

Activity Gallery



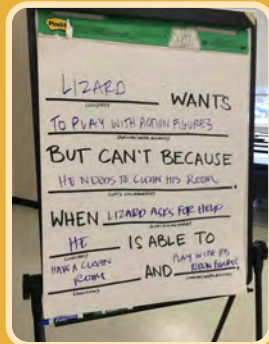
JFK 4th Grade
Franklin, Massachusetts



4th of July Parade
Huntington Woods, Michigan



Loon Lake Elementary Hallway Display
Wixom, Michigan



Gardens Elementary PreK - 2nd Grade Presentation
Marysville, Michigan



Bookstore Visit with Saturn Booksellers
Gaylord, Michigan



Quarton Elementary Author Visit Activity Sheet
Birmingham, Michigan

AMY NIELANDER

**Children's Picture Book
Author, Illustrator
and
Presenter**



Bronze Medal Book Award Recipient
Independent Publisher



International Finalist
Silent Book Contest

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Books



POMEGRANATEKIDS
Ages 4 to 8 | ISBN: 9780764971877

The Ladybug Race

"Rarely has a swarm of bugs been so charming."
Publishers Weekly

Contrary to popular belief, there is more than one way to win a race. One tiny Ash Gray Ladybug believes he can win by being compassionate and kind to others. Brimming with color and movement, this wordless picture book unites hundreds of ladybugs from around the world.

Themes: *compassion, kindness and teamwork*



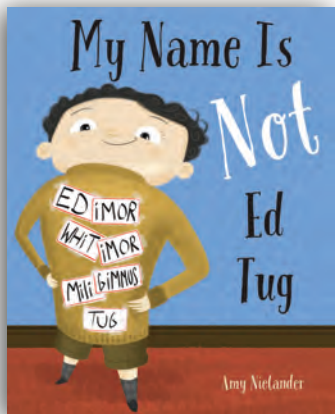
PAGE STREET KIDS
Ages 4 to 8 | ISBN: 9781624149269

Grama's Hug

"This incredibly tender story packs a lifetime's worth of emotion into 40 pages,"
★ Starred Review, Booklist

May and Grama are a team. They do everything together, from birdwatching to preparing for the annual Space Fair. They never, ever say goodbye without a hug...until one day that moment (almost) slips away.

Themes: *intergenerational relationships, gratitude and traditions*



WEST MARGIN PRESS
Ages 4 to 8 | ISBN: 9781513134871

My Name Is Not Ed Tug

"Edimorwhitimormiligimmus Tug's kind determination to share part of his family's story by helping others remember his name is heartwarming and impactful."

Leah Kenney, Royal Oak Library Head of Youth Services

Edimorwhitimormiligimmus Tug has a very special name. But his teacher thinks it's too long, too hard to say, and too difficult to spell. One day she decides he must shorten it to...Ed. Steeped in family love, this story empowers young readers to own their identities and proudly celebrate who they are.

Themes: *names, family and self-identity*

School Visit Presentations

I love sharing my creative process with students from Pre-K to high school (as well as with aspiring adult writers/illustrators)! We can work together to design a workshop or presentation with your school's needs and interests in mind.

Below are current sessions I offer that can be tailored to different age groups and virtual platforms.

BUILDING A STORY ^{← Most popular!}

How Do You Write and Illustrate a Picture Book?

In this session, readers will learn how I created both text and illustrations for a story. We'll focus on *Grama's Hug* or *My Name Is Not Ed Tug* (school's choice) and I'll use my "Story Steps" to break down the story-making process. Each step represents an element needed to create a fictional story: inspiration, problem, characters, research, revisions and...teamwork (in the book publishing phase)! This engaging presentation invites participation, even during virtual visits!



MIGHTY MAIN CHARACTERS

How Do You Create Powerful Characters?

Who are your favorite characters? Students will learn how to develop their own cast of story characters by creating personality traits. We'll explore popular characters in literature and discuss what makes them memorable. I'll share the evolution of my own character designs and identify how revisions strengthened them. This fun presentation concludes with kids nominating a favorite book character for your school!



YOUR STORY JOURNAL

Turning Your Experiences into Stories

Each story I create stems from a favorite memory, detail or sometimes even a sentence blurted out by a nearby stranger! I share my abstract story journal with students and show them how it generates story concepts. In this interactive presentation, we'll create a rough Mad Lib style two-sentence story kids can continue to develop after my visit!



Please contact Amy at amy@amynielander.com for School Visit and Conference Rates