

~ Bruce McMillan's ~

Book Workshops with Bruce

Goal:

To give students the experience of how a book is made by making their own with their own work as a collaborative process, thus learning the tools to structure their own work.



Sample on the Board: **Waddling Around School**
Bruce is holding their main character

Before the Workshop:

Photos or drawings by the students are prepared.

These must be done by the students, not the teacher. The class should pick either a theme or subject/character to weave their photos around.

Theme: It can be anything you want. Some classes have done their books on shirts or plants around school, the playground, summer vacation, or backpacks. Bruce's book example: *Nights of the Pufflings* theme is puffin summer.

Subject Character: Do not use copyrighted characters like Mickey Mouse. Classes have used stuffed plush generic toys like a penguin, or a ball, or shoes, or any object/character that can appear in every photo or drawing. Bruce's book example: the Remarkable Riderless Runaway Tricycle's subject is the tricycle that appears in each photo. Your object/character should appear in each photo.

Take photos or make drawings, at least one per student, a minimum of twelve, any maximum.

Class Set Up:

The photos/drawings should be on a board so that they can all be seen and all be moved around as we edit the story. Magnetic boards work best. Tape works fine. Some schools use a computer with projector. This should be set up and ready when Bruce arrives.

Building the Story:

Bruce will guide the class through the same process that he goes through, taking a group of pictures and organizing them so that there is a cohesive beginning, middle and end. All the editing will be done using the same guidelines that he uses, making connections, pagination and length, for everything that happens there has to be a reason, does this advance the story, the words fill in what the pictures leave out and the pictures fill in what the words leave out. The students will have a sequential story and outline at the end of the Book Workshop that they can develop into a story.



Sample on the Board: **Bracelets Too Cool for School**

Bruce's Surprise: At the end of the workshop if there is time and if Bruce has his materials with him he might leave something behind for the class...but it's a surprise and it wouldn't be a surprise if he told you.

www.brucecmillan.com