

Author Visits That Inspire Curiosity, Kindness, and Creative Thinking

Through stories, discussion, and interactive activities, Dr. Heather Friedman Rivera's school visits help students build literacy skills while discovering that they already have what it takes to think like detectives and storytellers.

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“What Happens During a Visit”



During a school visit, students are introduced to the Kitten Kaboodle Detective Agency series and guided through an interactive experience that blends storytelling, critical thinking, and imagination. Depending on grade level, visits may include a read-aloud or book discussion, a behind-the-scenes look at how stories are created, and a hands-on activity that encourages students to observe details, ask questions, and share ideas.

Each visit is designed to be engaging, flexible, and age-appropriate, reinforcing reading comprehension, creative expression, and problem-solving skills while keeping students actively involved.



“I love helping students realize that they already think like detectives—every time they ask a question, notice something new, or imagine what might happen next.”

— Dr. Heather Friedman Rivera

About the Author

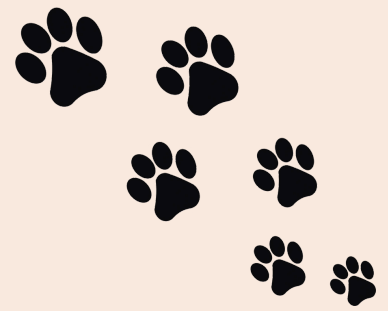
Dr. Heather Friedman Rivera is a children’s author who brings stories, curiosity, and creative problem-solving into classrooms through engaging author visits. She is the creator of the Kitten Kaboodle Detective Agency series, a set of chapter books that invite young readers to think like detectives—asking questions, noticing details, and working together to solve mysteries. She has written eleven books for young readers, including the Kitten Kaboodle Detective Agency series. She previously worked as a reading specialist with students from PreK through fifth grade at a local school, supporting literacy development across a wide range of ages and abilities.

During her school visits, Dr. Friedman Rivera encourages students to see reading and writing as active, imaginative processes. Her presentations emphasize curiosity, kindness, and confidence, helping students discover that their own ideas and observations matter. With a warm, approachable style, she connects easily with students while supporting literacy goals in an age-appropriate and interactive way.

Dr. Friedman Rivera lives on Hawai’i Island and enjoys visiting schools both virtually and in person to share her love of stories and creative thinking.



Grade-Level Visit Options



Grades K–2: Storytime & Detective Thinking

Designed for younger students, this visit introduces children to the joy of stories through an interactive read-aloud and group discussion. Students meet the characters of the Kitten Kaboodle Detective Agency and learn how detectives use curiosity and careful observation to solve problems.

Through guided questions and simple activities, students practice listening, noticing details, and sharing ideas. The visit emphasizes kindness, teamwork, and the idea that every student's thoughts and observations are important.

Length: 30–40 minutes

Format: Read-aloud, discussion, movement-friendly interaction

Grades 3–5: Becoming a Junior Detective

This visit invites students to step into the role of Junior Detectives. Using examples from the Kitten Kaboodle Detective Agency series, students explore how authors create mysteries, develop characters, and plant clues within a story.

Students participate in a hands-on detective-style activity that encourages critical thinking, inference, and creative problem-solving. The session reinforces reading comprehension skills while showing students how curiosity and imagination fuel both reading and writing.

Length: 40–50 minutes

Format: Discussion, interactive activity, Q&A

Grades 6–10: Behind the Scenes of Storytelling

For older students, this visit focuses on the creative process behind writing a book—from idea to finished story. Students learn how stories begin, how characters evolve, and how writers revise their work.

The session encourages thoughtful discussion, questions, and reflection, helping students connect storytelling skills to their own writing and creative projects. This visit is especially well-suited for language arts classes, writing groups, and creative enrichment programs.

Length: 45–60 minutes

Format: Discussion-based presentation, Q&A



School visits are available both virtually and in person and can be tailored to fit class periods, assemblies, or grade-level groups. To schedule a school visit or request additional information:

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