



Author Day for Room 3T
by Robin Pulver (robinpulver.com)
Illustrated by Chuck Richards

Teacher Guide

About the book:

The students in Room 3T can't wait for Friday. That's when Harry Bookman, a real live author, will visit their school. Robin Pulver's tongue-in-cheek text and Chuck Richards's madcap illustrations combine perfectly in this hilarious case of very mistaken identity.

About the author:

Robin Pulver is the author of *Punctuation Takes a Vacation*, *Axle Annie*, *Christmas for a Kitten*, the Mrs. Toggle books, *The Holiday Handwriting School*, and other popular picture books for children. She lives in Pittsford, New York, and has visited many schools and libraries, inspiring this story and the tips from Harry Bookman that follow. Visit her website at www.robinpulver.com

Author Interview

1. How do you recognize whether an idea is worth pursuing?

By how much it excites me. By whether the idea makes my heart pound and whether I feel it pulling at me.

2. My favorite part of the writing process is REVISION.

I get through the hard parts, the parts I don't like, by writing as well as I can, plowing through it, remembering that nothing has to be perfect the first, second, or third time, because I can go back and revise.

Sometimes getting up and walking around helps me think through the hard parts.

3. How do school visits influence your writing?

I love meeting my readers face to face. I like to remember their enthusiasm and their smiling faces when I'm sitting alone writing. Those visits encourage me to try to write stories kids (and teachers!) will love.

4. What advice do you have for young writers?

I would encourage young writers to read books and stories for enjoyment, to write for pleasure, and to spend quiet, unplanned time daydreaming, using their imagination, and playing. Be curious. Eat right. Sleep tight!

Pre-reading Activity:

Discuss as a class which authors you would most like to visit your school. How would you prepare for their visit? What would you like to know about them and their writing?"

Questions to consider:

1. What are the children at Lerner Elementary celebrating? How does your school celebrate reading week?
2. How are the children preparing for Harry Bookman's visit? Why are the children reading his books before his visit? Will they get more out of the visit this way? What makes you think so or not?
3. Do you agree with the librarian, Mrs. Storey that, "...authors are ordinary people, like you and me."
4. What questions do the kids come up with to ask Harry Bookman? What questions would you like to ask your favorite author?
5. How do the kids imagine Mr. Bookman?
6. Describe Harry Bookman. Is he more than the kids could have imagined? How?
7. How does Harry Bookman answer all their important questions?
8. What does it mean to be a "kid at heart?"
9. Why does Esmerelda conclude that Harry Bookman must type his stories on the computer?
10. In the end, who shows up? What do the kids tell the very ordinary looking man?

Across the Curriculum

Language Arts:

Author Study:

Read at least three different books by one author. Then, create a pamphlet, mini-poster, or timeline about them. Prepare to share your project with your class and be willing to discuss which book was your favorite.

Art:

You know how movie posters always make you want to see the film? Create a book poster that entices other kids to read your favorite story. Don't forget the title and the author's name so they can find it at the library.

Music:

Sing this to the tune of "London Bridges"

Author Day for Room 3T
Room 3T
Room 3T
Author Day for Room 3T-
Harry Bookman!

The author is a chimpanzee
Look and see
In the library!
This author's not like you or me
Harry Bookman!

Be sure to look for all the guides for Robin Pulver's books!

This guide was created by [Tracie Vaughn Zimmer](#), a reading specialist and author of *Reaching for Sun* from Bloomsbury. Visit her website to find hundreds of guides to children's literature!

Favorite Genre of Books

Take a survey and then fill out the chart below based on your answers. Try to ask at least 100 people what are their favorite type of books to read!

