Plush and Books with Heart in this Electronic Age

A children's book author and illustrator creates stories that teach kids about kindness, the importance of friendship, and the significance of problem-solving in books that warm the heart, tickle the funny bone, and make the reader think.



New York City, New York Dec 16, 2024 (<u>Issuewire.com</u>**)** - Remember your favorite story that you read over and over again and your favorite toy? When you think back to books that were your favorites, or characters that captured your imagination, several come to mind.

With all the distractions of the electronic world, families and teachers are looking for something to capture the attention of little ones, whether they are beginning to read or just snuggling in with a good story for the night. Local author and Presidential Award-winning teacher, Helen Rogosin has captured the hearts and minds of new audiences as a children's book author and illustrator in the Wuffy series



and plush.

Initiating the series, and based upon real-life childhood events, Wuffy and the Magic Lintball introduces Wuffy, a small, gray plush dog that sat unwanted at the store until a little girl's father brought him home. Inspired by his strange feature, a lintball perched on his nose, Holly and her brother, Jack decide to name the dog Wuffy, and that his lintball sends him a signal whenever his friends need him. Curmudeonly, but possessing a heart of gold, Wuffy embodies kindness and friendship, with a dash of imagination thrown in. He always steps up to help his friends, using creativity and inventiveness to accomplish his goals.

To partner with the book as a reading buddy or cuddle partner during readings, Helen Rogosin designed an 8" plush version of Wuffy, perfect for snuggling, imaginative play, and road trips.

In her second book, Wuffy and the Dinosaur Dig Adventure, Wuffy again comes to the rescue, this time high atop a hill at a fossil dig site, as his friends grapple with excavating a T-rex skull. Infused with vocabulary and concepts that would make any STEM program proud, this book resonates with the little explorer in all of us. For this book, the plush even has a paleontologist's vest and hat, perfect for young dinosaur lovers who enjoy pretend play. The author even teaches how to draw Wuffy! So many of Helen Rogosin's former students went on to science programs at the college level and recall her hands-on teaching of paleontology in the classroom that creating this story was a given.

Wuffy and the Peanut Butter Fish, the third book in the series, teaches the reader that there is more than meets the eye at the bottom of the sea, and leaves them pondering what else remains unexplored that they can hypothesize about, such as "if there are jellyfish, is there a peanut butter fish?" Real animals named after foods, like the pancake batfish and chocolate chip sea star, are depicted in brightly-hand-painted detail in this fictional yet non-fiction-based book that animal lovers will squeal over. Once again, themes of independence, creativity, kindness, and friendship prevail.

In this digital age, where the need for Social Emotional Learning has grown, as has Growth Mindset models, the character of Wuffy and his experiences in all three books becomes even more imperative. Creating a love of learning through reading, exploration, dramatic play, while encouraging individuality and collaboration are key to all of the books and to the Unpack Your Own Happy brand. Get them for a child in your life, or gift them to a school or nonprofit today.

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Helen Rogosin also does author visits, with a puppet version of Wuffy and activities and signings. Schedule your booking by submitting an inquiry on the site and she will get back to your organization soon.



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