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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Nancy Roop presents "Book Joy for Neurodivergent or Developmentally Delayed Readers” at Michigan Reading Association’s Annual Conference**

Lansing, MI – March 17, 2024, 1:30 p.m.

The author of a new release in children's books, "The Big Aquarium Adventure," is on a mission to empower young readers, especially those with learning differences like autism, ADHD, dyslexia, and more. Nancy Roop’s second appearance in speaking at the Michigan Reading Association’s annual conference, centers on Book Joy, by pealing back the layers of frustration that struggling readers have when they open a book.

“I will share tips on choosing books that are sensory friendly and appealing to neurodivergent readers. And we will go deep into why ND kids struggle with emotional regulation and why this impacts their ability to learn.” –Nancy Roop

This is the Michigan Reading Association’s 68th annual conference. The theme is Discovering Joy and aims to guide Michigan teachers, including reading specialists, and administrators in finding the joy in teaching and literacy.

At The Lansing Center, the conference includes keynote speakers, break-out sessions, and special events for many Michigan authors of children’s books. “I will be participating in the Author’s Garden. A bookstore is onsite, so attendees can shop and get their book signed. As a new author this is very exciting for me.” Says, Nancy Roop.

In 2023, Roop was a vendor promoting a draft copy of The Big Aquarium Adventure. She gave away an Advanced Reader Copy (ARC) asking educators for feedback on structure and content. The book was far from finished, but it was a springboard for a redesign with a new book design team, TLC Book Design, and was published on January 23, 2024 by Developmental Texts.

In 2022, she gave the presentation, Building an Equitable Learning Environment for Neurodiverse Students. By providing accommodations and modifications, students will be able to access the curriculum. It also focused on supporting student’s emotional regulation, so they are ready to learn when they open a book, instead of becoming overwhelmed with anxiety. Many struggling readers feel dread when they haven’t had a chance to become comfortable with the book, or the level is too challenging.

Roop created a developmental book format for readers who need more practice with learning how to read chapter books. The first book in the Alex and Jordan Explore series dives into the world of marine life while subtly embedding learning strategies that build comprehension, self-regulation, and confidence.  
  
"*The Big Aquarium Adventure*" is more than just a book, it's a gateway to the joy of reading and the confidence to navigate the world with ease. For fourth and fifth graders (and anyone who loves a good underwater adventure!), it's the perfect companion for exploring ocean wonders, learning vital skills, and discovering the magic within themselves.

Educators and parents can go to nancyroop.com and stay informed with Quick Tips, download free activities, and engage with Alex and Jordan on their Message Board.

"The Big Aquarium Adventure; Learn About Frogs, Fish, Turtles, Sharks and Skates!"is available in paperback and hardback at all major online retailers, or spiral bound at nancyroop.com/shop.

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For Media Kit, visit nancyroop.com/media

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Available at all major online book retailers

**Nancy Roop,** Author, promotes neurodiversity and inclusion by publishing developmental books and speaking at educational conferences—*or to anyone, anywhere*. She is also a favorite Substitute Teacher in local Special Ed classrooms. Roop lives with her family near Detroit, Michigan and has a BA in Integrative Studies from Oakland University. Her thesis, Developmental Texts for Students with Autism; a Safe Space in the Written World, is available at DevelopmentalTexts.com.

**Developmental Texts**, LLC, publishes developmental books for children and was founded by Nancy Roop in 2022. A strong online presence includes educational resources for parents and educators, and the Alex and Jordan Message Board for kids. *The Big Aquarium Adventure: Learn about Fogs, Fish, turtles, Sharks, and Skates*, is Developmental Texts’ debut book.

**Michigan Reading Association’s** goals are to create partnerships with other state organizations, while continuing to be the "go to" organization for educational issues regarding literacy, and providing ongoing, sustainable professional development to the educators in Michigan.

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