



North Vancouver District
Public Library

Connecting Community. Sharing Knowledge. Inspiring Stories.

Inspiring Stories

June 2018

Kudos for Book Buddies!

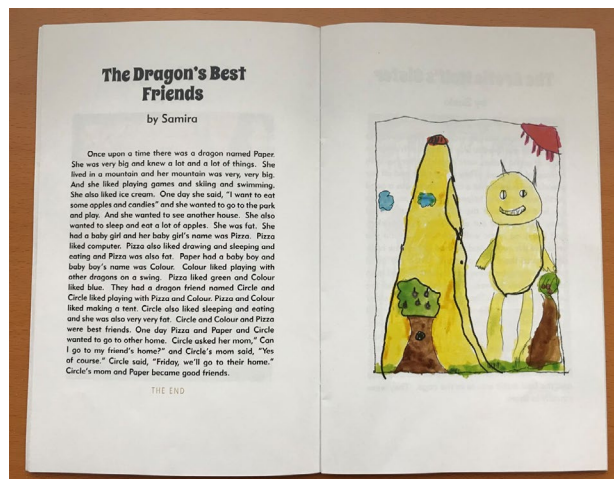
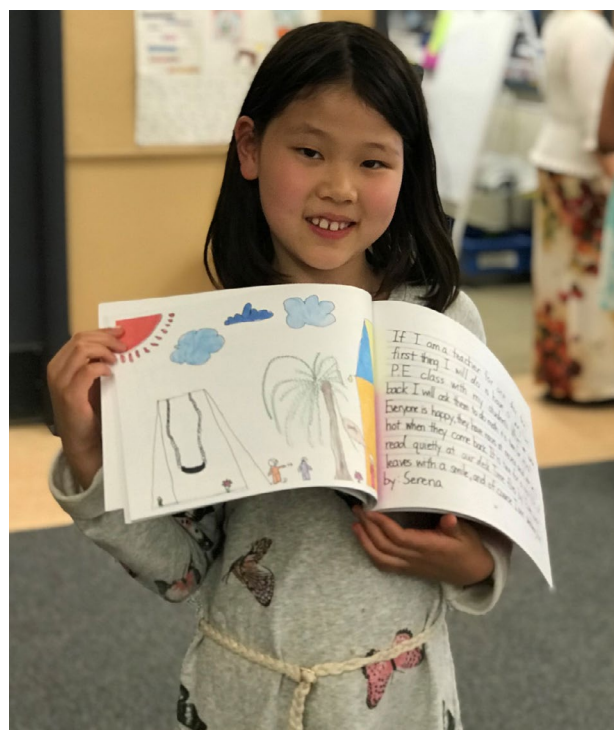
Book Buddies is a one-on-one reading mentoring program for children aged 6 to 11, who meet weekly with a trained teen volunteer to read aloud to each other, choose books to take home, and do literacy activities. It is especially useful for those who could benefit from some extra support and encouragement with their reading and writing skills. A local patron recently took the time to write a heartwarming letter to NVDPL's Teen Engagement Librarian about the impacts this program has made in her children's lives. Check it out below!

Hi Rebekah,

My family moved from Beijing China to Vancouver four months ago. It was a huge change to my daughters eight-year old Serena and six-year old Samira. Community center and library are the two places we visit the most, looking for fun activities for the girl to do. **We are so lucky that the girls were enrolled in the Reading Buddies program at the Parkgate Public Library.** Every week they have been more and more comfortable, encouraged, and eager to practice their English. Reading is human's best friend. Serena and Samira are so blessed to get to know this friend through your program and all the lovely volunteer young ladies.

Both Serena and Samira's classes published their new class books and the girls are pleased with their very first writings in English. Serena has started writing her own fiction chapter book and it seems she is very determined. **Now if someone asks the girls where they would like to go after school, they will shout "Library!" without a second choice.** As a mom I really appreciate for the North Vancouver Public Library offering such a wonderful program. Thank you, and all the volunteers who make this happen. **Serena and Samira are ready to explore their new life in Canada with their best friend Miss Reading along with them on their journey.**

Thank you!
Mom Gretta



Above: Serena picture with her story. **Below:** Samira's story, titled "The Dragon's Best Friends"