

Brian Falkner

School and Festival Appearances



School and Festival Visits

By Brian Falkner - Author



Introduction

Brian loves telling stories, either in his best-selling books, or standing in front of an audience of students.

He's the award winning author of fifteen books for children and young adults, published in over twelve countries in seven different languages.

For the last eight years Brian has also been touring the world teaching and coaching students in creative writing. His energy and humour make his workshops a fun and rewarding experience for young writers and his sessions are in high demand.

Quick Summary

- Session time: 60 minutes
- Sessions per day: 3 to 4

About Brian

Brian is a highly sought -after speaker in schools, and at literary festivals and conferences. His infectious enthusiasm, humour and energy make every appearance a popular and memorable one.

His talks cover everything from tips for budding writers, to inspiration for reluctant readers, to small drops of wisdom on life, the universe and everything in between, in a visual, irreverent and highly entertaining way.

His workshops provide practical guidance for student writers on the process of creating a story, and his Story Sports™ Tournaments will get the most reluctant writers champing at the bit to write!

Planning the visit

Suggested Programme

A full day visit to your school should consist of three one hour sessions: two in the morning, and one in the afternoon. A session can consist of a [presentation](#), a [workshop](#) or a [Story Sports™](#) competition. A typical programme would be:

- 9:30am – 10:30am Presentation
- 11:00am – 12:00noon Presentation
- 12:00pm Lunch
- 1:00pm Workshop or Story Sports
- 2:30pm Finish

Notes:

- ➔ All students will find the presentation entertaining and interesting.
- ➔ The maximum benefit for keen student writers comes from attending a presentation and a workshop.
- ➔ A planning sheet is included with this info sheet. Please complete it and email it to Brian as soon as possible. Brian's email is brian@brianfalkner.com.

Photographs and Videotaping

Please feel free to take photographs or video tape of Brian's visit to your school. You have permission for the use of these in school magazines, websites and other school-related material.

Please forward any photographs (and video if possible) to Brian by email at brian@brianfalkner.com. Brian likes to include photos of recent visits on his website and blog.

Press

If local media are interested in interviewing Brian, please let him know this in advance.

Autographs

Brian is always happy to sign books or autographs for students.

Book Sales

If your students want to order signed copies of Brian's books during the visit, this can be arranged. Please see the section: [Book Sales](#).

After the Author Visit

Please give Brian some feedback on the feedback page of Brian's website. If the visit went well, please let other schools know. Spread the word!

Presentation

To introduce himself to students Brian has a prepared talk which covers the following subjects:

This presentation covers some or all of the following subjects:

- Having a dream
- How he became an author
- His books, and upcoming books
- Where he gets his story ideas
- Finding stories from your own life
- Emotions in stories
- A fun game to finish



The preferred time for the presentation, including the talk or the competition, is 60 minutes, however this can be lengthened or shorten if necessary.

The presentation is suitable for almost any size of audience.

The physical requirements for the presentation are a data-projector (and screen) and a table for Brian to use.

Presentation Key Points:

Length: 60 minutes (including competition)

Audience: 20-300 students

Requirements:

Data-projector

Screen

Table

Table & 6 chairs

Workshops

Following the prepared talk Brian is able to offer a workshop for keen writers. The workshops are based on the preceding talk, so it is important that the workshop participants have attended the prepared talk.

Writing Skills Workshop (60 minutes)

This is a story-writing workshop where the participants will learn key skills to help them with their writing. The focus is on the actual techniques that Brian uses when writing his own stories.

Participants should bring pen and paper to take notes.

Other Workshops

If you have a specific topic you would like covered please contact Brian who can organise a workshop to suit your specific requirements.

Story Sports™ (60 – 90 minutes)

An alternative to a formal workshop is the Story Sports™ Competition which teaches valuable story-writing skills in a competitive sports environment.



Story Sports™



With Brian Falkner

Story Sports™ takes the concept of a writing workshop and turns it into a competitive sport.

It's a little like theatre sports, except that the emphasis is on writing skills. Students compete in quick-fire games that test their creativity, imagination, and story-writing skills to win prizes.

The concept was developed after Brian noticed that students who would not normally express any interest in writing workshops, would participate energetically when the same workshop was presented as a competitive sport.

Teams

Story Sports™ teams have three to four members, and up to six teams can compete at one time. Teams need to elect a captain to read out their answers. Preferably someone with a strong, clear voice.

Brian will act as commentator and referee, scoring the results as the game progresses.

If possible, a panel of impartial judges will take on the job of scoring the answers. This panel will usually consist of Brian, plus two teachers.

Tables and chairs should be provided for the teams, along with pens and writing paper.

Audience Participation

Audience members are also invited to participate in some simple and fun games, to earn bonus points for the teams, while the teams are working on their answers.

Heats and Finals

If a school has many teams keen on entering the Story Sports™ competition, these can be arranged in heats, with the winner of each heat going through to a final round.

Inter-school Competition

Story Sports™ can also be run as an inter-school competition. Please contact Brian directly to help co-ordinate plans for such a competition as this requires a lot more organisation.

Story Sports Key Points:

Length: 60-90 minutes

Audience: Any size, from a single class to an entire school.

Ages: 10 years and up

Teams: Up to 6 teams of 3 to 4 team members

Requirements: A table and chairs for each team

Other: A table and chairs for the panel of judges, if required

Book Sales

Students are often interested in purchasing their own signed copy of Brian's books after his visit. This may be organised through a local bookshop, or directly from Brian.

If purchasing from Brian, an order form with a list of available books can be downloaded from Brian's website and printed for distribution to the students.

The link to the order form can also be emailed to students.

Students (or their parents) can fill in the form on line, or on the paper copy, and either pay online, or return the form to the school with payment.

The book order form can be found here:

<http://www.brianfalkner.com/orders>.

You will need a unique order code for your school. Please [email Brian](mailto:brian@brianfalkner.com) for this code.

Schools can also use this form to order books from Brian, and can pay by credit card, or have the books invoiced to the school.

Contact Details

Email:

brian@brianfalkner.com

Website:

www.brianfalkner.com

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Brian-Falkner/227979331399>

Email:

Please [email Brian](mailto:brian@brianfalkner.com) to request his mobile phone number.