



Ann Tarpley Francesco

Ann Tarpley Francesco developed an interest in writing before the age of ten. She started out writing rhyming poetry for family members, given as birthday presents, anniversary gifts, and for other special occasions. Francesco attended Radford University in Radford, Virginia, where she earned her teaching certification for early childhood and middle education. Ann also earned a B.A. in business administration at the University of Lynchburg in Virginia. Two lesson plans she developed were included in teacher resource books entitled, "Sweet Numbers" (Learn Every Day About Numbers, Gryphon House Books) and "Yummy Colors" (Learn Every Day About Colors, Gryphon House Books). Her writing continued to serve her well as a college admissions counselor at Lynchburg College and as a fifth- grade elementary school teacher in Stafford County, Virginia.

After moving to North Carolina, she worked as a classroom presenter for King's College in Charlotte, NC, and later owned and operated a tutoring franchise, and then a personal chef business.

Do You Like Trains? Inspiration

Ann's son, Matthew, has loved trains since he was a toddler. At the beginning of his first grade year, he came home with a parent-student assignment in which the parent was to write letters or messages to be shared with their child. Ann decided to make it fun by adding rhyme to her writing. Because of her son's love of trains, 10 of Ann's 24 poems were about trains.

Do You Like Trains? is author Ann Tarpley Francesco's second book release. Written over 18 years ago, the poem was rediscovered while Ann was looking through her keepsake composition book that contained both her and Matthew's assignments. Ann's first book, *The Gingerbread Train - Santa's Secret Gift* was released in 2017.

Discussion Topics:

- Children's Book Writing Process
- Writing Rhyming Poetry
- Creating K-5 Lesson Plans
- Making Learning Fun
- Healthy Baking/Cooking
- Fitness/Active Living
- Benefits of Sugar Scrubs
- Benefits of Body Butters
- Healthy at Any Age
- Railfanning

Q&A with Ann Tarpley Francesco - Sample Interview Questions

1. What about Dr. Seuss inspired you the most when writing your own rhyming stories? What was your favorite Dr. Seuss book as a child growing up?
2. What main message do you hope *Do You Like Trains?* conveys to readers?
3. What inspired you to create Book Gift Sets in addition to your illustrated books?
4. Why do you feel it is important for children to nurture their creativity while learning?
5. What inspired you to develop lesson plans to go with your books? How often will lesson plans be added?
6. What books are in the works? What can your readers expect next?
7. What has been the greatest reward you have realized since your first book was released?
8. What advice would you give other aspiring children's book authors or writers?

To arrange an interview or for appearances, contact:
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