



# 101 Ways to Bug Your Characters – Creatively!

*A Presentation by Lee Wardlaw  
Grades 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>*

The hardest part about writing is thinking of something to write, right?

*Wrong!*

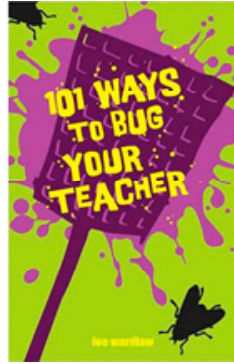
Your students may brainstorm batches of ideas, only to get stuck in the miserable middles – or even on that dreaded first line. So how do authors do it? How do they turn great ideas into great stories?

By ‘bugging’ their characters with six crucial questions:

- *Who are these people?* (characterization)
- *What is bugging them?* (conflict)
- *Why is it bugging them?* (motivation)
- *How will they swat those bugs?* (plot)
- *When will they swat ‘em?* (suspense/resolution)
- *Why is it so important to swat ‘em?* (theme)

Join Lee for a lively, educational, *funny* presentation – featuring a reader’s theatre performance using prepared scripts, student volunteers, and wacky costumes – that will give young authors the tools needed to tell the writing blues to *BUG OFF!*

*Group Size: 25-200+  
Time: 45-60 minutes  
Grades: 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>*



*Lee recommends that teachers and students read at least one of her novels in the 101 Ways...series before her presentation. For teacher's guides, click on the links below. Thank you!*

*[101 Ways to Bug Your Parents](#)  
[101 Ways to Bug Your Teacher](#)  
[101 Ways to Bug Your Friends and Enemies](#)*

*For information about scheduling, fees, and additional programs,  
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