

Rebecca Berrett

## Children’s Picture Books: Design and Illustrate your Dummy Rough /Foundations

### Workshop Summary

Any dummy can unravel the mysteries of a Children’s Picture Book, if you come to this workshop. Come and design a story working initially from a storyboard to create a 32-page dummy rough. This may be the beginning of a new children’s classic!

### Workshop Outcome

Participants will complete a dummy 32-page rough of a Children’s Picture Book. This workshop will cover sequencing, pagination, varying viewpoints, book design conventions and illustration possibilities.

### Educational Component

Learning experiences involve students in research, development and resolution of ideas related to children’s book design. Students explore a book from a thematic base or story focus along with the needs and desires of the reader.

Approaches to book design could be two-dimensional or three-dimensional, individual or collaborative.

Response in book design is as a mockup, rough or small-scale prototype.

### Length

2 days for Adults and Secondary School

1 day for Upper Primary

Longer workshops can be arranged.

### Audience

**Age:** Adults, Secondary School, Upper Primary School

**Level:** All levels of ability, with some art/drawing experience for adults preferred

**Group:** Youth Programs

**Max No. Participants:** 15



### Materials List

#### Participant Requirements:

- 20 sheets of A3 photocopy paper or cartridge paper for dummy rough and layout designs
- A4 photocopy paper for roughing out on, plenty of it.
- 2B, HB, 2H pencils, rubber, ruler, sharpener.
- Scissor and glue stick.
- Any reference material needed to help illustrate the story: magazine cut-outs, photos, sketches, objects and examples of lettering which appeal.

#### Venue Requirements:

- Tables and chairs
- Access to water
- Tea and coffee facilities
- Roll of newsprint, whiteboard and lightbox if possible.

#### Materials Levy:

Not applicable.

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### Workshop Outline

Participants bring along a story to illustrate that they own copyright to because they have written it, have permission to use it from the story’s author or it is an out-of-copyright story such as a traditional nursery rhyme etc.

Participants bring reference material needed to illustrate their story (magazine cut-outs, photos, sketches, objects etc).

#### Day 1

- Introduction to book design of a 32 page picture book
- Pagination: breaking up and apportioning your text
- Consistency across 32 pages using the Head-High Method
- Sequencing of your character
- Storyboard and thumbnail roughs
- Varying viewpoints for greater visual interest
- Page design: borders versus bleed-off and other possibilities

#### Day 2

- ‘All the world’s a stage’ and picture books are no exception!
- How a story unfolds across each double spread ‘stage’
- Word importance: type, speech bubbles, hand-drawn calligraphy as part of the overall book design
- Reference material, its importance and how to gather it
- Memory as a visual reference source and resource, ‘drawing memories’ and ‘drawing on memories’
- The cover and title pages and their importance
- Completion of the Dummy Rough for dummies!
- Conclusion and the where to from now



### Artist Bio

Rebecca Berrett is a children’s picture book author and illustrator and has published 21 books. Calligraphy and artist books are part of Rebecca’s work and she has extensive experience in bookbinding. Working full time from her studio in Bundaberg, Rebecca has tutored to all age groups.