

Author Visit for the novella: Babbling Brook Society by Karen Prescott

The novella is a work of fiction, but the setting and historical anecdotes are real. In the story, an old timer reminds us that our future is linked with the past and a handful of Polar Caves staffers learn how climate change, pollution and friendship influence hidden societies of tiny, ancient residents. The Earth is our home and how we treat it has far-reaching impact.

A target audience for this book is adults – both young and old, but ideas of miniature societies living in the nether regions of caves, poking around bog plants or lurking in tree hollows appeals to children too. A family read would be fun and appropriate. Reading the story in class and arranging a field trip is ideal. Teacher guides for middle school ELA and science are available via <http://www.babblingbrookociety.com>

The school presentation for Babbling Brook Society is appropriate for all grades. My talk will last approximately 30 minutes and my slides are able to be accessed from any device with Internet connectivity, so your audio and visual setup needs to have that. After the interactive presentation, anyone may purchase a limited supply of books I bring for \$10. I will remain on site for book signings.

First I delve into the history of the caves and how the Polar Caves Park backstory was pivotal in my creation of Dean, a main character from the novella. Dean is loosely based on a real person, a former guide at the park, a good Yankee and a great source of inspiration.

Next, I invite attendees to experience parts of the story with examples of birdsong, rushing waters and other visual and auditory elements as presented in the book. My emphasis is on environmental stewardship.

My background is in middle school English education and I wrote this book as a means to both inspire and teach. From experience, I know that the best author visits are ones when students, staff and parents are involved in the event. How do they get involved? Simple answer: read the book. Those familiar with the story get more out of the presentation. They also have more meaningful questions to ask. If no one has read or plans to read Babbling Brook Society, seriously, please refrain from asking me in for a presentation.

Thank you!