

Heath McKenzie

Heath McKenzie is a best selling author, illustrator (successfully authoring for a couple of years now but illustrating professionally since 2003... so he prefers to talk about drawing as he's fairly sure he's got the hang of that a bit more than the writing stuff...!)

He's illustrated picture books, chapter books, YA covers, numerous advertising campaigns, bits and pieces for The Age newspaper and The Victorian Premier's Reading Challenge, storyboarded an ad or two, a comic book or...5(?) and once, a spot of live TV drawing (on ABC TV's 'Adam Hills Tonight' and Network 9's Kid's WB).

He has written and illustrated 'What Do Werewolves Do When It's Not Halloween?', 'I Wanna Be a Pretty Princess', and 'What Does Santa Do When It's Not Christmas?' with Scholastic along with 'The Aussie A-Z' and 'The Aussie Twelve Days of Christmas' with Black Dog Books... to name a few!

He's also illustrated the runaway success that is Andy Lee's 'Do Not Open This Book' along with soccer superstar Tim Cahill's 'Tiny Timmy' series, 'Craw's Kick It To Nick', several Nerdy Ninjas, 'The Littlest Bushranger', two adventures with an orange cat called 'Marmalade', a number of Adam Wallace picture books (along with his charming 'Better Out Than In' series); Cockys who cried "Dingo!", Emus laying Golden Eggs, and an alphabet of Pirates, Fairies and little Aussie animals... to name a few more!

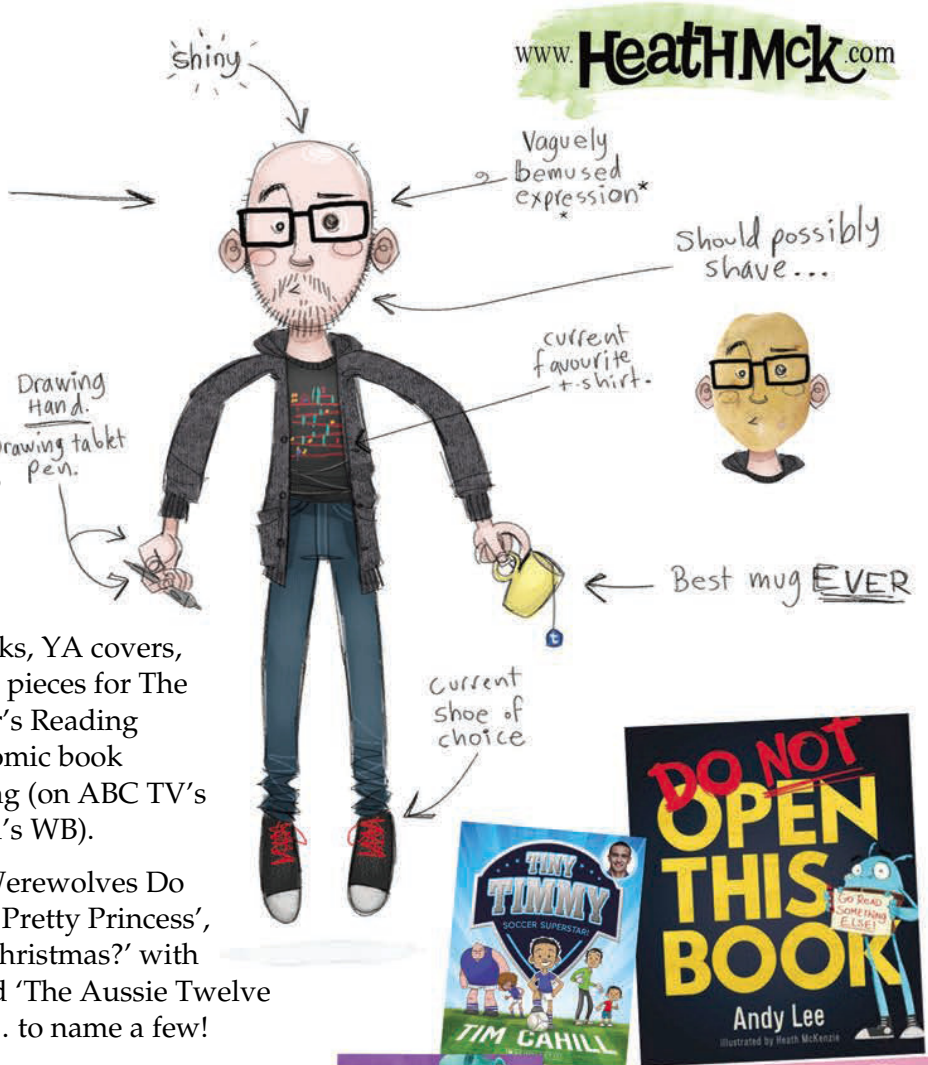
Fortunately, his website www.heathmck.com details a vast majority of his books and 'non-book' work too!

DURING A SCHOOL SESSION: Heath will demonstrate how he works (digitally with a drawing tablet!) and will discuss the key components of illustrating a book - including character design (and the epic amount of storytelling that one task involves) and then, illustrating the text! More importantly though - illustrating BEYOND the text!

All the tools required for creating interesting, entertaining and unexpected illustrations are covered in Heath's sessions. Along the way, he'll also offer the odd tip and trick for drawing too...nevertheless always maintaining the important idea that there's actually no right or wrong way to draw!



BOOKINGS & ENQUIRIES:
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Feedback for Heath McKenzie

We thought Heath was FANTASTIC!!

- Vanessa Grasso, Templeton PS, VIC

Students were thrilled to meet a real live 'famous person' and many had brought books for signing or have subsequently purchased books. They were transfixed as Heath drew and engaged in his anecdotes.

Heath was extremely patient in listening to student observations or when seeking comments. He used language that made him 'cool' and appealing to all ages. His friendly, relaxed manner set the comfortable happy tone for the whole session.

- Anne Kelly, Kilmore PS, VIC

Heath adapted his presentation and worked very well across the different age groups – students were very engaged. Heath uses a graphics tablet and involves his students in his presentation. His emphasis on the link between story | character | illustration perfectly matched our curriculum focus.

- Sue Macdonald, St Michael's Grammar School, VIC

Students were very enthusiastic, engaged and positive. Many went home and tried the tips and techniques!

- St Joseph the Worker PS, Reservoir, VIC

Everyone was inspired by Heath's instructions! The students enjoyed the sessions immensely and one year level left the session and immediately had a go at drawing more. Teachers responded that the sessions were well targeted age wise, and complemented what they had been doing in class.

- Ruth Woolven, Kew PS, VIC