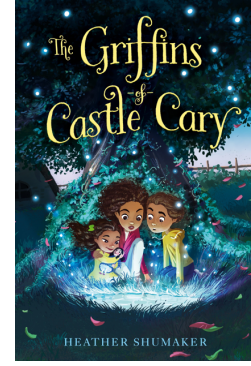




Heather Shumaker

School Author Programs



Think Like an Author – Assembly or Classroom visit
Grades 2-7; 45 minutes

Students learn to “think like an author” and turn events and feelings from daily life into ideas for stories. A playful mix of writing and inspiration, this presentation covers plot, point of view, vocabulary building, cultural differences in dialogue, revision and research. Presentation contains plenty of interactive activities for student volunteers and stories to get kids inspired about writing and reading.

Writing Workshop – Classroom visit
Grades 4-7; 30-45 minutes

Using a novel-in-progress, students work on predicting skills, story structure, word play, and imagery. Includes STEAM tie-ins mixing science facts with the power of story in fiction, as well as vocabulary building and revision.

Meet the Author – Classroom visit
Any age; 20 minutes

Tailored to your school. Ranges from informal author chats with younger K-2 students about writing books to Q & A with older students interested in characters, plot, and writing their own novels.



- ATOS Book Level 4.7
- AR Quiz available
- Teacher’s Guide available
- Standards-aligned
- Battle of the Books title
- Award – Best Children’s Fiction, Society of Midland Authors
- Literati Kids Book Club title

Heather is the author of *The Griffins of Castle Cary*, mystery/ adventure book for ages 8-12 published by Simon & Schuster. She’s co-host of the children’s book podcast BookSmitten.

Heather lives in Traverse City, MI

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School Author Visit Testimonials

“Thanks so much for being awesome! The kids said that of all the author visits they’ve had, that you taught them most about writing and knowing you weren’t instantly successful was the most inspiring.” ~ Jennifer Fruk, children’s librarian

“Fantastic. The kids were so engaged. Loved your story cape and how you explained story ideas – just what teachers want!”
~Martha Topol, school librarian

“Everyone loved the presentations, kids and teachers. So unique and engaging!” ~ Dana Frank, school librarian

“Just perfect for our students! Since the presentation, kids have been reading the book and haven’t wanted to put it down.”
~ Alissa Garbini, 3-5th grade teacher

“Incredibly inspiring! Our students were amused and captivated.”
~ Maria Bolos, school director



And from librarians...

“As a children’s librarian, I read a wide range of Middle Grade books. This one is a winner! The story starts out so sweet and bucolic...then takes many twists and turns before rushing to a satisfying end.” ~ Michele, children’s librarian

“Serves up just the right mixture of spookiness, suspense and action to grip a young reader. Explores timeless issues of loneliness and belonging, embracing at its core the universal human need for love, support and companionship. Nostalgically charming.”
~ Kathy, elementary school librarian

“The ultimate sibling kid adventure ever written. I felt like I had just watched an adventure Disney movie and wanted to know if there are more adventures. Five stars.”
~ Meghan, children’s librarian

Book Heather for your school

based in Traverse City, MI

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