Brian Falkner

School and Festival Visits - Planning Guide

ABOUT BRIAN

Brian is an internationally acclaimed, award-winning author and writing coach. Known for his energy and humour, he delivers dynamic workshops that inspire and challenge young writers, making his sessions highly sought after.



PRESENTATION

Brian shares his journey to becoming an author, along with the stories behind the stories. Blending humour, drama, and practical advice, he offers young writers valuable insights and inspiration.

Setup:

- Large TV OR Data-projector (with sound)
- Small table or lecturn
- Microphone (for larger groups)

Number of Students: Any
Time: 45 - 60 minutes



BOOKS

Brian's writing is engaging, imaginative, and rich with thrilling plots, unforgettable characters, and thought-provoking themes. Spanning genres from science fiction and fantasy to historical fiction and adventure, his books appeal to a broad audience, captivating readers with their depth, creativity, and storytelling. Check them out here: brianfalkner.com/books



RESOURCES

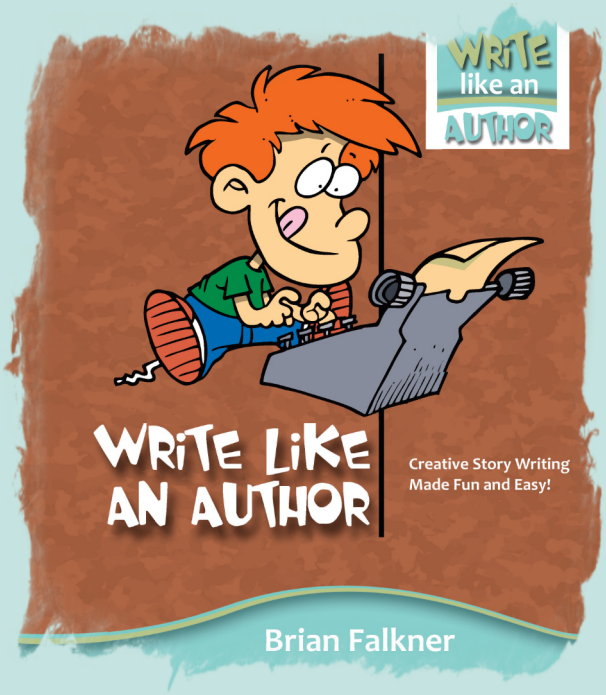
General guide to author visits:
booklinks.org.au/author-visits
Posters to promote the visit:
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Workshops - Topics and Planning Guide

WORKSHOPS



Brian's internationally acclaimed writing course teaches students the skills they need to "write like an author".

Setup:
- Large TV OR Data-projector (with sound)
- Small table or lecturn
- Pen and paper (for students)
- Workbooks are available at a small cost

Number of Students: 20 - 30
Time: 60 - 90 minutes

WORKSHOP TOPICS

Choose from the following workshops or ask for a specific topic
1. The Story Lab *(a fun workshop for young writers)*
2. Basic Training *(planning and outlining a story)*
3. Heroes and Villains *(character development and conflict)*
4. Word Warriors *(narration, description, dialogue and action)*
5. Ticking Time Bombs *(suspense and tension)*
6. Book Talk *(Panel discussion led by teacher with audience questions)*
7. Unlocking Creativity in the Classroom *(PD for teachers)*

STORYSPORTS



StorySports™ turns writing workshops into a competitive sport with quick-fire games that test participants' creativity, imagination, and story-writing skills.

Setup:
- Large TV OR Data-projector (with sound)
- Small table

Number of Students:
- 12 - 24 Contestants
- Any size audience

Time: 60 - 90 minutes
- Contestants should be pre-selected in teams of 4
- Enthusiastic writers make the best contestants!
- Team tables should be set aside from the audience
- Judges will be Brian and up to 2 teachers

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Testimonials

"I felt quite confident that he would engage my students and he did not disappoint today. He was very obliging with my requests and today has proved himself, once again, a flexible and engaging speaker.

He had two separate audiences of 50 and 80 children, doing two different activities, one following the other. Some authors might feel flustered by such a challenge, however he managed the whole day with a calm and professional attitude. Brian did an excellent job of lighting the spark for our writers; he entertained and challenged the year 6 cohort with a Story Sports session and he finished the day with a focus on Improving the Story with the young writers.

Some of the ideas that these children shared with us were not only imaginative but quite sophisticated. It really is a joy to see what young writers are capable of when they have a good stimulus, a clear plan and someone who will fan the spark with enthusiasm. Judging from some of the feedback from my students, it will be extremely hard to keep a copy of Brian's books on my shelves. I would heartily recommend him for any school looking for an obliging and engaging speaker."

"Brian provides practical writing strategies in his workshops for the students. He engages the students with humour and has good management skills."

"Brian was incredibly engaging. His material was well pitched for the age of students, and he balanced humour and insights wonderfully well. He was a delight to work with."

"Brian was outstanding. He is very knowledgeable, funny and entertaining. Students loved their experience and produced some great work."

"I've never before seen the Year 6 students (particularly the boys), so engaged with any presenter."

"Brian was entertaining, engaging and so well-organised! The little activities he planned were relevant to the unit and super effective. All of the students enjoyed the visit and his clever sense of humour. I thought Brian was great at engaging multiple students and his content appealed to them. My students thought he was great and really appreciated how he interacted with them on a personal level. As a teacher, I found his explanation of the importance of character in a story, really insightful."

"Brian Falkner's talk for Year 8 students is truly excellent. With his profound knowledge of literature and his engaging speaking style, Falkner delivers a lecture that captivates and educates young minds. His ability to connect with students on their level while introducing them to complex literary concepts is remarkable. Through his interactive and informative lecture, Falkner ignites a passion for reading, writing, and storytelling among Year 8 students. By blending entertainment and education, he creates an impactful learning experience that leaves a lasting impression. Brian Falkner's lecture for Year 8 is a testament to his dedication to fostering a love for literature and learning in young individuals."

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