CLA Blog: Instructions to Authors

About the CLA Blog

The CLA Blog aims to support PreK-12 and university teachers as they share children's literature with their students in all classroom contexts. The Blog publishes posts written by CLA members. The blog features a new post every Tuesday.

Blog Editors:
Xenia Hadjioannou
Lauren Aimonette Liang
Liz Thackeray Nelson

Blogpost Types

Posts
1. Highlight a great online resource available to teachers and how it might be effectively utilized to support engagement with children's literature, *or*
2. Offer a description of a short lesson using children's literature that educators might be able to use in their instructional settings.

Contributing a Blog Post to the CLA Blog

Signing Up to Contribute a Post

If you are a current CLA member and you would like to contribute a post to the *CLA Blog*, please email co-editor Liz Thackery Nelson at lizzythack@gmail.com with your idea.

Blog posts are due by the Friday prior to their publication date.

Blog posts should be around 500-1,000 words, depending on the topic, and should ideally also include image and/or video content.

Blogpost Author Checklist

Your post is due to Liz Thackeray Nelson on the Friday prior to your assigned publication date. Your submission should have the following components:

☐	1. **Written Text:** A word document including the text, images and hyperlinks to be included in your post a. Length: 500-1000 words.

	b. The text should be written and formatted [italics, bold, underlined, font size] exactly as you want it to appear on the blog page. Font variation is not available on our design platform. c. Embed images and videos how/where you would like them to appear in the post. Alternatively, you can insert a notation in your text to indicate their approximate location, e.g. [insert image 1 here] d. Highlight the text you would like us to hyperlink to another website and place the URL in parentheses right after it.
☐	2. **Images**: Attach each image to be included in your blog as a separate file. Please only use images you (a) took/created or otherwise own <u>or</u> (b) images that are marked as Public Domain or are under Creative Commons licenses. For each image in the (b) category please provide the attribution.
☐	3. **Categories:** Provide a list of 2-5 categories with which the post should be tagged: *Category Options:* Picturebooks, Young Adult Literature, Teaching Reading, Teaching Writing, Nurturing Lifelong Readers, Multiliteracies, Social Justice, Diverse Books, Primary grades, Intermediate grades, middle grades, high school, middle school, undergraduate, graduate school, family literacy, using technology, vocabulary, preschool, language learners, international and global children's literature, fantasy, science fiction, historical fiction, poetry, graphic novel, easy reader, chapter book, biography, contemporary realistic fiction, poetry, (or add your own new category idea!)
☐	4. **Social Media**: List all Twitter handles and Facebook IDs that should be tagged when the blog is posted and/or promoted through social media. This should include your own social media handles, as well as the publishers', authors, and illustrators' handles for any books you mentioned, and the handles for any organizations or businesses you mentioned.
☐	5. **Author Names:** Include your names, institutional affiliations, and your relationship to CLA, if you have a particular role (member of a committee, officer, etc.).

Important Notes to Authors

1. It is expected that, when submitted, your Post will be *publication-ready*. We will do our best to recreate your formatting and design and send a draft of the post to you for your review prior to publication. *Authors are responsible for all editing.*
2. Your name will be listed on the post as the author, and a disclaimer on the blog notes, the opinions and ideas posted in each entry are those of the individual author(s).
3. Blog posts that are written by a group (co-authors, committees, etc.) are expected to be the collective work of the group. While the communication between the blog editors and the group can be handled by one spokesperson, it is expected that the spokesperson will ensure that all the members of the group have seen and approved of the final version prior to it being posted. (Please note that the blog posts have a very quick turn-around time so groups will need to move quickly to check approval.)