

Meet Bender & Bender



About the Authors

Bender & Bender is a wild bunch of photographers, illustrators, prop specialists, computer gurus, and storytellers. Their home base is a studio way back in the middle of the woods in tiny Waldo, Ohio.

In business for 40 years, Bender & Bender specializes in commercial photography and digital imaging. Their work has appeared in Communication Arts, Photographis, the Centre Pompidou in France, and national publications from Newsweek to Good Housekeeping.

Ribbit! Flip and See Who Froggy Can Be (HarperCollins, 2007) is Bender & Bender's first foray into writing and illustrating a children's book. Each member of the eight-person crew, five of whom are family, had a hand in the project. The result is a Froggy flipbook with tri-cut pages that allow readers to create thousands of silly characters.

Author Visits

The folks at Bender & Bender leap at the chance to share their story with students. In fact, they do so dressed as characters from **Ribbit!** With striking visuals in tow, the energetic group tailors assemblies and breakout sessions to various age levels and themes.

- **How Ribbit! Came to Be** – Using a digital slide show and help from the audience, the authors talk about teamwork and the creative process.
- **The Bigger Picture** – The message of **Ribbit!** is summed up on the last page with the words, "Just Me. Perfect." This sets the scene for discussions on self-esteem.
- **One-Sentence Stories** – This interactive word exercise gets students' creative juices flowing and reinforces sentence structure and parts of speech.
- **Career Day** – In the book, Froggy becomes everything from a cowboy to a news reporter, which begs the question, "What do you want to be when you grow up?"

Kirkus Reviews raves: "Printed in bright colors... this crowd pleaser is designed to survive heavy use, and the mutable portraits, with their human teeth and fanciful couture, will draw plenty of chuckles."

School Library Journal writes: "This adorable... oversized flip book is sure to make youngsters giggle. It depicts all sorts of frogs in all sorts of outfits. Each page is divided into three parts... Children can make up to 3,000 combinations of froggy images."



To schedule an author visit, please call 740.726.2470 or send an email to ribbit@benderimaging.com. For a teacher's guide and more information, visit www.benderimaging.com.