



Writing Novels for Tweens and Teens: Mastering Connection in this Big Wide World

Who Is My Instructor?

Kiri Jorgensen

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Bio

Kiri Jorgensen is the Publisher and Senior Editor at Chicken Scratch Books. She is also a writer, teacher, entrepreneur, wife, and mother. Her involvement in the world of children's literature spans almost three decades from several different angles. She taught school for 16 years where she created writing curriculums for elementary and middle school students. She has written and produced over 30 stage plays for children, and taught writing to kids, teens, and adults in multiple settings and genres. As a sought-after editor, she also served as the Regional Advisor for SCBWI Montana where she organized physical and online learning opportunities for writers across the nation. Since starting Chicken Scratch Books in 2020, her varied skillset has been put to good use. Her passion is all books middle grade and she loves to work with authors to bring their vision to its strongest form.

Course Overview

In this class, writers will learn the ins and outs of the kidlit world, the story elements that are vital for these ages, and how to craft their own stories to connect with their readers. We'll deeply explore voice, motive, and plot, plus a dive into how to pitch your story to agents or publishers. Classes will include instruction, lots of examples, worksheets for practice and application, and opportunities to submit your own writing for analysis. To get the most out of the class, participants should have a partial or completed manuscript. Students in planning stages of writing will also benefit, and can use the course to push them in writing a first draft.



How Does The Course Work?

This Master Class is designed to help you build, analyze, and revise a full-length novel for tweens or teens. The instruction and tools you'll receive will support you in your writing journey.

You will meet via Zoom each week for 2-hours. These sessions will be recorded, but you will get more out of the Master Class by attending live and engaging.

This course meets on Mondays from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm (Mountain Time)

Zoom Link

Meeting ID:

Passcode:

You will find handouts, zoom links, announcements, and other resources in the course site.

[LDSPMA Moodle Courses](#)

How Will I Share My Work?

There is a weekly Discussion and Work Sharing place in your course site. There is a link in the instructions walking you through how to post and reply.

What If I Have a Technical Issue?

Contact Lisa Kidder

- lkidder@ldspma.org
- 208-254-0145 (call or text) Include "MC" in the text.

How Long Will I Have Access to the Course?

You will have access to the course through July 1st.

What Is The Schedule?

Week	Dates	Writing Novels for Tweens and Teens	Work Focus	Live Zoom Session
1		Intro to the World of Kidlit and How You Fit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insider publishing info to understand and find your correct place 	
2		Mastering Character Voice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Methods to secure a strong, consistent, relatable voice 	
3		Mastering Character Motive: Instinctual Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyzing Choice Index to understand risk tolerance and instincts in your characters 	
4		Mastering Character Motive: Conscious Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyzing the layers of conscious motive to keep your character in the driver's seat 	
5		Connecting Motive to Plot for a Character-Driven Tale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crafting a three turning point scene structure that ties motive directly to plot 	
6		Where Does Your Story Start?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying where the motivational action starts 	
7		Mastering Your Marketing Pitches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crafting loglines and 100 word pitches to shine 	