

How to Have the Greatest Author Visit in the History of the ENTIRE UNIVERSE:

I've been writing books and visiting schools for almost 20 years. After visiting hundreds of schools and presenting to tens of thousands of students, I know that bringing an author into your school can be an amazing opportunity to inspire even your most reluctant writers.

I will always work my hardest to give your school the best presentation I can, but I can only do so much. Advance preparation by teachers, librarians, and administration will assure that any author visit is a fun, worthwhile experience for everybody. Preparing the students will make the visit an unforgettable experience for your students and staff.

Here are some tips that will help you get the most bang for your buck.

Make sure that the students know an author is coming!

It sounds simple, but I have visited schools only to find that the students had no idea who I was or why I was at their school.



Make a bulletin board.



Decorate your lobby.



Make a banner in art class.

Introduce students to the author's work!

Students will be much more excited about a visit if they have some sort of connection with the author and some knowledge about what that author does.

- Ask trivia questions during your daily announcements
- Have a school newspaper write a story about the visit
- Share books in classrooms
- Write and share reviews of the author's books



Make a display in the hall.



Make an author spotlight.



Make library shelf tags.

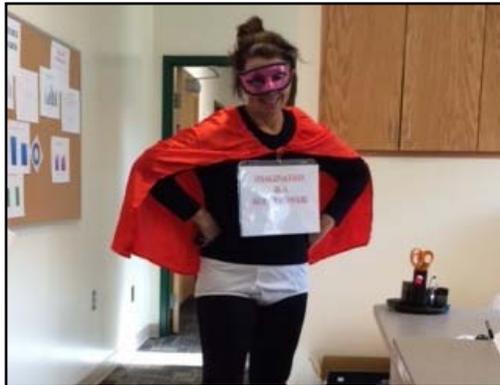
Get staff and students involved. Make it fun!

Teachers and students are amazingly creative. Include art, music, and PE classes!

Here are some ingenious ideas to get you started.



Make author bucks.



Dress up as characters.



Decorate classroom doors.



Write a class play based on a book.



Make tiny desk sculptures



Tattoo your students!



Make a costume for the author.



Make class hats.



Bake a cake!

But most importantly - Keep it fun!

The more you put into an author visit, the more your school will benefit.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions. Thank you!

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