



Benefits of Author and Illustrator Visits

Do you want to be sure that kids are reading? Introduce them to the bookpeople who create books! There is no literacy event quite as exciting and guaranteed to succeed at getting kids involved with books as connecting them with authors or illustrators. There's something so wonderful for all of us in meeting the creators of the books we love, and kids feel that too! That's why those of us who advocate connections with bookpeople put so much focus on connecting kids with authors and illustrators in libraries and schools.

New Understanding. Kids dig deeply into the design, content, and theme of books when they know that they will have a chance to meet the books' creator, have an opportunity to ask questions, and engage in dialogue.

New Focus. Kids experience a collective focus on books, reading, and literacy as a library or school engages its community in advance preparations for the visit.

New Horizons. Kids learn that real people, like themselves, make careers of writing or creating art. For many kids, this is the first opportunity they have to connect with someone in the arts who might serve as a role model.

New Attachments. Kids feel a strong attachment to the books of the authors and illustrators with whom they have visited.

New Connections. Kids connect with all books in a more meaningful way after they have met an author or illustrator and better understand the process of conceiving an idea and bringing it to print.