

ANGELA MARIE JAMES

Author

of Stories & Poems for both Children & Adults



AUTHOR VISITS PACK

FOR SCHOOLS, NURSERIES, COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES, CLUBS,
LIBRARIES, MUSEUMS AND EVENT ORGANISERS



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Workshops

Below you will find a range of the workshops I currently offer, these have been very well received both in educational settings and at community events.

Most workshops can be delivered in an hour or 2 (so are ideal for a lesson).

I am constantly adding to this range, so please keep an eye on my website for new additions or join my mailing list to be informed first hand.

Costs

Full Day - £250

Half-a-day - £150

Hourly (or part) - £ 50 (can include assemblies)

Travel Expenses

Due if location is outside of North Staffordshire.

Discounts

Are available for repeated/regular bookings.

I Don't Want to Go to School

A fun workshop covering poetry about school life, from my upcoming poetry anthology 'I Don't Want to Go to School' (due out in the first half of 2019). The children will then be encouraged to write their own poem about school and perform the same (performance tips will be provided) or for younger children write/perform a class poem.

For: 4 to 11 year olds (EYFS, KS1 & KS2) (Ideal for World Book Day, National Poetry Day, World Poetry Day, National Storytelling Week, etc - where it can be delivered to multiple classes/year groups over 1 - 2 days or even half a day).

Curriculum Links: English/Literacy, Poetry, Creative Writing, Performing.

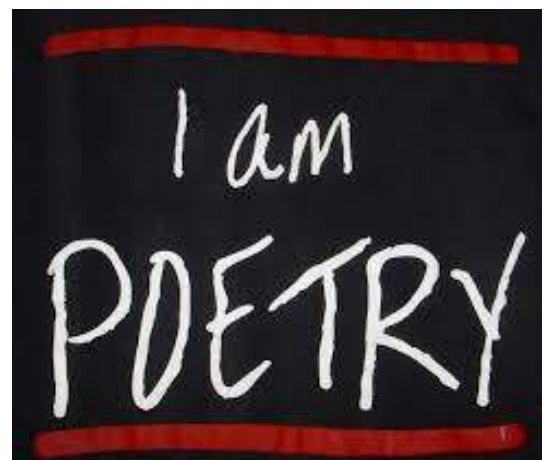


Poetry Can Be About Anything!

A fun and interactive workshop which shows how poetry can be about anything! It can be silly, a riddle, involve actions/props, tell a story, be about history, war, space, maths, PSHE, etc and even be spooky. The children/adults will then be encouraged to write their own poem and perform the same (performance tips will be provided) or for younger children write/perform a class poem.

For: 4 year olds to Adults (EYFS, KS1, KS2, KS3, KS4 & Adults) (Ideal for World Book Day, National Poetry Day, World Poetry Day, National Storytelling Week, etc - where it can be delivered to multiple classes/year groups over 1 - 2 days or even half a day).

Curriculum Links: English/Literacy, Poetry, Creative Writing, Performing.



Workshops

Guess the Animal

A fun, silly and interactive workshop about animals. Where children will hear my popular animal stories and get to guess the animal, pretend to be animals themselves and see and hear animals do silly things - with the help of my animal puppet friends. Children will then be encouraged to add to my stories themselves through the use of activity sheets.

For: 3 to 6 year olds (Pre-School, EYFS & KS1).

Curriculum Links: Animals, English/Literacy, Poetry, Creative Writing, Performing.



The Abandoned House

A chillingly spooky workshop about ghosts, lonely wolves, abandoned houses and things that go bump in the night. Using a selection of poems and stories from my upcoming anthology 'The Abandoned House' (due out in autumn 2019). The children will then be encouraged to write their own spooky poem or story and perform the same (performance tips will be provided) or for younger children write/perform a class poem.

For: 6 to 11 year olds (Upper KS1 & KS2).

Curriculum Links: English/Literacy, Poetry, Creative Writing, Performing.



I Want To Be An Engineer

A fun and interactive workshop that tackles the stereotypes of engineers and encourages all genders to consider/pursue engineering and STEM subjects as a whole. Covering different types of engineer, engineers portrayed in film and television, famous/inspirational engineers and a selection of engineering inventions/innovations during the children's lifetime. They will then be encouraged to write their own personification poem/riddle about engineering inventions/innovations and perform the same (performance tips will be provided).

For: 6 to 11 year olds (Upper KS1 & KS2) (Ideal for STEM week).

Curriculum Links: STEM, Engineering, English/Literacy, Poetry, Creative Writing, Performing.

I want
to be an
Engineer

Workshops

Lest We Forget

An interactive workshop covering war poetry from my upcoming war poetry anthology 'Lest We Forget' (due out in the latter half of 2019). With a particular focus on WW2, Reginald Mitchell/the Spitfire and the role of both men and women during the war. The children/adults will then be encouraged to write their own war poem and perform the same (performance tips will be provided).

For: 7 year olds to Adults (KS2, KS3, KS4 & Adults).

Curriculum Links: War, History, English/Literacy, Poetry, Creative Writing, Performing.

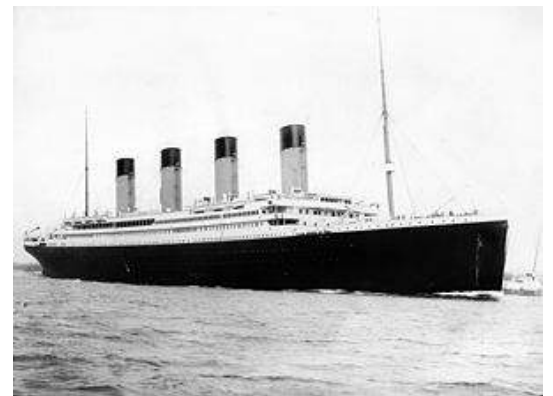


The Titanic

An interactive workshop covering the tragic sinking of The Titanic using my own poems and stories. With a particular focus on the reasons for the sinking and looking at this tragedy from various points of view. The children/adults will then be encouraged to write their own titanic poem or story and perform the same (performance tips will be provided).

For: 7 year olds to Adults (KS2, KS3, KS4 & Adults).

Curriculum Links: History, English/Literacy, Poetry, Creative Writing, Performing.



Conflict

An interactive workshop covering poetry about various types of internal and external conflict, from my soon to be released poetry anthology 'Conflict' (due out in the next few months). Types of conflict covered include war/fighting, environmental issues, inequality, poverty, death, physical illness, mental health, self-harm, addiction, domestic violence, sexual abuse, sexting, grooming, trafficking, literary conflicts, etc. The children/adults will then be encouraged to write their own poem about conflict and perform the same (performance tips will be provided).

For: 9 year olds to Adults (Upper KS2, KS3, KS4 & Adults).

Curriculum Links: PSHE, English/Literacy, Poetry, Creative Writing, Performing.



Testimonials

"Angela has a calm and positive manner that motivates and inspires the listeners. She writes a diverse variety of poems that are matched to the interests and experiences of her audience. She is more than willing to work with staff in school, shaping sessions and even offering bespoke poems so that they compliment the subjects being taught. Her poetry provokes deep thinking in children and she encourages her audience to explore the possibilities of language, plot and narrative. The children in school now demonstrate an enthusiasm for poetry writing and feel motivated to write poems of their own."

Nichola Gibson, Headteacher
Ellison Primary Academy, Newcastle-under-Lyme

"The range was good, giving children a good understanding of what an engineer is, so addressing misconceptions."

"Interesting content relevant to our curriculum. Raised children's aspirations about future careers."

Year 3 & 4 Teachers
Burnwood Primary School, Stoke-on-Trent

"The poems were lovely, pitched correctly and involved movement which was good. The children really enjoyed them and joined in."

"Your poems were magical. It was lovely to meet a 'real' poet!"

Year 1 & 2 Teachers
Harpfield Academy, Stoke-on-Trent

"The content and knowledge shared was excellent and the sessions were very informative. The pupils learnt a lot through discussions/poetry, and responded well offering good answers/points. They remembered a lot from the workshop when questioned."

Year 5 Teacher
Greenways Primary School, Stockton Brook

"The children really found it interesting as we do not cover this part of history."

Year 5 Teacher
Churchfields Primary School, Chesterton

"Angela came during half term to share her poems with the children. They enjoyed listening to her work and were fond of the Superhero poem and the 'I Love to Stamp' poem as they could join in and stamp their feet!! The session was very enjoyable for both adults and children."

Michelle Hall, Deputy Manager
Orchard Day Nursery, Newcastle-under-Lyme

"Several children wrote their own poems at home (it wasn't even their homework!). I had a lovely letter from one of the parents, saying how her daughter had been very excited to meet a 'real' poet and how much she had enjoyed it."

Year 1/2 Teacher
Anson Primary School, Stafford

Feedback from Children

"You are the funniest. I liked the funny bits."

"My favourite was the dragons dancing and lions."

"I liked the dancing carrots and peas."

"My favourite was the Superhero poem."

"I liked when we had to guess what things were."

Year 1 Pupils
Ellison Primary Academy, Newcastle-under-Lyme

"Thank you for teaching me a lot about World War 2. I really enjoyed it."

"It was really fun."

"Thank you for teaching us about engineers."

"The lesson was really fun and great. I would give it 10 out of 10."

Year 3 Pupils
Greenways Primary School, Stockton Brook

"I learnt a lot about Reginald Mitchell and the Spitfire because I didn't know much before."

"You did a great job making it fun and educational."

Year 5 Pupils
Greenways Primary School, Stockton Brook

"I liked being able to hold Buzz Lightyear."

"I liked when we made our own poem and got to shout BOO really loud."

"I liked hearing the poets own poem, it was about animals and I like animals, especially horses."

Year 1/2 Pupils
Anson Primary School, Stafford

"I would love for the poet to come again and show us more about Reginald Mitchell."

"Her poems were great. It was good."

"I learnt a lot."

Year 3 Pupils
Churchfields Primary School, Chesterton

"It was a fun day and we would love to do it again."

Year 5/6 Pupils
Anson Primary School, Stafford

"I liked it when we made the pyjama apocalypse poem."

"I liked the bit where we came up with names for the poem."

"I liked just doing the acting."

"I liked it when you performed the poems to us."

"Thank you for coming to our school, we loved it."

Year 3/4 Pupils
Anson Primary School, Stafford

"The lesson was great."

"She was very nice and helped us learn."

"I really enjoyed it and is a great way to learn about WW2 through poetry."

"I enjoyed the lesson and now I know more about the Spitfire."

"You are the best Mrs James."

Year 4 Pupils
Greenways Primary School, Stockton Brook

ABOUT ME, POSITIONS IN EDUCATION & OUTREACH WORK

About Me

I have always had a passion for reading and writing, and it is fantastic to realise my childhood ambition of becoming an author.

I live in Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire with my husband author, illustrator & storyteller Glenn Martin James and our two daughters.

Positions in Education

Vice Chair of Governors at Ellison Primary Academy

Link Governor for Pupil Premium/Sports Premium, SEND, Safeguarding and Middle Leadership.

Member of Committees: Education, Pay and Resources

Recruitment/Appointments Panel Member

Chair & Trustee of Ellison Primary Academy PTA

Outreach Work

Educational Outreach Poet for Operation Spitfire

I visited local primary schools on their behalf delivering bespoke poetry sessions to raise awareness about the Spitfire, RJ Mitchell, engineers, etc and its impact on aviation and World War II, to encourage an interest in engineering and to build enthusiasm for STEM subjects as a whole.

Writer, Historian and Actor for St Giles Heritage Churchyard Project

I co-wrote and performed the Newcastle-under-Lyme Town Centre Heritage Trail and the St Giles Heritage Churchyard Trail alongside fellow author Glenn Martin James, as well as co-wrote the 'Engaging with History' section of the Education Pack.



Why should we book an author visit?

Author visits provide an inspiration for children and adults to be more enthusiastic readers and writers. They have the opportunity to connect with the author on a personal level and hear first-hand about the writing process. As well as the opportunity to ask how and why certain poems/stories were written, where did the idea come from and why that particular subject was chosen. Most children, teachers and adults alike love to meet a 'real life author'.

Such visits can engage and inspire even the most reluctant readers, as well as both Pupil Premium children and SEND children. Due to a change in the learning environment provided by an author, the visual and performance elements and also the opportunity to create a poem or story, where the only real limitation is their imagination.

How do we invite you?

The best way is e-mail me at author@amjames.co.uk, or you can call me on 0844 500 6133.

How many children/adults do you like to perform to/work with at once?

I have worked with as few as 5 and as many as 300; the number would depend on the space available. I can work with whole classes, year groups or even the whole school/setting if time and space allows. I can be flexible to your facilities and requirements.

How many sessions will you do during a visit?

Usually one for an hourly session, 2 or 3 for a half-a-day visit and 4 or 5 for a full day visit.

Do you have a DBS Certificate?

Yes, I have an Enhanced DBS Certificate. This is available on request.

Do you have insurance?

Yes, I have Public and Product Liability Insurance provided through the NAWA (National Association of Writers in Education) Professional Membership scheme. Certificate available on request.