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CONTACT: Sabrina Sharpe - 1.800.789.9990 - TheLearningStation@cfl.rr.com

Websites: www.tonychestnut.com www.learningstationmusic.com

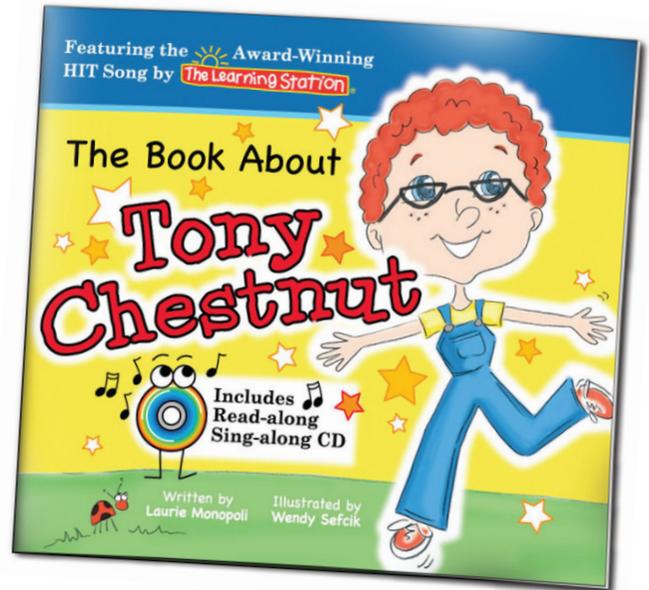


Hug-A-Chug Books Proudly Presents...

The Book About Tony Chestnut

The much-loved children's song, **Tony Chestnut**, comes to life in, **The Book About Tony Chestnut**, an interactive, whimsically illustrated children's picture book with accompanying CD.

Melbourne, FL -- Laurie Monopoli, founder, performer and educational director of the popular, children's musical group, The Learning Station, enters into the world of children's literature by bringing all the characters of their adored song, Tony Chestnut, to life! To create the ultimate literary experience, **The Book About Tony Chestnut**, invites children to actively join-in, participate and connect with the storybook's characters. This comprehensive and multisensory approach to early literacy will help develop youngster's reading skills while simultaneously immersing them in a joyful, memorable and socially meaningful experience.



The Book About Tony Chestnut lists for \$19.95 and includes a read-a-long, sing-a-long CD with multiple narrated tracks, thought-provoking questions to promote discussion and the popular song, **Tony Chestnut**, which inspired the basis of this book.

"Tony Chestnut is an emotionally uplifting song that has proven its weight in educational gold. By combining literature with music and active participation, children's senses will be heightened; aiding in memory and recall. Phonemic awareness is reinforced and vocabulary is expanded; as comprehension is deepened. Literacy skills are more easily remembered when connected to a song that children already know and love."

Laurie Monopoli, Author

Creating the Ultimate Interactive Early Reading Experience

"Tell me and I'll forget; show me and I may remember, involve me and I'll understand." This Chinese proverb is the means to all learning and teaching at its very finest! Young children naturally love performing movements and actions. **The Book About Tony Chestnut** invites children to actively participate and interact with the story and its cast; creating an ultimate literary experience for young children that is inviting, engaging, and delightfully fun. Still, **The Book About Tony Chestnut** with its heartwarming message of kindness can be lovingly shared while cuddled up in the comfort of a parent's lap. Foremost, through music and active participation, this story enhances a youngster's literary experience. It fosters a child's love for reading, exciting their interest in books and awakening their early reading skills. Combine story time with a song that enhances the total experience and watch your children blossom with a joy of reading!

*"Young children like stories that feel familiar and those they can connect themselves with, **The Book About Tony Chestnut** will be like bringing a best friend home in a book format."*

By Laurie Monopoli, Author

Summary: The Book About Tony Chestnut

The much-loved children's song, **Tony Chestnut**, comes to life in an interactive, delightfully illustrated children's picture book with accompanying CD.

Tony Chestnut is joined in this story, by a stellar children's cast of characters including Eileen, Neil, Pat, Bob, Russell and Skip, who are all from the hit song. Join the kids on an encouraging childhood adventure in friendship and quest towards playground unity -- laugh along with the hysterical antics of Tony Chestnut as he anxiously tries to resolve his little sister's true-to-life, social dilemma. The story's compassionate message of friendship, kindness and sympathy speaks to children in a language they can understand, and conveys just the right blend of entertaining, gentle humor with a meaningful, true-to-heart message.

In this interactive literary experience young readers are invited to participate, interact and join in as the book's cast shows us all, step by step, how to do the **Tony Chestnut** dance moves that everyone is talking about.

The 48 page picture book is packaged with a CD featuring a soundtrack, and reading by the enchanting British storyteller, Jeanne Bowyer. Listeners are also treated to a second sharing of the story by Tony Chestnut himself, as he makes his debut, storytelling appearance. As an added bonus, included on the CD are thought-provoking questions for interactive discussion and the hit song, **Tony Chestnut**, which has sparked the making of this book.

"The Learning Station has done it again! Hit all the right "notes" in providing a delightful quality product for young children. They truly understand young children and the issues and challenges they face growing up and learning the skills necessary to be successful citizens--and as always, in a fun and musical style unique to The Learning Station."

By Dr. Marci Guddemi, Gesell Institute Executive Director



About the Author

Laurie Monopoli, educational specialist, children's advocate and founder of The Learning Station, has written the story that will bring the characters of this much-loved song to life. As a member of The Learning Station, the quality of Laurie's work in the fields of early childhood education and children's music are beyond comparison -- rivaled only by the genuine passion she displays in the writing of this revered children's book.

The highly anticipated story was created from her intuitive understanding and respect for children. As she lovingly embraced her mission of lending faces, personalities and characters to the children, Tony Chestnut, Eileen, Neil, Pat, Bob, Russell and Skip, she drew upon her own childhood experiences. Her ultimate goal was to creatively capture the young reader's attention with a complete sensory experience in children's literature. She achieved this by combining a child's natural love of music and movement, with a beautifully, illustrated picture book that actually invites youngsters to actively interact with the storyline, unite in dance with the characters and as a result, stimulate a lasting experience that will foster a life-long love of reading.



"Like a delicious recipe, good children's stories need the right ingredients; including characters, setting, and sequence of events, that when blended together creates the ultimate fable. This is a children's story with a message and a conclusive, ethical moral ending that sheds a positive light on decency and honor. All of which is revealed through the innocence of a child's (Tony Chestnut's) reaction to resolve an unforeseen childhood dilemma."

By Laurie Monopoli, Author

About the Illustrator

Wendy Sefcik, from the illustration and design studio, Broken Box Designs, was chosen as the illustrator to bring, *The Book About Tony Chestnut*, to life. She is a Summa Cum Laude honor graduate of The University of Akron with a Bachelors Degree in Fine and Applied Arts. An imaginative artist, Wendy displays a curiously fresh, inventiveness in her visionary designs characterized by child-appealing, rich colored, soft watercolor-like illustrations. Her dreamlike artwork evokes the warmth of this story's endearing message, while her playful, whimsical humor conveys a fresh, full-of-life energy. With her creative eye for detail, Wendy's subtle, fairy-tale styled cartoons, convey the feelings of a child's first day at a new school with charm and realism.



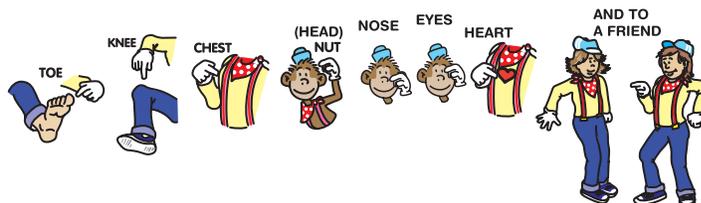
"I think *The Book About Tony Chestnut* will become a nationwide hit! I love that Tony's story encourages kids to get out of their seats, laugh, play and learn, all at the same time!"

By Wendy Sefcik, Illustrator

About the Song, Tony Chestnut

From the multi award-winning CD, *Tony Chestnut & Fun Time Action Songs*

The Learning Station's hit song, *Tony Chestnut*, has been stirring the world with its humorous use of names since 1997. The tune invites active participation as it reveals new meaning, in the form of a movement to each of the names in the song; Tony Chestnut, Eileen, Neil, Pat, Bob, Russell and Skip. The songs lyrics are actually a play on names, you point to your toe, knee, chest, nut (head), nose and then who you love. The actions continue with Eileen (lean), Neil (kneel), Pat (pat your shoulder), Bob (bob your head), Russell (wiggle your legs) and Skip (skip in place). The catchy refrain starts out slowly, introducing each witty movement and then becomes more challenging as the speed picks up. And with the fast paced verses rapidly in motion, so ignites the explosion of fun and laughter!



This fun little tune is adored by millions. YouTube is a stomping ground to hundreds of video posts of children, teens and even grownups performing the song's silly movements. Do a Google search for *Tony Chestnut* (or Toe Knee Chest Nut) and thousands of sites pop up where folks are blogging, websites are boasting and everyone is sharing their love for the song. Visit a preschool graduation and likely the children are proudly performing *Tony Chestnut* for their families, and physical education instructors can't get enough of its healthy, cheerful energy. It's even a hit at weddings and anniversaries, proving that the song transcends joy to all, with ageless appeal. There are even marching bands entertaining stadiums with *Tony Chestnut*, professors calming their test-anxious students with verses, and business speakers employing the song to reenergize their audience. And it's the tune of choice that is shared internationally by leading motivational speakers, so don't be surprised if Tony Chestnut pops in for a rousing performance at your next conference keynote event.

"A familiar tune to all ages that brings people to their feet with smiles on their faces." John Almarode, *The Brain Way*

About The Learning Station

The Learning Station is a multi-award winning children's recording and performing company. The trio comprised of Don Monopoli, Laurie Monopoli and Jan Hrkach has combined backgrounds and degrees in early childhood education, child development and music.

Through their music they have dedicated their lives to making this world a better place for children and they have achieved international stature as leaders in the children's educational music industry. They presently have a collection of 27 award-winning audio and video releases and their children's songs are part of educational curriculums spanning the globe. They have presented over 500 keynote, feature and workshops presentations for educational organizations and performed over 4,500 children's concerts.

Their wholesome project is founded upon their campaign that promotes, "Healthy Music for a Child's Heart, Body & Mind" and their music and videos have been awarded numerous outstanding merits of achievement including:

- Dr. Toy's 100 BEST
- Dr. Toy's 10 BEST Audio/Video Category
- Dr. Toy's Best Vacation Children's Products
- Earlychildhood NEWS / Directors' Choice Award
- Parents' Choice Approved
- Creative Child Magazine CD OF THE YEAR
- Creative Child Magazine Preferred
- Creative Child Magazine Seal of Excellence
- Children's Music Web / Best Recording for Preschoolers
- Parent's Council Award
- iParenting Media Award of Excellence
- Telly Award
- Tillywig Sterling FUN Award



Written by: **Laurie Monopoli**
Illustrated by: **Wendy Sefcik**
Narrated by: **Jeanne Bowyer & Julian Scites**
Category: **Children's Picture Book**
Publication Date: **March 1, 2010**
Illustrations: **Full color**
Pages: **48**
Size: **10" x 9"**
Format: **Hardback, laminated cover with read along, sing along CD**
CD Runtime: **28:00**
Product # **TC-100BK**
Retail Price: **\$19.95**
Ages: **3 - 7 years old**
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Distribution and Contact Information:

The Learning Station

3950 Bristol Court
Melbourne, FL 32904 USA

TheLearningStation@cfl.rr.com

1.800.789.9990 FAX: (321) 722-9121

www.learningstationmusic.com



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