

Michael Hall: Virtual Visits, Possible Programs

The process of making picture books

20-50 min, for students PreK-6, educators, librarians, authors, illustrators

I would include some of the following: how I became an author and illustrator; read stories; discuss the process of making at least one of my picture books showing various drafts along the way and talking about the relationship between editor, art director, and author/illustrator; questions and answers.

Science

10 - 20 min, for students preK-6

How animals prepare for fall (*Wonderfall*) or animals of the rainforest

Zoom group activities

Can also be done as a non-interactive presentation. Can include reading related book.

15 - 30 min, for students preK-6

- How crayons are made (*Red: A Crayon's Story / Frankencrayon*)
- Making an Aardvark out of simple shapes (*It's an Orange Aardvark*)

The language of literacy

50 min, for educators, librarians

Using examples from my books and others, discuss the way in which words and pictures can play off each other.

Making books during uncertain times

15 - 50 min for educators, librarians, authors, illustrators

Many of my books have political undercurrents (some, perhaps, not so subtly).

Now, it seems particularly important to address current affairs.

How is a picture book like a logo? (or stealing from myself)

15 - 50 min for educators, librarians, authors, illustrators

My picture books are heavily influenced by my previous work as a visual identity designer.

Using examples of both, I discuss my process and show how much of my design work has found its way into my picture books.

Work is play: reflections on science and art (STEM related presentation)

10 - 15 min, for educators, librarians

Engaging presentation using images of children's slides. I describe similarities between art and science and show how my early work as a biochemist influences the planning and process of creating my picture books. Geometry? Color theory? Engineering? They're in every one of my books.