**Author Ilene Dudek Celebrates Dr. Seuss Day at**

**Columbus Elementary School**

*A special story time event*

Author Ilene Dudek visited Columbus Elementary School on March 1, 2019, to participate in a very special Dr. Seuss Day event. The celebration included an author breakfast, along with a kick-off party complete with birthday cake, Dr. Seuss character visit, and a wonderful concert given by the third-grade class. Four local authors were also invited to come in and share their books. Ilene Dudek was among the authors, offering an interactive story time filled with all the whimsy and spirit of Dr. Seuss.

Ilene read her new book *Little Ant & the Ice Cream Mystery* to the kindergarten class. She engaged the children with fun questions and encouraged them to share their own stories of adventure. They worked together to follow clues, investigate suspects, and solve the mystery of the missing ice cream cone.

Ilene then brought her story to life with Little Ant games and activities. She invited the children to put on their “detective hats” and find objects in her paper garden. Special Dr. Seuss items were included, like the Ant in the Hat, which tied nicely into the day’s events. Ilene also presented a mystery game, where the students followed clues to see which character would reach the ice cream first. “It was a race to the finish,” Ilene explains, “and everyone cheered as their favorite characters won!” Ilene’s final game challenged the group to identify sounds, as well as move their bodies in imaginative ways.

In the end, each student hugged her Little Ant toy mascot goodbye and thanked Ilene with a round of applause. “I was so honored to be a part of this event,” Ilene states. “It was such a fun day filled with inspiring stories, mysterious adventures, and best of all, the love of reading!”

*To learn more about Ilene Dudek and her Little Ant book collection, please visit www.littleantstories.com.*