



Joseph Theobald

1. Tell us a bit about yourself.

I like to travel around the world spending time in different countries and seeing how different people live.

2. When did you start writing? How old were you?

I was 5 years old and in my first year of primary school. I would go in to class every morning and tell my teacher a sad story. So she helped me to write them down, and I would draw the pictures.

3. Why do you write and draw? What motivates you?

I enjoy drawing and painting very much. The writing part is more challenging but I really feel like I have achieved something when I manage to write a good story.

4. How do you start to write and draw?

For the writing I try to build a story around a basic emotion that anyone can relate to. For the pictures just start sketching characters and landscapes that come to mind at the time. I also really enjoy using colours to create atmosphere.

5. How do you get inspiration for writing and drawing?

I like to watch people. I think adults and children are very much the same when it comes to behaviour.





6. Where and when do you write and draw? Is there a good time of day?

For writing and sketching I like to find a quiet place without any distractions so that I can let my mind drift. When I'm painting the thinking part is over so I like to be around other people painting so that I can chat at the same time. Any time of day is fine.

7. What was your favourite book as a child and what did it mean to you?

I had two: 'Where the wild things are' and 'Haunted house'. I think I liked being taken into strange lands and feeling scared of monsters.

10. What are your top tips for budding young writers?

1. Let your imagination run wild.
2. Find inspiration in your own experiences and the world around you.
3. If an idea makes you smile to yourself while you are writing, that's good.
4. Write down your ideas before you forget them.

Joseph Theobald has written the following title for Collins Big Cat:

ISBN: 978-0-00-718597-9 Arthur's Fantastic Party: Band 06/Orange

ISBN: 978-0-00-718688-4 When Arthur Wouldn't Sleep: Band 06/Orange

