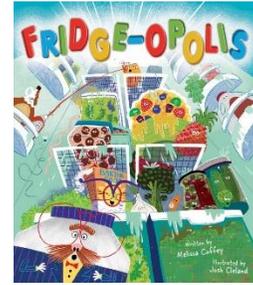


## Melissa Coffey, Children's Author Program Descriptions:

I like to create visits that are curated to your needs and interests. I'm passionate about educating kids about the environmental impact of food waste and offering empowering presentations to help students realize their potential as planet-saving superheroes!

FRIDGE-OPOLIS is a playful introduction to food waste, recycling and composting and features:

- Wordplay, rhyme and puns
- Anthropomorphic food characters
- "Food for Thought" backmatter



### STORYTIME

Read aloud of FRIDGE-OPOLIS, followed by a short activity and Q&A. 30 minutes.



### FOLLOW THAT STRAWBERRY!



Where does our food come from? What is food waste? We'll explore our food system and the resources it takes, including a two-minute "from farm to fridge" video. This presentation offers a basic introduction to the environmental impact of food waste and landfills to tangible, earth-friendly solutions such as recycling and composting. A great addition and/or combination with a read-aloud of FRIDGE-OPOLIS to nurture environmental awareness. Optional Q&A. 30-45 minutes.

## WANTED: FOOD WASTE WARRIORS



In this presentation, we're on the hunt for more specific food waste reduction tips and practices---from embracing “ugly produce” to vermicomposting to conducting a food audit at home/school. We'll examine every-day choices and actions that can minimize our food waste imprint---starting with our own lunchbox or tray in the cafeteria. Q&A. 30-45 minutes.



## GENERATION ZERO WASTE ADD-ON for AUSTIN AREA SCHOOLS

Looking for fun, hands-on, green activities to accompany a FRIDGE-OPOLIS storytime and/or presentation? I can partner with Generation Zero Waste, a **free youth education program**, created in partnership with Austin Resource Recovery (based on availability) to visit your school together.

The program engages students in three TEKS-aligned educational and interactive activities that raise awareness about recycling, composting and conservation while giving students simple solutions for reducing their waste. The curriculum is divided into grade levels K-2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>, with a different focus for each. (*\*Independent kits, lesson plans and materials are also available for approximately 30 students.\**)

**Recycle Relay**— Practice sorting trash and discover what makes up our waste-stream with this recycling relay game.

**Compost Critters**— Explore the science of composting and vermicomposting. Yes, worms!

*What's in the hole?* – Landfill science for elementary age kids. Compare and contrast characteristics of waste, what's in our trash, and how trash is processed in a landfill while building mini landfill models.



## THE WRITE STUFF: MAKING A PICTURE BOOK

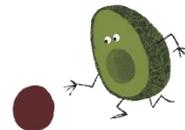
Melissa will share the journey from first draft to published book and dive into the creative writing process. Themes include drafting, revision, illustration, publishing basics, and more. A great way to encourage budding authors to put pencil to paper and persevere! Q&A 30-45 minutes.

Couldn't find what you're looking for?

Melissa will customize a presentation to meet the needs of your students!

## Virtual Author Visit

LIVE Q&A (VIRTUAL ONLY)



Ask Melissa anything! Since 30 or 45 minutes can fly by quickly, it's best to compile a list of 5-6 or 7-8 vetted student questions. A little time can be reserved at the end of each live Q&A session for impromptu questions. 30-45 minutes.

**Rates:**

30-minutes.....\$300  
45-minutes.....\$450

## In-person Options

STORYTIME

30-minutes.....\$350

STORYTIME + PRESENTATION

45-minutes.....\$500

HALF DAY

Choose 1-2 presentations, plus lunch with the author and a small group of students and/or faculty, and an optional book signing.

**Rate.....\$750 + travel expenses (to be determined)**

FULL DAY

Choose 3 presentations, plus lunch with the author and a small group of students and/or faculty, and an optional book signing. (Neighboring schools can arrange to share a day and split the cost.)

**Rate.....\$1000 + travel expenses (to be determined)**

REQUIRING AN OVERNIGHT STAY

Choose 3 to 4 presentations, plus lunch with the author and a small group of students and/or faculty, and an optional book signing.

**Rate.....\$1250 + travel expenses**