

Arizona Mama

February 27, 2008

Personal Child Stories

Meet The Mama Behind...



Meet the mama behind
Personal Child Stories -
Shara Lawrence-Weiss.

She writes & designs custom children's books using photographs to tell the stories.

A little bit about her business:

I work with preschools, parents, relatives, friends, and teachers to create books for children of any age and state (including children with special needs). I also create a Counting book, an ABC book and a Name book that use anywhere from 1 photo to several, making it easy for anyone to order as a gift. Every book is unique. All of my books are laminated and bound making them practically indestructible (which comes in handy especially for babies and preschoolers!).

What inspired you to start your business?

My son Chandler. His right eye needed to be removed at age one and he was given a prosthetic eye. In order to modify his behavior (removing his eye and hiding it, chewing it, etc) I created two books using his photographs - in order to encourage him to choose different options (to take better care of his eye). The books worked brilliantly to curb his behavior and I wanted to offer that service to others in various forms. Now I create books about ALL kinds of different things from learning to count to encouraging truth-telling!

What is your favorite thing about your business?

The amazing people I have met doing this, from Arizona to LA to Australia. I have made books for incredible people with incredible stories. I learn about something new each time and make new friends along the way. When I get positive feedback about the books it makes all the time I spend working on them well worth it. The "That's My Name" book was recently shown on the Sonoran Living Show (ABC)...that was pretty cool!

How long have you lived in Arizona?

Since 2002

What is your all-time favorite thing about living in the Phoenix area?

The town we found called Pine. It amazes me that there can be desert one moment and green lush trees just an hour and a half later. Knowing we have these two vastly differently worlds right next to each other is pretty amazing. We now own a cabin in Pine....

Where is your favorite place to eat?

At home with my family. If I had to choose a restaurant it would be HB's Place in Pine. It's a tiny little family-owned diner - I love it there.

Where is your favorite place to go with your children?

To our cabin in Pine - huge Pine trees in our back yard, Mule Deer feeding on our trees and nutty squirrels eating all our bird food. Heaven.

Where is your favorite place to go without your kids?

Somewhere intimate and peaceful with no noise or traffic. Perhaps a cute little coffee shop with just a few other people around and art on the walls that no sane person would ever buy.

Any other secrets to share? Shopping tips, eating tips, driving tips, etc...

When you go shopping, MAKE A LIST and stick to it. Otherwise we women tend to buy far more than we really need. Only eat what's necessary unless it's a special occasion and always be a courteous driver. When it comes to kids, the more positive attention you give them, the less need they have to act out with negative behavior. I nannied for 16 years - I know what I'm talking about here.

Win a personalized "That's My Name" book! As seen on the ABC Sonoran Living television program, this is one of her top selling books. And the best part is that Shara and Dr. Sally (Monday Morning Coffee) are partnering on a variety of books and this happens to be one of them! So don't miss out on this great opportunity! Just e-mail us with "That's My Name" in the subject line. Just give us your name and phone number and we will contact the lucky winner when our contest is over!

You can check out more products on her website, www.PersonalChildStories.com.

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I am one of those lucky people who got to meet Shara, and I am sooo glad I did.

Dr. Sally

Posted by: [Dr. Sally](#) | [February 28, 2008 at 10:45 AM](#)