

A School Opportunity: A Visiting Author

Intention:

Drawing upon years of leading classroom discussions with children about their emotions and feelings, Linda is now assisting children in becoming increasingly aware and sensitive to animals and their feelings, on supporting the creative writing and illustrating process in the classroom, and teaching about the writing and publishing process.

Classroom Presentations: Developed in concert with the classroom teacher's objectives.

Creative writing

- Share and discuss Regal's story. Explore Regal's feelings and have children identify the feelings of the animals they have known in their lives.
- Have the children write their animal stories and illustrate. Create a classroom book.
- Teach about the book, the writing process, and the benefits gained from this extraordinary experience - supported with examples of work, slides, and video.
- Speak to issues regarding the care of animals and the significant benefits of our animal relationships.

Talk about the writing and publishing process

- Speak to and answer questions about writing and editing, book editing and design, and the realities of the publishing world.
- Share about Independent Publishing and book marketing (platform, team building, Internet).

Guidelines:

- Presentations, with interaction time, adjusted to grade level: 30 – 60 minutes; group size – up to two classrooms for older students and class size for 3rd grade or below.
- Goals mutually developed with staff so that teacher objectives are fulfilled.
- Presentation fees: Half day \$600/full day \$1200 (negotiable/time factor).
- Book clubs (adult or student) – Linda is available for book signing and short Q & A in person.

About *Regal: An Intimate View of One Magnificent Feline*

Regal: An Intimate View of One Magnificent Feline is the heartwarming, humorous, true story of a stray cat named Regal who is reluctantly adopted by Linda, a school counselor. Regal's antics make this cat a force to reckon with, and Linda admires her spunk and strength. When Regal becomes terminally ill, the depth of Linda's love for Regal takes center stage. Always light and frequently funny, this story of cat and owner communication shows Linda discovering a different kind of listening that melts her heart and expands her compassion for animals.

This beautiful 6 x 6" book, filled with charming photographs of Regal the Cat, shows how the healing art of love and attentive care can transform our relationships with our cats (and with all pets). More than just a sweet cat story, *Regal: An Intimate View* raises awareness about the inner lives of our domestic animals. Through the story of Regal and Linda, and the people and pets they encounter, the reader discovers new possibilities for relating to and caring for a pet with greater awareness and compassion. *Regal* will appeal to lovers of cats in particular, while raising awareness about new ways we can attend to the hearts and minds of all animals.

