

#### **GUPPY SCHOOL: VIRTUAL EVENTS WITH TAYLOR DOLAN**

Taylor Dolan was born into a house of stories and raised in Texas. Her mother used to read to her every night, and together they made their way through the worlds of Narnia, Oz and many more. Sometimes, when Taylor is feeling blue, her mother still reads to her and does the best voices for all the characters.

Being a happy booknerd, she attended the Cambridge School of Art for her Master's Degree in Children's Book Illustration. She was overjoyed to find a whole herd of booknerds to spend quality time reading quietly together with. She now lives in Arkansas, while using her imagination to pretend she still lives in Cambridge.



She is the author and illustrator of the middle-grade fiction series

"Ghost Scouts" with Guppy Books, and has also illustrated for clients such as The Folio Society, Hitrecord.org, Carlton Books, Harper Collins, Scoop Magazine (Macmillan) and Levi's.



**Further Qualifications:** 

#### GHOST SCOUT series

Written and illustrated by Taylor Dolan

A hilarious and enchanting illustrated chapter book about the adventures of a gang of ghost scouts.

Two-colour yellow & black illustrations throughout.

Ghost Scouts: Welcome to Camp Croak PB £6.99 – 9781913101060

Ghost Scouts: Hullabullo at Camp Croak PB £6.99 – 9781913101138

- Emmy for Creative Achievement in Interactive Media-Social TV Experience 2014, HitRecord on TV, Los Angeles, California
- Emmy for Outstanding Innovation in Interactive Programming 2020, HitRecord on TV, Los Angeles, California

Represented by Plum Pudding Illustration Agency

#### **EVENT ENDORSEMENTS:**

"Big Thank YOU to Taylor and Katie for their amazing double-act, the children loved it as did the schools." – **Corinne Gotch, Tales on Moon Lane** 

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"what a FANTASTIC impact Taylor's visits had upon the schools here in Lancashire. Thank you so much for giving us the opportunity to work with Taylor, it was fascinating chatting with her." - **Jake Hope, Librarian** 

"The children absolutely loved Taylor and Katie - what an amazing double act! Ghost Scouts has been on constant loan from the library since the talk. Thank you so much to you and to Guppy Books and of course to Taylor and Katie for coming along and inspiring the children." – **Nina, Chandlings School** 

"Taylor and her Mum were fabulous to work with and the youngsters and teachers thoroughly enjoyed their events." - **Elaine, Silverwood Events** 

"We had the most amazing day with Taylor and her Mum and Bella! The session with over 270 children was brilliant. The children loved it and have been snapping up copies of Ghost Scouts ever since... Taylor is so charismatic the children were quite enchanted with her!" - **Deb Texiera, Paddox School** 

# ABOUT MY EVENTS

Option 1: Ages 5-10, 45 minutes

Potential Lesson Plan (to be increased or reduced depending on size, attention span etc.)

- a. Introductory song options
  - i. "The Little Old Lady Who Wasn't Afraid of Anything"
  - ii. "Boom-Chicka-Boom"
- b. Short powerpoint presentation: Where did my story ideas come from?
  - i. My childhood: I was a Girl Scout
  - ii. The stories my mom read to me: Narnia Series, Alice, Little House on the Prairie, A Wrinkle in Time
  - iii. Where I grew up: Texas, oh dear dear Texas
  - iv. You become a part of every story you read, that's the magic of books!
- c. Southern Slang translation practice or Southern Slang Quiz
- d. Dramatic reading of chapter one
- e. A draw-along on!
- f. Time for questions
  - I will have sent the teachers/librarians a packet in advance so they can prep the kids to write down questions before they arrive

Option 2: Ages 10+, 45 minutes Potential Lesson Plan

- g. Short introductory powerpoint presentation:
  - i. Where did my story ideas come from?



- ii. What am I working on now?
- iii. What does the life of an illustrator/author look like?
- h. Three Lesson Choices
  - i. Lesson Focus: Creative Writing for Kids
    - For schools that want to focus on the process of writing
  - ii. Lesson Focus: The Joy and Tricks of Reading Out Loud
    - 1. For small groups interested in performance and theatre
  - iii. Lesson Focus: Ghoul Scout Badge Design-Palooza
    - 1. For schools interested in creating a tangible product
- i. If there is time, a quick and fun draw-along!
- j. Time for questions
  - I will have sent the teachers/librarians a packet in advance so they can prep the kids to write down questions before they arrive

# FAQ

## Is there any recommended preparation for the sessions?

There is no preparation needed, although it is always more fun if some of the kids have read my books.

## What materials, if any, do the students need for the session?

If we are doing a draw-along, it would be helpful for the students to bring art supplies and paper. I will need access to a computer, projector and large drawing pad!

## Do I need to organise for your books to be sold at the session?

Yes please. If you have a local bookshop they should be able to arrange pre-orders for the session.

#### Are you happy to sign and send book plates for books sold?

Of course! I have a special stamp of my favourite characters to add in as well!

## FEES AND BOOKING

Contact Taylor for more information on rates and to check availability:

taylorkdolan@gmail.com