

I don't want to go to school!

national literacy
and numeracy week 2003

Sponsored by



September

The children's book *I don't want to go to school* by Christine Harris will be read to thousands of children for this year's National Simultaneous Storytime. Now in its third year, National Simultaneous Storytime 2003 will be held during Literacy and Numeracy Week, a commonwealth government initiative, which aims to celebrate and acknowledge the vital work being done in schools and communities around Australia to develop young people's literacy and numeracy skills.

For National Simultaneous Storytime, public library services, primary and pre-school libraries, early childhood centres and pre-schools participate in reading the picture book, *I don't want to go to school*, simultaneously throughout the country. *I don't want to go to school* is written by popular Australian author, Christine Harris, illustrated by Craig Smith and published by Random House.

Dymocks Booksellers retail outlets throughout the country will also be participating in National Simultaneous Storytime. Present your special promotional bookmark to receive a ten per cent discount on the purchase of *I don't want to go to school* during the months of August and September at Dymocks Booksellers. The promotional bookmarks will be distributed in the registration kit.

Random House is offering a generous discounted purchase price of \$6.75 per copy (55 per cent discount on the recommended retail price of \$14.95) for participating organisations that place orders for *I don't want to go to school* directly with the publisher. Orders can be sent to: Greg Brooks, Random House Australia, 20 Alfred Street, Milsons Point 2061, fax 02 9954 4562, e-mail: gbrooks@randomhouse.com.au. (This offer is only valid to one-drop orders — organisations will not be able to top up their orders once they have been received by Random House).

National Simultaneous Storytime is kindly spon-

sored by Random House and Dymocks Booksellers and is an initiative of the Australian Library and Information Association.

Visit the ALIA NSS website [<http://alia.org.au/advocacy/storytime/>] to register. Here you will also find ideas that ALIA's Children's and Youth Services group have put together to help you organise National Simultaneous Storytime events.

These include:

- Suggested themes: school, friendship, imagination, fear, and courage.
- Storytime activities: Bring along a school bag packed for school and play a sorting game: ask the children 'do I need to take this to school?' Pull out each item individually — for example, watering can, lunch box, goggles, drink bottle...
- Use Shel Silverstein's poem 'Sick' from *Where the sidewalk ends* (1974) in which a child develops an impressive array of unusual illnesses before realising it is Saturday.
- A list of other stories with similar themes can be found on the National Simultaneous Storytime website at <http://alia.org.au/advocacy/storytime/>.

Don't forget to let *inCite* know about your Storytime event. ■

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NATIONAL SIMULTANEOUS STORYTIME

I Don't Want to Go to School
Christine Harris • Craig Smith

RANDOM HOUSE AUSTRALIA

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<http://alia.org.au/advocacy/storytime/>

11:00am AEST
5 September 2003