

Alexandra Palace Children's Book Award

BIBLIO - BUZZ

Author Challenge

with Kirsty Applebaum



Author of
The Middler

Get Buzzin
about Books x



Email your submission to
learning@alexandrapalace.com

HAVE FUN & GOOD LUCK!

BIBLIO BUZZ AUTHOR CHALLENGE



What's it
all about?



Welcome budding novelists and reading enthusiasts!

We have joined forces with seven celebrated children's authors: **Aisha Bushby, Kirsty Applebaum, Helen Peters, Libby Scott & Rebecca Westcott, Stewart Foster and Thomas Taylor** to bring the finale of the annual Biblio Buzz reading initiative online between 4 – 16 May. You have voted for your favourite books and the results are being counted, but before announcing the winners, we would like to offer you **the opportunity to get involved** one more time, with a series of **creative writing challenges**.

Each author has recorded a reading from their much-loved stories, and has set you a **creative writing challenge** laid out in this pack. Please send copies of your stories and responses to:
learning@alexandrapalce.com

Will you accept the
challenge?

Good Luck!



Don't worry if you haven't read the books...

You can still enter the Author Challenges, and maybe win a prize of book tokens, tickets to GoApe or Alexandra Palace Ice Rink.

WOW!



BIBLIO BUZZ AUTHOR CHALLENGE

Meet the Author



Kirsty Applebaum



I'm a middler!



Kirsty was born in Essex and grew up in Hampshire. She has had a wide variety of jobs including bookselling, railway re-signalling, picking stones off conveyor belts, putting lids on perfume bottles and teaching Pilates. She now is a full time writer (**The Middler** is her first book) and lives on top of a hill in Winchester, not far from the butterfly fields that influenced the setting of **The Middler**.

Now, are you ready for the challenge?





This challenge explores **narrative point of view (POV)**:
which is about the perspective through which a story is told.

Kirsty's Challenge

There are four primary POV types in fiction:

First person point of view.

First person is when "I" am telling the story.

The character is in the story, relating his or her experiences, opinions and feeling directly.

I know everything!



Second person point of view.

The story is told to "you." Not common POV in fiction, and is used more often in non-fiction.

Third person point of view, limited.

The story is about "he" or "she."

This makes the narrator outside the story telling the character's experiences.

Barry is not omniscient!



Third person point of view, omniscient (meaning 'knowing everything').

The story is still about "he" or "she," but the narrator knows everything about all the characters in the story.

How do you know?



"When I first started The Middler, I wrote it from an eldest child's point of view. It wasn't even called The Middler. I wrote a lot of words! but I knew it wasn't quite working. Then I had a flash of inspiration. I decided to re-write the whole thing from a middle child's point of view instead. Suddenly the story felt right and I had a great new title as well."

Looking at a story from a different point of view can trigger ideas and bring a piece of writing to life, so that's what Kirsty's Biblio Buzz challenge is all about.

Gosh!



First, choose one of the characters from **The Three Little Pigs** and the **Big Bad Wolf** - the first little pig who builds a house out of straw, the second little pig who builds a house out of sticks, the third little pig who builds a house out of bricks, or perhaps the big bad wolf itself.

Next, imagine you are this character and re-write part of the story from their point of view. It can be a scene from the beginning, the middle or the end. You don't even have to stick to the real story if you don't want to - you can make up your own version, as crazy as you like!

Write in 'first person', as if you are your character, using I/me/my. For example:

I peeped out between the bushes and saw three little pigs strolling down the road. Three delicious little pigs, happy as can be. My stomach rumbled.

I smiled a secret, hungry smile.

Are you ready?



Before you start, **you can get your creativity flowing** by asking yourself these questions: What sort of mood is your character in? **Happy? Worried? Excited? Scared?**

Will their mood change during your scene?
What does your character **see/smell/touch/hear/taste** during your scene?

I'm buzzin...



TOP TIP: A mood change will help to hold your reader's attention.

If your character is one of the pigs, why did your particular pig choose **straw/sticks/bricks**?
What are your character's hopes and dreams?

What are their biggest fears? How do they feel towards the other characters in the story? What will your character be trying to do?
Will something stop them?

Great tips!

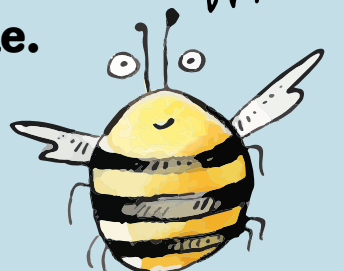


TOP TIP: If something (or someone) stops a character doing what they want to do, it makes the story more exciting.

Are there any other characters in your scene?

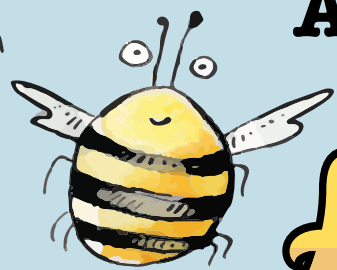
TOP TIP: bringing in another character can liven up a scene. It also provides a chance for you to write some dialogue.

Happy Writing!



Have fun with the challenge, happy writing.

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Author Challenges

Look out for more challenges buzzing
around throughout May



Aisha Bushby

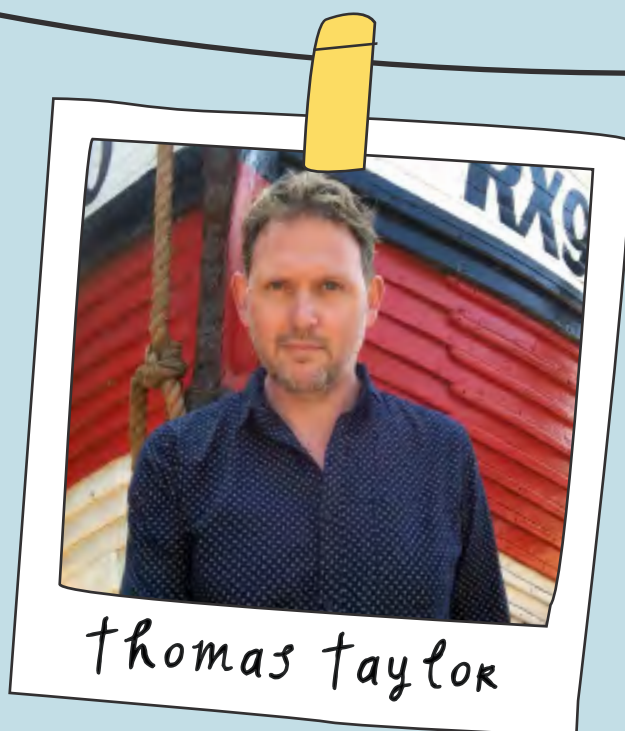


Stewart Foster



Rebecca Westcott

The authors are **looking forward** to reading your submissions
so **don't forget** to send them in to learning@alexandrapalace.com



Thomas Taylor



Helen Peters

Yours will BEE
BRILLIANT!



Challenges close end of June 2020

Prizes for the best submissions will be announced in July.
Email your submissions to learning@alexandrapalace.com

Good luck!
xo



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