



Genre: **handbook**

Territory: **world**



NARRATION SCHOOL

How and why writing with children

Children tell stories about their lives and their world, just for the pleasure of telling them: there are neither grammatical nor structural rules. It is only when they start going to school that they have to face spelling and grammar rules that come with the process of writing.

Writing at school should not come down to techniques and tricks, it should rather be conceived in a way that actively ties children to literature and narration.

This handbook consists of **two sections**. The first deals with theory and describes all the different narrative forms, from collective to folk narratives, from plays to novels.

Starting from the **innate need of every child to tell stories**, the book analyses the fundamental **role of the teacher** as well as the structure of the plot and the discovery of the **narrative alphabet**.

The second section is more practical and suggests a series of fun **classroom activities** to stimulate children's desire to tell stories. The book also includes interviews to Maria Luisa Bigiaretti, Gianni Rodari's co-worker, about her experience of writing activities with children, and to Massimo Carlotto, a crime fiction writer, about collective narratives.

This handbook stands out because it suggests a **well-tested method**, that helps children expressing their relationship to the world through a poem or a short story.

The handbook assists teacher in clarifying their educational aims, with reference to the experimental work of Rodari, Munari and Calvino on narration, imagination and creation, while taking into consideration **new forms of communication**, from the web to mobile phones, from fiction to social networks.

The author -----

Luisa Mattia has been a teacher for many years and is the creator of a writing project for school children in Rome. She has written novels for children and is co-author of a popular TV show for kids. She has recently started working in cooperation with the Autobiography University of Anghiari and with the Imagination Observatory of Turin. Her website is www.luisamattia.com.

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