

Wanted: Student Writers/Illustrators



We are sponsoring a Mystery Story Writing Contest!

- Think of a mystery story you want to tell – it can be about anything!
 - You might want to write the mystery story completely on your own
 - You might want to use [this organizer](#)
 - You might like to fill your story in using [this framework](#)
- Make sure your story has...
 - A puzzle to solve
 - A bad guy/gal (antagonist)
 - A good gal/guy (protagonist)
 - Clues to help solve the mystery
 - A good beginning (*grab the reader's attention*)
 - An interesting middle (*a good plot with interesting events and a problem to solve*)
 - An exciting ending (*wait until the end to reveal the answer to the mystery*)
- Write it in whatever technology you would like - a word processor, Power Point presentation and so on – it just has to be a piece of writing.
- You can illustrate it if you like using:
 - (electronic or hand drawn / scanned) or
 - “Public domain” pictures or clip art
 - www.pdclipart.org/
 - www.public-domain-photos.com/
 - www.public-domain-photos.com/free-cliparts/
 - www.bestphotos.us/
 - www.easystockphotos.com

Send your Mystery Story to us by **December 17th, 2010** and your story will be reviewed by our panel of judges.

Prizes you could win! 1st prize is a Kindle e-book Reader, 2nd and 3rd prizes are .mp3 players, 4th and 5th prizes are Apple Store gift cards

Virtual Voices Village

Fall Activity – Mystery Story

This fall, SET-BC and Virtual Voices Village (www.vvillage.org) invite BC students to participate in a mystery story writing activity.

A good mystery leaves subtle clues as the story is told. These hints lead toward a conclusion, but should keep the reader guessing until the end.

- What does a mystery story need?
 - A puzzle to solve
 - An antagonist
 - A protagonist
 - Clues to help the reader and the protagonist solve the mystery
 - Wait until the end to reveal the answer
- How to get started:
 - Read or watch some good mystery stories
 - Pay attention to details around you
 - Think of some good main characters – just 2 or 3 is enough!
 - Write out the plot
 - Write a draft and get someone to read it.

Students may wish to visit [Mystery Net](#) to read a mystery and try to solve it. It might give them ideas about what makes a good mystery story.

***All students who submit a mystery story will be entered into the contest with their story being reviewed by a panel of judges. Students may use the idea generating documents to get them started. Five prizes will be given: 1st prize is a Kindle e-book reader, 2nd and 3rd prizes are .mp3 players, 4th and 5th prizes are Apple Store gift cards. All prizes will be awarded. Mystery stories will be published on the Virtual Voices Village website.

Deadline for Mystery Story submissions is **4:00 p.m. (Pacific) Friday, December 17th, 2010**. Story judging will take place the first week in January.

Submission Instructions...

1. Each submission must be accompanied by an information form and a signed form granting SET-BC permission to post the student's work on the website. You will find this form attached – please include it with the story itself or FAX it to us if submitting electronically.
2. If you are submitting stories **physically** please send to: SET-BC, 105-1750 West 75th Ave, Vancouver, BC V6P 6G2 (attention: Virtual Voices Village).
3. Stories can also be submitted electronically – if they are less than 4 MB in size, they can be emailed to: submissions@vvillage.org. Remember to attach or FAX the permission form! If the

story is larger than 4 MB, please upload your files to <http://sendspace.com> making the recipient "submissions@vvillage.org".

4. If you have any questions at all about submitting your student's work, don't hesitate to contact us at submissions@vvillage.org. We will be happy to help you!

Finally, please ensure that any work submitted...

- is original student work that does not contain copyrighted material or material or images that would violate any third party rights
- does not contain any photographs or images of other students unless the appropriate permission forms are also signed by their parents

Student Work / Photo / Audio / Video Permission Form

Dear parent/guardian,

Special Education Technology – British Columbia (SET-BC) sponsors a student-focused website called Virtual Voices Village (www.vvillage.org). This site is dedicated to showcasing BC student news, events, and work and offers regular opportunities for students to submit their work, photos, and multimedia projects. We request permission to profile your child or your child's work on the Virtual Voices Village website and/or the main SET-BC website (www.setbc.org). All materials will be used in positive ways to promote awareness of the potential for students using technology in the schools and in the community.

Consent for Publication of Written/Visual Art, Photo and Multimedia

I grant permission for my child's work / photo / audio or video recording to be published on the Virtual Voices Village (vvillage.org) and / or the SET-BC website (setbc.org).

Student's Name: _____

(Please Print)

Parent/Guardian's Name: _____

(Please Print)

Parent/Guardian's Signature: _____

Date: _____ Parent/Guardian's Daytime Phone: _____

Please return completed form to
SET-BC, #105-1750 West 75th Ave, Vancouver, BC V6P 6G2
or FAX 604-261-2256

If you have any questions about this permission form, please call 604-261-9450 ext 0.

SET-BC is a Ministry of Education Provincial Resource Program designed to assist BC schools in educating students whose access to curriculum is restricted primarily due to physical disabilities, visual impairments, intellectual disabilities and autism.

For more information on our program, please visit www.setbc.org.

Student Information Form

Name of Student: _____

School / School District: _____

Grade level: _____

School Contact for Student: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Name of Project: _____

Type of Project / File format (e.g. Powerpoint .ppt, video .avi, document .doc, etc.)

Additional information to be included on www.vvillage.org web page:

(e.g. How did the student create the project? Were others involved?
What technologies were used? Was it presented to the class?)

Please return completed form with student work to
SET-BC, #105-1750 West 75th Ave, Vancouver, BC V6P 6G2
or FAX 604-261-2256 or email submissions@vvillage.org