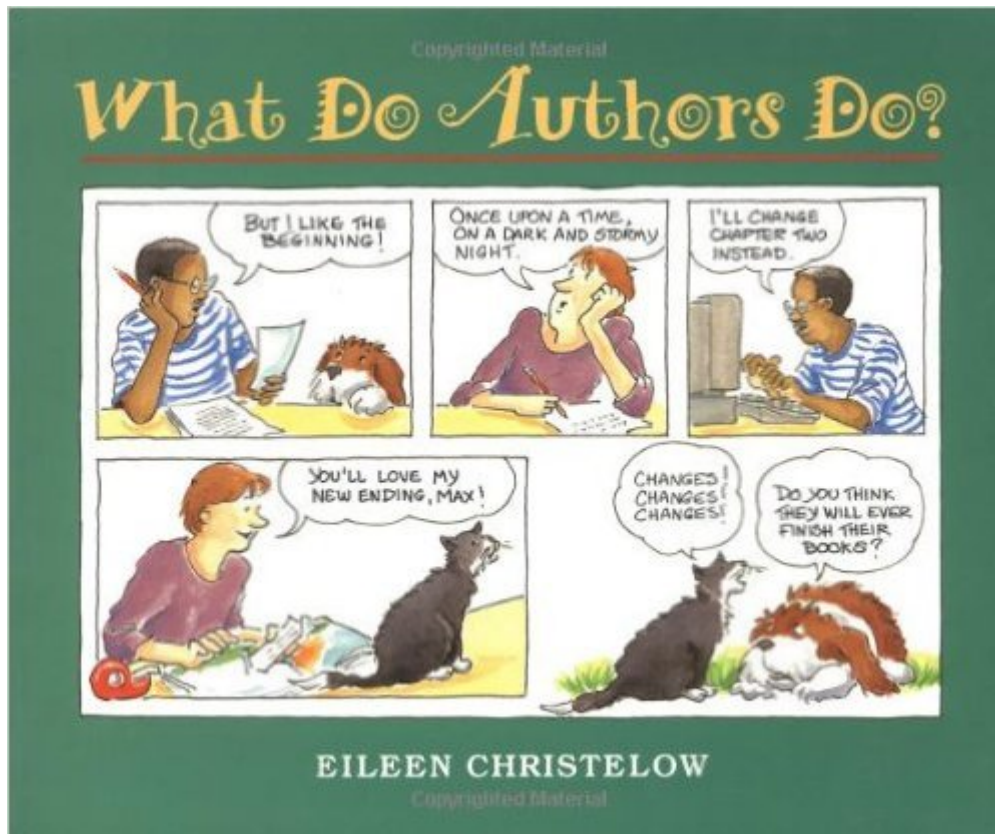


The book was found

# What Do Authors Do?



## Synopsis

A sprightly text and colorful illustrations follow two creative people-and a talkative dog and cat-through the writing process step by step, from the inspiration for a story to the satisfaction of sharing the book with readers. Eileen Christelow based this instructive picture book on questions children asked during her classroom talks around the country. Simple enough for young children to understand, and with the entertainment value of fiction, "What Do Authors Do?" is children's nonfiction at its best.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 340L (What's this?)

Paperback: 40 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; 7/19/97 edition (August 18, 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0395866219

ISBN-13: 978-0395866214

Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 9 x 10.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (29 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #11,335 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #19 in [Books > Children's Books >](#)

[Education & Reference > Jobs & Careers](#) #84 in [Books > Children's Books > Education &](#)

[Reference > Reading & Writing](#) #1069 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction](#)

Age Range: 7 - 10 years

Grade Level: 2 - 5

## Customer Reviews

One of my favorite lessons to teach during our writing launch at school is based on a mentor text called *What Do Authors Do?* by Eileen Christelow. Told through a combination of short sentences and comic-illustrations, *What Do Authors Do?* is surprisingly thorough in its coverage of the writing process for primary grades. The bright and bold artwork also makes it a fun read. When I heard Eileen Christelow was one of the guest authors at our local Literacy Festival this year, I decided it was time to buy my own hardcover copy. Hopefully, this Saturday, I'll hear her speak and get my book autographed. *What Do Authors Do?* covers all the basics. Authors get ideas, write, revise, share, submit, persist, and publish. It even touches on finer details. For example, authors get ideas in strange places such as by watching one's dog chase the neighbor's cat. Authors also (believe it

or not) struggle to find the right words and get stuck in their plots. Then authors can make lists, take notes, write outlines, or just plain take a break. You see, authors don't give up when writing gets hard, but instead they persist with their work. When authors are ready to share, family and friends and even writers' groups can offer feedback. Later on, so might editors. Eventually, authors will submit their book to an editor, who will either accept or reject it. Christelow covers the whole process, even to the point of taking readers full-circle back to starting a story with an idea. Ah-ha! Writing is a cyclic process! Because I use it as a fun and realistic introduction to the writing process, I have three quibbles to *What Do Authors Do?* Christelow notes more than once that authors get stuck. I'd like even more suggestions for how writers can move forward without actually taking a full-fledged break.

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