

GET Goosebumps!

WITH
R.L. STINE

LIVE
WEBCAST
EVENT

TEACHER'S GUIDE

Dear Teacher,

We are pleased to introduce this Teacher's Guide to support your classrooms' experience and participation in the Get Goosebumps with R. L. Stine Webcast on October 28th, 2009 at 1PM (EST)!

The event is a perfect opportunity to get kids excited about reading and writing by giving them a chance to dive deeply into Stine's writing process. As the creator of the wildly popular Goosebumps and Goosebumps HorrorLand series, R.L. Stine is a master at building suspense by using short gripping sentences, humor in surprising and original ways, and chilling cliffhangers. He knows his audience (including reluctant readers), and writes stories they enjoy.

In this guide you will find suggestions on how to use Goosebumps books in the classroom, links to fun and challenging downloadable activities, and ideas for how to turn your webcast event into an unforgettable celebration. Goosebumps classic stories, as well as the Goosebumps HorrorLand stories, are available in your local library, nearby bookstores, and in your very own school library, so kids can prepare by reading and exploring these timeless treasures that are just as funny as they are thrilling!

Enjoy sharing this exciting and inspiring live event with your class!

Goosebumps

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Goosebumps
HorrorLand

SETTING THE MOOD AND GETTING THE MOST OUT OF THE LIVE EVENT

BEFORE THE EVENT

Ask your kids to bring in their own Goosebumps and Goosebumps HorrorLand books, or find them in your local library, bookstore, or the school library. Students can enjoy discussing their favorite stories or scenes as a class as they explore R.L. Stine's unique writing style.

Prepare for the webcast by engaging your class in writing activities that expand their own skills.

Play the Pass the Story game.

Think of a spooky story idea, and write the first sentence of the story on a blank sheet, then pass it to a student, who writes a few sentences, then folds the sheet down so that only their last sentence is visible. Each successive student then writes a few sentences, continuing to fold the paper so that only the last sentence they wrote is visible. Finally, unfold the entire sheet and read your class's unique work of fiction!

Think up a new Goosebumps title and story line!

Ask students to choose their favorite book cover, then write their own new book title based on the cover image. Or have them create a new cover image of their own, and a title to go with it. Then have them write a brief synopsis of their new story idea.

ON THE DAY OF THE EVENT—OCTOBER 28TH, 1 PM (EST)/10 AM (PST)

Setting the mood for a thrilling bash is easy! Since it's Halloween week, schedule your Halloween party to coincide with the webcast. Here are some ideas to make it fun.

Students can dress up as their favorite scary (or not so scary!) Goosebumps character.

Decorate your classroom! Use black construction paper to create cut-out bats and spiders to display throughout the room. Colored light bulbs create an eerie glow—green, for Monster blood, works particularly well. Brown grocery bags can make great tombstones. Just write "....Lies Here" in magic marker on the bag and place it over the back of your chair.

Go to www.scholastic.com/goosebumpswebcast to print out the downloadable activities.

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- Mood food is great! Bring in grapes for eyeballs, or gummy worms and other gooey snacks, and a special concoction made of red soda and raisins!
- Ask students to design a spooky notebook to collect writing tips from R. L. Stine during the live event! Creating a cool and creepy journal is easy. Students can take their own notebooks and cover the front with cut-outs of scary creatures (bats, ghosts, spiders, whatever gives them chills!) or draw their own slimy scenes and characters. Then during the webcast, kids can listen for and record R.L. Stine's tips on writing and creating his fantastic series so they will be ready to discuss those tips as a class later. Another option is to create a classroom journal; kids can write their own stories to make this compilation. Later they can check the journal out individually, or it can be shared as a class!

AFTER THE EVENT

Discuss the webcast and help students cement insights concerning R. L. Stine's writing process. Talk about their favorite characters or scenes and discuss what they like best about the Goosebumps series.

Discuss Stine's technique of short snappy sentences, short chapters, cliffhanger endings, and tongue-in-cheek humor. Find examples of each of these. Have students write a spooky story in this style, or let them find their own unique style. Students can explore how they can create new characters, write compelling dialogue, and try out a variety of voices: first-person, third-person, or free indirect style.

ENTER THE GET GOOSEBUMPS CONTEST! Students can choose one of the story starters written by R.L. Stine and then finish the story, adding their own chilling twists and turns. The contest winner will get a Goosebumps Prize Pack for themselves, and another for their classroom. VOID WHERE PROHIBITED. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY.

**HAVE A GREAT
GET GOOSEBUMPS EVENT!**

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