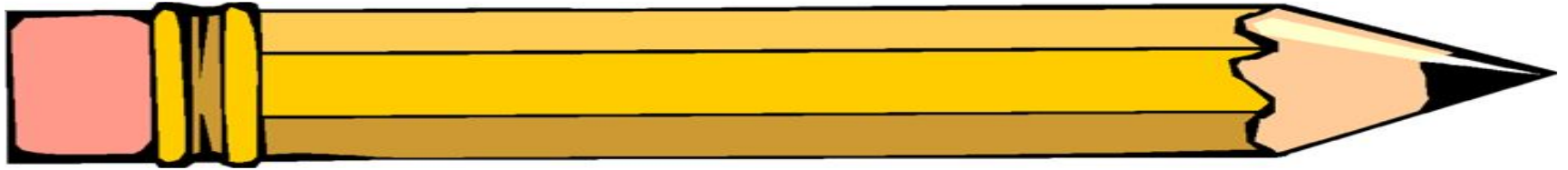


The Write Start



Building a Young Writers' Community in Your Library

Caitlin M. Corless, Essex Free Library
ccorless@essex.org

This kid wanted to be a writer
when she grew up:



(She still does!)

So, she decided to
write some books.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

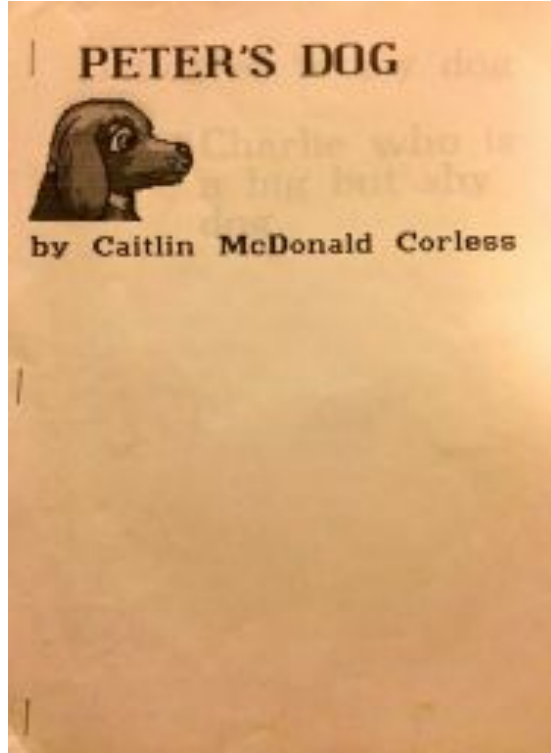
Caitlin Corless was born on March 14, 1984. She grew up in Connecticut in a little town called Plainville. she loves to read and write. She likes to draw, too. One day she would like to become a children's author and illustrator. Her hobbies are soccer, skating, basketball, gymnastics, baseball, and especially writing and drawing. She wrote *Nobody's Perfect* and other books such as *The Ravioli Down Pour*.

Look out for other books such as:
The Pound Christmas Kitten
The Ravioli Down Pour
Best friends
The Magic Carpet

And much more!



Best Sellers Included:



THE GOLDEN NUGGET

by Caitlin McDonald Corless



THE TOMBOY



by Cailtin Mc Donald Corless



by **Cailtin Mc Donald Corless**



Her parents and
sisters loved her
books and gave
them all 5 stars.



One day, a visiting writer came to visit her fourth grade class.





She was so excited
to get to work with
a REAL WRITER!

But it turned out that the REAL WRITER was sort of a jerk and wasn't very good with kids. He pointed out all of the things that were wrong with her writing.

When she went home that day, she cried and cried and cried, and told her parents she didn't want to be a writer anymore.



Wouldn't it have been great if
she'd had a group that
encouraged her to write, a
group that helped her express
her creativity, a space where
she could share her work?
(This is where we step in!)

Creative Writing at the Library!





(For the record, Miss Zarzicki was awesome. When she heard I went home and cried, she told the guy off and convinced me to keep writing!)

"Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once (s)he grows up."

-Pablo Picasso

Do you like to write?

Join us for our
Drop-In Creative
Writing Workshop!



CREATive writing is
about CREATIVITY

~~Grammar~~

~~Spelling~~

~~Perfection~~

Cutting edge technology
like this not necessary





If possible, purchase a notebook and pencil for every kid. Gives young writers more pride and ownership of their work.

Real Chocolate Chip Cookies

**Chips
Ahoy!**

MINI
Chewy



NEW!
MINI
CHIPS
AHOY!

NET WT 10.5 OZ (298g)

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Connecting with Schools

- Make arrangements to meet at the School
 - After School Program
- Contact teachers and librarians to spread the **word**



The Writing
Club

at Essex Free
Library
Wednesday
3:30-4:30

knows the way to anywhere

ESSEX FREE LIBRARY WRITING CLUB

Please Come Because:

Essex Free Library is doing a writing club Wednesday after school!! Please bring your child in. It's free, and there will be a snack. Please tell friends that this is happening and it's for kids 9 and up. You don't need to come every time. Please pass the word.

We are trying to make a Magazine and need your help.

PLEASE COME

Essex Free Library,
Wednesdays 3:30-4:30

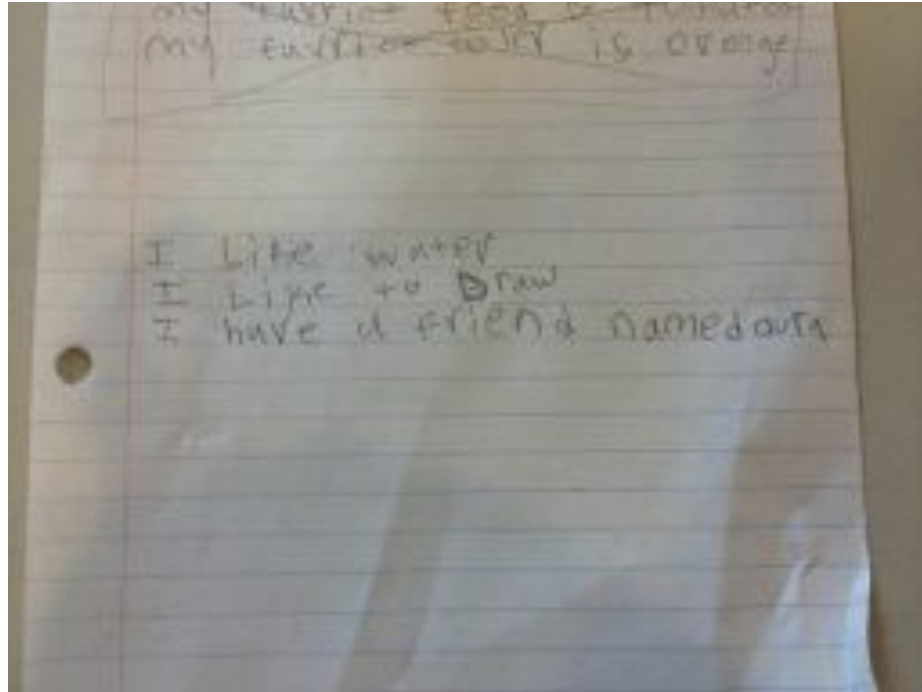
Thanks

Creative Writing Workshops

- Writing Prompts - Ideas to start writing
- Writing Exercises
- Games!

Fiction or Nonfiction?

(2 Truths & a Lie)



Bio Poem

How to Write a Biopoem

(Line 1) First name

(Line 2) Three or four adjectives that describe the person

(Line 3) Important relationship (daughter of _____, mother of _____, etc.)

(Line 4) Two or three things, people, or ideas that the person loved

(Line 5) Three feelings the person experienced

(Line 6) Three fears the person experienced

(Line 7) Accomplishments (who composed _____, who discovered _____, etc.)

(Line 8) Two or three things the person wanted to see happen or wanted to experience

(Line 9) His or her residence

(Line 10) Last name

Writing Exercises

"Writing from the Heart"

Keep a collection of things you know or care about so that you never suffer writer's block.

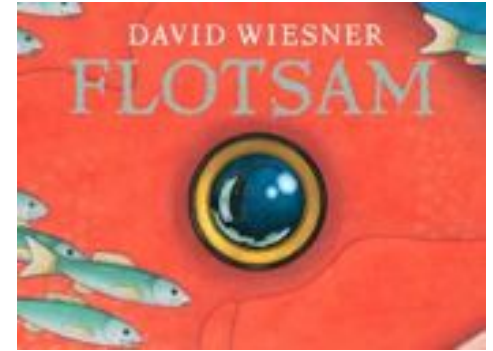
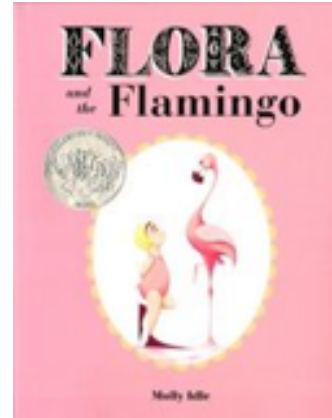
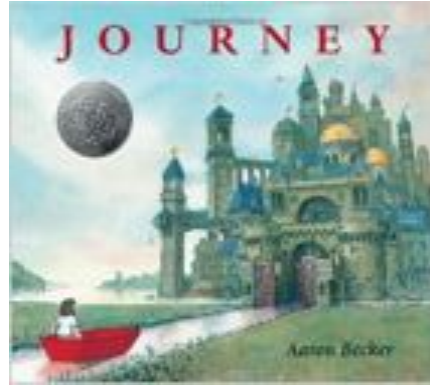
http://www.scholastic.com/content/collateral_resources/pdf/h/HPLes_Son1_Final.pdf



PopSicle Stick Prompt



Wordless Picture Books



Have writers write (or tell) what they see happening in the illustrations. Who are the main characters? What is the setting? What challenges does the character face and overcome?

Photo Prompts



Getty Images. *Trunkful*. 13 December 1956. Photograph. London, England.



Newspix / Rex Features. *Dog Helps A Little Girl Drink From A Water Fountain*. 2012. Photograph. Brisbane, Australia.

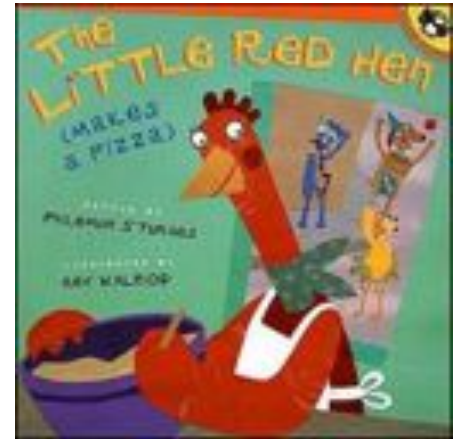
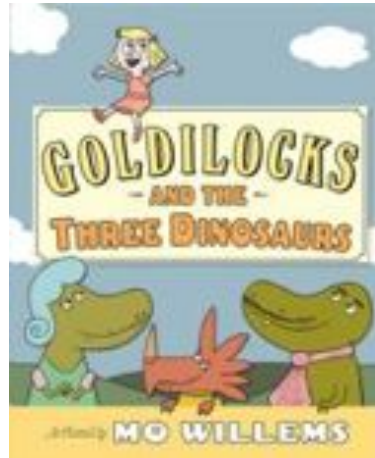
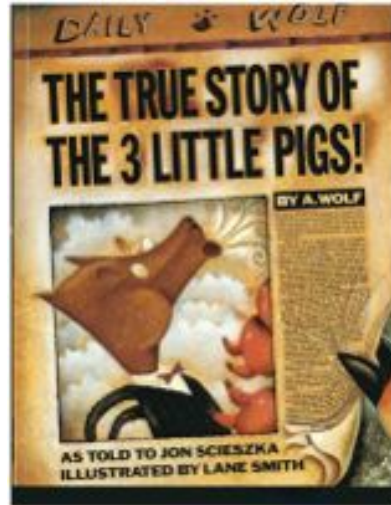
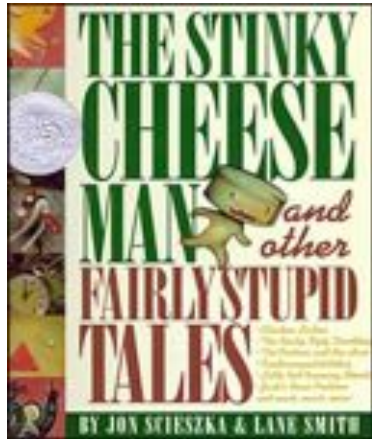


Match the dog to the owner. Explain.



Fractured Fairy Tales

Stories that use fairy tales you know and then change the characters, the setting, points of view, or plots.



SCHOLASTIC

STORY STARTERS

Choose a Story Starter theme



STORY STARTERS

ADVENTURE

To win a Story Starter, do the SPIN game. The Spin Wheel randomly picks a story genre, and the wheel spins out story starters. Write a paragraph in a journal inspired by the genre & starter provided.

When I get home,	is able	dreams	the teacher is

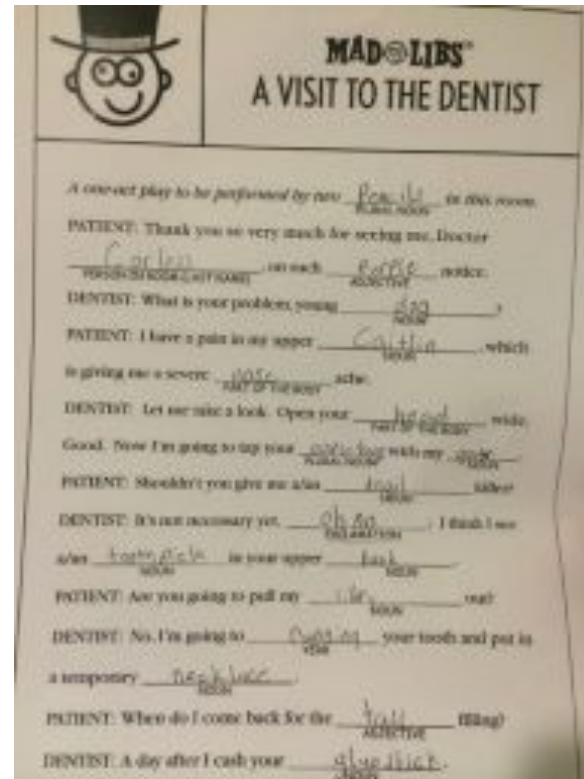
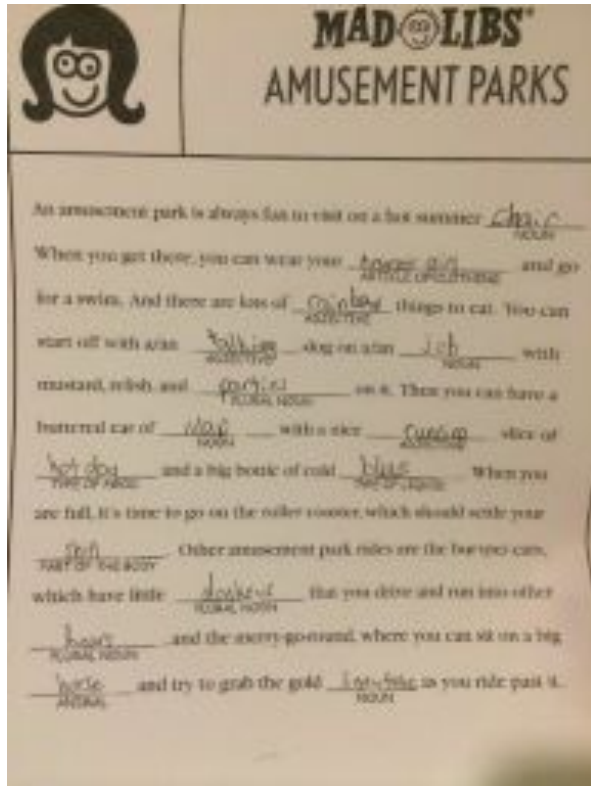
SPIN

- Spin That wheel
- Spin That wheel
- Spin That wheel
- Spin That wheel

Paper Telephone



Mad Libs



Warning: Writers may be tempted to be a bit inappropriate.

Write Your Own!



MAD LIBS
Write Your Own

Directions

1. Start by writing a story, fairy tale, wit, letter, or how-to paragraph on the First Draft sheet.
2. Use a highlighter to mark at least ten important story words.
3. For each highlighted word, look up several of its meanings in a dictionary.
4. List the parts of speech on the Cue List in the same order they appear in the story.
5. Once you have made your cue list, rewrite your story on the Final Draft sheet, replacing the highlighted words with blanks.
6. Write the appropriate cue in parentheses under the blank.
7. Ask a classmate to supply words that fit your Cue List.
8. Transfer your classmate's Cue List words into the appropriate blanks on your Final Draft.
9. Have fun reading the Mad Libs! with your classmate!

For the talkative crew...

- Conversations!
 - Set up scenario
 - Pair up
 - Write!



Encourage writers to
share, but don't pressure
them!

When Someone is Sharing,

- Listen.
- Respond with respect and encouragement!
- Concentrate on the positives:
 - "What did the writer do well? What did you like about it?"

You write,
too!

"That was actually
pretty good..."

...said judge Michael
One day a man came to a
judge. The judge lived in
a castle. The judge was not
well liked because he was not
a very fair judge. He took
people to jail for no reason
at all. First of these
people were the librarians
who lived in the castle.
If he could like the looks
of someone said said then
he jail.
One day while he was at
the public library the
librarian told him he had
an overdue book. He felt
become nervous and decided
he didn't like the librarians
at all and he went his
way to the castle jail.
The judge was done. The judge
On the way to the castle
at started to rain.

Poetry Slams & Open Mics

- Open mics for poetry, music, some karaoke.
:)
- Coffeehouse atmosphere
 - Baked goods, drinks
- Sound system, microphone if possible to make it OFFICIAL







Circle Readings

Unintimidating, welcoming, and
respectful atmosphere

Other Opportunities

- Young Writers Project
 - <http://youngwritersproject.org/>
- PBS Kids Writers Contest
 - <http://www.vpt.org/writers>
- Center for Cartoon Studies <http://www.cartoonstudies.org/index.php/programs/Summer-workshops/>

Author Visits

- Jo Knowles
- S.S. Taylor
- Rachel Carter
- Doris Weeks
- Jane Manning

A Writers' Workshop with Jo Knowles!



Come meet and work
with the author of
See You at Harry's,
a new DCF book!

Saturday, April 6th
at 2:00 at
Essex Free Library



AUTHOR VISIT



Meet S.S. Taylor,
author of the
DCF book
"The Expeditioners!"

August 2nd at
6:30 at
Essex Free Library





Teen Spoken Word Workshop

By [Poetry Foundation](#)

Tuesday, April 21, 6:00pm - 8:00pm
April 21, 2015

Overnight, Vermont

Find your voice with performance poet Lisa Pisk. In this one-night event, you'll be reading with a chance to learn Spoken Word as highly dynamic, theatrical and growing form of poetry.

This workshop is geared towards women ages 15 to 20. Please bring notebook, pen, and your enthusiasm! This is a free event.

www.speakingpoetry.com

Rachel Carter, author of the So Close to You trilogy



Vermont Author Contacts

<http://libraries.vermont.gov/sites/libraries/files/cbec/ProgramDirectory12.pdf>

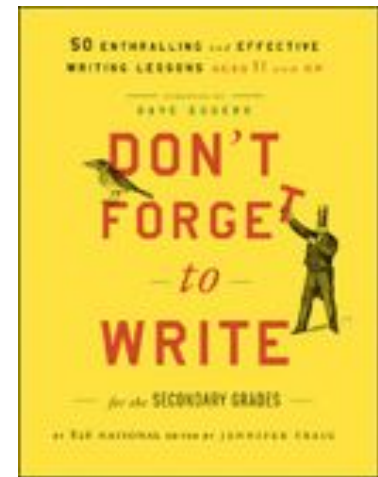
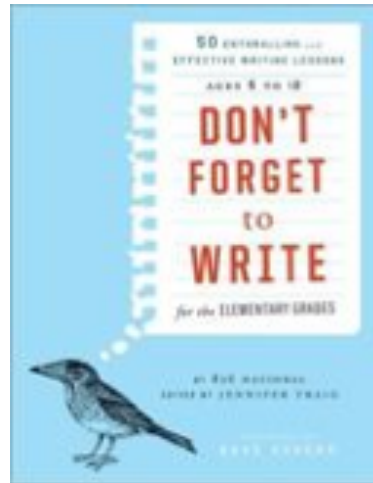
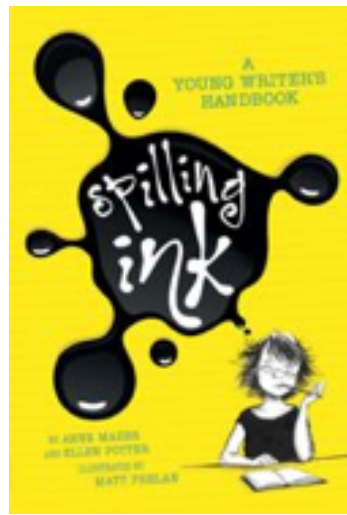
<http://libraries.vermont.gov/sites/libraries/files/cbec/vermontauthorillustrator14.pdf>

Skyping with Authors

Some authors offer free 15-20 minute Skype sessions with book clubs and classes.

<http://www.katemeSSner.com/authors-who-skype-with-classes-book-clubs-for-free/>

Some Great Writing Books!



Excerpt from the Golden Nugget:

The next day he went to the Plainville Public Library. He brought his rock with him to see if it was a golden nugget or not. He walked up to her and asked. She smiled and said, "It sure is."

THE

THE

THE

END

END!

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