



TUSK
BOOKS

School visits with Canberra author Nicole Godwin

Local author Nicole Godwin is available to visit your school to talk about her picture book *Ella* and elephant conservation.

About Ella

The picture book *Ella* tells the story of a baby elephant who is working to entertain tourists. The book takes the reader on a journey as Ella makes a brave escape to find her mum. The book's back blurb is included below.

Little Ella the elephant dreams of seeing her mum once again. But can she escape? Is she even brave enough to try?

Join baby Ella on her heart-wrenching quest for freedom, happiness and love.

This captivating picture book provides a glimpse into the lives of elephants being used in the tourism industry. A story that helps plant seeds of compassion for animals, it also highlights our planet's desperate need for conservation.



Presentations

Nicole has developed a number of presentations, which are tailored to different age groups. The two main presentations are:

Ella and sanctuary life – for children up to Year 1

These sessions typically run for 30 minutes

As part of this presentation, Nicole will read *Ella*, involving students in the story telling. Nicole will talk about her motivation for writing *Ella* and share insights into issues facing elephants including ivory poaching and declining numbers. She will also share stories about her time volunteering in an elephant sanctuary.

A delightfully visual aspect of the book is Ella's tail which has a heart attached. The heart floats high and is bright red when she is full of happiness and is grey and cracked when she is full of despair. This is a wonderful way to engage with children to talk about the emotions Ella is feeling at different stages throughout the book.

Ella – helping elephants through story – for children in Year 2 – 6

These sessions typically run for 45 minutes.

This presentation includes an interactive reading of *Ella* followed by a discussion about elephant habitat, food and issues.

Nicole will talk about the lives of elephants used in tourism, just like little Ella, and about other issues facing elephants such as ivory poaching and declining numbers. Nicole will share stories of her time volunteering at an elephant sanctuary in Thailand.

Nicole will also provide students with an overview of the book production process from the planning and drafting stage through to creation of a final book. As part of this discussion Nicole will share some early concept drafts from the book and talk about how the illustrator and author work together.

Session timing and group sizes

Sessions generally run for 30 to 45 minutes (see presentation overviews above), including a short Q&A session, though all presentations can be shortened or lengthened to suit. For a half-day visit, Nicole is able to run three sessions, with several classes or larger groups. Nicole is flexible with the length of sessions and group size.

Presentation Type

Each session will include an interactive book reading and Powerpoint presentation.

Age groups

The presentations are suitable for kindergarten to grade six. Nicole can also adapt the presentations for high school students.

Technical requirements

Nicole will require:

- a smartboard or projector setup with Power Point
- a laptop that can take a USB port and remote clicker dongle (ie: two USB ports).

Working with vulnerable people

Nicole has an Australian Capital Territory 'Working With Vulnerable People' card.

Payment rates

Full day, half day and individual session rates are based on the Australian Society of Authors pay recommendations:

- Whole school day – \$700
- Half school day (2 sessions) – \$450
- Per school session (max. 1 session) – \$250

More information

Nicole can be contacted at Nicole@tuskbooks.com and you can access further information on www.tuskbooks.com.

Thank you for your interest.

Sample pages from the book are included on the next page.

Sample illustrations



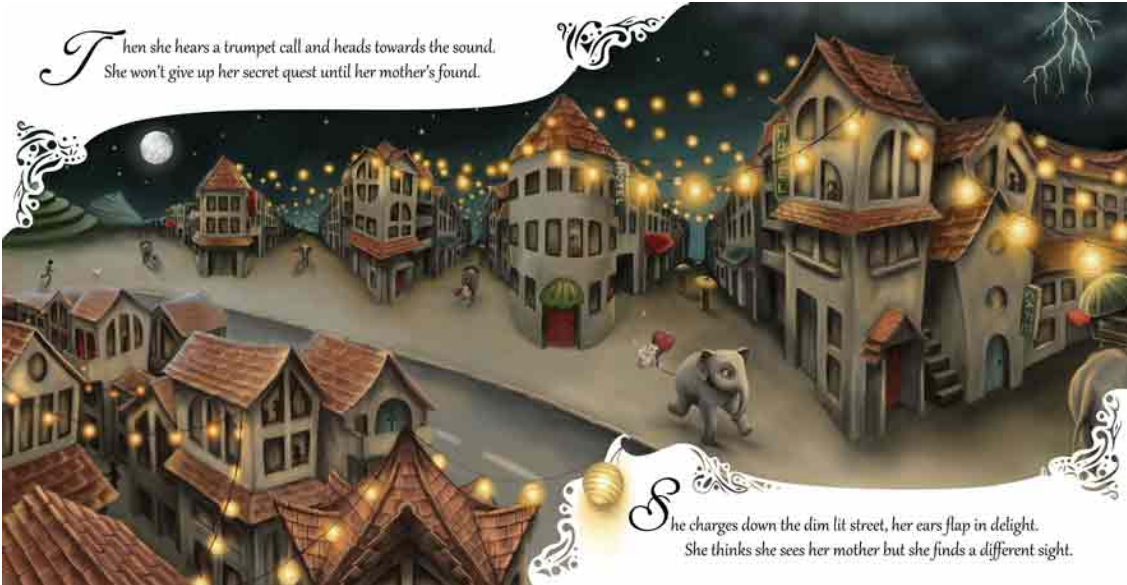
I know you're out there somewhere,' she whispers every night.
'I feel you deep within my heart. You give me strength and light.'

*E*lla works without complaint, but has a secret quest.
To find her dearest mother so her heart can finally rest.



*S*he often dreams of running off to try and find her mum.
She doesn't think she's brave enough, but hopes the day may come.

*T*hen she hears a trumpet call and heads towards the sound.
She won't give up her secret quest until her mother's found.



*S*he charges down the dim lit street, her ears flap in delight.
She thinks she sees her mother but she finds a different sight.



*T*he storm is now upon her and the rain is in her eyes.
But Ella stumbles forward in the hope to find her prize.

*F*or just a tiny moment, the lightning shows the way.
She knows it is her mother. There's no time to delay.