
Melissa Wiley

Virtual Author Visits 2020–2021

I love making virtual classroom visits!

Online author visits can be as fun and interactive as in-person visits. I genuinely love presenting to schools, homeschool groups, book clubs, and libraries via Zoom, Skype, WebEx, Google Meet, or other platforms. As an author, writing coach, and public speaker, I have decades of experience in engaging students with lively and inspirational presentations.



Scheduling

I can provide flexible scheduling options that work for your group, whether you're meeting in person, virtually, or a combination. All programs are also available for public libraries and homeschool groups. Please contact me via email (melissawileybooks@gmail.com) for booking information and further details.

Programs

I offer interactive 45–60 minute sessions customized to your students' needs, engaging kids with readalouds, writing activities, and Q&A time. Offerings include:

Behind the Scenes of *The Nerviest Girl in the World* (grades 3–6)

I'll read a scene from the book and **share the inside scoop on the writing process**, including:

- where ideas come from;
- how I approach historical research;
- my secret source of inspiration;
- and the journey from spark to finished book.

Along the way, we'll take a look at my **marked-up manuscript pages to see editing and copyediting in action!** (Students say this is their favorite part of my presentation—discussing editorial comments and witnessing the revision process firsthand.)

Grades 3 and up. Note to California 4th-grade teachers: *Neraviest Girl* is a good tie-in to your CA history studies! [Check out my teacher resource post at Random House Teachers & Librarians for loads of fun tie-in activities.](#)

Fox and Crow Are Not Friends (grades K–3)

We'll meet two determined rivals from a famous fable—and find out what happened next in their story! This flexible presentation can be as simple as a readaloud and Q&A, or you may opt for a storycrafting activity in which kids create new adventures for characters from classic tales. We'll brainstorm together and spin a tale as a group. For younger students, this is an oral activity. For 3rd-graders, it may include a short writing component if you wish.

Insect Fun with Inch & Roly (grades K–2)

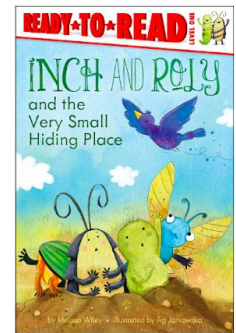
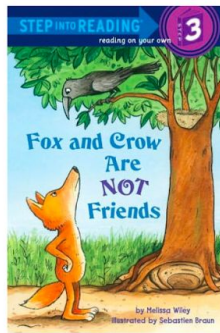
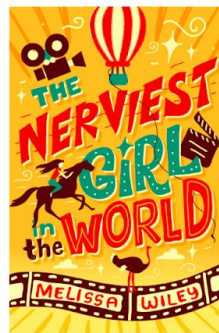
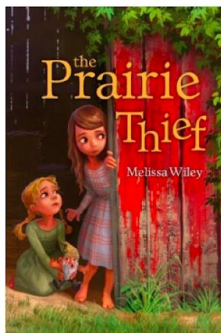
Storytime with all the voices! For emergent readers, I offer a lively readaloud with an optional, easy, insect-themed craft. (Materials needed: one long strip of construction paper per student, plus something to draw a face with.) As always, there's plenty of time for Q&A.

Pricing

\$300 for one session (up to 30 students)

\$800 for three sessions

Scheduling now! Please contact me at melissawileybooks@gmail.com.



Feedback from kids and teachers

Melissa,

What a gift you gave us yesterday! I am amazed at your kind and engaged presence in our book club. Thank you for spending your morning with us and for sharing so much. Thank you also for your book *The Nerviest Girl in the World*. It was a fantastic read for our group and it brought out several deep conversations. Your book allowed the kids to dive into figurative language and explore their own work with it.

With gratitude,

Kaitlin Cavallaro

Dear Ms. Melissa Wiley,

I really like all of the idioms you put in the book, some of them made me laugh. I have used the simile of arms or legs feeling like noodles after reading your story. I like that visual of noodle arms. Out of all the things Pearl could be made afraid of, I think caterpillars is funny. Thank you for coming to book club and for answering our questions.

Dear Ms. Wiley,

Thank you for your visit to our book club! I am so glad we got this opportunity, and thank you for staying for almost an hour! The visit was amazing— and I am so glad you got to answer some of my questions! It was very fun and you were a super great listener. Thank you for coming to our meeting!

Dear Ms. Wiley,

Thank you for participating in our class today. We enjoyed having you and you made it a really special lesson. I especially liked how you took the time to ask us our questions we had for you and gave thoughtful answers. Thank you again for coming.