

Meet Our Authors: Michael Rosen

Michael Rosen Biography

Michael Rosen (b. 1946) says he became a children's poet by accident - "I thought I was being an ironic adult poet but children's literature 'claimed' me". He has since become a very well-known poet, for adults as well as children, and also writes plays; he has worked in television and radio too, in programmes from Home Truths to Playschool. He is a winner of the Eleanor Farjeon Award for Children's Literature and the National Literacy WOW Award, has received an honorary doctorate from the Open University, and has been involved in one way or another with more than a hundred books. He was Children's Laureate from 2007 to 2009.

A good deal of Michael Rosen's poems are about his life between the ages of about 2 and 12, and are available in books such as:

- The Hypnotiser (Michael's son Joe filmed him performing all the poems from this book. You can watch them all on the official Michael Rosen website):
<http://www.michaelrosen.co.uk/hypnotiser.html>
- Quick, Let's Get Out of Here (Puffin, http://www.amazon.co.uk/Quick-Lets-Here-Puffin-Books/dp/0140317848/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1263821996&sr=8-1)
- You Wait Till I'm Older Than You (Puffin, http://www.amazon.co.uk/Wait-Till-Older-Puffin-Poetry/dp/0140380140/ref=pd_sim_b_1)
- Mustard, Custard, Grumble Belly and Gravy (Bloomsbury, http://www.amazon.co.uk/Mustard-Custard-Grumble-Bloomsbury-Paperbacks/dp/0747587388/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1263822144&sr=1-1)

A couple of books about Michael's life are also available for children:

- Michael Rosen's Scrapbook – (in the Treetops series, for the Oxford Reading Tree, http://www.amazon.co.uk/Oxford-Reading-Tree-Non-Fiction-Scrapbook/dp/0199179417/ref=sr_1_66?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1263822322&sr=1-66)
- All About Me (Collins Educational, http://www.amazon.co.uk/Michael-Rosen-About-Sapphire-Collins/dp/000723127X/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1263811843&sr=1-1)

Today Michael's time is taken up doing the following:

- writing books
- writing articles for newspapers and magazines
- coming to schools, libraries and theatres and performing the poems in my books
- helping children write poems and stories
- making radio programmes, mostly about words, language or books
- appearing on TV, either reading books, or talking about books
- teaching at universities about children's literature
- running workshops for teachers about poetry

For a more detailed biography written by Michael Rosen please visit:

<http://www.michaelrosen.co.uk/about.html>