to complete a ScribbleBook: Pre-schoolers are content to scribble away, while older kids enjoy adding detail and backgrounds to the illustrations in a non-restrictive format. By using this novel approach ScribbleBooks help inspire creativity in kids. Best of all, when children complete these special illustrations, art becomes fun again!

But ScribbleBooks are not only fun, they also promote positive messages and family values. Written by my wife, a school counselor, the stories draw on her background as a professional counselor and additionally on her experience parenting. She has a wide range of expertise, as in both of these roles, she has worked with typically-developing children as well as gifted and special needs kids. The stories center on friendship, limiting screen-time and celebrating difference.

Although they will be illustrating a “ScribbleBook”, I do not want your students to scribble. For a student in grade school, a scribble doesn’t require thought or planning. A scribble doesn’t require much time. Illustrating a book does. Classes who have hosted ScribbleJim in the past have enjoyed adding the completed ScribbleBook to their permanent classroom library. The book can then be commemorated by filling in the name line with something like “Ms. Tinge’s class, April 2007, First-Graders”. There are 29 illustrations in the book, so if you happen to have 29 students, each can complete one page. Otherwise, teachers and principals can join in on the fun! Children always enjoy seeing the creative process of grown-ups.

ScribbleBooks, activity guides and other materials are available online at www.scribblejim.com. To access these items, click on the ScribbleJim character on the top left corner of the page. You may also access the page directly at jim.scribblebooks.com/html/materials.html. It is important that you use the ScribbleBook your school has selected since the story’s theme will carry over into the visit to your school. In addition to completing a class book together, your school has received copies of our albums, *Chocolate Milk* and *Best of Friends*, for your students to listen to. The more familiar your students are with the materials, the more optimal the presentation will be for them.

I encourage you to survey our Web site for kids, located at www.scribblemonster.com, for other fun and creative activities. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the class ScribbleBook project or any of the other materials. Thank you for your participation and your interest. I look forward to meeting you and your students during my visit.

Sincerely,

JAMES

James Dague
AKA “ScribbleJim”
Creator of ScribbleMonster®

PreK - Primary