



6 March 2009

The National Director
Institute for Cross-cultural Exchange (ICE)/
Institut d'échanges interculturels (IEI)
Box #61143
Kensington RPO
Calgary AB T2N 4S6

Dear National Director,

I have been coordinating the Frontier College Book Room since July 2007. The Book Room receives book donations which in turn it delivers to the many literacy projects that Frontier College is involved in across the country including urban, rural and aboriginal communities.

When choosing books, we tell parents to choose

- Alphabet books: these books reinforce the alphabet.
- Picture books: The illustrations can help tell the story. Try to find books with lots of colour and with interesting and engaging pictures.
- Funny books: Kids love to laugh!
- Books with characters from various cultures: Children need to see themselves and other cultures in the books they read.
- Books with repetition: A repeated sentence or phrase makes books easier to read.
- Books based on television series: Children love to read books with familiar characters, such as Arthur or the Magic School Bus.

I was so pleased to find the books we received from ICE, fulfils all - except for the last - characteristics of what books to choose for children. They are wonderfully illustrated, are funny, have repetition, and mostly, depict characters from various cultures where children are able to see themselves. I highly recommend these books to all of our literacy programs.

Sincerely,



Tina Conlon

Community Coordinator, ext. 343; tconlon@frontiercollege.ca