PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 1, 2006

MEDIA CONTACT

6 Michael Baumgarten, M.Ed. My Baby Monsters <u>MyBabyMonsters.com</u> mbaumgarten@mybabymonsters.com

Six-year Old Children's Book Author Uses Technology to Create A Story Sharing World

First a children's book, then a storytelling website, and now a family-friendly podcast. The imagination of a little girl is helping children around the world enhance their communication skills.

ESBJERG, DENMARK (PRWEB) August 1, 2006 – At the wise old age of six, Josie is already an expert storyteller. As the creator of an <u>inspirational children's book</u>, as well as the My Baby Monsters <u>story sharing web site</u> and <u>podcast</u>, Josie uses technology to construct LEGO-like stories with children and their families around the world.

"Children learn best through play," says Josie's father and education specialist, Michael Baumgarten, M.Ed. "By playing storytelling games and building collaborative stories, children learn advanced communication skills that help them to do better in school and life. Creating stories is key to children's development because it helps them make sense of their world. Technology facilitates this learning by providing them with a global audience that not only listens, but becomes part of the story."

Josie's first collaborative project – the children's book, <u>My Baby Monsters and I Went to the Park</u> – was created with her father, and it truly reflects the mind and the world of a child. Although the story was conceived in the middle of three hurricanes, it is not a parent's story about the struggle to survive a disaster. Instead, it is a whimsical tale of play, imagination, and finding the courage to go on the big kids' playground for the first time.

Now, having conquered the children's playground, Josie has set her eyes on a new challenge, helping children and their families around the globe build new stories together. To be part of this exciting international cultural exchange and free children's storytelling project, or to learn more about children's learning and communication, listen to a family-friendly podcast, find coloring pages, or just read children's stories, visit <u>mybabymonsters.com</u>.

About The Author:

Josephine Baumgarten (Josie) is a six-year old girl who has just relocated to Denmark. She has moved six times in six years, and loves playing with her friends and her dad's computer.

About Author's Daddy:

Michael Baumgarten, M.Ed., specializes in using technology and playful learning to help children develop and communicate. He has earned his Master of Education in Language and Literacy from the University of Alaska – Fairbanks, worked as a puppeteer at Disney World in Florida, and a toy-maker for LEGO. In addition, he's worked as a teacher and curriculum developer, an education and communication specialist, and a writer and artist.

###

Hi-resolution images of artwork available. To make a request, contact mbaumgarten@mybabymonsters.com