



**Janeen Mason**, Author/Illustrator

[www.JaneenMason.com](http://www.JaneenMason.com)

772-220-1042 Studio

[visit@JaneenMason.com](mailto:visit@JaneenMason.com)

**Give them a day to remember!  
Checklist for a successful Author Visit**

My very favorite thing about writing and illustrating children's books is that I get to visit kids in schools. I work quietly in my studio day after day - caught up in my own world of make believe - then the day arrives when I actually get to come out and see my people! Thank you for this opportunity to visit with your students. When I'm on, I am alive with enthusiasm. We're going to have a great day together, and your students are going to talk about this for a long time. I'll give them my absolute best and I'll expect them to light up with ideas.

Let's think...

- Does your media center have my books available for checkout?
- Are 4th and 5th graders acting as reading ambassadors to the lower grades? Can they visit the younger classrooms, read my books and talk about my upcoming visit?
- Have you pre-sold my books? Will your order arrive with time to spare?
- Do you know about my reader's theatre manuscripts?
- Have you printed copies of my activity guides? Are your students already experts?
- Are your hallways decorated with art and stories inspired by my work?
- Do you have a morning news studio? I'm happy to create and send a YouTube video just for you to use ahead of time.
- Is your school marquee announcing my visit?

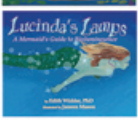
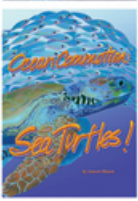
We're ready.

I'll arrive at least 30 minutes early on the day of my scheduled visit and I'll need an experienced AV person to help me with the technical end of things. Specifically I'll need a projection screen, a microphone, an easel, a rolling library cart for my laptop and projector, and plenty of bottled water close at hand. I love presenting in media centers whenever possible, and I'm going to need enough space to accommodate a floor map that measures 12'x18', as well as room enough for about 100 kids.

Half way through our day I'm going to want a quiet place and a simple lunch to recharge so the rest of the day will be equally exciting. When the day is through I'll autograph all of the books you've pre-sold. You'll want to lend me a couple of organized adults to help.

After the fact...

I LOVE getting illustrated thank you letters, and suggestions from teachers and media specialists on how to make my programs better. I'll look forward to hearing from you!



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