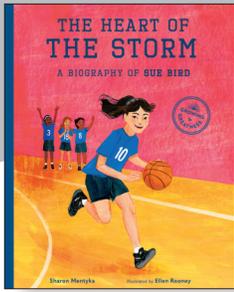


School visits and workshops with author Sharon Mentyka

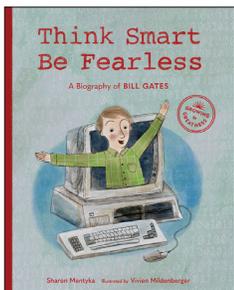


NEW!

The Heart of the Storm: A Biography of Sue Bird

Picture book biography, ages 5-9

Meet five-time Olympic gold medalist Sue Bird: a young girl who follows her heart to become a basketball champion and take the WNBA by *Storm*. **Story themes and related curricula:** overcoming adversity; diversity and inclusion; gender equality. Timeline and educator's guide.



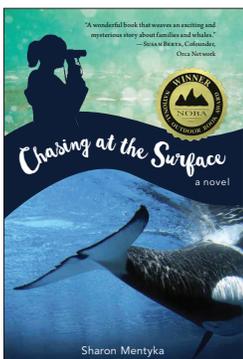
Think Smart, Be Fearless: A Biography of Bill Gates

Picture book biography, ages 5-9

"Eye-opening for young people who take their technology for granted. A motivational and inspiring read."
~ Kirkus Reviews

How do fearless ideas begin?

Travel along with young Bill Gates on his life's journey full of curiosity, discovery, hard work, and most of all—fearlessness. **Story themes and related curricula:** computer history, STEM, global health, infectious diseases, philanthropy. Timeline and educator's guide.



Chasing at the Surface

Middle grade fiction, ages 8-12

"Like the eerily beautiful voices of the orcas in the ocean, this book will haunt readers." ~ Kirkus Reviews

Winner 2017 National Outdoor Book Award; **Outstanding Science Trade Book, 2017**, K-12 NSTA / Children's Book Council

A twelve-year-old girl's struggle to help free a pod of trapped orca whales leads her to a new understanding of the assaults humans have had on nature and the complicated meaning of family and home. **Story themes and related curricula:** courage, forgiveness, adoption, personal responsibility, environmental issues, Northwest history, natural science of killer whales, habitat conservation.

I LOVE VISITING SCHOOLS!

Sharing my books and talking to students about story-making and writing is one of my favorite things to do as a writer. The complexity and style of my presentations for schools, libraries and bookstores can be modified to best suit the needs of each audience. In-person or virtual visits are available.

For more information: email: sharon@sharonmentyka.com
phone: (206) 251-2498 **website:** www.SharonMentyka.com

CURRENT PRESENTATIONS

Making History Come Alive!

How to Use Biography to Open the Door to Nonfiction

Grade level: 1-5 (40 minutes)

True stories can be just as inspiring as fiction, but sometimes nonfiction feels like "work" to kids. Enter biography! When kids read about the lives of real people doing very real things, suddenly history comes alive! Working with her picture books "The Heart of the Storm: A Biography of Sue Bird" and "Think Smart, Be Fearless: A Biography of Bill Gates," Sharon will share her research, writing and offer fun ways that kids can use biographies to open doors thru nonfiction, making connections across all sorts of subject areas.

The Tail Behind the Tale: How the Story of a Pod of Trapped Orcas Became a Children's Book

Grade level: 1-6 (50 minutes)

Kids often wonder how writers get the ideas for their stories. Sharon will take your students on a journey, showing how writers—and kids—can use ordinary events they know and learn in real life and turn them into extraordinary stories. Students also get a behind-the-scenes peek at how a story turns into a physical book.

Is That Me — or You?

Grades 1-3 or Grades 4-6 (30-50 minutes)

What would it be like if one day you woke up, looked in the mirror and saw somebody else? In this fun writing workshop, students role-play what it would feel like, inside and out, being that "other" person. Using one of a writer's most important tools—show, don't tell—students learn how sensory detail can enliven writing, gaining a good dose of empathy along the way!