

## **Annette Smith**

### Children's Author



**Annette Smith** is passionate about the teaching of reading and the development of language programs.

Annette was an elementary school teacher for over 25 years. From 1985 to 1998, she was Assistant Principal at Pukete School, a large inner city elementary school in Hamilton, New Zealand. During this time, Annette used her extensive knowledge to assist teachers develop effective programs to bring about change in children's learning.

As a former president of the Hamilton Assistant Principals' Association, Annette worked closely with colleagues in leadership and curriculum issues. She gave invaluable assistance to the Waikato University, School of Education in fostering the development of beginning teachers.

In 1998 Annette resigned from teaching to devote more time to writing instructional reading material.

Annette is often asked where she gets her ideas for the instructional readers. She uses true incidents that happened to her own son and daughter, as well as the wealth of ideas that come from working with young children. True incidents always have the strongest storylines.

Annette's love of children and enthusiasm for teaching is now being reflected in her writing, which she hopes to do for many more years.