



YEARS 3 & 4 WORKSHOPS OUTLINE

Pleased to Meet You

The main character is the life force and the pulse of any story. In this workshop, we learn how to use a range of creative techniques to develop three interesting and original characters. But it's not enough to just create a character, we'll learn techniques which allow us to develop our character's appearance, their personality and their backstory. If you know how to ask characters the right questions, original plots and storylines evolve naturally. This workshop teaches the basics of plot development: we'll explore how the character's goal sets the direction for a story and how we can use this to develop suspense and action. We will also explore the skill of show, don't tell, in regard to developing interesting three-dimensional characters.

Please Note: Through the choice of activities, this workshop can be modified for younger students all the way through to Year 6.

The Ideas Factory

Our imaginations are all important when it comes to creating stories. Our workshop activities combine drawing and writing to kickstart your students' creativity and help generate visual imagery and original story ideas. In this workshop, we're travelling to the creative centre of the brain, better known as 'The Ideas Factory,' where all original ideas begin. We'll use sketching, writing and story mapping to create settings, characters and complications for two original stories.

In our first story, we'll go treasure hunting for characters and settings and then ask an all important storytelling starter - *What could happen to this character in this place?* We'll develop a range of plot possibilities and ideas to assist story development.

In our second story, we'll each develop an original character and explore how a character's goal moves a story forward. *What goals do characters have? Will your character achieve their goal?*

Please Note: it's possible to modify this workshop to cater for students from Years 1 through to Year 4.

Go Write

Designed to be fast paced and great fun, this workshop is a collection of writing prompts and activities designed to inspire, excite and encourage the creative writer in your students! This workshop combines writing, workshopping, teaching and group discussion to develop both writing skills and a creative mindset. Over the course of the workshop, your students will experiment with a three writing styles:

- Personal narrative.
- Imaginative writing.
- Reflective Writing. (This is an opportunity for students to reflect on their experience of the writing process.)

Along the way, we'll also consider some of the essential behaviours and attitudes required to be a good writer such as learning to pay attention to small details, bringing your five senses to the writing process and the importance of writing regularly. Writers create a selection of story seeds which can be further developed after the workshop. If you're looking for a way to develop a regular writing practice in your classroom, this is a great place to start.

Please Note: Through the choice of activities, this workshop can be modified for younger students all the way through to Year 7.

Make Up Your Mind

Winter or summer? City or country? Cats or dogs? What's your favourite book and why? How do you make up your mind and more importantly, how can you use language to persuade others to listen and take note of your opinions? This workshop focuses on the art of persuasive writing. It's fast paced, fun and guaranteed to get your students talking and writing about your ideas and opinions. I'll introduce a range of thinking tools to develop your critical thinking skills plus a simple framework to help you tackle questions, make up your mind and organise your thoughts and ideas. We will also learn how to structure a paragraph using the OREO model (Opinion, Reason, Example and Opinion +). We learn best when we have the opportunity to talk and listen to each other, so I'll make sure there's plenty of time to write and share together.

Out of This World (World Building)

When he was a young boy, C.S Lewis created Animal Land – a strange world of walking and talking animals. The hours Lewis spent writing and illustrating stories about this world, were the groundwork for the Narnia series. Now it's your students' turn to create a fantastical, fictional world. The Volcano Vortex. The Whispering Forest. The Crumbling Cliffs. Who knows where their imagination will take them? During the workshop, students will deep dive into world building as they draw maps and explore the many details that bring a fantasy world to life. Who lives in this land? What language do they speak? What plants and animals will you find there? If your students love drawing, writing and thinking in all sorts of creative and imaginative ways – this workshop is their ticket to travel into the world of fiction! This is also a great workshop if you're looking for an extended writing project. We'll build the fantasy world in the workshop and your teaching notes will guide you through the process of plotting and planning a story in your magical fantasy settings.

Choose Your Own Adventure

Choose your Own Adventure is a creative writing workshop that puts the writer straight into the heart of story. The Land of Imagination is under attack and the decisions your young writers make, and the options they choose determine exactly how their particular adventure story unfolds. Prompted by the game cards, your students will weave their way through the writing process and solve the problems that land before them. Both sides of the brain will get a workout here! Activities are designed to extend children's creative writing and thinking skills, as well as inspire a love of language and storytelling. Students will explore the concept of the hero's journey as they plot and plan a fantasy quest style story. There is plenty of scaffolding to allow all writers to feel a level of success. This is a great workshop if you're looking for an extended writing project. We'll develop a character and a basic plot. Your teaching notes will guide you through the process of writing this story.

If you would like to explore booking one of these workshops, please complete the enquiry form available at www.writeawaywithme.com/workshops