

School Visits with Author and Educator Laurie Morrison!

Presentation Options (all 40-60 minutes and ideal for grades 5-8)

Persistence on the Path to Publication

This presentation chronicles my journey as an author—from a kid who loved to read novels but didn't think I was creative enough to write them to an adult who found the courage and inspiration to try. I share my experiences of persevering through many, many rejections and disappointments before my first book sold, and I emphasize the benefits of resilience and flexibility, showing kids how I was able to "recycle" my favorite elements of my early manuscripts and work them into stronger, more original new stories that are now on shelves.

From Inspiration to Publication: A Behind-the-Scenes Look at the Book of Your Choice

This presentation briefly chronicles my journey from kid-reader to published author and then offers a behind-the-scenes look at the writing, editing, and publishing process for one of my novels (your choice). I offer an in-depth look at how publishing works and how one particular novel came to be, including all the setbacks, roadblocks, and triumphs along the way.

What's My Process? That depends...

One of the questions I get most often is, "What is your writing process like?" and the honest answer is, "I wish I knew!" My process varies widely from one project to the next. Some of my books have taken me months to write, and some have taken years. For some, the final book is pretty darn close to the story I set out to write. Others change so much throughout the process that the final book doesn't resemble my initial vision at all. In this presentation, I share the very different stories behind each of my published novels and offer strategies for staying flexible, navigating writer's block, and holding onto the heart of a book even if you have to start the whole thing over (and over).

Writing Workshop

I can offer interactive writing workshops on various craft topics; please get in touch to talk about what would work best for your class. You can also check out my free video craft lessons and share them with students.