

# A Letter to Your Class From Author of the Week

## rolandsmith



Dear Classrooms,

I fell in love with books before I learned how to read. My parents were readers and had a small library in our rented house. As a toddler I would pull a book off the shelf and stare for hours at those odd black squiggles wondering what they meant. And why did my parents find such joy looking at these squiggles every evening after work?

It wasn't long before I learned that the squiggles were letters, and strung together they formed words, and that the words had meanings. I became a reader and this changed my life.

I discovered that if I didn't know something all I had to do was ride my bike down to the public library, check out a book on the subject, and within a few hours, I became enlightened.

I loved adventure novels like *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson, *Tarzan* by Edgar Rice Burroughs. These books, and many others, took me to places and times I could not possibly visit on my own. This led me to dreaming about becoming an author myself. And my dream came true because I was—and I still am—a reader.

I've had many adventures of my own now, but the maps to my personal adventures were found in the books I read when I was young. If you can read you can do anything.

***Roland Smith***