



# WHRO's 2024 PBS KIDS Writers Contest Entry Form



Check only if you have written an Environmental Story

Type or print legibly

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Check Grade  K  1st Grade  2nd Grade  3rd Grade  4th Grade  5th Grade Gender:  F  M

Title of Story \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Words \_\_\_\_\_

Word count range: Grades K-1 50-200 words; Grades 2-3 100-350 words; Grades 4-5 200-450 words. (Word count includes "a," "an," & "the.")

Number of Illustrations \_\_\_\_\_ (minimum of 5)

By entering **WHRO's PBS KIDS Writers Contest**, I give permission for WHRO to use this work, which will be credited to the entrant/author, as he/she wishes, including (but not limited to) display, promotion, reproduction, and distribution in all media and the right to create, perform, display and distribute derivative works. I also give WHRO the right to use the entrant's/author's name, likeness, and biographical material in connection with the work.

I release WHRO from any liability or claimed liability concerning this Contest submission. I warrant that this child alone has created the story text & illustrations for this Contest. I acknowledge that I have read the Contest rules & regulations prior to signing this and that I understand the rules.

**Parent / Guardian information:**

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

**Please provide the school name whether Public, Private, or Homeschool for our records. If school Entry, parent information is optional.**

Teacher's name \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

School Name \_\_\_\_\_

School Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ School Phone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

How did you receive your entry form?  child's school  local library  other \_\_\_\_\_

**Entry Deadline is March 22, 2024**

**Mail to:**

WHRO's PBS KIDS Writers Contest  
5200 Hampton Blvd.  
Norfolk, VA 23508

**For More Information or concerns Contact:**

Martha Razor, Manager of Early Childhood Learning  
Office Phone: 757-889-9112 (please leave a voice message)  
Email: [martha.razor@whro.org](mailto:martha.razor@whro.org)



## WHRO's PBS KIDS Writers Contest Rules



**We are calling all students in Kindergarten through 5th grade, to enter into our PBS KIDS Writers Contest which begins January 2024 and ends Friday, March 22, 2024.**

We encourage students to use their creativity and imagination to write and illustrate a fun and exciting story. Students can write about a variety of topics of their choice such as friendship, kindness, or their family, just to name a few.

**Or...they can choose to submit an environmental story: suggested topics** taken from K-5 *Science SOLs in Environmental Literacy* include: natural resources, recycling, conservation, habitat, land, air, water, animals, earth, plants, forest, fossils, and energy sources.

### Eligibility & Entry Guidelines

- Entrants must be in K-5 grades.
- Children of employees of PBS, PBS stations or their affiliates, sales representatives, subsidiaries or parent companies, advertising/sales promotion agencies, and judges are not eligible.
- To be eligible, an entrant must be a legal resident of the United States. Sponsor reserves the right to disqualify ineligible entries; such entries will not be returned.
- Only one entry per person is accepted. All subsequent entries will be disqualified.
- Only single-author stories qualify (no co-authored stories).
- Stories can be fact or fiction, and prose or poetry.
- Any failure to adhere to these Contest Rules may result in disqualification from the contest.
- No purchase is necessary.

### Word Count (No Exceptions)

- Stories word count range: Grades K-1 *50-200 words*; Grades 2-3 *100-350 words*; Grades 4-5 *200-450 words*.
- The word count includes "a", "an", and "the", but not the words on non-story pages such as the title page or those that enhance the illustrations.
- Text must be printed, written legibly, or typed.
- Children who cannot write may have parents/teachers dictate their story to be printed, written legibly, or typed.
- Text may be integrated into the illustration pages or on separate pages.
- Non-English text must be translated on the same page and the translation text must adhere to word count.
- Invented spelling is accepted.

### Format & Illustrations

- Stories must have at least (5) original, clear, and colorful illustrations that relate to the story. (Try to include an illustration on each page)
- Original art can include drawings, collages, and 3-D created by the author or photographs taken by the author.
- Stories submitted must, be created on one side of the paper and be numbered on the back of each page.

### Official Entry Form

- Each entry must include the official PBS KIDS Writers Contest Entry Form, with the required signature of a parent/guardian (and, if appropriate, the optional signature of the sponsoring teacher), confirming that the story and art are original, and granting certain rights to the entry materials.
- The entry form must be complete and legible.

### Awards & Notification

Entries will be judged on originality, creative expression, storytelling, and integration of text and illustrations. **All judges' decisions are final and not subject to appeal or review.** The odds of winning depend on the number of entries received. Every entrant will receive a Certificate of Achievement. Judges will choose First Place and Second Place winners from entries received. WHRO will hold a ceremony in honor of all winners. Each winner will receive a blue ribbon and a variety of prizes, including a \$50 gift card for First-Place winners and a \$25 gift card for Second-Place winners.

### Return of Entries

The Contest administrators will make every effort but are not required to return entries.

We will however return entries accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope of an appropriate size. WHRO is not responsible for late, lost, stolen, misdirected, damaged, mutilated, incomplete or illegible entries, or postage-due mail.

PBS created the National PBS KIDS Writers Contest. However, WHRO Public Media sponsors and produces our Local Contest