

Kids, We'd Like to Introduce You to New Jersey!

**NICKY FIFTH'S NEW JERSEY,
NEW JERSEY MEET THE KIDS!**

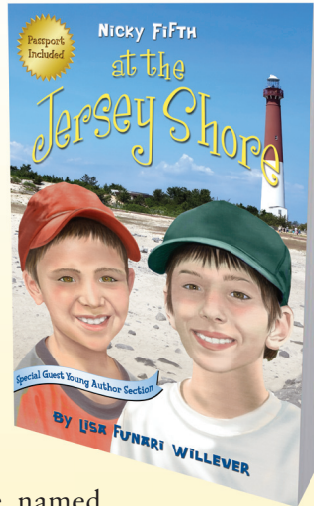


**NICKY FIFTH'S
Idea Guide For Teachers**

READERS JOIN NICKY AND T-BONE as they Explore The Shore, from Cape May to the Raritan Bay. Enjoy the history of Cape May and Long Branch, the excitement of the Wildwoods and Atlantic City, and the rebirth of Asbury Park. New Jersey shines like a bright summer day as Nicky and T-Bone lead the way. Have included Passport stamped at 36 Stamp Stops along the Jersey Shore.

FOLLOW NICKY FIFTH AND T-BONE, LITERALLY.

Retail price: \$6.95 US



The first of the series to include a Passport, Nicky and T-Bone are named Unofficial Junior Ambassadors and visit amazing destinations including Wild West City, Morristown, Storybook Land, Trenton, the City of Burlington, Wheaton Arts, and Margate. History, culture, and geography with a healthy dose of humor.

Retail price \$6.95 US



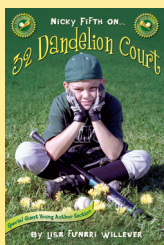
While this title is more humor than New Jersey, it is the bridge that brings the boys from excited New Jersey visitors of Garden State Adventure to the positions of Unofficial Junior Ambassadors in Passport to the Garden State. Focus is on relationships that cross generations, and the value, humor, and wisdom of senior citizens.

Retail price \$5.95 US



Having recently moved to NJ, Nicky believes he deserves a Florida vacation. Unable to afford his dream vacation, Nicky's parents create seven NJ day trips to introduce Nicky, his siblings, and his new best friend, T-Bone, to his new home. Covering all corners of the state, enjoy one funny adventure after another!

Retail price \$5.95 US



Quite happy living on Fifth Street in Philadelphia, Nicky is less than thrilled that his family is moving to New Jersey, especially to Dandelion Court. Unsure of what is on the other side of the Ben Franklin bridge, join Nicky as he prepares to move, unaware of the adventures that await.

Retail price \$5.95 US

Order classroom sets and bulk orders from Franklin Mason Press directly to receive discounts of 30%-50%. Call 609-209-9202.



**AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE
FROM NICKY FIFTH
AND T-BONE,
NEW JERSEY'S
OFFICIAL JUNIOR
AMBASSADORS.**

(Almost)

AS THE GARDEN STATE'S pending Official Junior Ambassadors, we know how important it is for New Jersey's kids to understand and appreciate our amazing state. We also know that the demands on teachers make it difficult to fit New Jersey studies into the daily schedule. In addition, the materials have always been, let's just say, dry and dull, missing the opportunity to promote the state through literature and education.

We'd like to change that!

The Nicky Fifth series combines humor, fact, and fiction, using literature as a tool for teaching about New Jersey. Throughout the stories, we visit real New Jersey places and readers follow along, learning as they laugh at our antics (mostly T-Bones). And by including real places, we also motivate families to explore the state, promoting quality family time, reading, and the state's many offerings, as well as the economy.

Why limit New Jersey to one unit in one grade level?

Now, you can teach about New Jersey during reading/literature studies without taking additional time away from other subject areas. We also have a free, interactive website that brings New Jersey to life and is an amazing tool for educators. With extension activities, virtual video tours, and photo galleries, New Jersey can be incorporated into all grade levels and subject areas.

Making Tour Guides out of Families

Today's parents are overscheduled and exhausted with a limited knowledge of New Jersey. They are now raising a generation of kids with almost no knowledge of the state. Sadly, many kids rarely leave their town or county. With 127 miles of Atlantic Ocean coastline, New Jersey kids should be experts. But many kids never get to the beach and of those that do, they tend to visit the same beach, over and over and over again!

We motivate families to get out and see the state, firsthand.

Our Resume:

In 2010, three bills were drafted to name us New Jersey's Official Junior Ambassadors, one in the State Assembly, the others in the State Senate.

In 2011, our author testified in front of the Assembly's Committee for The Arts and Tourism on our behalf.

Between 32 Dandelion Court and Garden State Adventure, we have been named to the prestigious New Jersey Battle of the Books list three times.

Our stories are written by Award-winning New Jersey author, Lisa Funari-Willever (who happens to be a former City of Trenton teacher).

Our Goals:

We strongly believe that New Jersey is the most amazing state in the nation and want to make sure every kid knows that, too. We'd like to:

- ✓ **Change the perception and image**
- ✓ **Promote reading**
- ✓ **Promote exploration**
- ✓ **Share NJ's significance**
- ✓ **Support our hundreds of offerings**
- ✓ **Spark the tourism sector of the economy**
- ✓ **Utilize what we have to improve our current situation**
- ✓ **Keep tourism dollars in New Jersey**

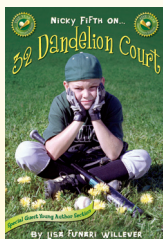
Our Ultimate Goal:

Make teaching about New Jersey EASY, make learning about New Jersey FUN, and make seeing New Jersey AWESOME!

We are now working the New Jersey Education Association to promote the Garden State through our stories and we hope every school takes advantage of this opportunity to integrate New Jersey into all grade levels and areas of the curriculum.



OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS FROM THE NICKY FIFTH SERIES:



from 32 Dandelion Court

Nicky Fifth has learned he will be moving to New Jersey from the home and neighborhood he loves in Philadelphia. Discuss a time when you had to do something you did not want to do or something that made you nervous.

As the oldest child in his family, Nicky has many responsibilities. Do you agree or disagree that the eldest child in a family must assist with younger brothers and sisters? Support your answers.



from Garden State Adventure

Nicky Fifth believes he is entitled to a Florida vacation for moving to New Jersey. Instead, his parents plan seven NJ day trips. Discuss a time when you thought you were getting something you really wanted and it didn't turn out the way you planned. In the end, was it worse than you imagined, the same, or better?

Nicky and his family visit amazing places during their Garden State Adventures. Which place would you select if you could visit one of the seven? Explain your reasons.



from For Hire

Nicky and T-Bone meet George, an older man, at the mall. In the beginning he isn't very friendly. Discuss a time you met someone who seemed unfriendly and how the situation changed?

Nicky is saving his money for a special present for his parents' anniversary. Discuss a time when you worked very hard to make someone else happy, whether it was just helping out or giving an awesome gift.



from Passport to the Garden State

When Nicky first met T-Bone, he was a history hater. Eventually, he grows to love history and becomes a history buff. Discuss what kids can learn from history and why it is so important.

Nicky and T-Bone are honored when asked to serve as Unofficial Junior Ambassadors. If that was your job, what New Jersey places would you share with others and why would you select them?

FROM NICKY FIFTH AT THE JERSEY SHORE

T-Bone is excited to join the debate club and Nicky is very nervous. Describe a time you tried something you weren't sure about.

Each beach town has its own personality. Describe which shore you would prefer to visit and explain why you selected that destination.

Extension Activities

1. Use a blank map and locate all of the places Nicky and T-Bone visit in the series. Select three places you have never visited and compare/contrast.
2. Using Map Quest, calculate the mileage from your house to ten destinations from the series.
3. Split New Jersey into four quadrants and place each destination from the series in the appropriate sections. Circle the destinations you have visited.
4. Select one destination and create a travel brochure that would make other kids want to visit.
5. Write a state song using the destinations Nicky and T-Bone discuss.
6. Research a destination that sounds interesting to you and write a field trip proposal for your school. Support your destination with the reasons your school should consider visiting.
7. Select ten destinations from the series and plot their locations on a map. Look up the population of each town and order them from largest to smallest.
8. Draw a panoramic scene of your favorite destination from the series.
9. Create a diorama of your favorite destination from the series.
10. Nicky and T-Bone are best friends, but very different. Create a list of character traits for each boy and circle those that apply to you.
11. Write a letter to a child in another country, describing a destination from the series. Use your words to paint a picture of this place.
12. Visit a destination and create a report with pictures and/or drawings.
13. Write a letter to the Governor about why preserving New Jersey's history and landmarks is so important.



ARE YOUR STUDENTS NEW JERSEY CHARACTERS?

Have them submit their favorite New Jersey destination to the

NICKY FIFTH'S NEW JERSEY CONTEST

The first place winner's suggestion will be used in an upcoming Nicky Fifth book and that child will become a character in the story.

Students should submit destinations not previously discussed in the series. All ideas may be submitted via the www.nickyfifth.com website. Students should include the name of the destination, county, and three paragraphs that persuade Nicky and T-Bone to check it out.

Submissions should include students name, address, phone number, age, school, grade, and teacher. Students must have parent's permission and all submissions become property of Franklin Mason Press.

Prizes

1st Place - \$200 Barnes & Noble Gift Card and a Video Camera

2nd Place - \$100 Barnes & Noble Gift Card

3rd Place - \$75 Barnes & Noble Gift Card

Ordering Bulk and Classroom Sets

Schools wishing to use the Nicky Fifth books as part of their New Jersey curriculum or as literature studies may order copies directly from Franklin Mason Press at a discount. School discounts range from 30% -50%. Place your order by calling 609-209-9202. Purchase orders accepted.

School Author Visits

Award-winning New Jersey author, Lisa Funari-Willever, can visit your school to discuss writing, the life of an author, and of course, New Jersey. For details about 2011-2012 visits, check out www.franklinmasonpress.com. Writing workshops are also available. E-mail her at Lwill0517@aol.com





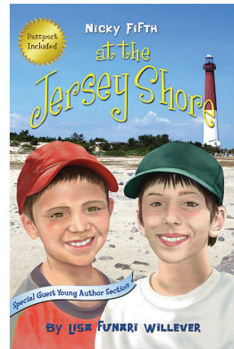
Nicky FIFTH



HOME ACTIVITIES EXPLORE GUEST YOUNG AUTHOR CONTEST BLOG FRANKLIN MASON PRESS STORE CONTACT

Home

Coming late May 2011!



Welcome to the Nicky Fifth website!

Nicky Fifth and T-Bone, the main characters from Award-winning NJ author, Lisa Funari-Willever's Nicky Fifth chapter book series, spend their time exploring New Jersey's hundreds of towns, attractions, and offerings learning about the state's history, geography, and culture along the way. Their contribution to the state and their dedication to introducing New Jersey to New Jersey has resulted in some very interesting developments.

There are currently two bills, one in the New Jersey Senate (SR84) and one in the New Jersey Assembly, to name Nicky Fifth and T-Bone as New Jersey's Official Junior Ambassadors. As Nicky and T-Bone go through the legislative process, we will share their progress with their fans. To support the bill, contact your legislators and be a part of that process!

This site has been created to bring New Jersey to life and provide teachers, parents, and students with a free, interesting, and interactive way to learn about our history, geography, and hundreds of amazing offerings. From activities to virtual tours and photo albums to interactive areas where children are invited to submit stories, artwork, and photos of their favorite Garden State destinations, students will see Real New Jersey, not reality New Jersey.

Use the site regularly as we will be adding exciting new elements, like Know Jersey, an interactive map that provides video tours, photo albums, and information about New Jersey's towns and attractions. And as you learn about these great places, encourage your families to really explore New Jersey.

Nicky Fifth and T-Bone are on the verge of becoming *New Jersey's Official Junior Ambassadors* and their next adventure is the 127 mile *Jersey Shore*. From Cape May to Sandy Hook and along the Raritan Bay, Nicky and T-Bone explore the REAL Jersey shore, from amazing beaches to lively boardwalks and the diverse towns in between. Think you know New Jersey? *Explore the Shore and See!*

Follow Nicky and T-Bone's itinerary and have your Passport stamped along the way. Look for the Nicky Fifth logo!

Good Morning, New Jersey

Learn something new about New Jersey each day by incorporating Good Morning, New Jersey into your morning announcements. Simply click the date and start your day with an interesting Jersey fact.

« April May 2011 June »

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Good Morning New Jersey	3 Good Morning New Jersey	4 Good Morning New Jersey	5 Good Morning New Jersey	6 Good Morning New Jersey	7



Promotional materials and
Nicky Fifth's New Jersey Contest
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