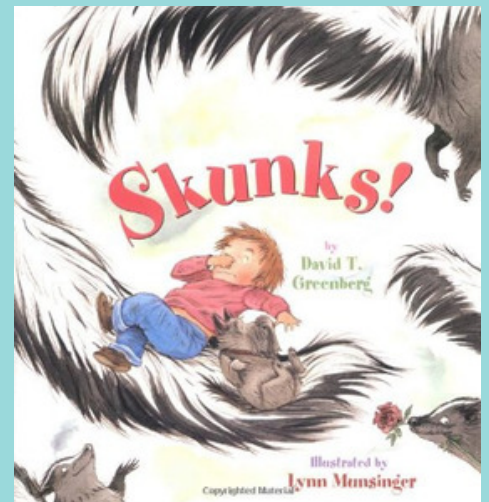
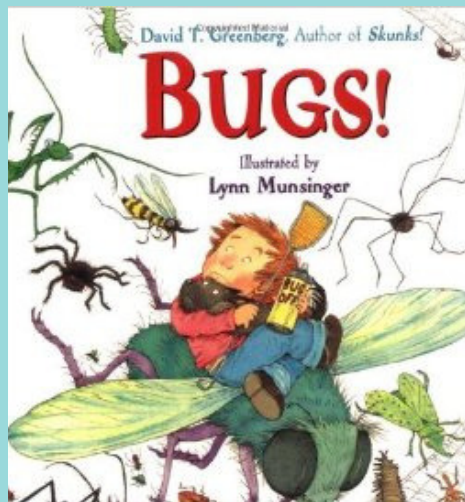
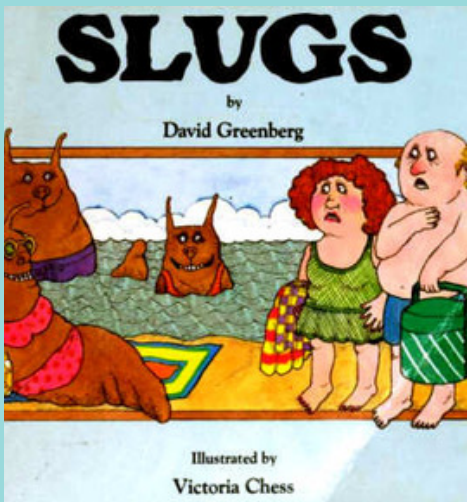




# DAVID GREENBERG

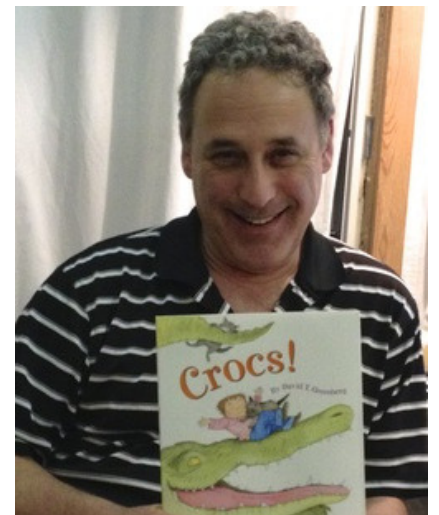


## UNIQUE POETRY EXPERIENCE FOR STUDENTS AND TEACHERS

"Thank you, it was a true celebration of reading, writing and most of all dreaming. You brought joy to the students and staff."

"Thank you so much for such a WONDERFUL presentation. Everyone, teachers and students, has spoken to me to let me know how great it was. It was indeed a joyful experience to all."

"Thank you so much for your awesome visit! The kids really enjoyed it and I have heard rave reviews from the teachers as well. Keep up the good work. We had a wonderful time. All the kids want to take out your books!"





"I loved to read as a kid. And there's no question in my mind that my love of reading helped me a great deal to become a writer. Reading familiarizes you with words, so you can therefore write with greater dexterity, coherency, and vocabulary. I also developed, as a teenager, a love for the wilderness, and started my lifelong love for canoeing and wilderness backpacking.

At age 17 I went away to Reed College in Portland, Oregon. I was attracted to Reed merely by the fact that it was in Oregon, which sounded very "wildernessy" to me. I studied Philosophy of Religion there, and, my sophomore year, started keeping a journal. This was when I started writing in a serious way, caring about the craft of writing. I graduated from college, and, after several odd jobs, started my own Chinese eggroll restaurant at a weekend craft fair. During the week, when I wasn't eggrolling, I began volunteering at local schools, helping kids with their reading and writing. I started using the poems I'd been writing in my journal as teaching material for these kids, and found, to my astonishment, that they really seemed to enjoy my writing. This gave me the incentive to write more and more. Eventually I started mailing my poems into publishers, and, after countless rejections, eventually published my first book of poetry when I was 28, SLUGS (Little, Brown & Co.) "



## TITLES

- Super Silly School Poems (Scholastic)
- Enchanted Lions (Dutton)
- A Tugging String (Dutton) - *2009 Oregon Book Award Finalist, 2010 Oregon Spirit Award*
- Slugs (Little, Brown & Co.)
- Bugs! (Little, Brown & Co.)
- Skunks! (Little, Brown & Co.)
- Snakes! ( Little, Brown & Co.)
- Whatever Happened to Humpty Dumpty? (Little, Brown & Co.)
- Your Dog Might Be a Werewolf, Your Toes Could All Explode (Bantam)
- The Great School Lunch Rebellion (Bantam) - *1990 Recipient of the Children's Choice Award*
- The Book of Boys for Girls — The Book of Girls for Boys (Little, Brown & Co.)
- Don't Forget Your Etiquette! The Essential Guide to Misbehavior (Farrar Straus Giroux)
- Crocs! (Little, Brown & Co.)



## PROGRAMS AVAILABLE

### Assemblies

**Poetry Assemblies:** Filled with dozens of dazzling illustrations from Greenberg's books, these assemblies are fun, funny, and inspirational. Not only do children laugh, chant refrains, and tap along with the beat, but teachers and parents do as well. Kids leave saying, "I want to be a writer when I grow up!" Greenberg dynamically and expressively performs his rollicking poems for kids (click on book covers to see reviews). His poems are filled with alliteration, acrobatic meter patterns, and snazzy rhymes. Students are so captivated by the joy of Greenberg's performances they leave his assembly quoting their favorite lines. The assembly is, in essence, standards based academics wrapped within memorable entertainment. Greenberg weaves explanations of the various elements that activate good writing into his performance. He discusses the fierce perseverance necessary to succeed and emphasizes the key importance of the writing process.





## **Civil Rights Assemblies:** (David's father was Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s lawyer)

This assembly grips the listener. It inspires us to be our best. It is filled with basic American history. It deals with our challenges as a nation and what has made us great. Based upon his novel, *A Tugging String*, Greenberg discusses the racial attitudes in the United States at the end of the Civil War, and how deep prejudice against blacks still persisted. He talks about the rights denied to blacks, emphasizing that although blacks technically had the right to vote, they were quite often denied it in practice, and thus denied a voice in our political process. He talks about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s attempt to march from Selma to Montgomery to call attention to this injustice, and the response of the racist governor of Alabama, George Wallace. He discusses how King (helped by Greenberg's father) used the courts to peacefully overcome the forces arrayed against them, bringing about the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Ultimately, he shows how this has helped to make America a far better place. Greenberg draws the connection between the institutionalized bullying of the racists and the bullying that persists today. He calls upon students to take inspiration from King and his colleagues and challenges students to embrace personal responsibility and stand up for what is just and right.



## Additional Programs

**Writing Workshops:** David Greenberg has lectured around the world on writing instruction. Based upon lessons he's developed, workshops are intensive, personalized writing sessions that exude a spirit of love for language. Based upon unique, highly motivational lessons, students write impressive, thoughtful work.

**Family Evening Presentations:** Loads of fun, the purpose of Family Writing Night is to bring kids and parents together in an important educational activity. Greenberg starts the evening session by reading several of his poems. Next, he demonstrates a writing activity at the projector, and family groups collaboratively try their hand at the same sort of writing (which always has some sort of family theme). Kids clamor to take completed work home as a memento.

**Teacher Inservices:** Based upon the writing workshops Greenberg has conducted internationally, these sessions are refreshingly fun in tone, yet absolutely practical in content. They provide teachers with numerous, unique and compelling writing lessons that they can implement in their classes immediately.





## A word from David Greenberg

"Writing and reading are by no means easy to master. It is my goal to make words so delightful that children will be inspired to do their best with the tough slog of learning. I read fun, funny work and show captivating illustrations to do this. A great deal of success, though, is attitude. Most authors I know have had to rewrite their work many times and have had it rejected many (even countless) times. In my poetry assemblies I make a major point of talking about the rejections I've received for my writing, and how, in the face of this, I've persisted."

"In my Civil Rights assemblies, I want children to see that in the face of great challenges, our nation has become **more just** with **more opportunities** for **more people**. I want children to see that, as imperfect as we are, we have broken many of the chains of prejudice that held us back in so many ways. I do this by telling the story of Civil Rights in America through my personal child's eye view of events. My father was Dr. King's lawyer and I saw him leave for the South and worried if he'd come back safe and sound. The Ku Klux Klan sent us their literature filled with hate, often against my father. I remember a young Thurgood Marshall, who later became our first black Supreme Court Justice, at our house along with other Civil Rights leaders. They had the courage to take on the bullies of their day. By extension, I ask children to take inspiration from these leaders, to take personal responsibility, to stand up to injustice and bullying."

[www.authorsillustrators.com/greenberg/greenberg.htm](http://www.authorsillustrators.com/greenberg/greenberg.htm)

