Meet the Authors
Sign Pack #2

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created by Amanda - www.teachingmaddeness.com
Mo Willems grew up in New Orleans. He once spent a year traveling around the world, drawing a cartoon every day. He began his career working for Sesame Street where he earned 6 Emmy Awards.

He went on to work for Nickelodeon and Cartoon Network where he became head writer. He left that job to become an author of children’s books!
Roald Dahl was born in South Wales in 1916. He fought in the second world war as a fighter pilot, but was badly injured when his plane crashed. After the war, he began working in America and soon started writing stories.

He believed books should be funny, exciting, and wonderful. Many of his books have been made into movies! He died in 1990.
Ann Martin was born in 1955. She grew up in Princeton, NJ with her parents and younger sister. She always loved to write!

She became a teacher and then an editor of children’s books. She is now a full-time writer. She is best known for her Baby-sitters Club series that ended in 2000.

She now lives in New York with her dog and cats. One of her favorite things to do is to make clothes for children, but she still writes books for them, too!
Barbara Park grew up in New Jersey as the baby of her family. She did not start writing books until she had children of her own. In fact, as a child she hated writing assignments! It wasn’t until high school that she developed a love for reading. Now, it makes her smile that she writes books that children like to read!

Today, she lives in Arizona near her two sons and their families. In her spare time, she likes to eat frozen M&M’s.
Marc Brown was born in Erie, Pennsylvania in 1946. When Marc was a boy, he thought his Grandma Thora was the best storyteller in the world! When Marc grew up and had his first child, he began telling him stories. One night the story was about an aardvark who did not like his nose. That is how the Arthur series began!

Marc finds ideas for his stories in the little things that happen around him everyday. Did you know he likes to hide the names of his children in the pages of his books?
Cynthia Rylant never dreamed of growing up to become a writer. She grew up in West Virginia, loving comic books and the outdoors. When she went to college and took an English class, she became hooked on writing! Her first book *When I Was Young in the Mountains* was an instant success. Most of her stories come from her memories of growing up in the Appalachian mountains. Today she has many pets that live with her in the Northwest.
Tomie dePaola was born in Connecticut in 1934. He knew at the age of 4 that he wanted to be a writer and illustrator. As a child, his mother would read him books and he would draw pictures to show the stories.

Many of the books that he writes are based on his childhood. He has written over 200 books and won a lot of awards. Today, he lives in New Hampshire with his dogs.
Chris Van Allsburg always loved to draw, but it wasn’t encouraged when he was little. Most boys played football or played other sports, but Chris loved to tell stories through his pictures. He created his stories by asking himself, “what if?”. When he comes up with an idea, he imagines the pictures and then tells a story around those images. His pictures always have something strange or puzzling about them. Even though his books are picture books, he doesn’t think they’re just for kids!
Jane Yolen grew up in New York City. She was a good student who loved to write and sing. As a child, she worked with her brother to interview neighbors and create a newspaper for their apartment building. They sold them for 5 cents each to buy candy and comics.

After college, she became an editor and continued writing. She never thought she would become an author of children’s books, though.
Mary Pope Osborne grew up in a military family that was constantly moving around the United States. She never minded the moving. In fact, when her family finally settled in North Carolina, Mary craved the adventure of new places.

After college, she traveled the world! Then, one day, out of the blue, she wrote a story. Now, more than 30 years and over a hundred books later, she feels very lucky to be able to travel the world through her writing and still be back home in time for dinner.