

# Allison Gutknecht School Visits 2017-2018

*Don't Wear Polka-Dot Underwear with White Pants (and Other Lessons I've Learned)*  
*A Cast Is the Perfect Accessory (and Other Lessons I've Learned)*  
*Never Wear Red Lipstick on Picture Day (and Other Lessons I've Learned)*  
*Pizza Is the Best Breakfast (and Other Lessons I've Learned)*  
*The Bling Queen*  
*Spring Break Mistake*  
*Sing Like Nobody's Listening (to be published 1/16/18)*  
All books published by Aladdin/Simon and Schuster.

## Overview:

My presentation consists of:

- a brief bit about my background, including a section on who I wanted to be when I grew up (i.e. encouraging the students to follow their individual passions);
- a description of where I get ideas for stories and how I bring those ideas to life, using my books as specific examples;
- a longer section on the writing process, as related to the students' own lives/writing.

I end with a Q&A, and I also always have book-specific bookmarks to give to all of the students to whom I present.

My regular presentation lasts 50 minutes, including the Q&A, though I usually do a shorter session for kindergarten and/or first grade (25 minutes). I can do up to three presentations during the course of the day, or in place of one of the presentations, I'm willing to do a writing workshop with a small group of students (the workshop tends to work best with third or fourth graders).

## Pricing & Scheduling:

My rate for schools is a \$500 honorarium for up to three presentations, plus travel expenses. If your school is within 75 minutes of Voorhees, NJ, there is no additional fee for travel. (Note: I live primarily in New York City (Manhattan), so for schools in the NYC area, I only require a car service/Uber to/from the school). Please note that I only book school visits on Fridays.

## Book Ordering:

I ask schools to make my books available for the students to order beforehand, and I sign the books while at the school that day. Books can be ordered from your local bookstore, which provide discounts for bulk orders (usually 20%). The Mandy Berr series is aimed at 7-10-year-olds; *The Bling Queen*, *Spring Break Mistake*, and *Sing Like Nobody's Listening* are aimed at 9-13-year-olds.

## Photos:

Photographs from previous school visits can be found on my website under "Past Events," if you would like a visual of how the day usually goes: [http://allisongutknecht.com/News\\_Events.html](http://allisongutknecht.com/News_Events.html)

## Questions:

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions you may have concerning my school visits at [allison@allisongutknecht.com](mailto:allison@allisongutknecht.com). References from previous school visit locations are also available upon request.