

Adventure - Science - Children



Einstein stated, "You can't solve a problem by using the same thinking that created it." Award winning, veteran children's science teacher Pat Roller believes today's serious problems call for a new kind of thinking, and her main character, Pink Hat, playfully expresses this in *Pink Hat's Adventure with Kites*, created for elementary school children. Roller lives with her husband in Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico. They have three children and eight grandchildren. Her awards include: Oklahoma Teacher of the Year, Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, and induction into ECU's "Educators Hall Of Fame" 2008.

Will Pink Hat's "Special Power" save her in THIS Adventure?

Pink Hat, a hat who can communicate with all living things, came to me as a gift from granddaughter Sarah. Pink Hat is bright, with the full range of emotions of a young child. She loves adventures more than anything. Her attitude of "me" over "we" and her lack of knowledge of how planet Earth works could destroy her in this adventure. The story begins as Pink Hat, after watching a seabird riding the big wind currents, decides she will ride on and control a small kite in a big wind! Although she tries again and again and learns something each time, she keeps failing. Tired, hurt and afraid, she wants to quit. But "quit" is not in her nature! So she learns about the energy in earth's big winds. And, she begins to think, in a new way, about how to solve her problem. Will she be able to fly on and control a kite? Will her attitude change? What does she learn? Did she need her "special power" for this adventure?



Pink Hat's Adventure With Kites



Pat Kellogg Roller

Pink Hat's Adventure With Kites

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This book is printed on acid-free paper.
This book is a work of fiction. Places, events, and situations in this book are purely fictional and any resemblance to actual persons, living or dead, is coincidental.

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Credits

It took a community to make this book happen. We are so grateful for all the different kinds of help, which came just when we needed it.

Inspiration- our eight grandchildren: Andrew, Daniel, Jonathan, Sarah, Katherine, Rebecca, Zachary, and Elise.

Pink Hat's Adventure books are the legacy we leave to all children of our greatly loved planet EARTH.

Special thanks to Sarah who gave us Pink Hat. That gift brought Pink Hat to life and Pink Hat's Adventure Series is the result.

John Roller's photographs prove the adventure really happened. His loving support and encouragement kept me going. However, it took graphic artist, Riana Salazar, to change a good adventure into a fine story for children.

Technical support and encouragement also came from other people: Steve and Bonnie Petri, and Cindy Cason. Our dear friend Alan Lafon, showed us what is possible in the area of digital photo enhancement. He encouraged us all the way.

Editing was done by many: grandson Andrew, daughter Cindy, sister Betty, good friend Carolyn, neighbor Mary, and the editing crew of our publisher.

John and I will never forget the love and compassion all of you gave us.



A NOTE TO PARENTS AND TEACHERS

As a parent you are your child's first and most important teacher.

The enthusiasm you bring to sharing this book is contagious, so ham it up a bit, engage your emotions, and you will bring **PINK HAT'S ADVENTURE WITH KITES** to life for everyone.

This book teaches about Earth's wind energy and how we can use it to make electricity; however it is wrapped in an exciting adventure for children to enjoy.

Albert Einstein, the great scientist stated, "you can't solve a problem using the thinking that created it." We face serious problems with our planet and its people. All of us need to become comfortable with "**new thinking**" and childhood is a great time to begin.

The best way to get started with this book is to take your child out to fly a kite **before** you read the book. If you have some problems doing this, that is even better! Problems set the stage for learning.

When you read, use your finger to underline the words as you say them. If your child shares in the reading and he needs a word, give it to him/her so as not to lose the meaning in the story. Later you can go back and sound out the words he/she did not know.

For the teaching, help your child to *make connections* of events in the book with similar events in your child's life. Note the *civility* between the main characters. Use the *pictures* to help tell the story.

As you read, ask questions such as these. What do you think? What would you do? Would you like to try your idea? Have you ever felt like Pink Hat when she failed? What do you think Pink Hat should do? Would you like for us to get electricity for our homes from the energy of the wind? How would this help our EARTH?

As you share this activity, and experience the wonder of our planet with your child, we hope you will want to do all you can to preserve it for all forms of life. These books are one of our contributions. **We believe everyone can do something to help.**

If you use this book, believing that children's books can be fun and teach at the same time, *you are a very wise parent or teacher.*

Other Pink Hat's Adventures will be available soon.

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT ORDERING THIS BOOK, please visit my website at: www.DogEarPublishing.net/pinkhatsadventures, or contact me at my e-mail address: pjr5@mindspring.com, or check with Amazon, Barnes and Noble, Google, or Borders.

Pat Roller, Author and Science Teacher for Children

It was a warm, sunny, windy day when Nanny and Pink Hat started their morning walk. Nanny, Poppy, and Pink Hat were living in their winter home they called *The Seashell*.

“Hang onto my hat bead,” shouted Pink Hat, “or the wind will blow me away!”



"Oh, look Nanny, see the big bird in the sky? It is riding on the big wind currents. It is having fun! I want to do that too, but I also want to be able to return to you," said Pink Hat.



Nanny knew that riding big wind currents like a bird could be very dangerous. She wanted to encourage Pink Hat to think, so she asked some questions.

"Pink Hat," said Nanny, "I know you can pop wheelies in a gentle breeze but do you really believe you can fly?"



Pink Hat looked smug. “ I know I can fly,” she said.

“Well, how will you fly? You do not have wings. Would you fly on a glider? Would you fly on an airplane? Would you fly on a rocket? Would you fly in a hot air balloon basket?”

“No, Nanny, none of those. Last week when we went to the beach, I saw people flying kites. The kites moved to the right and to the left. They did loop-the-loops and they dived. I want to do all that and more. I want to fly **on** a kite. I want to control the kite and make it go where ‘I’ want it to go,” said Pink Hat.

When they returned home, Pink Hat told Poppy what she wanted to do. Poppy thought and thought, and then he looked in the closet and brought out a little kite.

“Do you think you can ride on this kite?” he asked.

“Oh, that is such a pretty little kite! Yes, I can ride on that kite. Hook me up on it Poppy, and let’s go fly!” shouted Pink Hat.

“Where do you want to be hooked on?” asked Poppy.

“Hook me on the front of the kite so I can go where ‘I’ want to go,” said Pink Hat. Poppy hooked her up on the front of the kite.



They went outside, and Poppy threw the kite with Pink Hat on it up into the big wind. It fell down with a **CRASH!** He tried again. It crashed to the ground. He tried again and the kite crashed to the ground again.

Pink Hat shouted, "This is not working. Get me off this kite!"



Pink Hat was upset! She thought and thought. After awhile she said, "I WILL fly on this kite! Hook me up on the middle of the kite. I can control it there and *make* it go where 'I' want it to go."

Poppy hooked her up on the middle of the little kite.



Again, as the kite tried to lift into the big wind, it crashed to the ground. Poppy tried again. It crashed again. He tried again, and this time Pink Hat CRASHED hard on the ground on *her crown*.

“Ouch, that hurt!” she said.



Pink Hat was angry, but she was still determined to ride **on**, and **direct** the little kite.

“Hook me up on top of the tail, at the bottom of the little kite. I will control the kite and take it where ‘I’ want to go,” she said.

Poppy hooked her up on top of the tail, at the bottom of the little kite.





He threw the kite into the big wind. **Wonder of wonders**, the little kite caught the wind and started to rise into the air!



The kite and Pink Hat flew up into the big wind about 20 feet. Then a bigger gust of wind grabbed the little kite. It jerked Pink Hat **hard** to the right!



Next, it jerked Pink Hat even **harder** to the left!

Pink Hat yelled, “**HELP**, it’s stretching me!”

Suddenly Pink Hat and the little kite began to *spin* very *fast*. The kite spun around and around. Neither the kite nor Pink Hat was in control! The kite and Pink Hat headed up toward the electrical wires on the utility poles. Would Pink Hat and the little kite get hung up on the wires and catch on fire? Would they burn up?



Just before Pink Hat and the little kite crashed into the wires, the little kite dived and crashed *hard* to the ground! Pink Hat landed on her hat brim!

"Get me off this kite! I cannot fly on a kite. I am a failure! I hurt *all over*. I feel sick! I have a terrible headache where I hit on my hat brim! **I am finished with flying on a kite!**" said Pink Hat.

She jumped into Nanny's arms, and they all headed back to *The Seashell*.



Nanny cleaned up Pink Hat, and then she put on a CD titled Beethoven's: *In Harmony with the Sea*. She sat down in the big blue chair and placed Pink Hat gently on her chest. She rocked, and hummed softly, as they listened to the music and the sounds of the sea. Poppy sat in the other big blue chair. Before long, everyone was asleep. While they slept, they dreamed of ways to solve the problem of the little kite being out of control in the big wind.



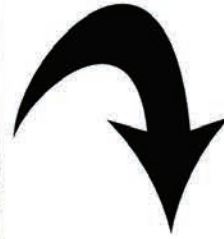
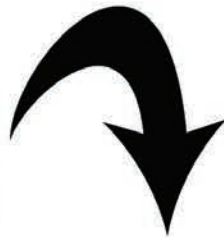
The next morning Poppy said, “That little kite is not *aerodynamic* (aer-o-dy-namic) in a big wind. It was meant to fly in a small wind.”

“What does *aerodynamic* mean?” asked Pink Hat.

“It means the air is not flowing around the kite correctly for controlled motion in a big wind. Also, it is not the right size or shape for a **big wind**,” said Poppy.

“Big winds have lots of clean **Earth-friendly** energy. We can put that wind energy to work to make electricity for our homes.”

“Pink Hat, do you remember those big windmill farms we saw in the panhandles of Oklahoma and Texas? Big winds often blow there. People capture this **wind energy** and change it to **electrical energy**. Then they send the electricity through wires to our homes. Big winds are wonderful! You just need to learn how to work “*with*” big winds.”



***HOW WIND ENERGY
IS USED TO
LIGHT OUR HOMES***



Pink Hat thought and thought about what she had learned about big wind energy. Would it work to be hooked up to the tail on a bigger, stronger kite?

“Poppy,” she asked, “would you take me to the store to buy a bigger stronger kite?”

“Great idea,” replied Poppy, “let’s go Pink Hat!”

And off they went. They found a big yellow, red, and white kite. They bought the kite. They bought bigger, longer, stronger string.

They put the kite together, ready to fly, the next morning.

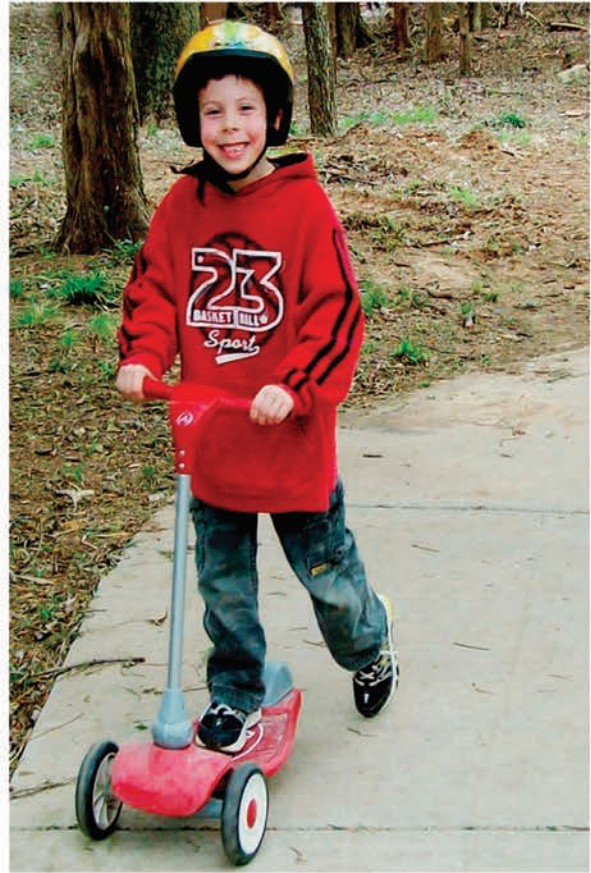
However, morning brought a *new problem*. Pink Hat remembered the nightmare she had last night. She had dreamed of her failure with the little kite. She had dreamed of how she was hurt. Pink Hat was scared! She had lost her self-confidence.

Nanny came to the rescue. “Pink Hat,” said Nanny, “I am so glad you believed in yourself. I am also glad you tried over and over again, until you learned where to hook onto the little kite. I think you are very **brave**. Let’s call Zachary and Elise and see what they have to say.”





“Hi, Pink Hat,” said Zachary. “Nanny said you were having a problem with flying on a kite. She said you were not sure you wanted to try again on the new big kite because you got hurt on the little kite. I understand how you feel.”



When I was learning how to ride my scooter, I fell down a lot. It hurt! Elise fell down too. Nanny and Poppy bought us helmets and pads for our knees and elbows. Elise lost her courage. She did not want to try again. I gave her some of my courage, and she tried again and again. Now she can ride her scooter really well."

Zachary continued, "I can ride faster because I am not afraid at all! We are both good at riding scooters, and we love it! I think you can fly on the big kite if you really want to. Elise wants to talk to you. Tell her about your problem. I've got to watch my video. Bye, Pink Hat," said Zachary.



“Hi, Pink Hat,” said Elise, “I have been listening in, and do you want to know what I think? Well, I think you can do it! So I say, **GO FOR IT!** Good luck! Tell Poppy to take lots of pictures for us. Bye, Pink Hat.”



Pink Hat hung up the phone and went outside. She was beginning to get her confidence back and *it felt good!*

“Where do you want to be hooked on to this big kite?” Poppy asked.

“Put me on top of the tail, at the bottom of the kite. That’s where it worked best with the little kite yesterday. I will **share** control with the big kite.”

Poppy hooked her to the top of the tail at the bottom of the kite.



Before Poppy could turn loose of the big kite, it **jumped** into the big wind, like a cowboy riding a bronco in the South Texas Rodeo!

"Wheeeeeeeeeeeeeee!" yelled Pink Hat.



Pink Hat and the big kite flew to the right. Then they flew to the left. Pink Hat and the big kite were in perfect control of the flight in the big wind! They did amazing dives, almost hitting the ground, before they lifted up again! They did loop-the-loops!



What a wonderful flight it was! The big kite flew higher than Pink Hat had ever flown before!

She was flying on the kite, carried by the big wind currents, just like the big bird she had seen.

People below heard the noise of Nanny and Poppy cheering for Pink Hat. They gathered to watch the wonderful *aerobatic* (*aer-o-batic*) performance.

“What’s that pink thing hanging on the kite? Look at that long tail! Look at those big eyes! It looks like a monster!”





As the crowd watched, Pink Hat began to come down. She swayed gently as if in a dance. She landed softly on her crown, which was a good place for Pink Hat to land. She was so excited and happy she was trembling.

"I did it, and I loved doing it! I want to do it again, *but not today.*"



Back at home, after she had rested, “Nanny! Poppy!” said Pink Hat, “I want to name my big kite **Dragonfly**. I want to fly on Dragonfly every day there is a big wind. I want my kite to hang on the wall by my hatrack, so I can see it first thing every morning when I wake up. May I?” she asked.

Nanny replied, “Dragonfly is a very good name for your big kite. It is an honor to have it hanging on the wall.”





That night, after reading Pink Hat her bedtime story, Nanny asked, “Pink Hat, what did you learn yesterday and today?”

Pink Hat yawned. She sighed. “I learned that if I really **believe** I can, if I **get Earth-knowledge** and **change my thinking**, if I **don’t give up** on myself and **try, try, try** again, **I CAN DO ANYTHING!**”

“RIGHT ON, Pink Hat,” said Poppy, “and today you began to learn how to perform *aerobatics* (aer-o-batics)!”

“What’s that?” she asked

“**Aerobatics** happens when you work with the wind, and with the kite to do tricks to entertain people. You did that today. Congratulations, Pink Hat,” said Poppy.





Pink Hat and Dragonfly settled down to sleep. The moon and stars, shining through the open window, created a perfect nightlight. A gentle breeze moved the leaves of a palm tree outside, creating nature's music to sleep by.

"Goodnight, Pink Hat."

"Goodnight, Dragonfly."

"Goodnight, Nanny Pat."

"Goodnight, Poppy Johnny."

The End



Write your own adventure story about flying a kite.





Draw Your kite. What will ride on your kite? Where will you
hook the object on the kite? Draw what happens.



