



The Tiffy and Toffy Workshop - Overview

- 1. Why I wrote the books (father etc)
 - 2. What we are going to do...
 - Hear a story about Tiffy and Toffy

I read the story while projecting it onto a screen. Hold the book, click the slides forward. Check that the children are listening with questions.

Can you see the bees? how many can you see? What do you think Tiffy will do next?

Would you like to eat squashed worm pie?

Would you like a puppet show?

Have a puppet show

Ask for 6 volunteers

2 x Tiffy - Toffy puppeteers - always trying to put it in their pot.

1 x Molly Mole puppeteer - always trying to eat the worms

1 x worm catcher - picks worms from my bag. 2 x stagehands - holds up the stage and gets the pot etc

Go back through the pages and find the worms.

Hands up! Who can describe where the worm is on the page? On a mole hill... Near Tiffy's leg etc. whoever gives the first description gets thrown a pink worm to catch and hold. But only after the worm catcher hands it to Molly to see if it tastes nice. And to Tiffy and Toffy to see its good enough for the pie. The sister mice try to stick it in their pot.

At the end the kids hold up all the worms and the whole class counts to 10.

Learn about animals - the hand outs

What other animals did we see in the story?

Tell the children about Kestrels and Moles. Pee trails, extra thumbs etc Have they ever seen these animals before? Where? What were they doing?

Give the handouts to the teachers and talk about the website. (practice describing, practice counting, practice catching)

See videos of real animals

Have the videos ready to play. Talk about the kestrel keeping its head still... And the mole's front feet.

Make up a new animal using your imagination

We use the sound of the letters from children's first names to make a random word. E.g. What your name? Ryan. And what does Ryan begin with? Rrruh etc do this until we get a random word. E.g. RENTAF.

I ask lots of questions....
Is a RENTAF a nasty animal or a good animal?
Does it move fast or slow?
Does it have fur or skin?
What does it eat?
Does it eat teachers?
What does it smell like?

Okay let's roll out the wallpaper, pick a crayon and all draw a RENTAF. They all gather round the wallpaper and make a huge class collage. I take pics of the creatures for the Tiffy Toffy Web page

I go round giving encouragement and asking more questions. How many eyes? Why? Etc. do the squiggle thing. Make a squiggle into an animal.

Have a competition for the best RENTAF. Tell them they have all won. Free posters or color in sheets?

Tell them they have all been great. There's just enough time to tell them about asthma... And have some questions...

Learn a wee bit about asthma

Do they know anyone with asthma? Count the hands up. What do they think it is?

Use the flip chart to draw lungs etc.

Tell them lungs are a bit like balls of wool, full of tubes. If I stretched out the tubing how long would it be? Let them guess. Depending on age, do some addition here. E.g. 100 plus another 100 etc. = 360 miles long.

Tell them about puffers/ inhalers

Tell them about the asthma poster and the rugby players etc. How people can do great things despite having asthma.

Tell them what to do if they ever think someone can't catch their breath. Tell an adult.

Question time.

Ask Paul questions about the stories or about animals...

Equipment needed

- Ample space for children to work either side of some rolled out wallpaper. If multiple classes are going to be seen, it is better to have them come into one single area, with everything all set up. But I can 'work around' this if space is not possible.
- Flipchart and marker
- Screen, white wall or link to a display system. I have my own projector and use a Mac Air.

(please email me at – paulmurdoch1@gmail.com or phone 07784235151 if there are any issues)

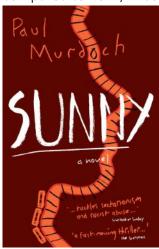
Selling my books - before, during and after my visit. As a full-time author, it is always a great help if I am able to sell my books at the event. This works best if there is a communication to parents a few days before I visit with an enclosed pre-order form. Children can bring money on the day to buy books and have them dedicated and signed. Also, there are often children present who, after experiencing the session, realise they would like a dedicated and signed copy. I can provide an order form to enable this.

I carry author stock of all my books

Books available listed below:

But was he meant to walk away? Sunny is convinced someone has it in for him — a sense strengthened when an attempt is made to abduct him from hospital. Once out, Sunny is faced with his town's ongoing sectarian divisions. They boil over when someone attacks a train carrying pupils from a rival school.

Sunny knows the culprit's identity, but the risks of revealing it are high. All Sunny's troubles seem to stem back to the crash. So, he follows a hunch to try to solve that mystery...and finds his life in peril all over again. (Ages: 9-Adult / Themes: differences, bullying, racism, adventure, attitudes in the past compared to now /Price: £7.50. Bulk discounts available)



him with the help of some very strange creatures. An exciting fantasy adventure full magic, monsters, courage, determination and family. James has to find the Talisman of Denthan if he has to have any chance of stopping the evil wizard Dendralon and finding his father, but no one knows what it looks like. (Ages: 7-14 / Themes: quest story, magic, monsters, adventure, mystery, fantasy, family tensions, morals, /Price: £6.50. Bulk discounts available)

Citadel – Book 2 of 'The Peck Chronicles'. James Peck, battles his way through a dying world in an effort to stop a Hedra wizard from saving his own kind at the expense of all others. A fast-paced fantasy adventure where James tries to save a whole world, his family, and everything he loves before time runs out. (Ages: 7-14 / Themes: quest story, magic, monsters, adventure, mystery, fantasy, family tensions, morals, /Price: £6.50. Bulk discounts available)

Eyrant - Book 3 of 'The Peck Chronicles'. James Peck soon discovers that there is a second gateway in Drumfintley and he is soon drawn into another adventure on the world of Artilis. He has to pit his wits and his magic against an even great force than before in order to save Earth and everyone he loves. (Ages: 7-14 / Themes: quest story, magic, monsters, adventure, mystery, fantasy, family tensions, morals, /Price: £6.50. Bulk discounts available)

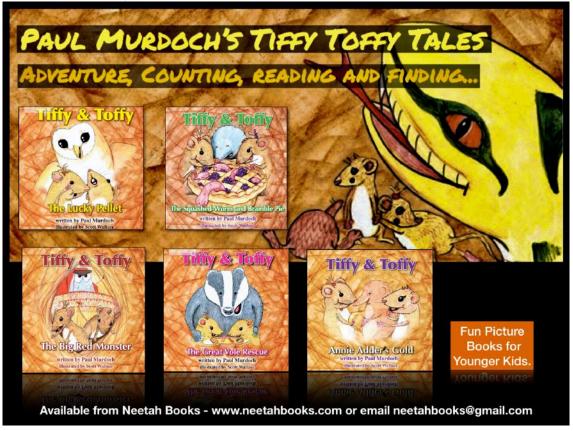


Windscape – an eco-thriller for children that explores the topic of wind farms in the beautiful setting of Western Scotland. When protestors come onto their farm Hamish MacLeod has a heart attack and is taken to Glasgow. When Jenny finds out what is really going behind the plan to build a wind farm on their farm, she has to save her father and protect their future. (Ages: 7-14 / Themes: adventure, Scotland, environmental issues, mystery, friendship, morals, /Price: £6.50. Bulk discounts available)

The Egg Thief - Young Jenny MacLeod and her friend, Pavel, are caught up in an exciting adventure on the Western Isles of Scotland. While caretaking her uncle's farm on the island of Barra, Jenny and Pavel are embroiled in a plot to steal some very precious sea eagle eggs from the cliffs of Mull. A mysterious stranger is set to pay a fortune to an egg thief and will stop at nothing. Jenny and Pavel try to do the right thing, but soon face a series of life-threatening events that will shake their very foundations. (Ages: 7-14 / Themes: adventure, Scotland, environmental issues, mystery, friendship, morals, /Price: £6.50. Bulk discounts available)



and their adventures on the farm. Safe, family books with counting and finding elements. (Ages: 3-7 / Themes: adventure, animals, birds, friendship, morals, counting, finding / Price: £6.50 each. Bulk discounts available)



Paul Murdoch - Evaluation Sheet

I am always keen to improve, therefore happy to receive any feedback you may have.

What was the most useful part of the workshop?
What part could be improved
General Comments

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