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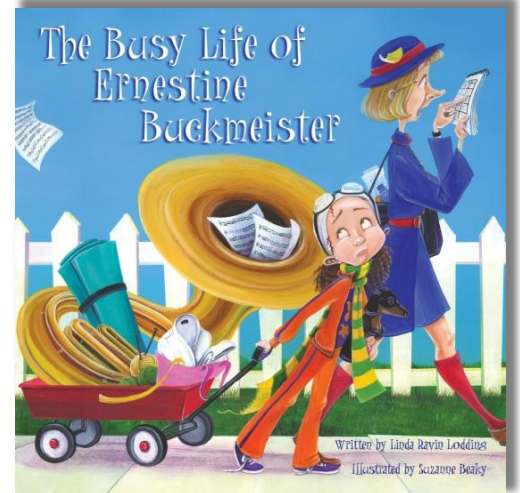


## Inhale... Exhale... PLAY!

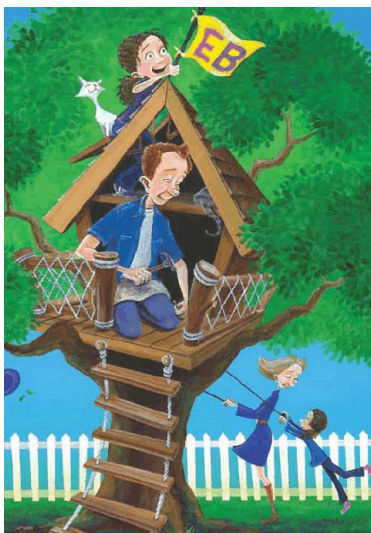
**NEW YORK:** If you think *you're* busy, just take a look at Ernestine's week: tuba with Mr. Oompah, yodeling with Little Old Lady Hoo, yoga with Guru Prakesh Pretzel, and more. Her well-meaning, busy parents have packed Ernestine's after-school hours. But Ernestine is about to opt out and do what no Buckmeister has done before: JUST PLAY.

*The Busy Life of Ernestine Buckmeister* hilariously captures the dilemma of today's over-scheduled child in riotous color and absurd extremes. A delightful heroine, Ernestine will be sure to put "play" back on everyone's agenda, demonstrating the joy of play and the simple wonders of childhood.

In our hustle-bustle society where parents and children often feel pressured, *The Busy Life of Ernestine Buckmeister* offers a refreshing alternative: Inhale... Exhale... **PLAY!**



- 👤 "The Busy Life of Ernestine Buckmeister is a joyful and funny reminder to kids and parents alike about the importance and power of play.... Our children will all be happier and healthier if we lessen all those lessons and get out to play." –Darell Hammond, *New York Times* best-selling author and CEO of KaBOOM!, a national non-profit dedicated to saving 'play' for America's children.
- 👤 "This charming children's book about Ernestine, the over-scheduled poster child of today, has a lovely message delivered in an elegant and straightforward way: Maybe we would do better if we could add some real play back into our hurried lives. Maybe living life to the fullest has to include time to imagine and just be. I love this book; it is a wonderful accomplishment, beautifully – and playfully – illustrated. Bravo!" –Alvin Rosenfeld, MD, co-author, *The Over-Scheduled Child*, Lecturer, Harvard School of Medicine



**Linda Ravin Lodding** works in media and public affairs for the United Nations. Originally from New York, Linda has lived in Austria and Sweden, and now lives in The Netherlands. This is her first picture book. **Suzanne Beaky** is the illustrator of the *Hailey Twitch* chapter book series and several picture books. She lives in Huntingdon, PA.

**The Busy Life of Ernestine Buckmeister**  
 written by Linda Ravin Lodding  
 illustrated by Suzanne Beaky  
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For more information on play,  
 read "The Movement to Restore Children's Play"  
*The New York Times* (January 5, 2011)  
<http://www.nytimes.com/2011/01/06/garden/06play.html>

