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# TESTIMONIALS

“Debra was engaging and fun! Our students enjoyed learning about the writing process from beginning to end. I love how she discussed using “chewy” verbs and figurative language to make our writing more interesting and artistic!”

-4th Grade Teacher, Zielanis Elementary, Kiel,, WI

“Debra’s presentation was so engaging! My students loved acting out the different animal adaptations and even the teachers were buzzing with comments on the particularly odd ones. We would love to have Debra back in the future!”

-Stefanie Riddle, Librarian, Poplar Tree Elementary, Chantilly, VA.



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# ABOUT DEBRA



Debra Kempf Shumaker is the author of both fiction and nonfiction picture books. Her titles include *Freaky, Funky Fish*; *Peculiar Primates*; *Tell Someone*, and *Wind Is a Dance*.

When she isn’t writing, she is probably outside on a walk, reading, or watching *Jeopardy*.

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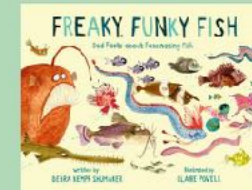
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# DEBRA KEMPF SHUMAKER

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CHILDREN’S AUTHOR

## Debra’s Books



## Author Programs

2025-2026  
School Year



# PROGRAM OFFERINGS

I love exciting kids about science and writing! As a former corporate trainer, I know the importance of interaction and bringing energy to a presentation.

RATES FOR 2025-2026  
SCHOOL YEAR\*:

## In-Person Visits:

- **Full Day - \$1000** (3 Full Presentations + 1 Simple Story Time, if desired) PLUS expenses if 40+ miles from Sterling, VA.
- **Half Day - \$500** (1 Full Presentation + 1 Simple Story Time) available for LOCAL visits only.

## Virtual Visits:

- **Simple Story Time - \$100**
- **One Full Presentation: \$200**
- **Full Day \$500** (3 Full Presentations)

\*See complete details at [debrashumaker.com](http://debrashumaker.com).  
I can personalize/adapt programs and budget.  
Just reach out!

*I also present at public libraries—writing presentations for adults and story time and crafts for kids. Reach out to me for programs/pricing!*

## FULL PRESENTATIONS:

### ANIMAL ADAPTATIONS (GRADES K-5+):

*Freaky, Funky Fish* and *Peculiar Primates* introduces students to fascinating adaptations that many animals have. After a discussion on animal classification and different types of adaptations, we use one book to explore in more detail, followed by a Q&A Session.

Typical program is 45-60 minutes for upper grades, slightly shorter for younger grades. I include a high level overview of the writing process for upper grades.

### METAPHOR AND METEOROLOGY MADNESS (GRADES 2-3, 4-5+):

Using metaphors in *Wind Is a Dance* as examples, I discuss how metaphors can help with understanding abstract concepts. We'll discuss the science behind various winds and other weather related terms. As a group, we'll come up with new metaphors for various types of weather, followed by a Q&A session.

Typical program is 45 - 60 minutes for Grades 4-5, slightly shorter for Grades 2-3.

### IS IT A BOOK YET? FROM IDEA TO PUBLISHED BOOK (GRADES 4-5+):

I discuss the writing process for fiction and nonfiction—from brainstorming ideas to research to drafting and revising—by using examples from my books. Students also learn about the publishing process, followed by a Q&A session.

Typical program is 45-60 minutes. It's geared towards Grades 4-5+ but can be adapted for Grades 2-3.

### NONFICTION WRITING (GRADES 4-5+):

I discuss types of nonfiction, researching, weaving facts into story, revision, and verifying facts. Students also learn about the publishing process, followed by a Q&A session.

Typical program is 45-60 minutes. It's geared towards Grades 4-5+ but can be adapted for Grades 2-3.

## SIMPLE STORY TIME:

For younger grades, including preschool, an optional and interactive reading from one of my books and a song or two can be done instead of a full program from above. About a 20 minute program.