

# School Visits

with  
Alice B. McGinty

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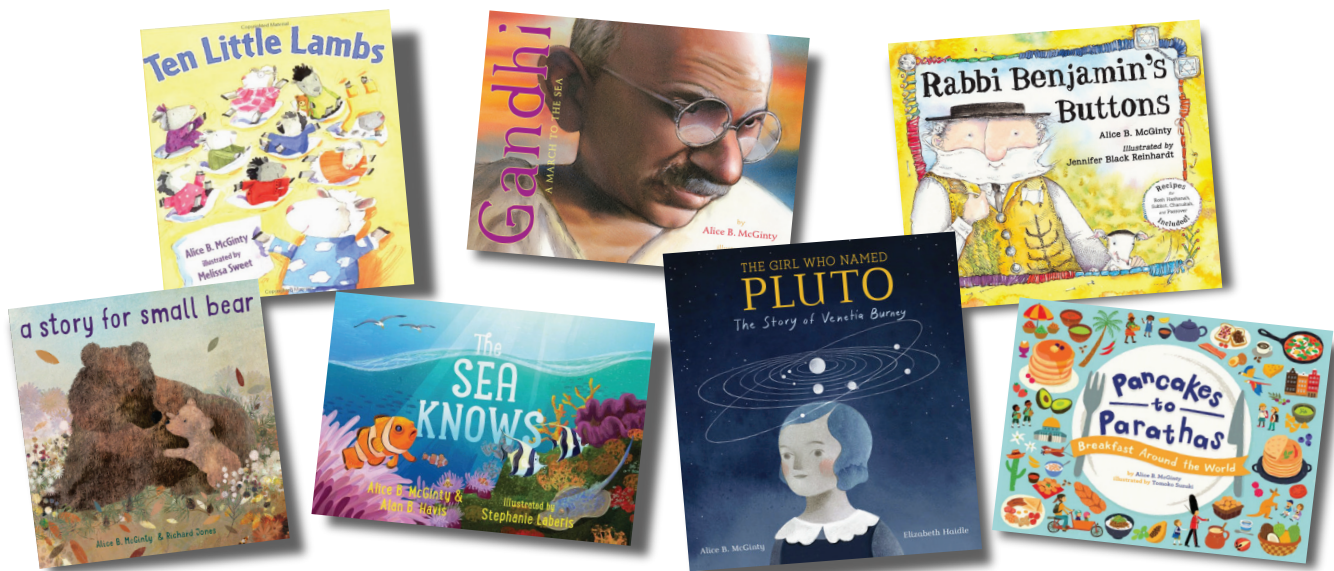
Now Booking!

Alice B. McGinty delights in igniting imaginations! As the award-winning author of over 50 books for children, she makes fiction and non-fiction accessible, engaging, and fun. Alice is an experienced presenter and has visited hundreds of schools and libraries around the world. Her interactive, energetic presentations bring excitement to writing through movement, music, and group participation.

Alice's presentations will augment your writing curriculum, helping students to understand ideas, organization, revision, and wordplay from an author's point of view. They will also empower students to discover their own perseverance, imaginations, and creativity.

To reserve a date or inquire about custom programming, please email Alice at: [alicebmcginty@gmail.com](mailto:alicebmcginty@gmail.com)

Visit [alicebmcginty.com/school-visits](http://alicebmcginty.com/school-visits) to learn more!



# Hello Educators!

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Sometimes I'm called a story detective. As an author, I take events from my life and craft them into stories. I also search out stories in other people's lives as I write biographies.

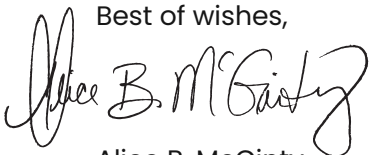
My main goal during presentations is to empower students to find the stories in their lives. They can take everyday events and craft them into plots. They can develop characters with interesting traits. They can play with words and let their imaginations fly! I want students to come away from a visit feeling the magic of language, story, and imagination -- knowing that they are story detectives!

As I develop my presentations, I think about YOUR needs, working with the curriculum while keeping our time together engaging and fun. I'm happy to work with you to tailor presentations to your particular curricular needs.

I believe that flexibility is key to a successful visit. I can focus on a variety of topics, including humor, story, wordplay, rhythm, biography, non-fiction and more. I'm comfortable leading any sized group, from small workshops to large assemblies, and have experience working with all age levels. I taught pre-school children for years, currently run a summer writing camp for teens, and have taught adults and college students as well. Whatever the level, I will read the needs of the group, connect with students, challenge them, and keep them involved.

Thank you for considering me for a school visit. There is nothing I like more than to share my enthusiasm for books and writing with students. I would love the opportunity to work with you!

Best of wishes,



Alice B. McGinty





# Presentations

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As well as doing traditional author visits, assemblies, and keynotes, Alice's school workshops include:

## **A Story for Small Bear (Pre-K - Grade 1) ALSO OFFERED AS A VIRTUAL PROGRAM**

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Join Alice McGinty as she reads A Story for Small Bear (Small Bear puppet helps!), sings the interactive Small Bear song, and teaches participants a special "finishing song," so they can help Small Bear puppet transition from one activity to the next without dillies or dallies.

*A No-dilly, No-dally, No Nagging, No Tantrum Bedtime*

In an additional discussion with parents and teachers, Alice shares Mama Bear's Tips for Bedtime including the magic formula for motivation. She'll also discuss tips for helping children transition from one activity to the next.

## **Dig Deep Explorers (with The Sea Knows co-author, Alan Havis) (Pre-K - Grade 2)**

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Help young explorers learn to observe and explore the natural world around them (even in their own backyards), by starting with what they know and developing curiosity by asking questions which will help them reach wide and dig deep.

## **Catch The Rhythm**

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Using poetry, spoken language, books, and song, participants will catch the rhythm of language. We'll write it, draw it, move it, clap it, sing it and drum it! (Gr. K-3, wkshop or assembly)  
(IL Goals 25.A.1c, 26.A.1d, 8.A.1a)

## **How Life Inspires Stories**

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How do authors take real life events and turn them into books? In this assembly, Alice will explain how authors turn life into story, how she has taken ideas from her life and developed them into books, and how students can create stories from events in their lives as well. Participants will develop their own group story and share several of Alice's books interactively using music and hand motions. (Gr. K-5 assembly - content will be adapted to fit age range of audience)

## **What's So Funny**

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From outrageous characters and silly situations to pure nonsense, we'll explore humor in writing and practice the skills you need to make your writing funny.  
(Gr. 3-5, workshop or assembly)

# Presentations

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As well as doing traditional author visits, assemblies, and keynotes, Alice's school workshops include:

## **The Stories Behind the Stories**

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Alice shares the stories behind her books, both fiction and nonfiction, and discusses the process of writing and publishing books.

(Middle and High School, workshop or Assembly)  
(IL Goals 2.A.3c, 2.A.4c, 27.A.3a)

## **Pop Goes The Button**

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In this program for Jewish Day Schools and Synagogues, Alice brings her book Rabbi Benjamin's Buttons to life with an interactive reading, along with props. This engaging, energetic program includes singing Pop, Goes the Button!, along with other group activities to encourage mitzvot and community. (Grades K - 5, and family programs).

Alice is happy to provide programming for any religious group focusing on community building and charity.

## **A Kindergarten Surprise**

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In this hands-on workshop, the author reads her books, Eliza's Kindergarten Surprise and Eliza's Kindergarten Pet. Students make a large "Mommy doll" during the assembly and classes will be given supplies for each student to make a Mommy doll later in the classroom.

(Gr. K) (IL Goals 2.B.1a, 2.B.1c, 26.B.1d)

## **Thank You, World – A Family Story Making Assembly**

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Hooray for books and stories! This energetic program introduces families to Alice and her books. Using multimedia and group activity, we read several of Alice's books, talk about story making, and put families to work together making stories. We'll sing songs, hear stories, create stories, and end by reading Thank you, World and making a school Thank you, World souvenir.

(Family Nights, Assemblies, and workshop for Gr. K-5)

# Testimonials

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What people are saying about Alice B, McGinty:



"Everyone is talking about how great you were! Wow! You truly blew us away. We can't wait to have you back!" - *Caryn Pienta, Theodore Roosevelt School*

"Thank you for the amazing visit!" - *Diane Nelson, Darien, IL*

"Thanks for three great days of presentations, Alice! All the schools loved you!!!" - *Tish Houston, Lake Forest Schools*

"Loved Alice's humor and the stories behind the stories." - *Linda Oshita, Northern Illinois Reading Council*

"Alice B. McGinty was a pleasure to have at our family literacy night. She was inspiring and entertaining for everyone. Her energy and enthusiasm were contagious with our students. She surpassed all of our expectations for our event!" - *Caryn Pienta, Theodore Roosevelt School*

"Your level of audience interaction exceeded our expectations, kept everyone engaged, and inspired many of our students."

"One of the things students really struggle with is how to start a story. It was eye opening and enlightening for the students to see how you being to develop your story through very simple ideas."

"Alice McGinty is a warm, inviting author whose presentations are interactive, entertaining, and informative. She incorporates movement and fun along with reading and writing tips. Her gracious and welcoming manner will not disappoint any audience. Do not hesitate to have Alice McGinty come to your school!" - *Karen Roth, Librarian, Lincoln School, Ottawa, IL*



# Preparing For Your Visit

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Thank you for your interest in having me visit your school! Preparing the students ahead of time can help make the visit more meaningful for all of us and more educational for the students.

First, and most important, please have the students read at least one of my books. This will foster a much stronger connection during the visit! If you let me know which books the students have read, I can be sure to talk about them during the presentation.

## **Building Excitement**

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Next, you can help build excitement for the visit by having classes do projects with the books during the weeks before the visit. I LOVE to walk into the halls and classrooms of a school and have students and teachers show me the projects they've done, based on my books! I'm so impressed by the great work, and this type of preparation helps foster student engagement when I'm there. For activity ideas, you can look here (provide link) to find curriculum guides for several of my books.

Another way to prepare is to send home a flyer and book order form to parents several weeks in advance. If there is space available, parents can even be invited to attend the visit.

## **Space and Technical Needs**

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Presentations are normally 45 to 60 minutes in length – a 40 - 45 minute presentation followed by Q&A. Pre-K and K groups work best with 40 to 45 minute time slots.

Please schedule at least 15 minutes between presentations.

Please also provide a microphone (a lavalier is strongly preferred) and an 8 foot rectangular table at the front of the room for book display. For the "Catch the Rhythm" Assembly, a small white board and folding chair or stool is needed. For the other assemblies, please provide a digital projector and large screen.

# Book Orders

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## First

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The school can order them at a discount from the publishers, and then either sell them to students at the discount or sell them at full price and use the profits to help fund future assemblies.

## Second

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You can work with a local bookstore or order the books through IndieBound, Barnes and Noble, or Amazon. Give link to website with book ordering links.

## Third

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I can order the books for you. I give schools a \$2 discount from list price on each book. After you collect book orders and let me know numbers (I need numbers two weeks prior to the visit) I order the books and bring them with me on the day of the visit. Included in this packet is a book order form which you can distribute before my visit to students. If you are using a bookstore and not all the books on the form will be available for sale, you can adjust the form for your use.

I am happy to sign books! I can do this ahead of time or on the day of the visit. I'm also happy for teachers to bring in students who've ordered books in small groups on the day of the visit so they can see me sign their books.



## Book Ordering Contact Info from Publishers:

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Pancakes to Parathas: Breakfast Around the World (Little Bee Books):

Simon & Schuster customer service

Phone: 1 (800) 223-2336

Email: [customer.service@simonandschuster.com](mailto:customer.service@simonandschuster.com)

Rabbi Benjamin's Buttons (Charlesbridge Press):

Distributed through Penguin Random House

Phone: 1 (800) 733-3000

Gandhi: A March to the Sea, Eliza's Kindergarten Surprise, or Eliza's Kindergarten Pet (Two Lion's Press/Amazon Children's Publishing):

Contact Brilliance Audio: Darci Swanson, CSR

Phone: (616) 935-1713 Fax: (616) 935-1813

Email: [dswanson@brillianceaudio.com](mailto:dswanson@brillianceaudio.com)

Ten Little Lambs: [Out of print] but Alice has many remainders. Contact Alice to order.

Email: [alicebmcginty@gmail.com](mailto:alicebmcginty@gmail.com)

To order any of the nonfiction books from Rosen Publishing, contact Arelene Riley – Director Customer Care, Phone: (646) 205-7461

Email: [custserv@rosenpub.com](mailto:custserv@rosenpub.com)