# Lucy Ann Unwin: Author of *How To Be A Revolutionary* and *The Octopus, Dadu and Me.*

**Events suitable for:** Key Stage 2

## In-person events:

I offer an assembly presentation, smaller class workshops, or a combination as a discounted half day or full day rate.

**Assembly. (45 - 60 mins. max 300 students)**

**Key Themes:** Kindness, Fighting prejudice, Change, Changing minds, Protest

*In a 45-60 minute interactive presentation we learn how to be a revolutionary and change the world for the better with a KINDNESS REVOLUTION.*

* *A brief intro about me, my books and how I became an author.*
* *We discover that a Revolution is all about CHANGE and how the most effective change can start SMALL.*
* *Using Natalie’s campaign in* How To Be A Revolutionary *to change perceptions of rats as a kicking off point, we look at how we can challenge prejudice and negative stereotypes, and even try to change each other’s minds about some things we feel passionately about.*
* *I invite students to join the KINDNESS REVOLUTION challenging teams to a Kindness Task Battle, and encouraging them to spread some joy with the help of my Compliments Case.*
* *Finishing on a Q+A — ask me anything!*

S*uitable for an assembly or large group.*

**Technical requirements:**

Means to display a powerpoint/ keynote presentation, or a projector I can plug my mac into.

**Class workshops (30 mins, max 30 students)**

**Option 1 — *How To Be A Revolutionary:* Protest Workshop.**

* **A messy, possibly noisy, workshop making placards and holding a mini-protest march. Builds on the assembly content.**
* We’ll brainstorm the changes we want to see in the world. What do we want to protect? To fight? To make happen?
* Inspired by some funny, clever or inspiring protest placards from around the world, we’ll choose a campaign and make placards and/or chants of our own.
* The session can end on a fun protest march around the classroom!

Materials required: large sheets of paper or cardboard/ felt tips or marker pens, tape. I’ll provide some images and sticks to mount our placards!

**Option 2 — Storytelling Workshop: You’re All Born Storytellers**

* **A structured presentation, guided by slides, about how reading, computer games, comics, playing and daydreaming can all teach us different key elements of storytelling.**
* We look at the different ways of *reading* and how they all count.
* How *computer games* teach us about conflict.
* How *comics* teach us about characterisation.
* How *playing* helps us with world building.
* And how *daydreaming* brings all those elements together.
* Note — this is more a 'sit and listen’ workshop, with some opportunities to contribute ideas, but no independent work.

**Option 2 — Writing Workshop: Senses and Emotions**

* **An interactive workshop, using some physical prompts to inspire a writing session.**
* We’ll ease into things with some word games
* Writing with your senses: exploring some interesting smells and sounds and describing them together.
* Writing your emotions: talk about how we use *memories* of emotions when we write, how they feel in your body, and how you can use that in your writing.
* Use some writing prompts to do some free writing using what we’ve learnt.

**Option 3 — The Secret Letter: Appreciating an Older Generation**

* **A gentle, craft-based workshop using origami and decoration to explore an emotional topic.**
* We’ll look at the depiction of older characters in both my books: Natalie’s mentor Bernard in *How To Be A Revolutionary* and Sashi’s Dadu in *The Octopus Dadu and Me*.
* We’ll talk about the power of an envelope and a handwritten note.
* We’ll learn to fold an origami secret letter, while thinking of a question or request for someone older we know.
* We’ll look at the illustrations from the book and then decorate our letter to take home and pass on.

**Option 4 — Editing: Fiction vs News**

* **A more in-depth workshop, perhaps suitable for upper KS2, drilling down on the importance of editing and the different forms it can take.**
* I’ll describe my editing process for fiction: namely I draft a whole book in a month, then take a year + to edit.
* I’ll share the waves I edit in — from big picture down to details — plus the professional editing process before publication.
* I describe how this contrasts to my old job, writing for broadcast news at the BBC. Fiction editing often involves adding texture in, while editing for broadcast involves stripping to the core details.
* Exercise 1: We’ll look at a bit of news text and examine how it would be edited for broadcast, then look at how it might be told differently if we were fictionalising the story.
* Exercise 2: I’ll share a story and children can try and rewrite it for news and/or fiction.

## Virtual Events

**Author presentation**

Same content as in-person

**Quick Q&A.**

A 20 minute Q&A for classes who have already read the book — ask me anything you like about writing it, or indeed anything else.

**Technical requirements:**

*Zoom /Teams/Equivalent with ability to screen share*

## Fees

**In person**

In person Author Presentation: **£200**

In person Class Workshop: **£100**

In person Half Day - presentation plus 1 workshop: **£250**

In person Full Day - presentation plus 3 workshops (can be 1 workshop delivered to three classes, or three workshops to one class!): **£500**

\*All fees are **exclusive** of travel and any necessary overnight accommodation. Travel will be charged at standard class rail fare or 45p per mile if driving. Accommodation in Premiere Inn or equivalent. I will endeavour to travel to and from your school without overnight accommodation where reasonably possible.

**Virtual**

Virtual Presentation (60 mins): **£75**

Virtual Q&A (max 30 mins): **£30 or FREE for classes/ book groups that are reading one of my books.**

**Book Sales**

Books should be made available for students to buy, and I will host a free signing session. (I can help arrange book sales, if necessary)

**\*\*If no books are made available for sale there is a £20 surcharge\*\***