

## ***An Author Visit from Bart King: FAQs!***

### **Who IS this “Bart King”?**

Bart King is an author from Portland, Oregon, who also taught middle school for 15 years. His books include:

- *The Big Book of Boy Stuff*
- *The Big Book of Girl Stuff*
- *The Pocket Guide to Mischief*
- *The Pocket Guide to Brilliance*
- *The Pocket Guide to Games*
- *The Pocket Guide to Magic*
- *The Big Book of Gross Stuff*
- *An Architectural Guidebook to Portland*

Bart’s titles are a non-fictional blend of history, humor, and activities that are generally intended for Middle Readers. They’ve received some nice reviews (posted at [www.bartking.net](http://www.bartking.net)) and have sold about a half-million copies.

### **Does Bart King give author presentations?**

Yes. At schools, Bart usually presents to grades 5-9. (On occasion, Bart has even presented to adults!) With students, he prefers to have the audiences grouped together roughly by age, if possible.

### **What are the presentations like?**

Programs are generally 40 to 55 minutes. Although he is a goofball, Bart takes care to impart his love of reading and learning, particularly with regard to literature and history. (And if you communicate specific needs, he will do his best to meet them.)

Bart typically shares the stories behind his books, and takes students “behind the scenes” to explain how he gets ideas, how he develops them, and how he works. Students interested in the publishing process will get insights into this aspect of writing as well.

With older students, Bart talks about the process of revision and how an author works with an editor and illustrator. He likes to encourage children to consider writing as helpful to any career... including one as a writer!

### **How many presentations does Bart do?**

No more than three presentations a day.

## **Does Bart do school-size assemblies?**

Sadly, no. Teaching middle school gave Bart a misguided fear of turning into an “assembly guy.” But he’s happy to present to groups ranging from two students to 100.

## **How much does Bart charge?**

Bart’s fees are as follows:

- \$600 plus expenses for local visits in the Portland Metro area, including Vancouver, WA.
- \$700 per day plus expenses (travel, lodging, meals) for visits that require an overnight stay.
- If a substantial quantity of books is ordered, these fees can be reduced. Please write to Bart ([kingbart@comcast.net](mailto:kingbart@comcast.net)) for more details.

Naturally, schools, libraries, or other organizations can share a visit AND share expenses.

## **What about “virtual” author visits?**

If you’d prefer to avoid the pitfalls of a real-life Bart King presentation, why not try a *virtual* visit instead? Bart can contact your school through iChat and Skype. In this medium, a question-and-answer format works best. While Bart’s Mac computer has audio-visual capability, running an informal “call” before the presentation is an essential trouble-shooting idea.

The cost of an hour-long virtual author visit is \$100. You may record the program and share it within your school or your district. Please do not post any part of it online without permission. And feel free to write Bart at [kingbart@comcast.net](mailto:kingbart@comcast.net) to set up a time for a virtual visit.

## **Does Bart have any technical requirements for a presentation?**

Bart travels with a laptop and projector. If he’s driving, he can also bring a class-sized projection screen. For groups over 45-50, schools should provide a correspondingly large screen.

## **Does Bart sell his books?**

While Bart can travel with some books in hand, book orders are best done directly through Bart’s publisher, as they can provide discounts for school purchases. The Gibbs Smith ([www.gibbs-smith.com](http://www.gibbs-smith.com)) customer service number is 800.835.4993.

## **How do I contact Bart?**

You can contact him at [kingbart@comcast.net](mailto:kingbart@comcast.net). (His website is [www.bartking.net](http://www.bartking.net).)