

**UNLEASH YOUR INNER YOUNG MUSE:
CRAFTING MIDDLE GRADE MAGIC
A NOVEL APPROACH TO WRITING FOR TWEENS!**

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- 1 – What are middle grade books?
Why do you need to know how to write for children?
To whom should middle grade books appeal?
How long should a middle grade book be?

- 2 – Rules
 - No sex
 - Limit violence
 - No profanity

- 3 – How to write for kids
 - What do kids want?
 - What's important to kids?
 - Acceptance
 - Close friendships
 - Sports
 - Parents and siblings
 - Guilt
 - Boy-girl relationships
 - Bullying
 - Minimize adult roles

- 4 – Theme – Crucial – Universal truth
 - Acceptance
 - Family
 - Identity
 - Prejudging
 - Friendship
 - Friendship and hope

- 5 – Goal/high stakes
 - Goal
 - External goal
 - Internal goal
 - High stakes

- 6 – Characters
 - How many protagonists should you have?

A boy or a girl?
How old should the protagonist be?
What kind of a character should the protagonist be?

7 – Dialogue

Vocabulary and syntax
Content
Purpose of dialogue
When a character speaks with an accent
Dialogue tag and cues
Silence/avoidance
Slang

8 – Plot

Hook, then keep them hooked
Time span
Basic plot

9 – Conflict

Ticking clock
Inner conflicts / thoughts

10 – Point of view

First person point of view
Second person point of view
Third person point of view

11 – Location/setting: unique or familiar

12 – Climax

13 – Resolution

14 – Tips

Humor
Description
Make it big
Polish

More can be found in: **HOW TO WRITE A MIDDLE GRADE BOOK KIDS WILL LOVE**
The Essential Guide to Joining the Red Hot Kids' Book Market

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