

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

I am a student from Vernon, BC and have been part of a very exciting SD #22 initiative that works to creatively connect young students with elders in the community. The project is on the B.C. Performance Based School Network website as a best promising practice.

Together we have developed an Intergenerational Literacy Project model that connects the two generations: one as the fiction author and one as the illustrator. I was the illustrator for two of the books in this children's series written by Mrs. Firth who is in her nineties, and who is part of our intergenerational project. In one of the stories that I illustrated, a young wheelchair bound girl struggles to find happiness living with her demanding stepmother while trying to adjust to her wheelchair. She has been forced to become independent and to rely on herself for everything. The challenge in illustrating this book for me was trying to portray her unhappiness through the drawings. I also faced some difficulties while drawing the wheelchair, as I had never drawn one before, but it was a fun and interesting learning process.

This intergenerational project has captured the praise of Governor General Michaëlle Jean, Lieutenant Governor Stephen Point, Shelagh Rogers of CBC Radio, the British Columbia government Ministries of Health and Education, Actor Ed Asner of the Oscar award winning movie, 'UP!', the Public Health Agency of Canada, and a national and international network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse. We have just won a BC Community Capacity Building Award. You can read more about what we have been doing at [www.intergenerational.ca](http://www.intergenerational.ca)

We would like to ask if you would be interested in purchasing one of our ten book box sets either for your school library or as a gift, (10 books for \$55 plus shipping). These books can be viewed and ordered on our website [www.intergenerational.ca](http://www.intergenerational.ca) at the link on the right hand column of the homepage, or under the 'Literacy' heading. They will be sent out to you immediately. The funds go towards annual scholarships for grade 12 students who have volunteered assisting seniors in care and for furthering intergenerational bridge building throughout the province. Recently we were able to send a donation to a Haiti relief fund for elders and children thanks to book sales.

Mostly however, we would like to use the books as a model for Intergenerational connecting through art and literacy. We invite you to review on our site how your students and the elders in your community can work together to create your own Intergenerational Literacy Project, and/or become actively involved in many other fun and exciting simple activities.

Intergenerational friendships strengthen communities, and connect a lot of lonely people which makes us all very happy. Thank you for your interest and support.

Sincerely,

Jenna Fraser, Student Rep  
Further questions contact us at  
[i2i@intergenerational.ca](mailto:i2i@intergenerational.ca)