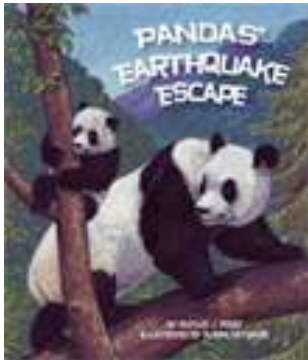


A Conversation with Phyllis Perry
author of
Panda's Earthquake Escape



How did you get the idea to write *Panda's Earthquake Escape*?



I've always been interested in giant pandas. A friend visited the Wolong Reserve in China, and brought back pictures of some of the pandas. After the May 12th, 2008 earthquake, I was concerned about the effects on the pandas and wondered what had happened to them.

When did you become interested in writing?

I began writing and submitting work to newspapers and magazines when I was 13.

What is the most frequently asked question you encounter as an author and what is your answer?

Where do you get your ideas?

Ideas are everywhere. The one for this book was making headlines in the news!

When are you most creative?

I write almost every day. I think I become especially creative after talking over my work with the children who read my books or with other writers who are working on fascinating projects.

Do you have any advice for parents?

I enjoy doing writing workshops (fiction, poetry, & prose) with groups of students in schools, and with adults who are pursuing children's writing projects. I encourage parents to find opportunities in their school and communities for creative kids to write and perform poems, plays, and to publish their stories

What is most rewarding and/or challenging about writing children's books?

There is excitement in beginning a new project, then there are many weeks of hard work ahead in doing research, writing, and revision. The challenge is to keep the some fresh enthusiasm and excitement you started with!

What is an interesting question to ask yourself!

With lots of ideas in your head, how to you pick your next project?

Although many ideas are on the "back burner," one of them bubbles with the most excitement and demands that I turn to it next.

Want to continue this conversation? Schedule an interview!

Contact Sylvan Dell's publicist, Caroline Harris:
CarolineHarris@SylvanDellPublishing.com
(877) 958-2600