

# Barbara O'Connor

## Children's Author



**Author presentations and writing programs that give students the tools they need to write more effectively.**



### What Teachers Say About Barbara's Programs

"Barbara is one of the best writing teachers I've worked with. She

is specific with her assignments and goals; hands out excellent materials."

*-Dale Street Elementary; Medfield, MA*

"...one of the standout programs in the area."

*-Pat Keogh; Children's Literature Consultant; Weston, MA*

"Barbara captivated the attention of the writers and reluctant writers."

*-Central Elementary; Stoneham, MA*

"Humorous, well-prepared, professional, a natural teacher, excellent content."

*-Community Coordinator; Newton Public Schools*

"An excellent teacher with great strategies."

*-Martinson Elementary; Marshfield, MA*

### Audience age range:

Grades 3-6

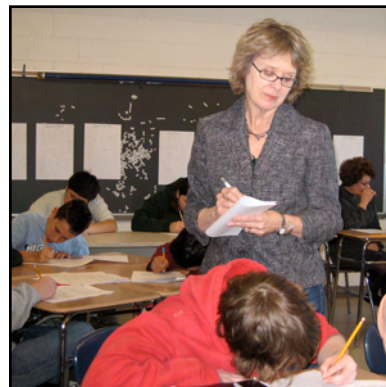
### Audience size:

25-50 ideal; Can accommodate more

### Program length:

45-50 minutes

Maximum 3 per day (Call for workshop info)



Barbara brings over twenty years of writing and teaching experience into the classroom with proven techniques for improved writing skills.

**Perfect for MCAS Preparation**

[www.barbaraconnor.com](http://www.barbaraconnor.com)

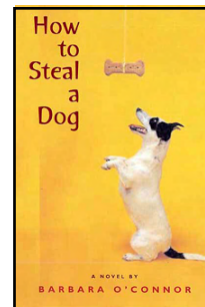
# Books by Barbara O'Connor



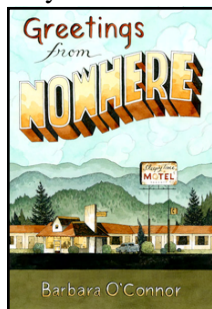
**The Fantastic Secret of Owen Jester**  
 ALA 2011 Notable  
 School Library Journal Best Books  
 Kirkus Best Books of the Year  
 A Junior Library Guild Selection



**The Small Adventure of Popeye and Elvis**  
 2010 ALA Notable  
 Kirkus Best Books of the Year  
 School Library Journal Best Books  
 Notable Book in the Language Arts



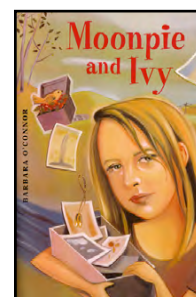
**How to Steal a Dog**  
 Massachusetts Childrens Book Award  
 Nominee 2009-2010  
 Parents Choice Recommendation  
 School Library Journal Best Books of  
 the Year



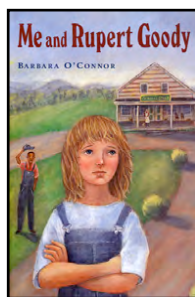
**Greetings from Nowhere**  
 Parents Choice Silver Award  
 NY Public Library Best Books  
 Cooperative Children's Book Center  
 Choices



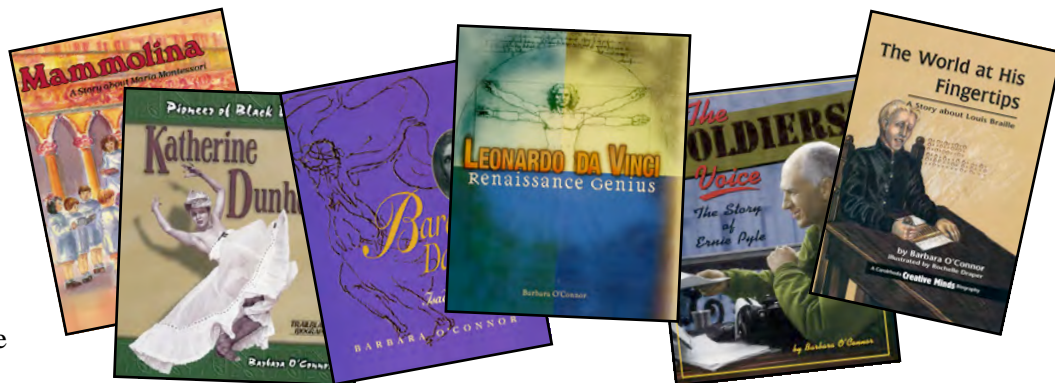
**Fame and Glory in Freedom, Georgia**  
 Parents Choice Gold Award  
 Children's Literature Choice Award  
 Bank Street College Best Books of the Year



**Moonpie and Ivy**  
 Massachusetts Book Award  
 Parents Choice Gold Award  
 Bank Street College Best Books of the  
 Year



**Me and Rupert Goody**  
 School Library Journal Best Books of the  
 Year  
 Bank Street College Best Books of the Year  
 Dolly Gray Award



**Biographies for Grades 3-6**

# School Programs



## **Show Me a Story (Basic Program)**

- Basic author program, including where ideas come from and drawing on personal experience to create stories
- Sure-fire techniques to add details, establish setting, create descriptive scenes, show character traits and emotion
- Stresses tools of good writing, such as descriptive words, details and “show, don’t tell”
- Reinforces the Six Traits of Writing
- Reinforces MCAS preparedness



## **“Show, Don’t Tell” Writing Workshop**

With the right tools, students can learn to write more descriptively. “Show, Don’t Tell” is one of the most effective tools to add details, use good word choice, create setting and develop character.

In this two-day workshop, Barbara helps students understand and apply this handy technique. Includes worksheets.



## **Biography Writing Workshop**

In this 3- or 4-day workshop, students learn the steps to writing biographies: interview, organization, writing creative nonfiction and revision. Stresses converting facts into an interesting story using effective writing tools. Includes handouts and worksheets.

# About Barbara O'Connor

Barbara O'Connor has been writing books for children in grades three to six for 25 years. Her books have been nominated for state reading awards in over 25 states. Her work has received many distinctions, including the Massachusetts Book Award, five Parents Choice Awards, Bank Street College Best Books of the Year, School Library Journal Best Books of the Year, Kirkus Best Books of the Year, ALA Notables, IRA Notable Books for a Global Society, and Notable Trade Books in the Field of Social Studies.

Barbara has been presenting author programs and conducting writing workshops in schools for over twenty years. Her programs have been so well received that she is asked to return year after year.

Barbara lives in Duxbury, Massachusetts.

**For more information, visit [www.barbaraoconnor.com](http://www.barbaraoconnor.com).**

**“Teacher response has been 100% positive to her presentations. I can’t wait to have her back next year.”**

*–Burlington Public Library; Burlington, MA*

## Contact Information

**For Information, Fees and Booking, contact:**

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