

goodstuff

By Karen Kullgren

DIRTY WOW WOW and other love stories



Cheryl and Jeffrey Katz
illustrations by Hornick/Rivlin

Lovies We Have Known

A very sweet book will tug at your heartstrings and send you down memory lane to your own childhood, as well as your children's. *Dirty Wow Wow and Other Love Stories: A Tribute to the Threadbare Companions of Childhood* is a series of vignettes each with a photograph by Hornick/Rivlin and text by Cheryl and Jeffrey Katz, about a little creature or blanket (or what is left of it). From Fuzzy Wuzzy to Blankie Belmont to Ellie Funt, these are tales of the comfort they offered, the love they enjoyed and the indignities they suffered. This book will inspire you to share tales of your own lovies (and theirs at a younger age) with your children.



Give a Child a Special Summer

The Fresh Air Fund places inner city kids from New York City with families all over the East Coast for two weeks during the summer. The fund is currently seeking host families in the D.C. area from July 6 to 20. The goal of the program is to get kids out of what is often a rough urban environment and give them an opportunity to experience things that many children take for granted: going to the pool, getting ice cream, riding a bike, going to camp, relaxing in a backyard full of grass and just having fun in a calm, quiet and safe environment. Freshair.org

Body Image Uplifted

Worried about the incessant subliminal and not-so-subliminal messages your daughter is getting from the media? The Seventeen Body Peace Project encourages girls to love their bodies. More than 46,000 have signed their treaty vowing to do things like, "Quiet that negative little voice in my head when it starts to say mean things about my body that I'd never tolerate anyone else saying about me." In addition to the treaty, Seventeen.com/bodypeace includes a blog, a way for girls to share the treaty with their moms and articles and interactive features to encourage and share a positive body image.



Local Student Acts Globally

Keep Reading Foundation, based in Lansdowne, Va., has information and activities to promote a love of reading among kids everywhere. Since the devastating tsunami in Sri Lanka in 2004, the organization has been sending teaching materials to preschools and books to children and youth in affected areas and other rural areas there to establish libraries. Sarasi Jayaratne started the group when she was a high school student in Sterling; her parents are originally from Sri Lanka. To find out how you can help, visit Keepreading.org.



Shop for Camp Info

Need some face time with potential camps for your child? The 2009 Manassas Mall Camp & Summer Activities Expo will take place Saturday, March 7, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. and Sunday, March 8, noon – 5 p.m. The event will feature camp and summer activity exhibitors, a camp giveaway worth over \$500, family friendly activities, store specials and more. Manassas Mall is just minutes from I-66. manassasmall.com

MANASSAS
MALL

Create Comfort for Kids

Volunteers are needed to make blankets for sick and needy children. Can you lend your talents in knitting, crocheting or quilting? Yarn and fabric will be provided; donations of acrylic yarn are being accepted. Come to this Montgomery County Family and Community Education's Linus Project March 3, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at the Extension Office in Derwood. Call Pat at 301-460-5451 for more information, directions or possible weather-related issues.

