

≡ THE AUTHORFY APPROACH ≡

Choosing an Author Masterclass

Throughout the year, Authorfy adds 15 new author masterclasses to the platform. 5 videos and activity packs are added each term to coincide with the UK academic calendar on 1st January, 1st May and 1st September. Once subscribed, you'll have unlimited access to our masterclasses and other exclusive content, and over time our library will grow so you'll have access to more videos and activity packs on demand. To help you choose a video, we've included a 'Trailer' page, where you can view 30-second snippets of each video and choose which one you'd like to watch.

Activity Packs

Alongside each author video, we've created two activity packs. Each of these can be used as guides to learn more about the author's approach to writing, as well as new writing styles, structures and planning tools. We appreciate that no two writers are the same, so we provide a variety of flexible activities, challenges and worksheets, and a suggested way of using these, instead of regimented plans that can't be adapted.

Sentence Starters

Having taught Creative Writing to thousands of children, we understand that one of the hardest things about writing a story is knowing where to start. Often, students lose all faith in their ability before they've even begun because they've been staring at a blank piece of paper, they're feeling overwhelmed, they're comparing themselves to more able writers in their class, they have too many ideas floating around in their head, or they've 'drawn a blank'. In short, they don't know where to begin... For those students that need a helping hand, we've created Sentence Starters', and each are catered to the lesson plan and author video that's being used at the time. To find 'Sentence Starters', just click on the 'Additional Resources' link on the author's page.



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Writing Challenges

As well as breaking down tasks in our activity guides, we also provide a list of writing challenges to give students more ideas to choose from. As always, these are just suggestions, but all are linked to the author's approach to writing, the books they write, and/or their Authorfy video and activity packs. Each list of Writing Challenges can be found under the 'Additional Resources' download, and can be used as writing alternatives, homework or lesson extensions, etc.

Extracts

One of our main aims has always been to increase children's access to a variety of literature. We've worked hand-in-hand with the world's leading children's publishers in order to share some of the best authors and their work. Bearing in mind that Authorfy is an interactive platform, we wanted to make sure that we allow time for students to really connect with the stories they're learning about. For this reason, we provide extracts that can be read independently or read aloud as a speaking and listening exercise.

Extras

Whilst using our activity packs, you'll find that we provide suggested tasks and challenges to enhance writing skills, but we also provide additional tools to help children develop a love for literacy. Wall displays, interactive activities and extra footage can be found under the 'Extras' category.



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Submitting Work

Once children have taken part in an Authorfy lesson, we hope they will have been inspired to produce their own pieces of creative writing. This is what excites us and really motivated us to create the platform, so we'd love to be able to see the work they're producing. When we discussed this with the authors, we realised that they, too, would love to read the work their stories have inspired. As a result, we're proud to be able to offer each user the chance to submit two pieces of work for each author video. Once submitted, the work will be placed on the 'Your Work' page, where parents, friends, teachers and the Authorfy team can read and enjoy their work. Additionally, three stories will be selected for each author to read and review, and they'll send their thoughts and comments back to the students!

Note: if for any reason an author is unable to offer feedback, an editor from their publishing house or member of Authorfy will provide a critique instead.

Competitions and Polls

In addition to submitting work, throughout the term we host a number of exciting competitions with authors and publishers from around the world - many of which are exclusive to subscribers. Keep an eye on our competitions pages for details on how to enter.

Authorfy Awards

At the end of each academic year, we'll open the 'Authorfy Awards' page for children to vote for their 'Favourite Author', 'Debut Author', 'Illustrator', 'Book of the Year', and 'Authorfy Video of the Year'.



We're always keen to hear from our subscribers and see how we can improve Authorfy. If you have any feedback or suggestions, please feel free to contact info@authorfy.com. We'd love to hear from you!