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Authors and Illustrators Pathfinder

This pathfinder is designed to help school librarians, teachers and students find information about favorite authors. Often in schools someone is needing information about a particular author: students doing a biography report, teachers doing an author study, librarians highlighting an author during a storytime or booktalk. This pathfinder can be used by anyone involved with literature to help students make real world connections to their learning. This provides a starting point for locating Internet sites and print resources both professional and student.

Searching for information on the web can often be time consuming and frustrating - especially for those involved in schools. More often than not the information is needed immediately. Our time is limited so we must use what time we have efficiently - not only teachers and librarians but the students as well. Due to the numerous children and young adult authors published today, this list is by no means all-inclusive. Many author websites found link you back to the most popular. This pathfinder is not exhaustive; it is a beginning - with as few overlaps as possible but still including the most useful sites. Whether you need biographical information, addresses, or book related activities, you should have the information at your fingertips...

Professional and Student Internet Resources

Collective Author/Illustrator Web Sites

[Education Place: Author Spotlight](http://www.eduplace.com/rdg/author/)

<http://www.eduplace.com/rdg/author/>

Highlights six authors. Each author includes links to Author's Bookshelf (list of books with summaries), About the Author (biographical information, writing career and their favorite authors links), Kidviews (reviews by kids), Classroom Connection (book related activities organized by subject area) and Ask the Author (interviews and FAQ).

[Internet Public Library/Youth: The Author Page](http://www.ipl.org/youth/AskAuthor/)

<http://www.ipl.org/youth/AskAuthor/>

Includes biographical information, FAQ with answers for numerous authors. Also contains numerous links to other authors' site and an informative read on how to find an author's address. Good comprehensive list of both children's and young adult authors.

[Children's Book Council](#)

<http://cbcbooks.org>

Great site with pages on Meet the Author/Illustrator and Archives (biographical information), Author/Illustrator Links, 75 Authors Everyone Should Know (divided by grade levels) and Author/Illustrator Visits

[Children's Literature](#)

<http://www.childrenslit.com/>

Features Meet the Author pages that have numerous author link indexed alphabetically. Includes book reviews with interest levels. Very user-friendly.

[Children's Authors – Bookspot](#)

<http://www.bookspot.com/authors/htm>

Author guides and index, book notes, signatures, discussions, gateways, resources and signings.

[The Scoop: Biographies](#)

<http://www.friend.ly.net/scoop/biographies>

Links to author sites with short annotations, Brief conversations with authors, background information and insights from author's themselves. Includes how to arrange an author visit as well as activities for teachers and children.

[700+ Great Sites for Children: Literature and Language](#)

<http://www.ala.org/parentspage/greatsites/lit/html#c>

Recommended site for children age PreK-14 compiled by the Children and Technology Committee of the Association of Library Services to Children (a division of the American Library Association). Includes links to other sites of author information both collective and individual.

[ASLC Homepage – Cool Sites for Kids](#)

http://ala.org/alsc/children_links.html

Links to popular author's official pages plus links to series book pages such as Animorphs, Arthur, Magic School Bus and more.

[The Children's Literature Web Guide: Authors and Illustrators on the Web](#)

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/~dkbrown/authorsmisc.html>

Alphabetical listing of authors for both children and young adults. Contains biographical information and links to other web pages including the author's official page. Includes teacher ideas for novel studies.

[De Grummond Children's Literature Collection](#)

<http://avatar.lib.usm.edu/~degrum/athill/htm>

Features links to author that have a strong presence on the web. Also provides links to series and characters websites, publisher page sites, and has site indexes for authors.

[Vandergrift's Learning About the Author and Illustrator Page](#)

<http://scils.rutgers.edu/special/kay/author.html>

Over 600 alphabetical links to biographies of children and young adult authors. Comprehensive list with good biographical information and other links to author pages. Unique feature of this site is that it contains bibliographies of videos and print resources about authors/illustrators.

[Children's Literature – Fairrosa Cyber Library](#)

<http://www.dalton.org/libraries/fairrosa/>

Lists of websites for both children's and young adult authors – some official author sites and some fan maintained. Includes page of author's birthdays.

[The Author Corner](#)

<http://www.carr.lib.md.us/authco/index.htm>

Provides author biographical information for authors that have been awarded the Margaret A. Edward Award, as well as other others. Lists links to author sites and other collective author websites such as the Internet Public Library, Vandergrift's Author Page, KidsClick! and others.

[Index to Children's and Young Adult's Authors and Illustrators](#)

<http://falcon.jmu.edu/~ramseyil/kidsauthors.htm>

Provides biographical information, online interviews, appearance dates, birthdays, bibliographies of print biographies and autobiographies and more for numerous authors. Also provides links to other collective author sites such as Author Biographies, Harper Children, Scholastic, etc. The unique aspect of this site is it has a page for author's name pronunciations.

[HarperChildren: Meet the Author](#)

<http://www.harperchildren's.com/hch/author/>

Contains numerous links to specific author websites, long detailed biographies, and pictures of the author at work and home. Very user-friendly.

[Individual Author/Illustrator Web Sites](#)

[Avi](#)

<http://www.avi-writer.com>

[Judy Blume](#)

<http://www.judyblume.com>

[Jan Brett](#)

<http://www.janbrett.com>

[Marc Brown](#)

<http://pbs.org/wgbh/pages/arthur/friends/mbbio.htm>

[Betsy Byars](#)

<http://www.betsybyars.com>

[Eric Carle](#)

<http://www.eric-carle.com>

[Beverly Cleary](#)

<http://www.teleport.com/~krcp/cleary.html>

[Bruce Coville](#)

<http://www.brucecoville.com>

[Tomie de Paola](#)

<http://www.bingley.com>

[Mem Fox](#)

<http://www.memfox.com>

[Virginia Hamilton](#)

<http://www.virginiahamilton.com>

[Will Hobbs](#)

<http://www.willhobbsauthor.com>

[Brian Jacques](#)

<http://www.redwall.org/dave/jaques.html>

[C.S. Lewis](#)

<http://www.CSLewis.DrZeus.net>

[Bernard Most](#)

<http://www.bernardmost.com>

[Robert Munsch](#)

<http://www.robertmunsch.com>

[Katherine Patterson](#)

<http://www.terabithia.com>

[Dave Pilkey](#)

<http://www.pilkey.com>

[Patricia Polacco](#)

<http://www.patriciapolacco.com>

[J. K. Rowling](#)

<http://www.harrypotter.com>

[Pam Munoz Ryan](#)

<http://www.pammunozryan.com>

[John Scieszka and Lane Smith](#)

<http://www.chucklebait.com>

[The Audrey Wood Clubhouse](#)

<http://www.AudreyWood.com>

Professional Print Resources

National Council of Teachers of English. ***Books that invite talk, wonder and play.*** National Council of Teachers of English, Urbana, IL: 1996. Includes essays by thirty-eight authors of Notable books in which they reflect on their own creative process. Discusses ways authors use language in different genres to challenge and entertain readers and explores books that promote cultural diversity.

- Buzzeo, Toni. ***Terrific connections with authors, illustrators and storytellers: real space and virtual links***. Libraries Unlimited, Englewood, CO: 1999.
Explains how teachers can use the Internet to find authors, illustrators and storytellers that will come visit the classrooms.
- Children's authors and illustrators: an index to biographical dictionaries***. Gale Research, Detroit: 1995.
Index to biographical references about children's authors and illustrators. Provides links to pseudonyms, birth and death dates and biographical sources.
- Children's Literature Review: excerpts from reviews, criticism, and commentary on books for children and young people. Vol. 1-10***. Gale Research, Detroit: 1986.
Each volume profiles twelve children's authors and illustrators from around the world and throughout history. Provides biographical information and excerpts of criticism.
- Ellis, Sarah. ***From reader to writer: teaching writing through classic children's books***. Groundwood Books, Distributed in the USA by Publishers Group West, Vancouver; Buffalo: Berkeley, CA: 2000.
Provides anecdotes about sixteen children's authors with information about their childhoods, reading habits and sources of inspiration. Features a read-aloud passage and writing activity based on each author's work.
- Gillespie, John. ***The Newberry Companion: booktalk and related materials for Newberry medal and honor books***. Libraries Unlimited, Englewood, CO: 1996.
Information about Newberry Award winning authors and books, arranged chronologically from 1922 through 1996. Includes plot summaries, suggestions on book introductions and suggestions for follow-up reading.
- Hurst, Carol Otis. ***Open Books: literature in the curriculum, kindergarten through grade two***. Linworth Publishing, Worthington, Ohio: 1999.
Includes literature based activities, matches picture books with twenty curriculum themes, features summaries of fourteen recommended books and presents profiles of twenty-five authors.
- Kovacs, Deborah. ***Meet the authors and illustrators: 60 creators of favorite children's books talk about their work***. Scholastic, New York: 1991.
Profiles 60 authors and illustrators emphasizing the process each goes through in creating children's literature. Includes creative activities. Grades K-6.
- _____. ***Meet the authors and illustrators: 60 creators of favorite children's books talk about their work***. Volume 2. Scholastic, New York: 1993. Grades K-6.
Profiles 60 more authors and illustrators emphasizing the process each goes through in creating children's literature. Includes creative activities.
- _____. ***Meet the authors and illustrators***. Volume 3. Scholastic, New York: Grades 5-8.

McEemeel, Sharron L. **100 most popular picture book authors and illustrators: biographical sketches and bibliographies.** Libraries Unlimited, Englewood, CO: 2000.
Contains alphabetically arranged biographical information about one hundred authors and illustrators of picture books.

_____. **An author a month (for dimes).** Teacher Ideas Press, Englewood, CO: 1993.
Highlights twelve authors and illustrators plus hundreds of books that stimulate reading in the classroom.

_____. **Bookpeople: a multicultural album.** Teacher Ideas Press, Englewood, CO: 1992.
Features fifteen creators of children's books with activities for integrating a multicultural approach to literature.

Wyatt, Flora. **Popular nonfiction authors for children: a biographical and thematic guide.** Libraries Unlimited, Englewood, CO: 1998.
Contains biographical sketches of over sixty writers of nonfiction books for elementary students and has a short message from the author to children. Includes author-title and subject indexes.

Student Print Resources

Collective biographies

Biography Today: author series: profiles of people of interest to young readers. 8 vols. Omnigraphics, Detroit. [IL: 3-8].
One volume published each year starting in 1995. Each volume contains 13 profiles of children's authors. Provides information on the author's life, career, awards, list of books and current address.

Lives and Works: Young Adult Authors. 8 vols. Grolier, Danbury, CT: 1999. [IL: YA]
Biographical information for over 250 young adult authors both classic and contemporary. Each three-page biography includes information about the author's life and work, black and white picture, important dates, and awards.

Major author and illustrators for children and young adults: a selection of sketches from something about the author. Gale Research, Detroit, MI: 1993. [IL: 5-8]
Contains almost 800 sketches of popular authors and illustrators featured in Gale's "Something About the Author" series.

Book Sets

Meet the Author Set. R.C. Owens, Katonah, New York. 26 individual titles. [IL: K-6]
Autobiographies that glimpse the daily life of favorite authors – how they

became writers and turned their ideas into books. Contains numerous pictures showing the author at work and play. Includes authors such as: Seymour Simon, Frank Asch, Johanna Hurwitz and Pat McKissack.

Young At Heart Set. Abdo/Rockbottom, Edina, Minn. 24 individual titles
[IL: 3-6]

Features the lives and works of authors such as A. A. Milne, Mark Twain, E.B. White, Judy Blume, Judith Viorst, R.L. Stine, and Lloyd Alexander.

World Writers Set. Morgan Reynolds, Greensboro, New Jersey. 12 individual
Titles. [IL: 5-8]

Features the lives and careers of children's and young adult authors, poets and others. Includes 10 individual author titles and 2 collective works, one about authors and the other on women journalists.

Woods, Mae. **Checkerboard Biography Library.** Abdo & Daughters, Edina,
Minn: 2000. [IL: K-3]

Set includes 6 titles for individual authors in a simple format for young readers. Authors are: the Berenstains, Tomie dePaola, Dr. Seuss, Charles Schultz, Maurice Sendak and Laura Ingalls Wilder.