



WONDER NEWS

ANN (ANA) MORRIS, BILINGUAL CHILDREN'S AUTHOR & TRANSLATOR

WWW.AUTHORANNMORRIS.COM

APRIL 2016

WELCOME!

This is the first edition of Wonder News, my new newsletter. It will address issues that I love as a children's author and translator. I will be able to provide you with news of my activities, photos, and reviews and blurbs about other events and topics dealing with children's issues, education, reading, literacy, maybe a joke or two, imagination, creativity, multiculturalism, and my love for all of the world's children of all ages. People are welcome to contact me through my website (in the header) to give me feedback and ideas and to request to be added to my email list. I will add no one without a request.

ABOUT ME!

Some of this may be review for those who know me already, but "starting at the very beginning is a very good place to start", per the song "Do Re Mi" by Rodgers and Hammerstein.

I have lived in Pamplona, Spain and attended both Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa (USA) and la Universidad de Navarra in Pamplona. My first husband was from Pamplona and spoke no English when I met him, so my Spanish improved at a faster pace. (Need to communicate is a wonderful incentive!)

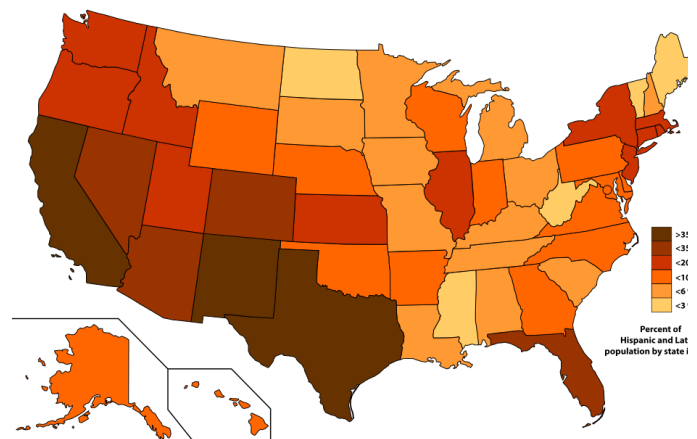
I tutored English while in Spain and also in the US. I also taught and tutored Spanish here in the US and have done numerous professional translation jobs. I love new challenges and am constantly learning.

But Why Bilingual Children's Books???

I learned in the teaching of both languages and in working with many non-native English speakers that people want to communicate. We all NEED to communicate. One thing I used as a Spanish teacher was children's books, to read for fun, to teach particular grammar or vocabulary. Native readers like books in their own language and language learners love books in the language they are learning. Whether or not English is the official language of the US, Spanish is the second most used language. The "Hispanic" community is the largest minority in the USA. I'm sure you already know that, but it's important to realize why so many US citizens want to learn Spanish!

Check out this map!

The darker the color, the higher the percentage of Hispanics/Latinos!





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Learning Never Ends

Children learn quickly, and I have so many stories to tell! Most of my stories are based on true experiences. To this point, I have published 6 books:



Children's Books in English and Spanish, Hard Cover, by Ann Morris

Libros de niños en inglés y español, cubierta dura, de Ana Morris

They are based on memories and filled with love. They all have a loving adult role model and a lesson. I've been told they have multi-level messages: messages the children catch, and messages the adults notice. They also show how to learn information. These books are exposing my soul in hope of sharing entertainment and values through reading.

I have many more in progress, one based on an experience when I was young, another about my granddaughters, more about Mikel from Mommy and Mikel Go for a Walk...

Mascot Books has been good to me. They provide me with a beautiful hard cover book to share with my readers.



What Am I Doing?

In March, I was present for the 30th Annual Symposium on Civil and Human Rights. As I advocate for literacy and many cultural causes as well as education, I was happy to be in attendance.



This event was at Des Moines University.

I also donated an English copy of each of my books to Visiting Nurse Services. They help families in the community, especially children, with health care and insurance. They had a Picture Book Project that I couldn't resist.

Currently, my sister, Ruth Bottelson Meyer, is in Ghana, where she visits annually. This is a place where I have sent educational materials, children's clothing and books in the past.



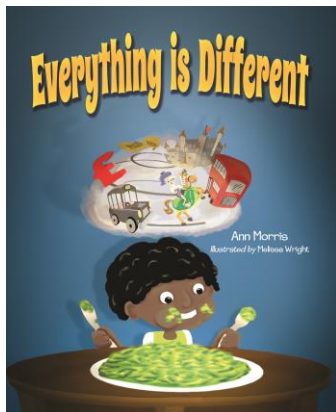
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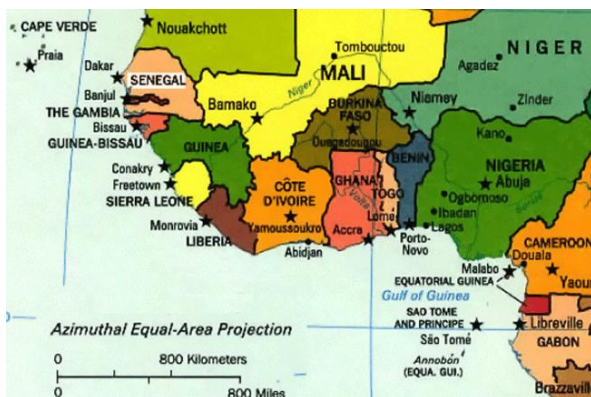
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Ruth works with the organization Kingdom Cares International. We work with KCI because it was founded by an Iowan, and people from here can help. Yes, I have sent several copies of my newest book "Everything Is Different" as a gift for some of my favorite people.

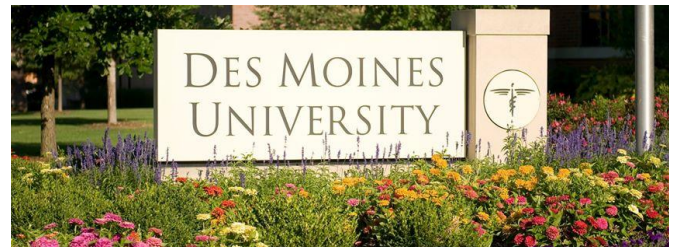


Ruth is involved in fundraising through selling Ghanaian-made bags and garments. The proceeds go to education for students and also a women's vocational training facility.



Meanwhile back in Iowa, I will meet with my colleagues in the Beaverdale Writers Group. We have a close-knit group of authors, but we always welcome new writers. It is a group that covers nearly every genre of writing. We are always learning what others do.

We discuss upcoming events and share writing tips. We also discuss new marketing ideas, writing ideas and much more. One thing we have been discussing recently is tax filing requirements and breaks for book authors. We're a different breed of sole-proprietors! Anything may spark an idea for a writer. It may be an article, a Facebook post, a movie, an experience, who knows?



In early April, I will also be attending a training session for bilinguals who want to participate in a "pretend patient" test for the medical students at Des Moines University. The students' test will be later in the month.



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On April 9th, I will be participating in the Ankeny Authors Fair sponsored by Kirkendall Library in Ankeny, Iowa. I have participated every year they have had the local authors fair, and it is wonderful! I look forward to it each year.



I have already contacted some schools about reading to classes. I have also spoken with some local places where my books are consigned about doing a "Meet the Author" event.

I keep my options open.

This first newsletter is quite long, as I am introducing myself along with sharing activities. I don't expect it to be this long in the future, but I do plan to publish one newsletter per month for now.

Where Are My Books?

My books are available in several locations locally as well as online.

My website will get you a signed book:

www.authorannmorris.com

Facebook Author page:

<https://www.facebook.com/AnnMorrisChildrensAuthorLanguageConsulting/>

The books are on Amazon:

<http://www.amazon.com/-/e/B00C8G2V8S>

Barnes & Noble: www.barnesandnoble.com/

Books-a-Million (BAM): www.booksamillion.com/

Mascot Books: www.mascotbooks.com

They are also on consignment at several local stores.

PLEASE! Ask, if you are looking for my books. I have learned that some stores locate them with other children's books while other stores place them with Iowa Authors and the Spanish versions in the Foreign Language section:

