Harrison

David Harrison's Visit Kit



David Harrison has published over seventy books of poetry, fiction, and nonfiction for children from early years through middle school. Three of his titles are Teaching Strategies books and one is a Scholastic Guides book. During his career, David has also been a musician, editor, editorial consultant, scientist, and businessman. He writes seven hours a day, five days a week. He divides his free time among giving talks at conferences, visiting schools, and attending to a number of his own literacy projects.

Many of David's books and poems are humorous. He incorporates humor into his visits with kids to convince them that writing can be fun, though it takes work to get better at it. He stresses that the writer's job is to make a subject interesting for the reader. He makes the act of revising a natural part of the writing process, and he doesn't mind answering the same question three times in a row.

Forty years of school visits have taught David the value of being flexible and working with teachers and librarians to achieve the desired results. He suggests visits of up to twenty-five minutes with K–1 students, up to thirty-five minutes with grades 2–3, and up to fifty minutes with grades 4 and higher. By pre-arrangement he can also provide writing workshops for teachers and evening talks for parents.

David prefers audiences of one hundred or fewer arranged so that he can walk among students and be closer to them. He requests a 4' x 8' table, a lapel microphone, and water to drink. He only uses overheads when giving workshops. David also asks that students and teachers read at least a few of his books prior to his visit and write down questions they want to ask.

Author's Home: Springfield, Missouri	Maximum number of presentations per day: 4
	Author's Honorarium: \$2,000.00 per day plus expenses,
Suggested Audience: Grades K-8, conferences	additional presentations \$400.00 each.

A PARTIAL LIST OF SUBJECTS I'VE WRITTEN ABOUT

Boy playing drum	
Looking for the sun	Making an excuse for not having homework
Getting dog bitten	Smartest kid in class
Watching men skin a mountain lion	Having to go to the bathroom
Getting stuck on a cactus	Cafeteria food
Seeing where a man died	Not being ready for a test
Scared by a bear	Doing well on a test
Cold in bed	Chewing gum in class
New in school	Spring fever
Having a crush on a girl	First book read without help
Poor at basketball	Johnny Appleseed
Interested in girls	Feeling good in spring
Drifting away from a friend	Thrown off a horse
Getting hit by the school bully	Wondering about a hole in the ground
Doing embarrassing things	Gossiping about an old man
Going to a first formal dance	Going on a manhunt
Missing a friend who has moved away	Getting bitten by a snake
Chased by a bull	Dead rabbit
First job	Chip of flint
Getting a baby sister	Winking at a girl
Having kids	Getting in a fight
Falling in love	Climbing into a barn loft
Pitching poorly, pitching well	Watching crows
Becoming a writer	Losing a pet
Camping with my son	Feeling good
Catching first fish	Looking for squirrel in a tree
Boys Playing with Granda	Finding old turtle shell
Rriding the school bus	Cow patties, stepping on a cow patty
Writing letters in class	Catching a snake
Dog in school	Saying a bad word
Escaped mouse in school	Owl's tree
Boy named Sidney	Cows on the way to market
Girl named Jessica	Fossil footprints
Mystery lunches	Different kinds of darkness
Flies and frogs in science class	Writing in a journal
Lining up in the hall	Discovering a bone fragment in a riverbed
Swinging at a ball	Stinging insects
Learning to use proper English	Accidentally killing a songbird
Bad grades	Raising vegetables, horses, fishing
Field trip	Birds swirling in the fall,
Teacher with eyes in the back of her head,	Sitting quietly beside a river
Last day of school	Children's imaginary places
Running late for school, missing the bus	Talking to plants
Snake that swallows a boy	House with no roof
Hen who swallows a fox	Meeting a monster
	Meeting a monster

Girl who licks a light socket Boy who spends a lifetime counting stars Boy who grows a foot out of his head Small people who live in the grass Bear who takes a hare's hair Man who diets until he disappears Boy who swallows his plate Race between snail and horse Man who grows blue ribbon weeds Boy who wants to be various animals Rude dinosaur Argument between slug and snail How to treat an elephant Inflating baby with a garden hose Bedtime reading Cows who do silly things behind our backs Boy who frightens away giants Boy who outsmarts giants Boy who befriends giant Caves **Rivers.** Amazon River Oceans Earthquakes Volcanoes Mountains Glaciers Chicken egg kidnapped by a crow **Bighorn rams** Mountain flower Mountainside in August Vapor trails in the sky Sheep on a mountainside Storm over the mountain High country Elk in a vallev Wild river Wolf in a field Walking in tall grass Raven on a tree Bear with her cubs Above the tree line Musk-oxen Camping under stars Mossy forest Crossing deer tracks in the woods Glimpse of something in the woods Walking in bear country Getting bitten by flies Finding a pond scooped out by a glacier

Dragonflies Butterflies, Fleeing butterfly nurseries Tree froas Moose Salmon Caribou Low tide Seagulls, Sandpipers Bald eagles, Young eagle Sea lion Puffin Seal, Starfish, Sea otter, Humpback whale Too many cousins Snitching the last cookie Difference Dodging chores Practicing music Daddy's snore, Afraid of something in the closet Losing underwear Sister who turns into a frog Boy who won't eat his vegetables Driving brother crazy Family who lives in a bird nest Loving grandpa Melting big sister with water Little brother with long name Wearing hand-me-down clothes An aunt who thinks she's a duck Going fishing with grandpa Having a baby uncle Tracing family tree Mouse in the pantry House noises at night Cricket under the bed Clock that ticks all night Dust, bed, socks with no partners, Fighting over where to set the thermostat Old shoes. Difference between moms and dads Swatting a fly Running out of toilet paper Ugly family heirlooms Barking dog Reading a book Family photograph scrapbook Sleeping cat Messy closet Death or Wasp

Crawling under the bed Watching baby spider Getting ready for company Too much baby stuff Getting rid of horrible gifts Things going bad in the refrigerator Feeding the dog under the table The last glass in a set Chores Antique chili bowl Yard sale The perfect home Horses Dinosaurs, lizard Back yard, Raking leaves Baby bird, Woodsy Owl Witches, wizard, cemetery **Machines** Cars. trucks. Train Bumblebee, buzzing bees, wasp Ant, termite, caterpillar Toad, Mice, rat, skunk, opossum Girl rescuing boys from cave Dog in the garden, dog in the forest Sloths Sun Math Human body Baby in hospital Lightning bug Circus Girl playing flute Boy in the forest Truck in love with a cow Runaway pig Boy afraid of the dark Marilyn Monroe Waiting in an airport People on cell phones Crows arguing Children around the world **Pink Panther** Smokey Bear Herbie the Love Bug Land of the Lost Lassie **Bugs Bunny** Clifford the Big Red Dog

Hippopotamus Monkey, baboon Piranha Caiman Stars above the Amazon Couple in dugout canoe Butterflies drinking Trees at night Indian families in rain forest Myth of ants turning into vines Jungle birds Jungle rain Fallen tree Dark passage through the jungle River dolphin Old woman, prospector, friendless man Night sounds Rhythms in the rain forest Gnat, tick, mosquito, fly, spider, flea, mite Goose, turtle, chigger Bowling ball salesman Rooster, rooster on roof The last ice age Substitute teacher Having to go to the bathroom Fish in frozen pond Bugs under a rug Harold the Hog Singing pig Pet shop owner Smelly socks Drawing a horse Eating too many tacos First day of school Getting kissed by girls Thinking about the future Worm Ghost towns Missing frog Sneezing Mud pies, mud Man on the moon Cursive writing Meter in poetry Memory-based poems How to revise How to write stories Writing poems.