

Diane Carmel Léger
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***Picture book presentations for 6 to 8 year-olds**

- 50 minutes
- 60 students maximum

1-*Maxine's Tree* or *Who's in Maxine's Tree* (both available in French also)

- The non-fiction elements of the story
- Reading of one of the books with the illustrations on slides
- Slide show of the real Maxine's Tree and the magnificent forests of Vancouver Island.
- Short question period with anecdotes on finding inspiration

Free teaching guides available: www.plaines.mb.ca (French)
www.pacficedgepublishing.com/pdf/notes (English)

2-*Le grenier d'Emily Carr* (soon to be published in English)

- Brief description of Emily Carr, painter and author
- Reading with illustrations on slides
- Author's experiences living in Emily Carr's house
- Slide show of Emily Carr's menagerie, her attic art and four paintings
(With the permission of the B.C. provincial archives)
- Short question period with anecdotes on finding inspiration

***Novel presentation for 9 to 12 year-olds**

- 60 minutes
- 60 students maximum

La butte à Pétard

- Brief history of the Acadians from 1604-1755 with props
- Side show of a re-enactment of the story at a real hide-out (1755-1760) of the Memramcook Acadians, historical sites such as Port-Royal and Louisbourg (With the permission of Parks Canada)
- Deportation game
- Short question period with anecdotes on finding inspiration

Cost: \$150.00 per one-hour presentation (no more than 3 presentations a day), 38¢ per km and 10.00 for lunch.

For an overnight stay, the cost of my room at a hotel, \$8.00 for breakfast and \$12.00 for supper.

Diane Carmel Léger

Diane grew up in the Acadian village of Saint-Joseph de Memramcook in New Brunswick, where she graduated with a teaching degree from the Université de Moncton in 1979. She taught in the Maritimes before transferring in 1982 to Victoria, British Columbia.

Her homesickness led to writing her first book, **La butte à Pétard**, a historical novel depicting the resistance of her Acadians ancestors during the expulsion of 1755. Her nostalgia also inspired picture books. She is presently completing her sequel to her novel, **Retour de la butte à Pétard**.

Living in Emily Carr's famous "House of All Sorts" on Vancouver Island, inspired her to write **The Attic of All Sorts. Maxine's Tree** is the result of her family's involvement in working to preserve the ancient rainforest of Carmanah from clearcut logging. This book became controversial in 1992 when a pro-clearcut group attempted to have it banned from schools. The sequel is based on the discovery of an endangered bird's nest in the real Maxine's Tree.

Published Works

Le grenier d'Emily Carr Les Éditions des Plaines, 2006
Who's in Maxine's Tree? Orca Book Publishers, 2006
Qui est dans l'arbre de Maxine? Les Éditions des Plaines, 2006
La butte à Pétard (édition augmentée), Bouton d'or Acadie, 2004
L'arbre de Maxine, Les Éditions des Plaines, 2004
Charlotte et la dame aux corbeaux, Chenelière/McGraw-Hill, 2002
Cédric et le porc-épic, Chenelière/McGraw-Hill, 2002
Rosette and the Muddy River, Orca Book Publishers, 1991
The Attic of All Sorts, Orca Book Publishers, 1991
Maxine's Tree, Orca Book Publishers, 1990
La butte à Pétard, Les éditions de l'Acadie, 1989

Awards and Distinctions

Hackmatack Award 2006-French Fiction for **La butte à Pétard (édition augmentée)**
Selected for the Communication-Jeunesse (Québec) 2005-2006 for **La butte à Pétard**
Finalist for le Prix France Acadie 2005 for **L'arbre de Maxine**
Atlantic Writing Competition Prize-Play 1996 for **Zel-Mai's Take-Out**
The Canadian Children's Book Centre Choice Award 1992 for **The Attic of All Sorts**
The Canadian Children's Book Centre Choice Award 1991 for **Maxine's Tree**
Mention spéciale Prix France-Acadie 1990 for **La butte à Pétard**

Author Visits

As a designated Canada Council Reader, Diane has toured libraries and schools in Canada and the United States since 1991.