

Mr Coconut children's workshops



Mr Coconut is a children's picture book by author Chris Callard and illustrator Catherine Grimaldi. Since the book is illustrated entirely with 3D stuffed and stitched fabrics, our workshops combine both storytelling and this method of illustration.







Book the authors to come to your school – and show the children just how they can dream up and make their own picture book!

Our standard one-day workshop consists of three 1½ hour sessions for 12 children:

- 1. **Storymining:** 'extracting' stories from the children with questions and suggestions, all spoken, we take notes until we have a story outline
- 2. **Storyboarding:** breaking down the story into a sequence of images/pages, sketching illustration ideas on a storyboard sheet
- 3. **Illustration:** creating one page from the book with a collage using text, textures, models or puppetry (dependent upon resources) [more details overleaf]

This is our standard one-day model – this can be varied in many ways: for more children, over more weeks, etc. Contact us to discuss!

Cost: £500 per day + materials (variable dependent on school resources)



Chris Callard earns a living as a graphic designer in publishing – but is happiest when making his own books and teaching storytelling workshops.

Catherine Grimaldi is a children's author and illustrator and is one half of TheSistersGrim, who construct fantastical 3D pop-up worlds. She currently works as an artist-in-residence in a nursery.

See our website for children's work from previous workshops

www.mrcoconut.co.uk | mraugustinecoconut@gmail.com 07812 185760 (Chris) | 07763 121012 (Catherine)

Storymining

We help draw out the children's stories based upon their toys, heroes, pets, friends – whatever is in their heads.

The children do no writing, as we find that interrupts the flow of their ideas. We take notes, but mainly have the children keep the stories in their heads (at which we find they are very capable).





Storyboarding

Once they have an idea of their story we show how to think in images (particularly effective for children who find writing difficult).

We discuss the importance of mapping out a story so that it fills all the pages of your book.

Illustration



Lastly the children make a spread of their book using the methods we used for Mr Coconut – with puppets, collage, cut-out characters and photographs. We photograph the final illustration on the day, and make a gallery of all the work to share with the children and the school (see our website www.mrcoconut.co.uk for examples of previous galleries).

