

Resource Books for Young People Who Want to be Published

WRITING SKILLS

A Writer's Notebook: Unlocking the Writer Within You
by Ralph Fletcher.

**Getting Kids Published: A Practical Guide For Helping Young
Authors See Their Works In Print** by Jamie Whitfield.

How Writers Work: Finding a Process That Works for You
by Ralph Fletcher.

Juicy Writing: Inspiration and Techniques for Young Writers.
Allen & Unwin.

Poem Making: Ways to Begin Writing Poetry
by Myra Cohn Livingston.

Poetry Matters: Writing a Poem for the Inside Out
by Ralph Fletcher.

Spilling Ink: A Young Writers Handbook.
by Anne Mazer and Ellen Potter.

Teen's Guide to Getting Published
by Danielle Dunn & Jessica Dunn.

**What's Your Story? A Young Person's Guide to Writing
Fiction** by Marion Dane Bauer.

PUBLISHING

**Children's Writer's & Illustrator's Market: 1,000 + Editors and
Art Directors Who Want Your Work.**
by Writer's Digest Books, annual.

The Ultimate Guide to Student Contests, Grades K-6
by Scott Pendleton. .

The Young Writer's Guide to Getting Published
by Kathy Henderson.

See Your Name in Print



10 Tips for SUCCESS

HOW YOUNG WRITERS AND ILLUSTRATORS CAN BECOME PUBLISHED

If you want see your work in print in a "real world" publication, here are the steps you should follow:

1. **Research places that accept stories and/or illustrations from young writers and illustrators.** These places might include magazines, newspapers, local contests and national competitions. An excellent source for listings is **CHILDREN'S WRITER'S & ILLUSTRATOR'S MARKET**, published annually by Writer's Digest Books, Cincinnati, Ohio
2. **Read the entries.** If it sounds interesting to you, send a letter of request and an SASE (Self Addressed Stamped Envelope) to the publisher for the submission guidelines.
3. **Study the guidelines.** If you still think your work fits the style and tone of the publication, prepare your manuscript or illustrations to send to the publisher.
4. **Type your story.** When you type your manuscript on the computer, be sure it is double-spaced. Be sure to put your name, address, and telephone number in the upper left-hand corner along with any other information the publisher requires. In the upper right-hand corner, type the total number of words there are in your story. **Do not exceed the maximum number of words the publisher has listed in the guidelines or the editor may not read your story.**

5. **Type a brief cover letter.** Tell editor the name of the story you are submitting and how many words long it is. Add any information about yourself you feel might interest the editor. Do not tell what your story is about. Let the editor find out as s/he reads it.

6. **Prepare the envelopes for mailing your manuscript.** Take two 9x12" envelopes. Address one to the editor at the publishing house of your choice. Address the other envelope to yourself (this is your SASE - a Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope). Place postage stamps on them both. (You will need at least two stamps per envelope.) Fold the SASE and place it inside the one that is addressed to the editor.

7. **Prepare your manuscript for mailing.** Paper clip your story together. Place your cover letter on top. Place them together in the 9"x12" envelope which is addressed to the editor and publishing house.

8. **Make a record of your submission.** Keep a list telling the name of your story, the name of the publisher you sent it to and the date you sent it. Do this for each story you send.

9. **Mail your manuscript.** While you are waiting for a reply, write another story and send it off.

10. **Record the date that you receive a reply from the publisher.** Celebrate when you get good news!

by Alexis O'Neill
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