

## A Tale from Cypress Swamp

By Sandy Richards and  
The Amazing Students of Walled Lake Consolidated Schools

Reading in the Park – March 22, 2009



Jeremiah T. Bullfrog is a really great friend of mine. He lives in a place called Cypress Swamp in Hollow Log with his best friend Trixie...a blonde-haired, GREEN eyed snake. Her real name is Isadora, but she much prefers to be called Trixie!



In case you are wondering, my name is TJ and I am a wood sprite, also known as a tree fairy. Ah... but I am not your typical, ordinary tree fairy by any means! I am only THREE inches tall with the BLUEST eyes you have ever seen. My hair is the color of CAMEL and I have silky iridescent wings. I love eating SPONGE CAKE, reading books and playing VIDEO GAMES.

One super hot and sticky swamp day, I was napping in a TULIP when I heard some amazing voices singing "ROCKIN' ROBIN". To my surprise, the voices were coming from Hollow Log! It sounded like Jeremiah and Trixie were singing up a storm! I just had to go and check it out. I swooped down toward Hollow Log. In my haste, I almost collided into a TREE and a PORCUPINE! I then witnessed something that made my heart swell with pride and put a huge SMILE on my face! 😊

There was Jeremiah, with his big puffy cheeks and bumpy back, and Trixie, wearing her super cool sunglasses, entertaining all of the fish, birds and insects of Cypress Swamp.

There were POLKA-DOT fish, blue fish, SKINNY fish and huge fish. 🐟🐟 Colorful birds with wings that looked like RAINBOWS were clapping along with the rhythm!



Baby birds fresh out of their nests were tapping their tiny wings to the beat. Flitting around in the air were dragonflies, skeeters and spiders on silken webs. Right beside them were butterflies and DRAGONFLIES whirling and twirling to the JAMMIN' tune.



I asked Jeremiah and Trixie why they were singing such a happy song. Can you guess what they said? "We are singing SUCH A WILD AND HAPPY SONG because the children like TO DANCE AND SHOUT, of course! I knew, right then and there, that Jeremiah and Trixie just had to take their show on the road! There were so many little swamp creatures who would really love to hear their music. 🎵🎵

Being such a good friend, I helped Jeremiah and Trixie pack up all of their INSTRUMENTS and COSTUMES and we set out to perform at concerts everywhere. They were the ★ star attractions at the rodeo in RAINBOW Woods; at the circus in WET DOG Swamp and even on American Idol in MARSHMALLOW Marsh. Very soon, Jeremiah and Trixie were bigger stars than the Jonas Brothers or TAYLOR SWIFT. Even Hannah Montana wanted their autograph!

Jeremiah and Trixie decided to do something special for all of their friends in Cypress Swamp. So they planned a HUMONGOUS concert. The only cost to attend was to bring your favorite book to donate to the local school in Cypress Swamp. You see, Jeremiah and Trixie love to read as much as they love to sing! On the day of the concert, everyone from miles around, from the bird families to the ALLIGATOR families brought big books, PICTURE books, silly books and DR. SEUSS books! Before you knew it, there were piles of books as high as THE STATUE OF LIBERTY.



Jeremiah and Trixie got so excited about all of the wonderful books for the school library that they sang and sang until very LATE into the night. They were totally exhausted by the end of the concert but did not forget to say THANK YOU to everyone for coming and donating a book. They had so much FUN that they decided to have another concert next year to get even more books! Perhaps you will join us next time? Just bring your favorite BOOK to share and enjoy the Concert in the Swamp!

