

**Author Visits with**  
**Rebecca Colby**

**Children's Author, Poet & Screenwriter**



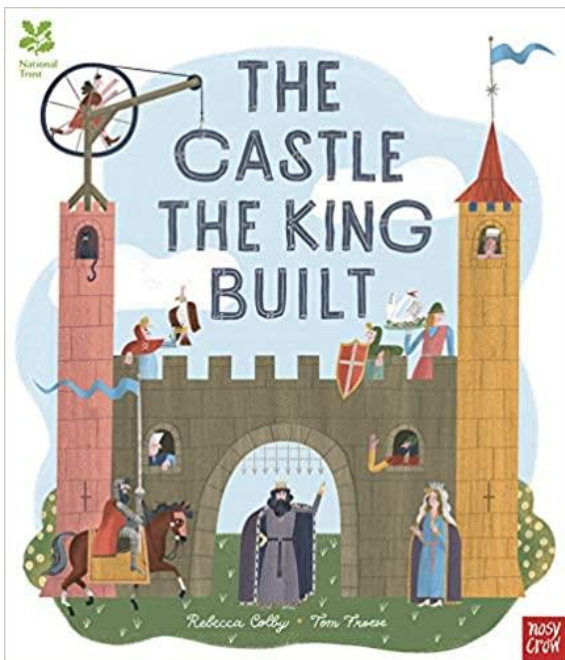
**Inspiring children to read and write!**

Contact Rebecca via her website on [www.rebeccacolbybooks.com](http://www.rebeccacolbybooks.com)

## About Rebecca and her books

Before writing for children, I worked for a Russian comedian, taught English in Taiwan, travelled the world as a tour director, and worked as a librarian. Originally from America, I now live in Yorkshire.

My books include picture books (both fiction and non-fiction), poetry and early readers. I have traditionally published over 46 books with HarperCollins, Macmillan, Penguin Random House, Simon & Schuster, Maverick, Nosy Crow, The National Trust and more. Information on some of my books follow:



***The Castle the King Built***  
***Illustrated by Tom Froese***  
**ISBN: 978-1788006590**

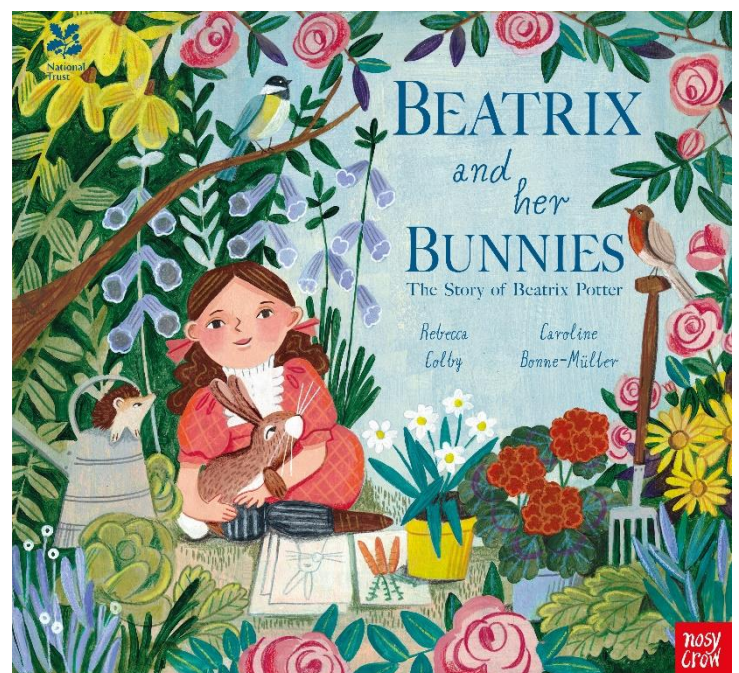
Find out exactly what goes on inside a medieval castle in this impeccably stylish picture book from the National Trust.

How many people does it take to build a castle? And what exactly does each person do? Discover masons to merchants and bakers to blacksmiths in this unique take on the classic rhyme 'This is the House that Jack Built'.

***Beatrix and Her Bunnies: The Story of Beatrix Potter***

***Illustrator: Caroline Bonne-Müller***  
**ISBN-13: 978-1839941078**

Beatrix loves the countryside, but lives in a big, lonely house in London - if only she had a friend. Then she meets Benjamin Bunny and everything changes! They spend every day together playing chase and follow my leader. But when Benjamin dies, Beatrix is heartbroken. She decides to write about Benjamin's adventures and about her new bunny, Peter, who plays the tambourine and jumps through hoops. If she can publish her stories, she knows children will fall in love with Benjamin and Peter, and her bunnies will live forever.



This is the perfect gift for fans of Peter Rabbit, for young environmentalists and for animal lovers everywhere.





*It's Raining Bats & Frogs*  
 Illustrated by Steven Henry  
 ISBN: 978-1250049926

Delia has been looking forward to flying in the annual Halloween Parade all year. But parade day brings heavy rain. So Delia takes action. Using her best magic, Delia changes the rain to cats and dogs. But that doesn't work too well! Then hats and clogs. That doesn't work either! Each new type of rain brings a new set of problems. How can Delia save the day?

*There was a Wee Lassie who Swallowed a Midgie*  
 Illustrated by Kate McLelland  
 ISBN: 978-1782500483

In this Scottish twist on the much-loved rhyme about the old lady who swallows a fly, the wee lassie swallows a succession of Scotland's favourite creatures to catch that pesky midgie—including a puffin, a Scottie dog, a seal, and even Nessie! After all that, the wee lassie can't still be hungry. Can she?



I love to inspire children to read and write, and I regularly visit schools, libraries and festivals across the UK, conducting interactive storytelling sessions and writing workshops. Details of my workshops and fees follow.

# Workshops and Author Talks

**ASSEMBLY AND AUTHOR TALK** – 45 minutes  
(max. 250 students; KS1 and/or KS2)

An interactive reading of *It's Raining Bats and Frogs*, followed by a discussion about my writing process and a Q & A session about being an author.

**GAMES POETS AND AUTHORS PLAY** – 1 hour  
(max. 35 students; lower KS2 or Year 2)

This workshop involves lots of fun and games—literally—as children are given the opportunity to play typical games that poets and authors play as a warm-up to writing.



**FAIRY TALE WRITING WORKSHOP** –  
1 hour (max. 30 students; KS1)

I dress up as a Fairy Godmother and discuss the basic elements of a fairy tale. The students are then guided in creating their own fairy tale characters, and in choosing magical elements and endowing them with magical properties through playful exercises. Then, with the aid of visual prompts, the students have the opportunity to create their own fairy tales.

**STORYTELLING AND CRAFT SESSION** – 45 minutes  
(max. 30 students; FS1 and FS2)

An interactive reading of any of my books, followed by a related craft activity. Popular titles include: *THE CASTLE THE KING BUILT* or *IT'S RAINING BATS & FROGS*. The *CASTLE* book works well with the curriculum and introduces students to the various people who worked in castles in medieval times. (Note: If preferred, the craft activity can be removed, reducing the session to 30 minutes so as to accommodate more children by allowing for two storytelling sessions over an hour.)

**HOW TO WRITE A PICTURE BOOK (Writing for an Audience)** - 1 hr  
(max. 35 students; KS2)

Students will learn what makes a good picture book for the 3-6 year old audience and why, alongside the length and format of these books. Exercises will be conducted to brainstorm ideas for fractured fairy tales and students will be shown how to create a "dummy" for their picture book text. They can then write their idea up as a book at a later date.

# Fees and Payment

**Full day:** £450 plus travel expenses

**Half day:** £250 plus travel expenses

**Single session:** £150 plus travel expenses

Please note that I travel to all events by public transport and/or taxi. Should I require overnight accommodation, this is charged at a flat rate of £100. Consecutive days are charged at £400 per day plus expenses. These fees may be shared between two schools in the same area should they like to book separate visits but on consecutive days.

While I do not require a deposit to hold a booking, please know that if the school needs to cancel or change the date of the visit, I will require repayment of any pre-paid expenses. My pre-paid expenses usually include train tickets, and very occasionally accommodation.

Payment should be made either before or on the day of the visit. An invoice will be sent to the school by 30 days prior to the visit.

NOTE: I am willing to travel outside my area, as well as internationally.

## Books

As part of the visit, I will donate one of my books to the school for their library. I will also sign books if the school wishes to sell books, but I make no requirement to hold a book sale. However, should the school wish to hold a sale, I can forward an order form. All books would need to be pre-ordered by the school through their local bookshop so as to be available for signing on the day of the visit.



**If you have any questions or would like to make a booking, please do not hesitate to get in touch via the contact form on my website:**

**[www.rebeccacolbybooks.com/contact/](http://www.rebeccacolbybooks.com/contact/)**