

2011 CYA CONFERENCE – HATCHLINGS COMPETITION

Category 1: Preschool & Primary School Picture Book – Score Sheet



Title: Example

Email - Parent/Guardian: example@hover.com

Email - Hatchling:

Score on this sheet: 83

Total Score both Judges: 174/ 215(80.93 %)

Judge #: 14

NB: As a judge you are asked to assess readiness for submission. Refer to Guidelines for Judges before you begin.

1 = Needs Work

2

3 = Average

4

5 = Good

Part A (co-ordinators marking only) – Does the entry comply with the entry conditions? All =5, deduct 1 mark per item missing: too long, not double spaced, name on entry, no word count, general neat appearance and ease of reading. ONLY TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT ONCE ON SCORE.	5
Part B: (Judges Start marking from here)	
Is there a targeted publisher? Yes = 5 No =1 Note to Hatchlings 2011: All entries received 5 marks here as this was the first year of the competition. However, from next year this section WILL apply. Please check your entries we send back with these feedback sheets to ensure you understand what we accept as entry conditions, and that target publishers must be researched and relevant to your entry.	5
Is the entry suitable for the target publisher/s? (Although this is noted here, this does NOT count towards final score but is there as feedback on the choice given.)	5
Spelling & Grammar:	
Is the entry free of spelling errors?	4
Are the basics of grammar followed?	4
Are the basics of punctuation followed?	5
Story:	
Were you drawn in right away?	5
Does the writer introduce the characters, the situation they are in and why they are in it?	5
Is there a clear sense of happenings?	2
Has the writer raised questions that you want to see resolved?	4
Characterisation:	
Did you get a good sense of the main character/s?	5
Do the characters have believable goal/s they are working towards?	5
Are you given sufficient details and reasons for behaviour?	4
Writing Technique:	
Is the writing well paced?	2
Does the rhyme work?	N/A
Does the narrative seem natural, give necessary information and advance the story?	3
Does each scene promote or advance the plot?	3
Does the dialogue sound natural or true to the era / setting /style of the book?	N/A
If complete, was there a satisfactory ending to the story?	2
Reader Enjoyability:	
Do you care what happens to the characters?	5
Does the writing have a distinct style or voice that impacts positively on you?	3
Did the entry touch you emotionally - either with the characters and/or the situation they are in?	5
Did you enjoy reading this entry? If it didn't finish do you want to read more?	3
The X Factor:	
<i>We've called it The X Factor for want of a better phrase. Submission to an editor is only one step on the road to publication. An editor may require corrections or rewrites, but there are qualities that will make them consider putting time into and working with a writer to bring them to publication. Publishers may reject a manuscript, but will also ask the writer to try again. To mark this item, ignore the errors, and look for the potential.</i>	2
How do you rate the potential of this entry being ready for the editors? Give a score: 5 – Yes, send it now! 4 – Ready – with few edits needed first... 3 – Average - Needs a little work 2 - Don't send yet - Needs work 1- Don't send yet – Major work required on this entry	2

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Score on this sheet: 83

Judges Comments:

Judge No: 14

This judge is:

Published, Children's ✓ Published, YA ✓ Editor ✓ Contest finalist/winner ✓ Avid reader of the genre ✓

Judges Comments:

This is a splendid premise, and Scruffy is an appealing character. The bits about him being cute, but always being returned and about the Great Dane that hogs everything really pulled me in. The problems I saw include: A jerky pace. A lot of what happens is retrospective. There's no sense of Scruffy actually resolving anything. He is returned time and again because the wrong people buy him, therefore there's nothing HE can do to solve the problem. The opening scene is wonderful, but I couldn't tell when it happened. I suggest smoothing the pace and working out a way for Scruffy to improve his lot by (maybe) making an effort to attract the RIGHT owners. Well done.

Coordinators Comments:

Thank you for entering the first CYA Conference ~ Hatchlings Writing and Illustrating competition. Your entries have been judged by the same criteria as adult entries into this competition, no allowances were given because you were under 18 years old, and the judges **DID NOT** know your ages. Please be very proud of your scores, and read your comments carefully.

Use what you can from the comments, and discard what you feel isn't relevant to you – an important part of being a professional writer and/or illustrator is accepting constructive criticism and feedback, and using what you can to make your story/picture better.

But remember that only **YOU** can tell your story in **YOUR** voice /draw **YOUR** pictures in **YOUR** unique style, and **YOUR** individualism must always be allowed to shine through.

Dates for 2012: Competitions begin their staggered openings from 1 January 2012.

All competitions **close on 30th April 2012.**

CYA Conference – Alligators & Hatchlings: Saturday 7th July 2012.

2011 CYA CONFERENCE – HATCHLINGS COMPETITION

Category 1: Preschool & Primary School Picture Book – Score Sheet



Title: Example

Email - Parent/Guardian: example@hover.com

Email - Hatchling:

Score on this sheet: 91

Total Score both Judges: 174/ 215(80.93 %)

Judge #: 12

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<p>Part A (co-ordinators marking only) – Does the entry comply with the entry conditions? All =5, deduct 1 mark per item missing: too long, not double spaced, name on entry, no word count, general neat appearance and ease of reading. ONLY TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT ONCE ON SCORE.</p>	
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<p>Is there a targeted publisher? Yes = 5 No =1 Note to Hatchlings 2011: All entries received 5 marks here as this was the first year of the competition. However, from next year this section WILL apply. Please check your entries we send back with these feedback sheets to ensure you understand what we accept as entry conditions, and that target publishers must be researched and relevant to your entry.</p>	5
<p>Is the entry suitable for the target publisher/s? (Although this is noted here, this does NOT count towards final score but is there as feedback on the choice given.)</p>	5
<p>Spelling & Grammar:</p>	
Is the entry free of spelling errors?	5
Are the basics of grammar followed?	5
Are the basics of punctuation followed?	5
<p>Story:</p>	
Were you drawn in right away?	4
Does the writer introduce the characters, the situation they are in and why they are in it?	4
Is there a clear sense of happenings?	4
Has the writer raised questions that you want to see resolved?	4
<p>Characterisation:</p>	
Did you get a good sense of the main character/s?	4
Do the characters have believable goal/s they are working towards?	4
Are you given sufficient details and reasons for behaviour?	4
<p>Writing Technique:</p>	
Is the writing well paced?	4
Does the rhyme work?	N/A
Does the narrative seem natural, give necessary information and advance the story?	4
Does each scene promote or advance the plot?	4
Does the dialogue sound natural or true to the era / setting /style of the book?	N/A
If complete, was there a satisfactory ending to the story?	4
<p>Reader Enjoyability:</p>	
Do you care what happens to the characters?	5
Does the writing have a distinct style or voice that impacts positively on you?	5
Did the entry touch you emotionally - either with the characters and/or the situation they are in?	5
Did you enjoy reading this entry? If it didn't finish do you want to read more?	5
<p>The X Factor:</p>	
<p><i>We've called it The X Factor for want of a better phrase. Submission to an editor is only one step on the road to publication. An editor may require corrections or rewrites, but there are qualities that will make them consider putting time into and working with a writer to bring them to publication. Publishers may reject a manuscript, but will also ask the writer to try again. To mark this item, ignore the errors, and look for the potential.</i></p>	4
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Judge No: 12

This judge is:

Published, Children's ✓ Published, YA Editor Contest finalist/winner Avid reader of the genre

Judges Comments:

Scruffy sounds like a wonderful dog. A few things that you could do to improve your writing, and tighten the pace. Remember this is a picture book - so the illustrations can be used to tell the story too. EG: Scruffy was a seven month old Maltese cross Silky Terrier puppy, and, although he was cute, he was sitting in a pen in the pound. Can all be shown in the illustrations. Leaving a dog for months at a time wouldn't happen in a pound. Rather don't put time lines. Edit your last paragraphs (again - take out the time line) this will improve the impact. Your last paragraph makes an EXTREMELY satisfying ending to this story, it wraps up your story well and has a heart-touching effect - well done. This story has good bones and is worth working on, editing, looking at other just released picture books eg Peter Carnavas books, and see how few words he uses, and how his pictures help tell the story. You have great writing potential - keep learning and keep writing! Well done.

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