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YolandaBaby

A Pooch Finds Her Purpose!

Jo Ann Bennett-Boltinghouse

Teaching Children to Appreciate their own Unique Talents

Jo Ann Bennett-Boltinghouse, author of the “YolandaBaby Book Series,” offers valuable life lessons in stories that feature a former racing Greyhound.

As children, we tend to believe what others tell us about ourselves, in part because we haven’t yet discovered who we are or have the confidence to believe in and defend our own unique talents. If we feel somehow different from our peers, we feel doubt in ourselves. And, affirming our self-doubt are the bullies – those who tease and harass in an effort to disgrace and humiliate. Their teasing and unkind words can be devastating to our development.

Self-esteem educator, Jo Ann Bennett-Boltinghouse believes that everyone has unique talents to offer, and has made it a mission in her life to help people become better at what they do, no matter what that may be. In her new YolandaBaby book series, she places her primary focus on children. The YolandaBaby stories feature a Greyhound dog that is unable to win races and is ultimately retired and then trained to become a family pet. Children will relate to many of YolandaBaby’s experiences and insecurities, and the books are designed to help them explore and talk about their own feelings as the stories unfold.

“What did you do today that you are proud of?”

“What are you looking forward to tomorrow?”

Bennett-Boltinghouse emphasizes the importance of focusing on positive accomplishments every day, but also asserts that we need to take every opportunity to talk to children about their feelings and fears, about fitting in or being different, about being chosen last. How can we do this without pointing fingers?

**YolandaBaby:
A Pooch Finds Her Purpose**

By Jo Ann Bennett-Boltinghouse

Illustrated by Jennifer Julich

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**Available on yolandababy.com, Amazon.com,
BN.com, and Borders.com**

“Children have a natural sympathy for animals, and when I visit schools, bookstores, and libraries, I often bring along my Greyhound, the real YolandaBaby,” says Boltinghouse. “YolandaBaby, like the children, experiences heartache, insecurity and fear, but then learns about the power of friendship and love, and finds a new path to travel.” Through YolandaBaby’s stories, children learn that all of their feelings, positive and negative, are valid, and they are not alone in their insecurities.

Published by The Ginger Press, “YolandaBaby: A Pooch Finds Her Purpose” is the first in a series of children’s books that will address many of the situations and challenges that children experience every day.

Jo Ann Bennett-Boltinghouse lives with YolandaBaby and her husband in a small town in Southwest Iowa.