



Author Visit Activity Guide

Debbie Dadey is coming to your school and you want to get ready. Here are a few fun ideas to get you started. Don't forget to check out www.debbiedadey.com for more ideas.

1. Read several of Debbie Dadey's books so students will be familiar with her before the visit.
2. Visit Debbie Dadey's teacher's page for lots of teaching units and activities.
3. Create your own poetry cards at http://www.debbiedadey.com/upload/Sparkle_Tales/Poetry_cards.pdf
4. The entire school could wear real or make paper pink sunglasses for *Pirates Don't Wear Pink Sunglasses* and write like a pirate at http://www.debbiedadey.com/upload/Sparkle_Tales/MermaidTaleActivities/WriteLikeAPirate.pdf
5. Use the Starfish Writing Element sheet to create your own story. http://www.debbiedadey.com/upload/Sparkle_Tales/MermaidTaleActivities/StarfishStoryElements.pdf
6. Turn your entire school into Debbie Dadey land with each classroom centering on a book. Each classroom's door could be a mini-bulletin board. For instance, the art room could be *Aliens Don't Wear Braces*. In that room you could draw aliens or learn about different planets or turn the room into a mini planetarium. In another room, a nurse could check your germs to go along with *Martians Don't Take Temperatures*. A dog trainer showing dogs doing tricks could be in another room for several of Debbie's books, including *The Barkley School for Dogs* series. A football hero could talk about his career or even play the game with the kids for *Bogeymen Don't Play Football*. The possibilities are endless and so it the fun!
7. Have a Bailey School Kids dress-up day. Let each student pick their favorite character. Activities could include a parade and students could write a character sketch.
8. Have students line up outside the school for Debbie's arrival with signs and cheers. The local TV station loves this sort of thing.
9. Students can make their own 'wax' museum. The students could dress as their favorite characters and attach a paper button to their costumes. Invite other classes to the museum. When the other kids push their 'buttons' the 'wax' students could recite a bit about their character and a book they are in.

10. Invite the whole school to wear polka-dots for *Vampires Don't Wear Polka Dots*.

13. Know someone who can teach your students how to throw a lasso? This is an awesome way to introduce the picture book, *Will Rogers, Larger Than Life*.

14. Invite a Native American person from your community to share items or stories from their culture to introduce *Cherokee Sister*. A local music store or the library may have Cherokee music for you to share with your students.

15. Younger students may enjoy bringing their stuffed pet animals for a 'dog show' to go along with *Kilmer's Pet Monster* or the Barkley books.

16. Have a talent show to top off *Triplet Trouble and the Talent Show Mess*.

17. Make cookies to culminate *Triplet Trouble and the Cookie Contest* or *The Bride of Frankenstein Doesn't Bake Cookies*.

18. Make up your own tall tale to go along with *Shooting Star, Annie Oakley the Legend*.

19. Declare a 'kootie free' day. Everyone must write or tell nice things to the people in their class. Teachers should do a kootie check before any notes are shared and read *King of the Kooties*.

20. Make a Dracula lemonade stand for lunch or recess fun to go along with *Dracula Doesn't Drink Pink Lemonade*.

21. Teaching square dancing is a fun tie-in for *Bigfoot Doesn't Square Dance*.

22. Your students have great ideas. Let them think up a new Bailey School Kids book. Have a contest!

23. *Wolfman Don't Hula Dance* is the perfect excuse to have a luau. Take time to play fun music, dress in flower shirts, learn about Hawaii, and even take hula lessons!

24. For *Elves Don't Wear Hardhats*, let your students design the perfect playground.

25. Teach your students about the space program when reading *Mrs. Jeepers in Outer Space*. If possible, contact NASA for their traveling exhibit or invite an astronaut for a visit (or go on a field trip!)

26. For *Angels Don't Know Karate*, invite a local karate instructor for a demonstration.

27. Have your own mini field day for *Triplet Trouble and the Field Day Disaster*.

28. Have students create their own maps of magical worlds like the one found in the Keyholder series or the underwater world in *Mermaid Tales*.