

Celebrating Children's Book Week 2006 at TAFE Bankstown Library

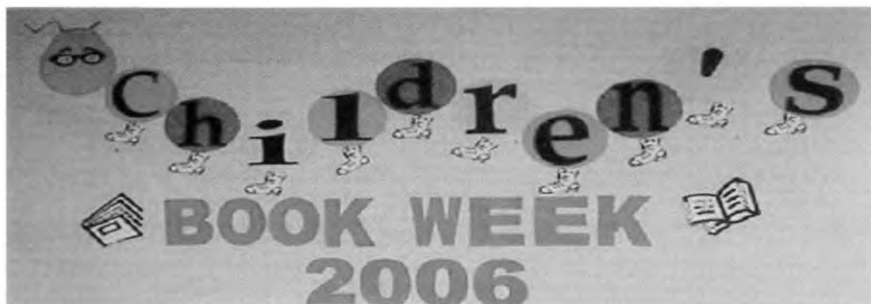
Barbara Storum and Helen Manu, Bankstown TAFE Library

This year, Bankstown TAFE Library celebrated Children's Book Week with an accent on the simple enjoyment of reading to the very young, a process which often leads to appreciation, learning and education throughout life. We also emphasised the resources and services that libraries have to offer as well as books.

The Library utilised an area glassed-in on two sides to resemble a room. It featured child-sized dolls that appeared to be reading books, along with teddy bears and other soft toy animals seated at a small round table. Overhead, a large sign 'Children's Book Week 2006' in the form of a very colourful bookworm hovered appealingly.

A separate display featured the short-listed books for 2006, with those from the previous year. Staff and students were able to take brochures and handouts, including bookmarks and guides with lots of ideas for using nominated titles. Display boards were set up with profiles of the authors and photos of children enjoying books and story time at the Bankstown TAFE.

The Coolamon Centre was very keen to participate and provided some props for the display. Children from the Centre were a very appreciative audience on 24 August during a storytime session held in the library. One of the mothers, also a Child



Studies TAFE student, volunteered to read two stories: the award winner *Annie's Chair* and *Kisses for Daddy*. After the story, all the children took turns to hug 'Big Teddy' (a look-alike of the teddy bear in the story, *Kisses for Daddy*).

As a finale, the children were each presented with a personalised certificate certifying their participation in Children's Book Week. The children left with wishes and promises to come back to the library for future storytime sessions.

The displays generated a great deal of interest from all ages, particularly the students and staff of the Child Studies Department.

All in all Children's Book Week was deemed a great success – a tribute to the effort put in by library staff and the Coolamon Centre.



Children's Book Week highlight in WA

Deb Hamblin, Campus Librarian, Rockingham Campus Community Library

Children's Book Week at Rockingham Regional Community Library in Western Australia got off to a flying start with a story time session by the Hon. Kim Beazley, Leader of the Opposition. Mr Beazley was described by one of the mums as 'a natural' who sat on the floor of the fairy grotto with the children. He had each and every child enthralled in the stories. Not satisfied with one story the children in the session asked for 'more please' and the Hon. Leader of the Opposition was happy to oblige.

