

HAVE A GREAT AUTHOR VISIT with Trudi Trueit

One of the joys of being an author is connecting with students. Sharing my writing path and hearing about theirs, I always come away from the experience inspired and I hope my audience feels the same! Here are some tips to ensure your young readers and writers get the most out of our time together:

Read My Books

Being familiar with my work opens the door to discussing story structure, themes, characters, and more. It allows students to ask relevant questions about my writing and pose those that may assist with their own. Students can learn more about my books and me at www.trudittrueit.com.

Do Something Fun!

To engage readers and boost enthusiasm for my visit, why not design a fun project around my books? I've had students make their own *Explorer Academy* travel map, create artwork of their favorite character, or write fan fiction. Whatever project you do, I can't wait to see it!

Come with Questions

Have each student write out one or two questions for me before my visit. Students tend to ask more insightful questions when they've had time to think them through in advance.

Organize a Book Order

I don't sell my books but am happy to remain following my visit to sign books that students have purchased. To arrange a pre-order, contact your local independent bookstore two months prior to our event. The feedback I've received from booksellers indicates that students often get more excited about reading once they've met a writer, so you may choose to do an order *after* my presentation. If so, I'd be happy to personalize bookplates and send them following our event. Also, I can usually direct you to a bookseller that carries signed copies of my books, upon request.

Check the Tech

When the technology works as it's meant to, it's a beautiful (and stress-free) thing. My school presentation, typically, utilizes a PowerPoint presentation with video/audio on my laptop, which I bring, along with an HDMI cable to plug into the school's projector. To minimize issues, many schools prefer to use ALL of their own equipment. I'm happy to send my presentation ahead and/or bring it on a USB flash drive. Please provide a tech person to assist with set up. For groups larger than classroom size, it's wise to have one microphone for me and another to circulate during our Q&A. Also, please have an educator present to oversee all presentations and signings.

Creature Comforts

Offering me a quiet, comfortable place to relax between talks is appreciated.

Thank You and Enjoy!

Know that I am grateful for your hard work to make our event fun and memorable. I hope my visit helps spark a life-long love of reading and writing in your students!