

SOUTHBANK CENTRE

Imagine a Story

A Creative Writing Project for Schools

Imagine a Story is the Southbank Centre's national creative writing project for Key Stage 2 pupils. Inspired by the game of consequences, it invites children to co-author a short story collection with the help of brilliant children's authors and illustrators from underrepresented backgrounds.

Students work together in the classroom to write their chapter, and a CPD workshop with the Centre for Literacy in Primary Education ensures you have the tools to inspire them.

The chapters your students write come together in a fully illustrated book, which we publish. And to celebrate, you're invited to a live performance with the collaborating author and illustrator. In this free project, every child becomes a published author!

How it works



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1

Apply online for your school to take part in the project.

2

Attend a CPD session supported by CLPE to develop whole-class creative writing techniques and receive a teachers' pack outlining the story framework.

3

Start writing! All schools are assigned their part of the story and write and edit it collaboratively as a class.

4

Submit your part of the story to the Southbank Centre by the deadline.

5

Attend the live performance in your local area with the *Imagine a Story* artists and receive your hard copies of the published book.



What's included?

- In-person or online CPD training session with the Southbank Centre and Centre for Literacy in Primary Education (CLPE)
- Teachers' Pack full of literacy and creative writing activities for the KS2 classroom
- A copy of the published book for every student participating in the project
- A live performance from the *Imagine a Story* artists in your local area
- Ongoing support from start to finish from the Southbank Centre Schools Team and *Imagine a Story* teacher network

IT'S FREE

'The whole class was completely inspired by this project. They were engrossed when writing and their ideas when writing collaboratively were incredible, and they got better and better throughout our writing. They absolutely loved that their ideas were in an actual, physical book, and that their names were in the book. It has helped to open the eyes of our Year 4 and shown them that they can achieve anything.'

**Year 4 Teacher,
Imagine a Story 2021/22**



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Why take part?

- Support children to develop their literacy and imaginative skills, including the following areas of the KS2 National Curriculum for English:
 - Developing understanding and enjoyment of reading and writing
 - Planning, drafting and evaluating their writing
 - Discussing words and phrases that capture the reader's interest and imagination
 - Developing well-structured descriptions, explanations and narratives
 - Using language to develop understanding through imagining and exploring ideas
- Increase diverse representation in children's literature and encourage young people to see themselves in their writing
- Encourage children's awareness of key issues of their time through the story narrative (e.g. wellbeing, climate change, inclusivity, equity, etc.)
- Open up access to pathways to careers in the arts and encourage children to see themselves as 'real life' authors

Get in touch

Our authors and illustrators

Since *Imagine a Story* began in 2018, we've worked with a range of authors and illustrators including Joseph Coelho, Dapo Adeola, Sharna Jackson, Zanib Mian, Selom Sunu, Alexandra Sheppard and Allen Fatimaharan.

To find out more and to get involved, visit southbankcentre.co.uk/schools or email us at schools@southbankcentre.co.uk

Southbank Centre

The Southbank Centre is the UK's largest arts centre, presenting world-class cultural experiences that bring people together. We run a packed programme of creative learning projects and participatory events to engage and inspire people of all ages and backgrounds. Spanning across music, literature, visual art, performance and heritage, our schools programme reaches hundreds of primary and secondary schools each year. We aim to inspire and excite children with incredible arts experiences, introduce them to new learning opportunities that develop artistic and creative skills, raise confidence, support wellbeing and inspire the next generation of artists.



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