

## TESTIMONIALS

Dianne's information & artifacts are engaging for children and adults alike! She took us right into the real life process of making a picture book. But don't take my word for it! Here are some words from her 2nd grade audience: "Wonderful", "Captured my imagination", "I felt like I was in a peaceful ocean."

Becky Pursley, 2nd Grade teacher, Barton Hills Elementary (Austin, Texas)



## TESTIMONIALS

I just wanted to thank you again for an outstanding presentation. ALL of the teachers were thrilled with what you did! I will be looking for your new books in the future!

Jodi Chester, 2nd Grade Teacher, North Ranch Elementary (Scottsdale, AZ)

I liked when the wind blew boldly and the man's hat got blown off. Mrs. White is a really good reader.

Kaden Farnsworth, Kindergartener, Eduprize (Gilbert, AZ)

It was a delight to have you visit Eduprize. Even now, weeks after your visit, students continue to talk to me about your splendid program. THANK YOU!

Tanja Bauerle, Visiting Author Committee, Eduprize (Gilbert, AZ)

Dianne has a natural grace and calming warmth which welcomes everyone she meets. The children sat in awe as she read BLUE on BLUE and we were, adults and kids, enthralled with the story of the book's journey to publication.

Rebecca Wise-Eklund, Arcadia Neighborhood Learning Center (Scottsdale, AZ), parent and former teacher

For more information, please contact Dianne at:

DIANNE@DIANNEWRITES.COM C: (661) 755-9093 ★ H: (480) 366-4593 WWW.DIANNEWRITES.COM



WWW.DIANNEWRITES.COM



## WORKSHOPS

Workshops are appropriate for smaller groups of students, and are adjusted according to the grade level of the children. Below is a sampling of the types of workshops available:

#### BEHIND-THE-SCENES:

In this class or multi-class presentation, I'll talk about my life as a writer and provide a candid look inside the creative process from story spark to draft, revision to publication. I'll share an editor's revision notes, an illustrator's preliminary "sketch dummy," initial color proofs, and we'll have a look at the artistic collaboration of author, illustrator, editor, and art director. (*Grades K-6*)

### THE EXTRAORDINARY ORDINARY:

In this hands-on workshop, I'll talk about the importance of observation as a "way in" to writing a poem. We'll consider a handful of poems, noticing how the poet describes each subject in fresh way. Then, we'll study a photo of a familiar creature (a bee or dragonfly, for example) and collect words, looking with a poet's eye to see how the extraordinary often hides within the familiar. We'll begin a class poem together and guide students as they write their own. (*Grades K-6*)

#### START WITH WONDER:

Like fiction, nonfiction often begins as a spark. Something catches our attention, curiosity, or sense of wonder, and we're off! Excitement grows as we discover the voice, structure, and format that will make our words jump off the page.

In this workshop, we'll look at the differences between expository and narrative nonfiction, and provide an overview of the process from spark to plan, research to draft, revision to final edited manuscript. I'll share examples from mentor texts as well as excerpts from my own work. We'll finish with a "wonder-filled" quick write activity. (*Grades 2-4*)

#### PIECING A STORY PUZZLE:

In this hands-on workshop, students will learn the elements of a good story: character and setting, problem and solution, story arc, and the use of appropriate, specific details. We'll share a mentor text and identify the story elements. Students will then innovate on the example to create their own story. Kindergarten and 1st grade students will write a group story. 2nd and 3rd graders will write their own. (*Grades K-3*)

## **ASSEMBLIES**

Working with large groups of students, I'll talk about my life as a writer. Younger audiences usually have a stronger interest in my picture books. Older audiences are often curious about the collaboration of author, illustrator, editor, art director, and the process of creating a book from story idea to draft, revision to publication.

While this program varies depending on the age of the participating students, its ultimate goal remains the same: each one of us has a story to share in a voice uniquely our own. Sharing these stories is a privilege and as much a gift to oneself as to those who read or hear them.

# SCHOOL VISIT FEE SCHEDULE:

**Local, Phoenix Metro rates:** 

SINGLE PRESENTATION:

1/2 DAY: (2 PRESENTATIONS)

FULL DAY: (3-4 PRESENTATIONS)

Please inquire for more information on fees and presentations, including venues outside the Phoenix metro area.

