



Inspire Writing: Collins Big Cat Writing Competition

Become a Published Author with the Collins Big Cat Writing Competition!

Ever wanted your pupils to become published authors? To have their writing read by children and teachers around the world? Collins Big Cat is running a competition for children in Years 4 and 5 (Scottish Primary 5 and 6), and we will publish the two best entries as Collins Big Cat books.

Themes

There are three different genres to choose from and we've thought of the themes to help get your children started. Your pupils can either write:

- A poem inspired by a piece of music
- A play about being together
- A story about something odd happening.



How to Enter

All you need to do is print the entry form included in this pack, fill in your details and photocopy for each of your pupils. Send in all entries by **Friday 12th February 2010**, complete with your school's details and a signed parent/guardian permission slip for each entry.

Details

The competition is open to pupils in Years 4 and 5 (Scottish Primary 5 and 6). Entries should be between 50 and 100 words and will be published within Band 3/Yellow for children in Year 1. The two best submissions and four runners-up will be selected by Series Editor Cliff Moon and former Children's Laureate Michael Rosen.

The two lucky winners will be announced at the end of March on www.collinsbigcat.com/writingcompetition and notified by post. As well as having their pupil's work published, the schools of the two winners will receive a selection of Collins Big Cat books including a copy signed by Michael Rosen. The schools of the four runners-up will receive £100 worth of Collins Big Cat books of their choice.

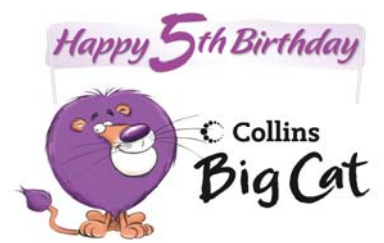
Extra Material

- Author interviews on writing with award-winning Collins Big Cat authors
- Downloadable posters
- Video footage of Michael Rosen talking about his passion for writing

And more... simply go to www.collinsbigcat.com/writingcompetition

Good luck writing!





Collins Big Cat Writing Competition: Judges' Guidelines

Collins Big Cat is running a writing competition, with the two winning titles to be designed, illustrated and published as a 'real' book within the series.

- Competition entries can be a piece of **free writing** in any one of the following three genres: poetry, drama or prose.
- To get children started, there is a theme for each genre: the poem – inspired by a piece of music, the play – inspired by 'being together', the story – inspired by something odd happening.
- The writing competition is open to all children in Years 4 and 5 (Primary 5 and 6 in Scotland.)
- Entries need to be between 50 and 100 words.
- The winning entries will both be published as part of the Collins Big Cat series in Yellow/Band 3, so the target audience is Year 1 (Scottish Primary 2) children.
- The judges will select four runners-up and two winning entries – one from Year 4 and one from Year 5.
- Entries will be judged on whether the writing is unique and fresh, whether it has a coherent structure – so is full and finished, whether the themes have been used and whether it has been written with the target audience in mind.





Parent/Guardian Permission Form

Please ensure that the following permission slip is signed by the pupil's parent/guardian and returned, along with the entry form, to: Charis Enga, Collins Education, 77-85 Fulham Palace Road, London, W6 8JB

I _____ hereby give permission for my child _____ to participate in the 2010 Collins Big Cat Writing Competition. I agree that on submission of their entry all rights to the work are assigned to HarperCollins Publishers Ltd. I hereby waive my child's moral rights in the entry. I also give permission that, should my child receive either the winner's or runners-up prize, HarperCollins may use their name and image for future marketing purposes.

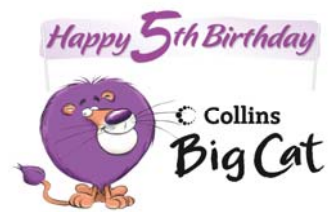
Signed _____

Date: _____.

Name:

Address:





Competition Terms and Conditions

1. This competition is promoted by HarperCollins Publishers ("HarperCollins"), 77-85 Fulham Palace Road, London, W6 8JB.
2. This promotion is open to all children resident in the UK in years 4&5 of primary education (Scottish years P5 and P6), as well as to all school pupils in Europe, the Middle East and Asia following the British school curriculum in the same year groups, except relations of HarperCollins employees (or their parent, subsidiaries or any affiliated companies) and their immediate families, who are not allowed to enter the competition
3. To enter, please print the 'Competition Pack' on www.collinsbigcat.com/writingcompetition and return a separate entry form for each pupil complete with their entry to: Charis Enga, Collins Education, HarperCollins Publishers, 77-85 Fulham Palace Road, London W6 8JB. Pupils entering the competition must send the permission from the Competition Pack signed by their parent or legal guardian.
4. The closing date for entries is Friday 12th February 2010 at 11.59pm. No entries received after this date will be valid. No purchase necessary. Only one entry allowed per pupil.
5. Two winners' prizes (one for a pupil from year 4 and one from year 5) and three runners-up prizes will be awarded. The prize for the two winning pupils is that their story may be published as a Collins Big Cat book as part of Band 3 (Yellow) and if HarperCollins decides to publish their book they will both receive five free copies of the finished, published book. The two winners will also receive a selection of Collins Big Cat books including a copy signed by Michael Rosen for their schools. Three runners-up will each win £100 worth of Collins Big Cat books of their choice for their respective schools. The winners' prizes will be decided upon first, then the runners-up, though all parties will be notified at the same time following the judges' decision. By entering this competition you agree that if you win and HarperCollins decides to publish your entry as a book no payment will be made to you for the book or any sales of it, and you agree to assign all rights in the book to HarperCollins.
6. The prizes are non-refundable, non-transferable and subject to availability. No guarantee is given as to the quality of the prizes.
7. No cash or prize alternatives are available.
8. HarperCollins reserve the right in their reasonable discretion to substitute any prize with a prize of equal or greater value.
9. The winners of the competition will be selected by Michael Rosen and Cliff Moon based on the instructions in the Competition Pack.
10. The winners and runners-up will be notified by letter as well as an announcement on www.collinsbigcat.com/writingcompetition no later than the 29th March 2010. Entrants should ensure that they retain a copy of their entry for their own records as HarperCollins will not be able to return any entries received. HarperCollins reserve the right to alter the text in any way they see fit, without prior consultation or notification of the author.
11. The winners will receive their signed books no later than 31st May 2010; the publication of their Collins Big Cat book is contingent upon publishing schedules. It is anticipated that they will be published in January 2011, though this is subject to change.
12. Any application containing incorrect, false or unreadable information will be rejected. Any applications made on behalf of or for another person or multiple entries will not be included in the competition.
13. HarperCollins' decision as to who has won the competition shall be final.





14. To obtain the name of the prize winner after the closing date, please write to Charis Enga, Collins Education, HarperCollins Publishers, 77-85 Fulham Palace Road, Hammersmith, London, W6 8JB.
15. The entry instructions are part of the Terms and Conditions for this competition.
16. By entering the competition you are agreeing to accept these Terms and Conditions. Any breach of these Terms and Conditions by you will mean that your entry will not be valid, and you will not be allowed to enter this competition.
17. By entering this competition, you are agreeing that if you win your name and image may be used for the purpose of announcing the winner in any related publicity with HarperCollins, without additional payment or permission.
18. Any personal information you give us will be used solely for this competition unless you have consented otherwise on your application and will not be passed on to any other parties without your agreement. HarperCollins' privacy policy can be found at: <http://www.harpercollins.co.uk/legal/Pages/privacy-policy.aspx>
19. Under no circumstances will HarperCollins be responsible for any loss, damages, costs or expenses arising from or in any way connected with any errors, defects, interruptions, malfunctions or delays in the promotion of the competition or prize.
20. HarperCollins will not be responsible unless required by law, for any loss, changes, costs or expenses, which may arise in connection with this competition and HarperCollins can cancel or alter the competition at any stage.
21. Any dispute relating to the competition shall be governed by the laws of England and Wales and will be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the English courts.