

## HAVE A GREAT AUTHOR VIRTUAL 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 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. Learn more about my books and me at [www.trudittrueit.com](http://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 maps, 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. Also, rather than muting/unmuting students during our virtual Q&A, you may prefer to send me a list of questions ahead of our event that I can read aloud and answer.

### Organize a Book Order

I don't sell my books but am happy to send bookplates following my visit for students who have purchased books. To arrange a pre-order, please contact your local independent bookstore two months prior to my visit (it takes time to distribute/collect order forms and get the books). Upon request, I can usually direct you to a bookseller that carries signed copies of my books.

### Making Tech Magic

Ultimately, the success of our visit hinges on technology. Please let me know well in advance of our visit what platform you prefer. I have used Zoom, Google Hangouts, FaceTime, Teams, and Skype. If you'd like to hop online a few days before our event to practice, let me know. My typical school presentation utilizes a PowerPoint with video/audio. Also, please have an educator present to oversee all presentations.

### 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!