

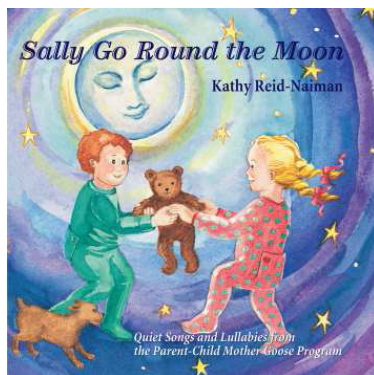


Parent-Child Mother Goose Program®  
Programme la Mere l'Oie pour parents et enfants

Summer  
2008

## New Resource Available!

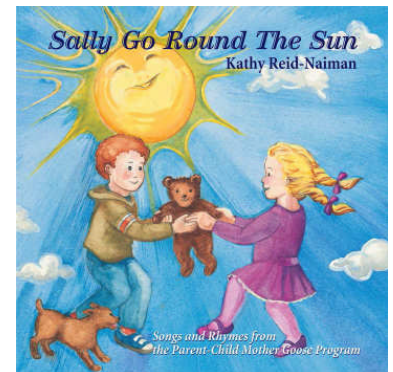
This new CD collection includes traditional songs and original ones, as well as many favourites that have been shared by families that participate in the Parent-Child Mother Goose Program across Canada, so you might just hear some of your own favourites! You will also hear many songs from different cultures, including Australian Aboriginal, Russian and Appalachian, as well as regional Canadian tunes.



As Lahri Bond writes in his review of the CDs, "these songs are well suited for cultivating a sense of and appreciation for rhythms and rhymes. Reid-Naiman's fine, gentle, and child friendly voice is backed by a stellar cast of musicians" (Lahri Bond ©2008 Parents' Choice). We are thrilled to add **Sally Go Round the Sun** and **Sally Go Round the Moon** to our collection of resources for all our Program teachers and parents.

Orders can be placed by calling the office at 416-588-5234; fax: 416-588-1355; e-mail: [national@web.net](mailto:national@web.net)

or you can download an order form from the website: [www.nald.ca/mothergooseprogram](http://www.nald.ca/mothergooseprogram) (Article used with permission from Toronto Spring 2008 Participant Mother Goose newsletter)



# Network News

Please keep in touch with us through our Administrative

Assistant:

Catherine Taylor

**Parent-Child Mother Goose Program National Office**

720 Bathurst St., suite 500A

Toronto, ON M5S 2R4

416-588-5234;

fax: 416-588-1355

[national@web.net](mailto:national@web.net)

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## Mother Goose Around the World ...

### Ni hao – PCMG in China

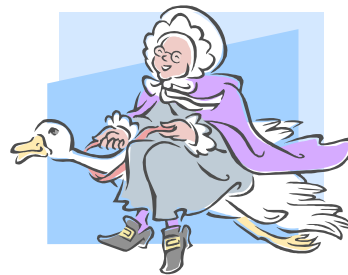
Submitted by Helen Robertson

In March 2008, *Circle of the Sun* was born and PCMG came to China. I am living in Beijing as my husband is working at the Canadian Embassy here. I did PCMG programs in Ottawa with my 2 babies (now 1.5 and 3 yrs old) and found them to be the best thing that I did to help me in my parenting. When we learned that we would be posted to China, I had a dream of running a program here for other expat mothers who could benefit in their relationship with their baby and in building vital friendships. In April 2007, I took my then 3 month old daughter from Ottawa to Toronto for the weekend training workshop and am now doing self-evaluation as I run my program.

I am pleased to say that the program is going well so far. As I write this, we are about to finish our 8 week program. There are about 14 people in my group (plus a waiting list) and around 8-10 turn up each week, the smallest group has been 5. The babies range in age from 2-16 months and the mothers come from all over the world including Germany, the Netherlands, Japan, Canada, Britain, Singapore and USA. It is wonderful to hear about people using the material at home and my hope of networks is coming true. One woman was able to find out about an important medial resource over a snack conversation and another has been welcomed into a new playgroup. My heart was warmed seeing a 1yr old light up singing 'La-La' and watching the babies giggle with the tickles. A hilarious moment came when one mother pointed out that the final figure in *Wibbleton to Wobbleton* should be 45 miles, that had never crossed my mind in the hundreds of times that I have done that rhyme with my children!

I am running the program alone and on a voluntary basis. The participants help out bringing snack each week. It has been great to get email support from Ruth Danziger, and from 2 friends who are current and former PCMG teachers in Australia and Canada. I also found the PCMG teachers email group helpful, particularly with the conversation about how to manage waiting lists. A challenge has been deciding which material to use and how often to repeat it. I have so many favourites, I want to teach them all, but need to choose the right ones. Last week I asked people if they would like to bring a nursery rhyme or lullaby from their own childhood or country and three people did so, with songs in English, Mandarin and German.

As I shyly told my husband about a some warm feedback I got, he said 'of course they love it, Mother Goose is just brilliant'. I hope other new teachers are also getting encouragement as they run this program which is truly wonderful.



## ... Mother Goose Across Canada ...

### Retirement & Reunions—notes from the Yukon

Submitted by Barbara Curtis

It is with heavy hearts that we say "Happy Retirement" to Joan Turner. Joan will be missed by so many people, organizations, and programs...and in her retirement she will have the opportunity to touch many more as she will go where her heart is leading her! She has touched us for many years with her kind and gentle nature sharing her wisdom, knowledge, and above all...her incredible nurturing spirit. Not only did Joan bring Parent-Child Mother Goose to the Yukon, but she has been at the core of so many other family-parent empowerment and enrichment programs. Joan, best of all things to you...you leave with our eternal gratitude for making the Yukon a better place for so many of us!

Yukon Parent-Child Mother Goose Reunion — In July 2008, Yukon PCMG will be having our first ever P-CMG Reunion! P-CMG families and teachers, both past and present, will be joining together at Rotary Peace Park in Whitehorse, Yukon to form the biggest P-CMG circle the Yukon has ever seen...maybe even Canada! (...the world?) In spite of the fact that our days will have 19 (plus) hours of daylight, we will share universal favourites such as "The Moon Is Round" and "Where Are The Stars", as well as our own Yukon adaptations like "Twinkle, Twinkle Northern Lights" and "Bwaa, Bwaa Black Moose". (Hopefully the sun WILL be in attendance as well!)

P-CMG was first shared in the Yukon in 2000 by Joan Turner and Yukon Family Services Association, now known as Many Rivers Counselling and Support Services. Over 20 people participated in the first training presented by Celia Lottridge. Since then we have had 3 more trainings, including an intensive story telling workshop, and in the last 3 yrs alone our enthusiastic teachers have been sharing P-CMG with over 75 families a year!

Here are some words to our Yukon rhyme adaptations!

#### Twinkle, Twinkle Northern Lights

Twinkle, twinkle northern lights,  
Sparkle in the Yukon night.  
Up above the clouds so high,  
Blue-green ribbons in the sky.  
Twinkle, twinkle northern lights,  
Shimmer in my dreams tonight.



#### Bwaa, Bwaa, Black Moose

Bwaa, bwaa Black Moose  
Have you any fat?  
Yes sir, yes sir,  
Three packsacks.  
One for your grandma  
And one for your aunts  
One for the skinny boy  
Who falls through his pants,  
Bwaa, bwaa, black moose,  
Have you any fat?  
Yes sir, yes sir,  
Three packsacks.

## Unique Project

### Multicultural Mother Goose in Ontario: A New Project with New Funding!

*To create a children's rhyme and/or story book reflecting the Diversity of Ontario culture,  
to be gathered from and used by the P-CMGP and by the public*

We are very fortunate to be the recipients of a grant from the Ontario Arts Foundation and the Harris Family Fund to support the creation of our next book of stories and rhymes. The book will reflect the diversity of our programming in Ontario and highlight the value and benefit of using storytelling both as enrichment and education in community service.

We will host storytelling workshops and gatherings and offer program visits to our members who will be engaged and invited to participate in the collection of new stories for Mother Goose Programs. We hope to find a wide cultural range of stories from teachers and parents alike. Our team of storytellers will be central to this project, gathering materials, meeting with programs and offering their very special gifts as storytellers in the Mother Goose Program.

The project is led by a talented group of women who will act as the Steering Committee for the project. They will oversee the project and call on other talented women to round out, develop and complete the project. The Steering Committee is made up of the following women:

Celia Lottridge – Storyteller, Writer, Mother Goose Founder

Naomi Harris – Toronto Board of Directors, Harris Fund Executive

Ruth Danziger – Storyteller, Director of Toronto Region

Frances Rooney – Writer, Publishing Industry Savvy, Previous Mother Goose Staff

Heather Boonstra – National Council Member, Fort Saskatchewan Mother Goose Program

Linda Winham – Storyteller, National Council Member

Gita Schwartz – Project Manager, Previous Mother Goose Staff

The Steering Committee had its first meeting on April 29<sup>th</sup> and an action plan is being created for implementation this summer and fall and through the winter. After that rewrites, editing, design and publishing take over. We expect to offer members in specific areas - where we have some concentration of members and programs - resources like storytelling workshops and gatherings. This will be based on our analysis of programs across Ontario and our best and most equitable distribution of resources we are able to design. Program visits will also be organized depending on interest, staff availability and resources. Please give us a call and let us know you are interested and we will be in touch. Call the National phone line at 416-588-5234 ext 22. You will also be hearing more from us as we roll out the project.

We are keen to offer Ontario programs (the grant is limited to Ontario) support through the above-mentioned vehicles and to gather stories and rhymes through these offerings. We hope to give you some support and some fun while we create a book that will be of benefit to teachers and parents in our programs. As they say, "this is a win, win, win situation".

MANY THANKS TO THE  
ONTARIO ARTS FOUNDATION AND  
THE HARRIS FAMILY FUND  
FOR THEIR SUPPORT.

On the following page is a diagram depicting the project.

## Upcoming Teacher Training Workshops

### **Alberta**

For all Alberta workshops, contact Heather Boonstra, 780 998 5595 x223,  
[heatherb@familiesfirstsociety.ca](mailto:heatherb@familiesfirstsociety.ca)

**TEACHER TRAINING WORKSHOPS** — Fort Saskatchewan, Families First Society  
 September 25 & 26, 2008

**BUILDING ON YOUR EXPERIENCE WORKSHOPS** — Fort Saskatchewan, Families First Society  
 September 27, 2008

### **Ontario**

For all Ontario workshops, contact Ainsley Skye, 416 588 5234 x 21, [mgoose@web.net](mailto:mgoose@web.net)

**TEACHER TRAINING WORKSHOPS** — Toronto, National Office of the P-CMGP  
 September 26 & 27, 2008

November 14 & 15, 2008

**STORYTELLING WORKSHOPS** — Toronto, National Office of the P-CMGP  
 October 18, 2008

**BUILDING ON YOUR EXPERIENCE WORKSHOPS** — Toronto, National Office of the P-CMGP  
 November 8, 2008

Continued from page 4: Multicultural Mother Goose Project in Ontario

### **PROGRAM VISITS**

- Support
- Skills development
- Quality assurance
- Collect new material (stories/rhymes)

*FOCUS ON PARTICIPANTS*

### **PARENT-CHILD MOTHER GOOSE PROGRAM<sup>®</sup>**

### **WORKSHOPS**

- Teacher Training
- Storytelling
- Building on your Experience

*FOCUS ON TEACHERS*



### **RESOURCE MATERIAL**

- Create new book of stories/ rhymes with multicultural focus
- Launch new book

*FOCUS ON PROGRAMS AND THE PUBLIC*

### **REGIONAL GATHERINGS**

- Networking
- Support
- Sharing information, resources, ideas, stories, etc.

*FOCUS ON TEACHERS*

## Committee News and Updates

### From the Training and Program Support Committee

(Joan Turner, Yukon; Beth Hutchinson, British Columbia; Ruth Danziger, Ontario; Heather Boonstra, Alberta) Submitted by Heather Boonstra

Greetings! My name is Heather Boonstra, and I coordinate the Parent-Child Mother Goose Programs in Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta, where we are celebrating 10 years of Parent-Child Mother Goose this September!

I am also the member of the Parent-Child Mother Goose Program's National Council that will be reading program reports from everywhere except British Columbia (Beth Hutchinson will read these) and Ontario (Ruth Danziger will read these).

The information you send us when you send us your statistics and reports, is essential to maintaining a strong and healthy national program. Please know that though you may not hear from us right away, your reports are read and are very important to us.

Two main themes seem to be arising from the reports that I have read recently. The first, is that the quality of relationship building and connecting that is occurring through the delivery of Parent-Child Mother Goose Programs is incredible! The stories I am reading of how the lives of families are changing for the better because of attending the program, are so heart warming. In future newsletters we will share some of these stories, because they are truly inspiring.

Secondly, you are telling us you need more resources for telling stories. We hear you, and we are excited to say that our Publishing Committee is working on a new book of stories as we "speak"! It will be a multicultural book of stories that will be a wonderful addition to our growing collection of quality Parent-Child Mother Goose Program resources.

I think that's all for now. If you have any comments, questions, or stories to share with regard to your program, please direct them to Catherine Taylor, at [national@web.net](mailto:national@web.net), and she will forward them to the appropriate committee member.

I'll finish off with one of my favourite rhymes, which I learned from reading one of our newsletters many moons ago. It was submitted by an Australian P-CMGP.

*Here is the Earth,  
Here is the sky,  
Here are my friends,  
And here am I!*



### **Share your program with the rest of the P-CMGP Network!**

Write about your program for the Network News newsletter. It brings joy, strengthens the network and creates new energy when you share your stories across Canada and Australia. We love to include your stories, pictures and news. Please send submissions to Nancy Thurston, Communications Committee Animator [nancy@ns.aliantzinc.ca](mailto:nancy@ns.aliantzinc.ca)

- Newsletter edited by Giselle Carter, Perth-Middlesex Early Years Centres -

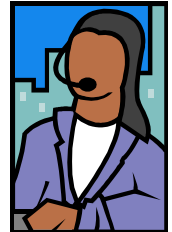
## National Office Updates

### New Staff Person

We welcome Catherine Taylor to Parent Child Mother Goose. She is the new staff person in the National Council of Parent Child Mother Goose office. Catherine, who was born and raised in Edmonton Alberta, settled in Toronto in 1994. Her background in Art Therapy, her role as the mother of a teen-aged son and her strong interest in creating healthy children help her understand the importance of PCMG.

Catherine has considerable administrative experience having worked with organizations such as Roots of Empathy. She is also presently working for the Yonge Street Mission. Phone and email messages as well as program reports will come directly to Catherine. These will be forwarded to the appropriate member or committee of the National Council.

We are fortunate to have her as a member of our team.



### National Council Representatives Wanted!

The Parent-Child Mother Goose Program National Council (formerly the Parent-Child Mother Goose National Board) is seeking new Council Members to fill upcoming vacancies and to allow for continued representation across the country.

The term of commitment is 2 years with monthly teleconference meetings of 1-1 1/2 hours in duration, and serve as members of committees. We hope to have a group of 12 members to continue with the work of the National Office. *We are particularly in need of someone to fill the position of Treasurer for the National Council.*

If you have an interest in volunteering to help us to continue to strengthen the Parent-Child Mother Goose Program network across the country, please contact National Council Chair Dianne Blewett at [dblewett@mts.net](mailto:dblewett@mts.net).

**A Hindi Rhyme:** This rhyme was collected from parents and grandparents in the Infant Program at the Elmbank Community Centre, Toronto.

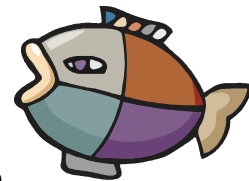
**Muchlee jelkee rahnee hai** (fish is the queen of the water)

**Jeevan uska pani hai** (water is her life)

**Haat legao derr jaiyagi** (If you touch her she will get scared)

**Bagaar nikalo mar jaiyagi** (If you take her out she will die)

**Vapas dhalo jee jaiyagi** (If you put her back she will live again)



**P-CMGP National Office Staff:** Catherine Taylor, 416-588-5234 x 22, [national@web.net](mailto:national@web.net)

**Regional Offices:** Ruth Danziger, Toronto Region Director, 416-588-5234 x 24 [mgoose@bellnet.ca](mailto:mgoose@bellnet.ca)

Beth Hutchinson, B.C. Provincial Co-ordinator, [mgoosebc@bccf.bc.ca](mailto:mgoosebc@bccf.bc.ca)

**P-CMGP Inc. Australia:** Jacquie Simpson, President, [jacsimpson@optusnet.com.au](mailto:jacsimpson@optusnet.com.au)

## Membership Information

### Support the Parent-Child Mother Goose Program® By becoming a Member and/or making a donation

- Our membership year is January 1st—December 31st
- A strong membership demonstrates that our innovative work has community support
- As an informed member, you can become a voice for the program
- Your questions and comments can help us develop our resources, our programs and our outreach.

#### Associate Members \$25, International \$50

- Receive 3 newsletters each year, including early notice of new publications
- Receive results of research and professional studies of the program
- May photocopy our newsletter and other mailings to distribute to staff members
- Attend AGM and Elect National Council
- Receive invitations to programs and events

#### Program Members (Sliding Scale Fee: See website for details)

In addition to the above, Program Members can:

- Use the registered trademarked name and logo
- Participate in research of the P-CMGP®
- Receive notification of special events
- Send us regular reports to help us advocate for the program and to plan for new resources and training
- Receive electronic copies of the brochure to assist with program promotion and outreach
- Your P-CMGP program is posted on our website

#### Donations

The Parent-Child Mother Goose Program R is a non-profit charitable organization. Donations are vital to our ability to deliver and develop the program and make it accessible for all Canadians regardless of ability to pay. You will receive a tax-deductible receipt for your donations.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town \_\_\_\_\_ Prov \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

I enclosed the yearly membership fee of \_\_\_\_\_

I also wish to make a donation of \_\_\_\_\_

Total payment \_\_\_\_\_

Payment Method:  Cheque  Visa  Master Card

Card number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry (MM/YY) \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

#### Mail to:

The Parent-Child Mother Goose Program®  
720 Bathurst Street, Suite 500A, Toronto, ON M5S 2R4  
Ph: 416-588-5234 Fax: 416-588-1355  
E-mail: [national@web.net](mailto:national@web.net) [www.nald.ca/mothergooseprogram](http://www.nald.ca/mothergooseprogram)

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