



## Explore, Express Create

On September 4th, thirteen of our lucky year 5 students participated in a special event organised by the Commissioner of Children and Young people at the Maritime Museum in Fremantle.



The students participated in an "Explore, Express, Create" workshop with some famous authors: Morris Gleitzman and Mark Greenwood, and illustrators: Frane Lessac and Dianne Wolfer.





# Explore, Express, Create

The workshop is part of a project by the  
**Office of the Commissioner for children  
and Young People** to give young people  
more voice as members of the  
community.

**Morris Gleitzman** ran a workshop aimed at getting students ready to put "the first sentence" down on a page. He said sometimes the words race out of our minds but at other times they can be elusive; hard to find.

Morris read some first sentences from some of his books and had the students write some too.

He said it is important to give the reader an idea of the main problem faced by the main character in that first sentence:

*'Uncle Bart,' said Limpy, 'why do humans hate us?'* From Toad Rage

*I'm so dumb. I never thought I'd say that about myself, but after what I've just done I deserve it.* From Blabbermouth

*'Angus Solomon,' sighed Ms Lowry. 'Is that a penis you've drawn in your exercise book?'* From Bumface

You may like to try coming up with the first line of a new story / book.

## Ask the KIDS

**Is there anything you would like to teach your teachers about READING?**

Reading is more than just the words.

It makes us think "outside the box."

Reading makes our imagination grow.

It puts us into other people's shoes.

Let us read.

You don't have to be any age to read any book.

Let us ask questions about the books (instead of always being asked questions about them).

Reading is not just for education, it's also for fun.

Read us books that change the world.

Books inspire us.

Give us more reading time and a wider choice of books so we can learn about new things. Reading should not be a chore.

Make reading more lively, fun and entertaining.

## Ask the KIDS

**Is there anything you would like to teach your teachers about WRITING?**

There is no wrong answer in an adventure.

Everyone's writing has a part of the writer in it.

Writing is about "going for it." It doesn't have to be perfect.

Give us more sustained time to write and time to tweak and perfect our writing.

We should be able to write in any style or manner that we like.

Let us write more poetry.

Our own stories help us grow.

It doesn't matter what others think of our writing. It matters what we think.

Let our imagination run wild.

More listening to us, less telling us.

Don't use writing prompts!

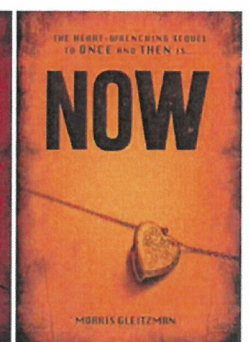
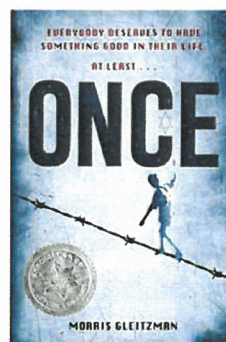
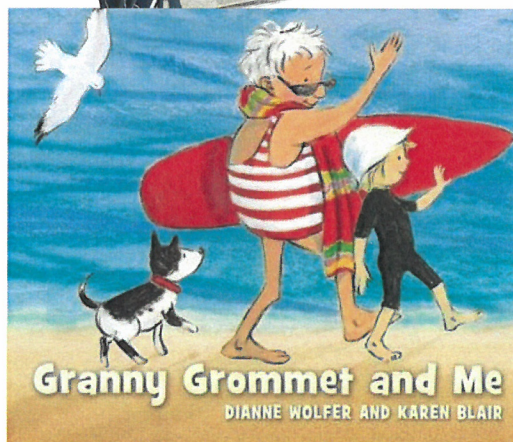
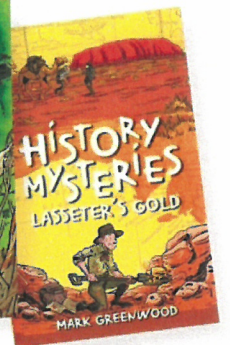
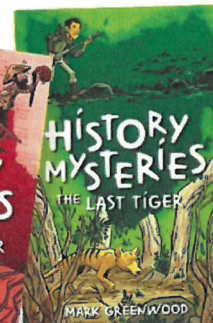
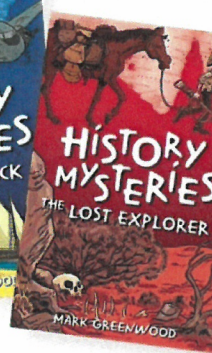
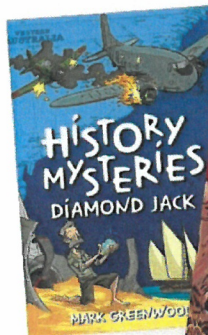
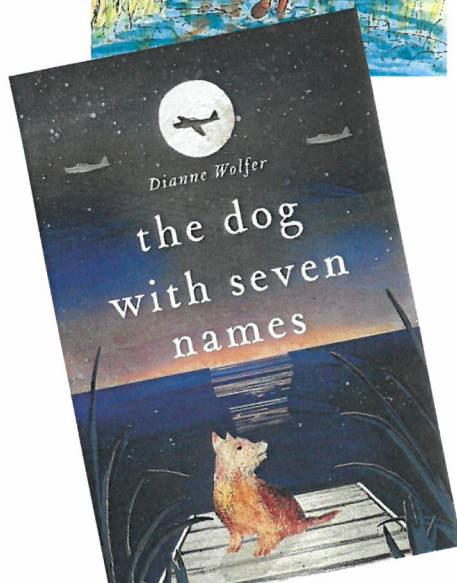
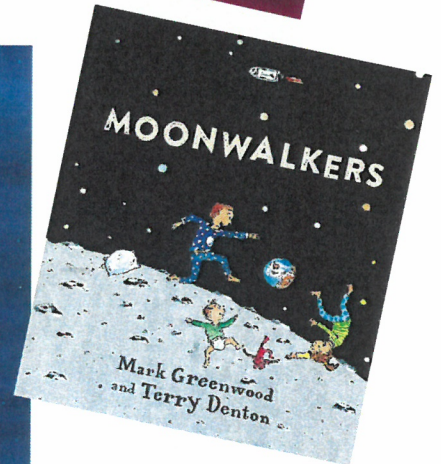
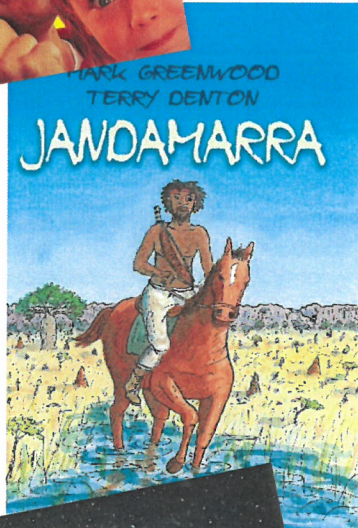
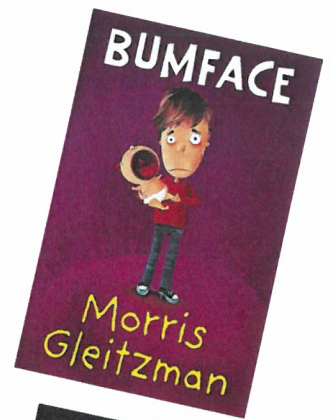
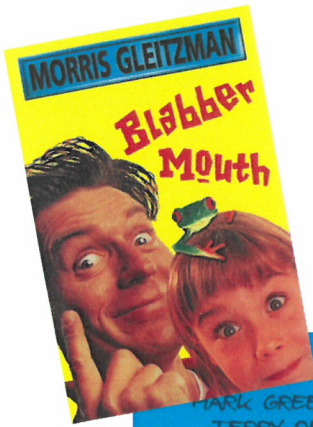
Don't look for spelling mistakes, look for adventure.



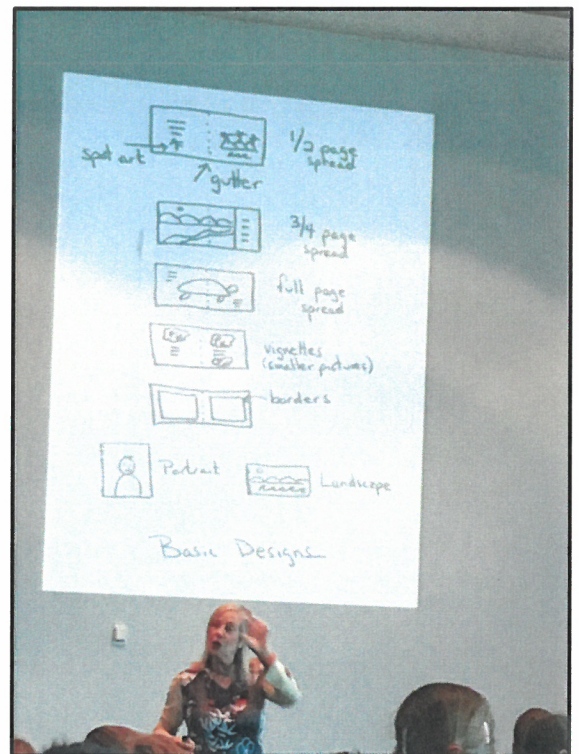
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Commissioner  
Y for Children &  
Young People







As expected, our Secret Harbour students behaved impeccably. They made thoughtful and creative contributions to the workshop and thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to participate.

