



RMA
Publicity
LLC

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Rachel M. Anderson, Publicist at 952-240-2513; randerson72@earthlink.net

New Children's Book Series Teaches Sign Language Through Storytelling

(Twin Cities, Minn.) - Ask any parent with a young child and they're sure to tell you one of life's biggest frustrations is when baby starts crying and they can't figure out what's wrong. Most children don't start communicating with their parents until they are well past a year of age.

Then there are children like Chad Peterson of Eden Prairie, Minn.

He was able to tell Mom, Marsha, when he was hungry, tired or in need of a diaper change before he was even a year old. Chad's mother had taught him American Sign Language (ASL); but it was no easy task.

"My son was born with Down's Syndrome and later diagnosed with Autism," explains Peterson. "Verbal communication has always been very hard for him. I had been advised to teach him sign language early on, which I did."

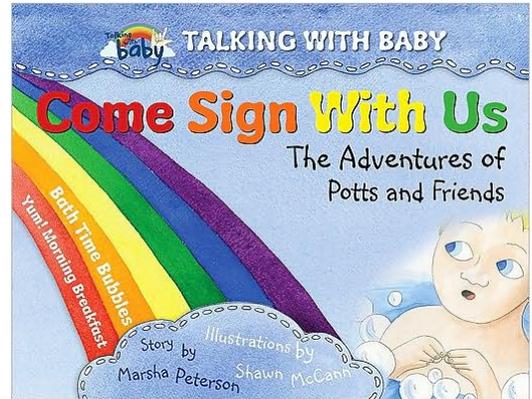
Chad, who is now 17, has grown up with the power of communication. But Peterson still feels like he missed out on a lot of things when he was a young child. "Chad has always loved books, and it was clear to me early on that being read to was going to be one of his favorite activities. But when I started looking for story books in his language I didn't find any good ones out there," she says.

Chad is very happy about the fact that there are now. The first installment of the story series his mother developed, *Come Sign with Us: The Adventures of Potts and Friends* (Beaver's Pond Press, June 2009, \$24.95), is now available.

"Yum! Morning Breakfast" introduces babies to the signs they need to begin their day, including good morning, mom and breakfast. Story number two is "Bath Time Bubbles." It teaches the words **and concepts** associated with bathtime, including wet and dry, soap and bubbles. The next two stories in the series will be about baby's first birthday, animals and colors. Future stories will include signs associated with music and numbers, as well as childhood adventures.

"Some of the recent research I've been doing stresses teaching in context so kids will understand the words and how they transfer to other settings. For example, they learn that 'bubbles' are in the bath, but understand that they can also be blown, be in the kitchen sink or be found traveling down a stream of water during a rain storm," says Peterson.

- more -



“This is a great teaching book. It takes you through a series of stories and pictures, and slowly introduces you to the words and symbols for signing. The fact that the book pops open like a tent allows you to read the book and sign at the same time. My son loved the book immediately. It is a 'must have' book for all parents,” said Sally Knaeble, a retired teacher from Eden Prairie, Minn., in the review she posted on Amazon.com.

Come Sign With Us: The Adventures of Potts and Friends is a Beaver’s Pond Press book. It sells for \$24.95 and is available at local book stores and through the author’s Web site: www.TalkingWithBaby.com.

For interviews, questions or to request book for review: contact Rachel M. Anderson, Publicist, 952-240-2513. <randerson72@earthlink.net>

About the Author

MARSHA PETERSON

Marsha Peterson is the single mother of a child with both Down’s Syndrome and Autism. As a result of his disability, her son has a great deal of difficulty expressing himself verbally, but learned sign language as a baby and is able to use it to express his needs, wants and feelings.

When her son, who is now 17, was a young child, she had tried to find story books “written in his language” but was unsuccessful. After being laid off from her job as a pricing analyst in January 2009, Peterson finally had the time needed to complete a project she had been thinking about for a long time.



Come Sign with Us: The Adventures of Potts and Friends is a children’s book that teaches sign language to babies, young children and caregivers through storytelling.

| | |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Title: | <i>Come Sign with Us: The Adventures of Potts and Friends</i> |
| Author: | Marsha Peterson |
| Pub. Date: | June 2009 |
| | Beaver’s Pond Press. |
| Price: | \$ 24.95 |
| ISBN: | 978-1-59298-265-3 |

For review copies, call 952-240-2513 or e-mail randerson72@earthlink.net

For more information or to purchase copies, visit www.talkingwithbaby.com

- end -