

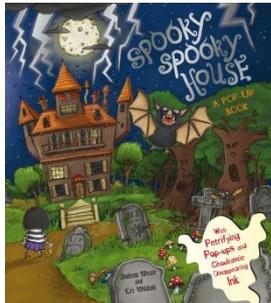
Tower Hamlet Schools Library Services

Suggested authors for Meet the Author Programme – 2014-2015

Author Visits to be scheduled between April 2014-March 2015.

NB these authors have not yet been confirmed.

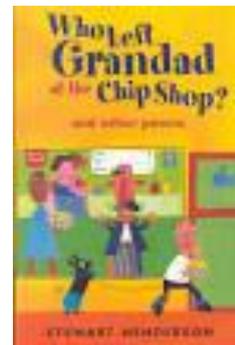
Primary:



Andrew Weale (KS1 only) is an award-winning picture book writer and poet. He is a former actor who is wonderfully energetic and engaging with KS1 children. His sessions involve games, stories, performance and plenty of audience participation! His books include *Spooky*, *Spooky House* (winner of the Red House Book Award), *One Newt in a Suit*, and *Nora, the Girl who Ate and Ate*.

NB National Poetry Day is 2nd October 2014

Stewart Henderson (KS2 and above) is a poet, songwriter and broadcaster. As a poet The Sunday Times described his children's poetry as 'essential reading'. Widely anthologised through Macmillan, Oxford University Press, Scholastic, Bloomsbury and others, Stewart's verse is set for Key Stage 2 and 3 in primary schools in the UK. His best selling 'Who Left Grandad At The Chipshop?' short listed for the Scottish Children's Book Awards, and 'All Things Weird and Wonderful', alongside his various collections for adults, has seen him become a festival favourite at such premier literary events. Stewart can offer writing workshops incorporating performance, as well as separate performance in assemblies etc. For his workshops, he will work with up to 30 children and the sessions last 40-45 minutes.

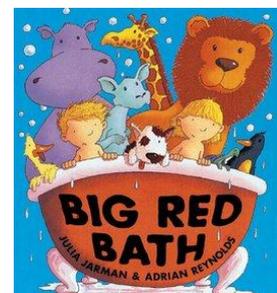


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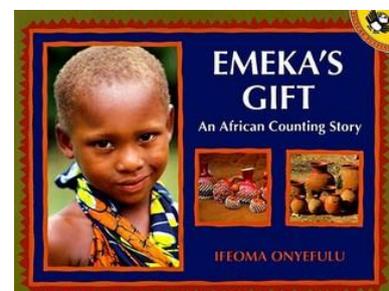
Jane Clarke (Foundation/KS1 & 2) is a poet who works across the primary age range. For Nursery children, she can share stories and poems; for Reception she can help create a class story or poem. For Years 1- 6: For large groups, Jane can run Kick start creativity sessions to encourage children to leave buzzing with ideas for their own work. In addition, Jane can run creative writing workshops (story or poetry) for class sized groups. The aim is to inspire and enthuse the children, and for each child to produce the bones of a story or the first draft of a poem.

NB National Poetry Day is 2nd October 2014

Julia Jarman (KS1 & 2) is the author of many popular titles used in schools including *Big Red Bath*, *Class Two at the Zoo* and *Pillywiggins and the Tree Witch*. Julia has a range of sessions for different age groups including one on How a Book is made. She is very flexible and will tailor her talk to suit particular needs if necessary.

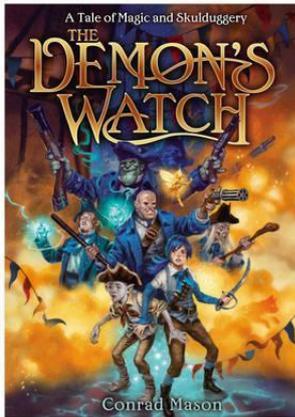


Ifeoma Onyefulu is an award-winning author, photographer and illustrator of many books like 'Emeka's Gift' and 'A is for Africa'. In her sessions, she talks about her books and when she gathers her



inspiration for them and shows the children, and is happy to talk to teachers about what they want from a session and to tailor it accordingly. She can accommodate to up to 100 children for a talk or up to 30 in a workshop.

Karin Littlewood visits schools as a practising illustrator, which is an opportunity to share her experience and enthusiasm with children and teachers. The workshops she runs are usually based on a specific book. She'll then show how the book was 'born' - from first marks on paper, initial sketches and, finally, the chance to see the original illustrations. It continues with the children working on a project and is a very hands-on experience for everyone involved, with an emphasis on drawing skills and the children's role, as illustrators, of telling a story through the pictures they create. Illustration crosses curriculum boundaries and the workshops are suitable for children of all ages (from nursery upwards) and abilities, and also reach children who don't have English as a first language.



Conrad Mason (KS2) works as an editor of children's fiction and is also the author of the *Tales of Fayt*, a rip-roaring fantasy adventure series featuring piratical goblins, invisible warships and a mermaid in a wheelbarrow. He can offer a 45 minute to 1 hour talk with a PowerPoint presentation, readings and a Q and A, suitable for Years 3 - 6. He'll explain how and why he gave up acting to become a children's author, explore what's special about books and discuss ways to come up with story ideas, all with the help of his truly terrible drawings; he'll also reveal how he dreamt up his first book *The Demon's Watch* and developed its fantastical setting. Alternatively Conrad can provide writing workshops with a fantasy theme for smaller groups of up to 30 children.

Sam Osman (also writing as Sam Hepburn) (KS2) is the author of the 'Quicksilver' series of stories and 'Catching the Dark'. She is happy to do assemblies / talks for whole year groups or run writing workshops for up to 30 pupils. She will talk about the research that went into her books and how she came to write them as well as read excerpts and answer questions.

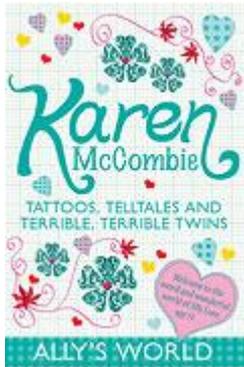
Primary and Secondary age range

Pat Ryan (KS1, 2 & 3) is a hugely engaging storyteller who regularly works with all age groups – from nursery aged children through to adults. He can run storytelling sessions or run workshops using storytelling to develop creative writing. In a storytelling session Pat usually tells 3-4 stories from various traditions and cultures and includes riddles and wordplay appropriate to the age group to encourage participation. His storytelling performances leave his audiences spellbound.

John Byrne (KS2 & 3) is a cartoonist, joke writer and Entertainment Industry Career Advisor. He is the author of the 'Bullybusters Joke Book', 'Crazy Classroom Joke Book', 'Learn to Draw Cartoons', 'Little Book of Summer Cool', 'Puffin's Brilliantly Big Bumper Joke Book: An A-Z of Everything Funny!'. He delivers fantastic and fun interactive 'learn to cartoon' sessions showing children and adults that anybody can draw. He can work with any age from 6 upwards, covering KS2,3,4 & 5 and is happy to work with small and large audiences so long as the space is suitable.

Tony de Saulles (KS2-3) is the illustrator of Nick Arnold's Horrible Science series. He can offer 'Horrible' drawing workshops (+ lots of Horrible Science facts) based on the Horrible Science series. He will show and talk about other work too depending on the age of the audience. He's happy to talk

about the life of an illustrator, the illustration process, illustration on computers etc. His target age group is 7 – 12 year olds and can take up to 60 for a school workshop although he has drawn with 200+ in theatres and school halls.

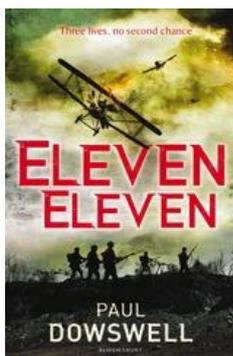
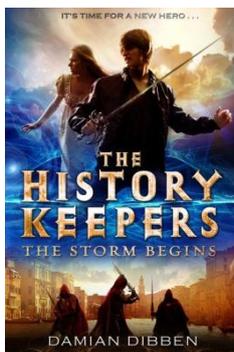


Karen McCombie (KS2 & 3) gives a fast and funny talk, interspersed with readings from her work outlining the random (often VERY random) places she gets her inspiration from. She is the author of the *You, Me and Thing* series and the *Ally's World* series as well as novels like *The Year of Big Dreams*. She uses her sessions to encourage children to discover their own potential. Karen can also run hour long writing workshops with children (max 30 at a time) teaching children how to improve/edit their own writing. NB for secondary schools, Karen is suitable for girls only.

Dee Shulman (KS2 & 3) is an author and illustrator. Her sessions include an interactive talk and presentation using video, dialogue and drama based around her *PARALLON* trilogy. Themes covered include growing the idea, character, research, style, process, publishing. This can also be followed by a writing workshop. Her sessions are perfect for Years 5, 6, 7 & 8. Talks are for up to 300 students, workshops are for a maximum of 30.

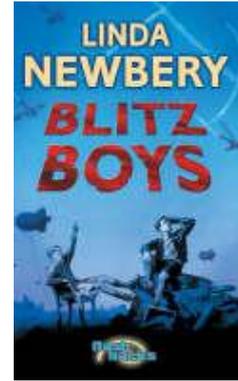


Damian Dibben (upper KS2 & 3) is the author of the internationally acclaimed '*History Keepers*' series, which have been translated into 26 languages, in over forty countries, with a major film in development with Working Title (*Les Miserables*, *Billy Elliot*). Damian is passionate about visiting schools and meeting young readers first hand, offering an exciting, interactive presentation that aims to really grab their attention. He talks about his books, his inspirations, his love of history, science and adventure, his previous life as an actor and screenwriter in Hollywood. Damian's books are, first and foremost, thrilling and entertaining, with nods to Indiana Jones and James Bond, but aim also to be educational, based as they are around the real events and people of the past. His travels around the world, researching his subject matter in depth, also form part of his talk. A natural performer, he loves talking to large audiences (up to 350) of kids ideally between the ages of 9 and 13.



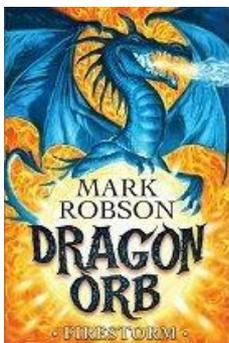
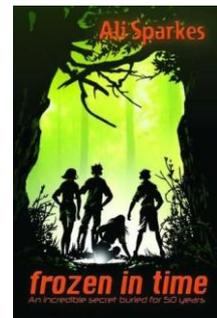
Paul Dowsell (upper KS2 & 3) – Paul writes for a variety of ages but his book, '*Powder Monkey*' is aimed at Years 5/6/7 and '*Eleven Eleven*', about WW1, is for Yr 6/7 upwards. *Sektion 20* and *Auslander* (nominated for the Carnegie Medal and Book Trust Teenage Prize) would be great for Year 8s and above. Paul is happy to talk to any number of students provided the space is suitable and can offer writing workshops for between 20-30 children. ***Eleven, Eleven* would tie in well with any work being done on the First World War.**

Linda Newbery (KS2 & 3) Highly regarded and award-winning author of many titles and writes for a variety of ages so could work for either primary or secondary aged students. *Set in Stone*, *The Shell House* and *Sisterland* are some of her titles for teenage readers, *The Sandfather*, *The Treasure House*, *Nevermore*, *Catcall* and *Blitz Boys* are amongst her titles for lower secondary ages. For the primary age range, she has written the popular 'Cat Tales' series and 'Barney the Boat Dog' series and the beautifully written 'Lucy and the Green Man'. She can offer talks for up to 100 and workshops which she can tailor according to fit in with elements of the curriculum for up to 15 students. suitable.



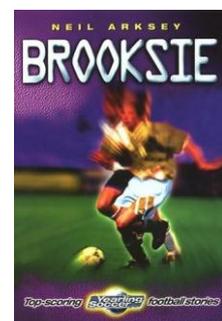
Helena Pielichaty (KS2 & 3) Author of many titles but her football books featuring a girls football team are particularly popular. *Here We Go (Girls FC)*, *Do Shinpads Come in Pink?* Her titles for older children include, *Clubbing Together*, *Accidental Friends* and *Never Ever*. Helena's talks are interactive and fun but also informative and she is happy to talk to large numbers of students providing the space is suitable. She is also happy to run writing workshops but these would be restricted to one class at a time.

Ali Sparkes (KS2 & 3) is the prize-winning author of 'the Shapeshifter' and 'Monstermakers' series, who provides fantastically entertaining session for children from Year 3 to Year 8. Her interactive, lively presentations work for up to 500+ or she can do entertaining workshops for up to 60, aimed at all abilities.

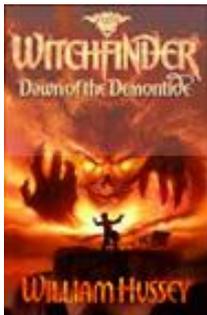


Mark Robson (KS2 & 3) is the author of exciting fantasy fiction for 10+ age group. His work includes *Dragon Orb* and the *Darkweaver* series. He delivers terrific sessions for the whole range through from reluctant readers through to Gifted & Talented pupils and his sessions are universally described as 'inspirational'. As well as talks which incorporate personal motivation and goal setting, he can also offer various creative writing workshops for ages 9 upwards, or he can run publishing workshops..

Neil Arksey (KS2 & 3) is an author, scriptwriter and performer who works particularly well with boys. In addition to traditional school author visits, he has devised and run a number of longer term projects geared towards increasing children's literacy skills and creativity. Much of the work he has done has been with children from disadvantaged backgrounds - enthusing reluctant readers in need of role models and inspiration, connecting them with books and writing, raising their confidence and boosting their self-esteem.

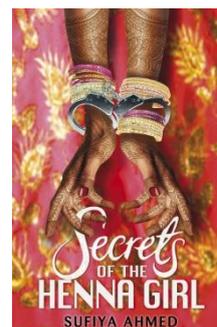


Secondary:

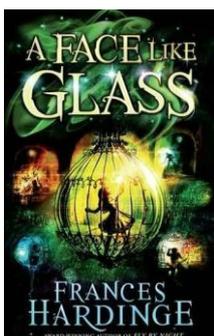


William Hussey (Yrs 7-9) is an author who can offer exciting workshops focused on creative writing and the historical background to his *Witchfinder* books. He can also give a *Witchfinder* talk to large groups which includes a dramatic reading (including the infamous JUMP! moment), and a Trial of a Witch. Pupils will play an interactive part in this Horrible Histories-style workshop. Funny and informative, the session provides a great introduction to 17th Century history and, in the final moments, draws parallels with the modern issue of bullying. William writes for the 11-13 group but is happy to work with older students. Writing workshops are for a maximum of 30 students.

Sufiya Ahmed is the author of the young adult novel 'Secrets of the Henna Girl' which explores the themes of forced marriage and family honour. The book has received much critical acclaim and has won a number of awards. In Sufiya's sessions she will use extracts from the book to spark discussion with students and there will be plenty of time for questions.



Tim Bowler (Yrs 7-10) Tim Bowler is one of the UK's most compelling and original writers for teenagers. He has been described by the Sunday Telegraph as 'the master of the psychological thriller' and by the Independent as 'one of the truly individual voices in British teenage fiction'. He has written over twenty books for teenagers and won fifteen awards, including the prestigious Carnegie Medal. His works include *River Boy*, *Storm Catchers*, *Starseeker*, *Sea of Whispers*, *Frozen Fire*, *Bloodchild*, *Buried Thunder* and the *BLADE* series.



Frances Hardinge is the award-winning author of a number of books on the theme of fantasy and witchcraft, like 'Fly by Night' which won the prestigious Branford Boase Award for first time novelists. She can offer talks, readings and Q & A sessions with KS3 students. She can also offer workshops for up to 30 students.

Paula Rawsthorne is the author of teenage novels 'The Truth about Celia Frost' and 'Blood Tracks'. She offers talks for 11-15 year olds that encourage students to get reading and writing and tells them the story of her path to publication. She encourages lots of student participation plus Q&A. She also incorporates readings from her novels. Paula can also provide creative writing workshops with classes. Topics include; how to build suspense in your stories, crime writing, writing short stories. She can deliver her general talk to a whole year group, but workshops are with a class at a time (approx 30 pupils).

