

I offer the following formats during the author visit. Please feel free to choose any combination that works best for your school. If your teachers have other requirements that may serve their curriculum more effectively, I would be happy to cater my visit to their needs.



Assembly Presentation (Grades 4-8) 60 minutes

Highlighting my use of technological resources, I offer students a glimpse of the publishing process (writing, creating, and marketing). Whether it's joining an online writing community to get feedback, finalizing detailed illustrations using Photoshop, or creating a book trailer to upload to YouTube, I show students that technology is about more than just playing games and online chatting. Interactive portions of the presentation include word games and mini student vs. teacher spelling bees.

- 5 Reading 3.7: Evaluate the author's use of various techniques (e.g., appeal of characters in a picture book, logic and credibility of plots and settings, use of figurative language) to influence readers' perspectives.
- 4-8 Reading: All 'Vocabulary and Concept Development' standards relating to multiple meaning words, synonyms and homographs, and knowledge of word origins.
- 4-8 Listening: All 'Comprehension' standards relating to main idea and supporting evidence.

Writing Workshops (Grades 4-8) 40-50 minutes each

Emphasizing 'showing' the reader rather than 'telling' the reader, I engage students in a creative writing exercise/game that highlights the importance (and fun) of including details in their writing. Using inspiration from Roald Dahl's character, Miss Trunchbull, students will create their own imaginative person and learn that, oftentimes, plot ideas are born from an interesting character.

- 4-5 Reading 3.3: Use knowledge of a character's traits and motivations to determine the cause for that character's actions.
- 5 Writing 2.1: Show, rather than tell, the events of the story.
- 4-8 Writing 2.1: Narratives: All standards related to writing narratives with emphasis on plot structure, character development, definite setting, and concrete sensory details.

Assembly Reading (Grades K-3) 30 minutes (Ideal for Larger Schools)

Classroom Readings (Grades K-3) 15-30 minutes each (Ideal for Smaller Schools)

While the presentation and workshops are designed to engage students in the upper grades, K-3 students will also enjoy meeting the author and listening to the story. To allow whole school participation in the author visits, I offer an assembly reading or individual classroom readings for the primary grades. Both formats include a book reading, Q/A, and a mini spelling bee game.

- K-1 Reading: All 'Concepts about Print' standards
- K Literary Response and Analysis 3.3: Identify characters, settings, and important events.
- 1 Literary Response 3.2: Describe the roles of authors and illustrators and their contributions to print materials.
- K-3 Listening: All 'Comprehension' standards
- K-3 Reading: All 'Reading Comprehension' standards
- 2-3 Reading: All 'Vocabulary and Concept Development' standards
- 3 Reading 3.3: Determine what characters are like by what they say or do and by how the author or illustrator portrays them.