



ICL INSTITUTE OF CHILDREN'S LITERATURE
FOUNDED 1969

MEET YOUR INSTRUCTOR

Mary Blount Christian

FICTION:

Swamp Monsters, Dial

Go West, *Swamp Monsters*, Dial

Penrod's Picture, Atheneum

Penrod's Pants, Atheneum

Sebastian (Super Sleuth), Series, Simon & Schuster

Murder on the Menu, Contemporary Books

And many more books.

NONFICTION

Special Ops: Tactical Training, Rosen

Working with Immigrant and Migrants Through Service Learning, Rosen

And more.

Mary made weekly trips to the library with her mom. When she was old enough to go alone she roller skated the three miles every other day. The clattering echo on the windows alerted the librarian of her approach so that she held the door open. Mary was able to kick her skates off in one smooth motion and race through the door without a wasted moment.

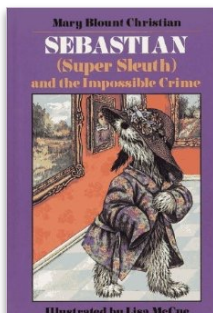
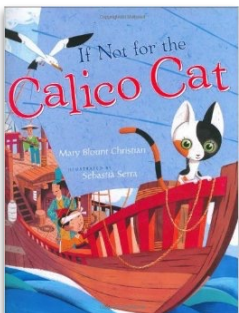
She wanted to be a part of that wonderful experience of story sharing and began writing at age six. "It was my way of answering the most baffling question, why? Why does the moon play peek-a-boo? Why do some people act like that? Do dogs think the way we do? There are endless questions to ponder on paper," Mary explains.

Her more than 100 published books include picture books, easy readers, chapter books, high Interest/low vocabulary, novels for middle grade, young adults and adults and include fiction and nonfiction. She has had numerous series published including *Penrod and Griswold* for first readers, *The Sherlock Street Detectives*, and the popular long-running *Sebastian (Super Sleuth)* mystery chapter books.

Her works have been translated into French, Japanese, Swedish, Indonesian, and Braille among others. Awards include an Edgar Alan Poe scroll from The Mystery Writers of America, the Silver Burdett and Ginn World of Reading Readers' Choice Award; Reader's for the oft-reprinted *Nothing Much Happened Today*.

The picture book, *Nothing Much Happened Today*, has been reprinted in school readers by eight different educational publishers, and has never been out of print in 35 years. It was recently contracted by Mosdos for non-exclusive perpetuity.

Her articles on writing have appeared in *The Writer* and her books used as examples in numerous how-to books



"Writing for children is like planting a tree in whose shade you'll never sit. You won't ever know the influence you have on your readers. It's a responsibility I take seriously, even when I'm writing humor."

MARY BLOUNT CHRISTIAN

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