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Balloons Do Come from Trees

Local Author Releases New Picture Book featuring rubber production

Mt. Pleasant, SC (February 10, 2013) — What child wouldn't want to explore a balloon factory? Danna Smith's new release *Balloon Trees* does just that and more by taking readers from the tree to the store. Illustrator Laurie Allen Klein brings the words to life through brightly colored illustrations.

The technique of manufacturing the natural sap (latex) from a rubber tree to a colorful balloon at a birthday party is quite a complex subject. *Balloon Trees* takes this process one rhyme at a time. "Creating picture book text for young children with the right balance of accurate information and a fun-to-read rhythm was a bit of a challenge," Said Danna. It took many months of research and writing to come up with a rough draft I was happy with."

Danna Smith received excellent reviews for *Pirate Nap* and *Two at the Zoo*, which was featured in *Parenting Magazine* and is a Raising Readers board book special edition. The inspiration for her most recent book, *Balloon Trees*, came from her husband's line of work running a rubber manufacturing plant. Although his company makes industrial rubber products, Danna chose to follow the creation of a fun product that is near and dear to a child's heart: the balloon. She lives in Northern California with her husband, two grown children, and their cocker spaniel, Peanut. Visit her website at www.dannasmithbooks.com.

For a listing of events, to schedule an interview or request more information please contact Heather Williams at heatherwilliams@sylvandellpublishing.com or (843) 971-6722. Visit www.sylvandellpublishing.com for teaching activities and other great resources.

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