

Session Name	Hidden Stories
Audience	Secondary Students; Upper Primary
Description	<p>You've got an idea for a story. You begin writing. Pretty soon you run out of steam. The spark you were so keen on doesn't seem so good now. How do we go about finding all the ins and outs of a possible piece of writing before we even start that first sentence?</p> <p>Beginning with a couple of possible sparks (their own), students are taken through a series of questions and guided brainstorming, where they compile a mass of information, reflect on important and trivial details, and emerge with the first paragraph of a story they can't wait to finish.</p>
Topics covered (start each new topic on a new line, with an asterisk and a space for each)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Origin of stories</li> <li>*Description and Imagery</li> <li>*Characterisation</li> <li>*Dialogue</li> <li>*Development and Drafting</li> </ul> <p>Having been a successful teacher of writing and a writer of some 30 publications (variety of genres) in that time, I am passionate about turning people onto writing and the need for stories. I use my own and others' writing as models.</p> <p>After 25+ years of secondary teaching I now lecture in the hugely popular Creative Writing at Victoria University – our Prof Writing degree course was recently declared as being at 'world standard'.</p>
Duration	Possible in 50 minutes but better if 100 minutes.
Requirements	Whiteboard.