

Leyland Perree

Children's Author



About

Devon-based writer Leyland Perree is the author of seven children's books. His inspirations and ideas stem from a childhood love of nonsensical rhyme and imaginative storytelling from the likes of Dr. Seuss, Roald Dahl and Spike Milligan.

Stuffed with fun wordplay, visual gags, melodic rhyme and memorable characters, his stories are witty, lyrical and fun to read out loud, and have become firm favourites with infant and adult readers around the world.

His recent children's books include *The Great Reef Race*, *The Unpleasant Tale of the Man-eating Christmas Pudding* and *The Magic Custard Factory*. His books have turned up in many countries across the globe from Australia to Singapore, and have been published in several languages.

You can find out more about Leyland by visiting his website at:

www.leylandperree.co.uk

What is an Author Visit?

A visit from Leyland can spark inspiration in even the most timid young aspiring writers.

Here is what you can expect from a typical talk:

- Discover aspects of being an author through the “5 W’s and 1 H” technique.
- Find out where Leyland gets inspiration for his stories.
- Students have a chance to ask questions in a segment called “Fishing for Answers” (aided by Gary the Fish – don’t ask!)
- Leyland performs a reading from one of his books (if a digital projector is available, he can project the book so everyone can see the pages easily).
- Approx time: *45 mins.*



As well as an author talk, Leyland can also carry out creative workshops of varying topics and durations.

Workshop topics

Conjuring Characters

- A single-session workshop focussing on creating and developing unique characters.
- Suitable for Foundation, Y1 and Y2
- Includes author talk, story reading and creative activity
- Duration: 45-60 minutes

Ingenious Ideas

- A single-session workshop creating, exploring and sharing story ideas.
- Suitable for Y2 to Y4
- Includes author talk, story reading and creative activity
- Duration: 60 minutes

Stupendous Stories

- A full-day story workshop, incorporating character creation, idea outlining and story structure.
- Suitable for Y4 to Y6
- Includes author talk, story reading and creative activity
- Duration: 4-5 hours

Other mini-topics:

- From Brain to Bookshelf: bringing a book idea to life
- Are you a Plotter or a Pantser?
- To Rhyme or Not to Rhyme?
- “S.O.C.K in a Box” flashcard activity

Leyland will happily work in collaboration with schools to embed his workshops into class topics and curriculum.

S.O.C.K in a Box

S.O.C.K (short for **Story Outline Construction Kit**)
is a creative card-based classroom resource developed by
children's author *Leyland Perree!*

Blending the "5 W's and 1 H" questioning technique together with essential story elements, this kit allows for easy creation of fun and inspiring story outlines, which can be further developed and explored as part of a class activity.

Unlock your inner storyteller!

*Includes 130 mix-and-match characteristics, places,
plot devices and themes to inspire creativity.*

Unhook your imagination!

*Powerful pants and talkative hamsters, undersea kingdoms
and reluctant heroes - the possibilities are endless!*



How long does a visit last?

It depends very much on the age group, group size, and of course the type of talk or workshop you would like.

Example: For a basic talk and reading to a single group of 5-8 year-olds, a minimum of 45 minutes is recommended. For a mini-workshop combined with a basic talk, allow an hour.

What age groups do you cater for?

All ages from Foundation upward. Talks and creative activities can be adapted for younger or older audiences.

What size should the groups be?

Talks can be carried out on a class-by-class basis or as a full-school assembly.

Workshops work best in individual class groups.

What Can We do to prepare for your visit?

When you make a booking with Leyland he will contact you to discuss the details of the visit, which will help him tailor the talk and/or workshops to suit your needs, and draw up a timetable/overview of the day.

Ahead of the visit he will issue an **information letter** for you to send home to parents to inform them of the upcoming event. A book pre-order form is included with the letter should parents or children wish to order copies of Leyland's books. Cash/cheque payments (for book orders) should be brought to the school by the day of the visit, and of course, Leyland will be delighted to sign all purchased copies.

Essentials for the day of the visit:

- Use of a laptop or desktop PC (running PowerPoint) and a projector/smartboard screen – in the rooms for all talks and workshops
- Writing and colouring pens/pencils, paper, something to rest on – for the students
- At least one member of staff present in the room at all times.

It is helpful for Leyland to have a contact name/number/email of the person arranging the visit, and that the topic of payment is handled in a clear, discreet and timely manner.

Fees

Nobody likes talking money, but let's face it, authors still have to make a living during those loooong stretches when they're writing new books.

Leyland charges a day rate of £300 (£200 for half a day or less) plus expenses. Travel expenses are waived for the first **20 miles**, and chargeable thereafter @ 45p per mile. Local accommodation is chargeable by arrangement, and is very dependant on distance and visit duration (e.g. multi-day visits)

Of course, there is always room for negotiation and rates will be discussed and agreed before any commitments are made. Leyland's rate is very competitive and sits well below the rates recommended by the *Society of Authors*.

To discuss a potential booking, please contact Leyland at leyland.perree@gmail.com, stating clearly who you are, where you are, what you want and by when.

He'll do his best to respond within 48 hrs.

How do you know he's worth it?

Leyland is a firm believer in Word-of-Mouth. So go on, visit the [Word of Mouth](#) page of his website and see for yourself what others have said about his visits.



checklist for a successful author visit

Ahead of the visit:

- ☐ Familiarise yourself with Leyland's books and [website](#)
- ☐ Modify and send out the Home Letter/Book Order Form to student's families
- ☐ Collate orders once returned and keep order forms for passing back to Leyland for the book-signing (it helps him keep tally of sales and the spelling of children's names)
- ☐ Prepare and share a timetable of groups and timings (including breaks)

On the morning of the visit:

- ☐ Ensure staff are aware of the visit
- ☐ Ensure classroom equipment is set up and ready;
 - ☐ A table at the front of the room can be helpful for books and props
 - ☐ Computer (loaded with PowerPoint) with one or two free USB ports
 - ☐ Digital projector and screen, and someone experienced with the equipment to make sure it runs smoothly
 - ☐ Spare paper and colouring pencils for activities

After the visit:

- ☐ Ensure invoice has been received and that payment is made by the due date
- ☐ Share any photographs or videos (seeking parental permissions where necessary) with Leyland for displaying on his website
- ☐ Complete Leyland's short feedback form, [here](#), and consider signing up to his newsletter
- ☐ Also consider inviting Leyland to sell books at your Summer or Christmas School Fair
- ☐ Share your experience with others' by:
 - ☐ Liking and sharing [Leyland's Facebook page](#)
 - ☐ Recommending Leyland to other schools/libraries etc
 - ☐ Leaving a review of his books on Amazon, Goodreads etc.

Thank you!