



"Finding Your Voice" Archetypes and the Nature of Character

Writing Workshop

with Kim T. Griswell

Saturday, May 22nd, 10-3pm \$50

(brown bag lunch)

**Class size limited - registration required -
contact homecenter2@comcast.net or 503.363.3926 or 503.551.0311**

In this class is about developing each writer's natural voice by exploring the writer's own nature, the nature of archetypes, and the nature of characters—both fictional and real.

Stories that really move us—those that linger in our memories—aren't driven by clever plots but by characters that make us care. This intensive activity- and writing-based workshop will give writers guidance and practice as they learn what it takes to write compelling stories about real people or create fictional characters that compel readers to keep turning pages.

Sample activities and writing exercises:

- **Finding Your Archetypal Child**
- **Using Archetypes to Create Character**
- **Discovering a Character's Nature**
- **How Nature Drives Story**
- **30 Things I Know Exercise**



It often takes years for a writer to find his or her authentic voice. Many things hold writers back: mimicking popular styles or favorite authors, writing stories with the marketplace in mind, lack of confidence, and fear of revealing too much. Our greatest writers write from their guts, from their own truths. They dig deep until they reach a vein within themselves that is pure gold. They tell the stories that only they can tell, as only they can tell them. Together, we'll explore books that have "voice" and develop a definition of this often misunderstood term. Then we'll move on to activities and writing exercises, writers will learn how to break through to their authentic voices and discover the stories that are theirs to tell.

Kim T. Griswell is a senior editor for Highlights, Inc. and works with the Highlights Foundation and Boyds Mills Press. She served as the coordinating editor of *Highlights* for six years and *Highlights High Five* for a year. Her work in the children's literature field has spanned the worlds of publishing and teaching, leading her to positions as senior editor of *Bookbag* magazine, book development manager for The Mailbox Book Company, a university and community college instructor, and a teacher with the Institute of Children's Literature. She holds master's degrees in teaching writing and in literature from Humboldt State University. She has taught writing workshops across the country on such topics as Focusing Nonfiction, Mystery Writing, Creating a Sense of Place, Writing for Children's Magazines, Nature as Muse, and The Hero's Journey. A prolific writer and committed editor, Kim has published more than two hundred short stories, articles, and columns. Her books include *Carnivorous Plants*, *Nonfiction Reading Practice (Grade 3)*, and many stories in the four-book series, *Short Short Stories for Reading Aloud*. In 2008, Kim was awarded a two-month writing residency at the Sitka Center for Arts and Ecology in Oregon. www.kimgriswell.com.