

“Wendel Wordsworth: No Words for Wendel”

Author School Visit

Pre-K - 2

Time: Approx. 35 minutes

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Frequently Asked Questions

HOW MANY STUDENTS PER SESSION?

The number of students per session generally does not exceed 50. Please contact author to discuss general assembly options.

HOW LONG IS THE PRESENTATION?

An average presentation is 35 minutes. Please contact author to discuss general assembly options or if a longer presentation is needed.

WHAT DOES THE AUTHOR CHARGE FOR VISITS?

At this time the only cost for classroom visits is mileage for driving distances 50 miles or more. Please contact author to discuss general assembly costs.

To help defray expenses, the author requests book order forms be sent home with students several days in advance of visit. These printable forms are available on the website with space to add the name of the school and date of visit.

WHAT DOES THE AUTHOR “DO” DURING A VISIT?

The author has as much fun during her visit as the students! Generally each session begins with the song “Wendel Wordsworth, What Are You Reading?” (The author sings with flair and animation holding a miniature Wendel!) Following that, introductions with students and on to a lively discussion about how she came to write and illustrate her book, *Wendel Wordsworth: No Words for Wendel*.

Then it’s time to read the book to students, with occasional stops for discussion and questions about what might be coming next.

At the close of the story, more active discussion not only about the storyline, characters and plot, but many times students are also equally interested in the “life of an author.” The author “reads” the direction of the students’ interest and encourages discussion based on their curiosity.

The author then asks students to join with her to sing, one last time, the Wendel song.

NOTE: If the visit takes place at the end of the school year, the author uses the opportunity to encourage summer reading by relating it to Wendel’s story. If the visit occurs at the beginning of the school year, again, discussion about summer reading, this time, what students read over their break.

WHAT SPECIAL NEEDS DOES THE AUTHOR HAVE?

Just ample room for her to move about, engaging with students (she likes to stand during her readings), and a CD player or computer to play the song track.

WHAT ARE STUDENT BENEFITS & CURRICULUM COVERED DURING A VISIT?

Students are encouraged to interact with a professional author/illustrator/songwriter. The author, during the introduction phase of the presentation, looks and smiles at each student so that at least once during the session, she makes eye contact with every child. This builds confidence in the student and a sense that they are equal in the eyes of someone who they may admire.

Each student is given ample opportunity to ask questions, to sing along and to even be a little silly with the presenter. The author believes that this form of interaction builds self-esteem even in the most timid of students. The story is important, what can be enjoyed and learned from it, but for this author, it's as vital that students come away from the time they spend together with a little better sense of *who they are*.

The following curriculum, depending on time and student participation, may be touched upon:

- Language
- Science
- Social Studies
- Math
- Health & Safety

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