

Becoming a Sensory Story Author with The Sensory Projects.

This document details things you need to consider when creating a sensory story to submit for publication with The Sensory Projects.

Stories accepted for publication with The Sensory Projects will be owned by The Sensory Projects and authors will not be allowed to reproduce them elsewhere without first seeking permission from The Sensory Projects.

Authors will be paid royalties per story sold, these payments will be processed via Paypal so authors need to ensure they have a paypal account in place to receive these payments. Royalties will be paid at 14.2% currently the stories retail for £14 each, 14.2% equates to £2 per story. Authors will be notified of price changes to the stories, and to royalty payments. The Royalty rate will not drop, changes made would only be to increase it. It is the author's responsibility to make sure that The Sensory Projects have the correct email address for notification of such changes and the correct paypal details for the payments of Royalties.

Initial print runs will be of 25 stories. Authors may opt to take an advance on their royalties for their first 25 books. If the story sells well then it will be re-printed and authors will receive their royalties bi annually.

Authors will be asked to format their stories in accordance to the formatting guidelines, and submit them in Word and PDF form to sensorystory@gmail.com

Authors must have full permission to use all of the images within their story. If choosing images from online sources we recommend looking for those that are readily available under creative commons licensing and are approved for commercial use with modifications. If supplying images yourself ensure you have the relevant written consent from the people featured in the images for them to be included in the story. If unsure always opt for images that do not share a person's identity, e.g. an image showing just the hands.

Once published your story will be listed for sale via Paypal on www.TheSensoryProjects.co.uk/sensory-stories and may also be sold in person at events around the UK. You are encouraged to advertise your story via your networks and social media – if you tag in The Sensory Projects we will do our best to endorse your promotion. If your story sells well it will be re-printed. If it sells slowly we may rest it off our lists before re-publishing it at a later date.

Submitting a story for publication indicates an agreement to the above conditions.

Requirements

Sensory Stories published by The Sensory Projects contain:

- A full colour front cover.
- A contents page.
- An introduction to the story written by the author to give the story a personal feel.
- Guidance notes for how to source the sensory stimulus required for sharing the story. These items should be readily available in the majority of households or available for very low cost.
- Detailed information about how to facilitate the sensory experiences that accompany the story intended to give nervous story sharers confidence.
- Ideas for activities that would promote further engagement with the story.
- Optional – a movement sequence relating to the story.
- The text of the sensory story itself together with prompts relating to the sensory experiences.

Following the formatting guidance all of the above should total 20 pages. Stories of 16 pages and 24 pages will also be considered. In very exceptional cases we may consider publishing stories of 28 pages.

We recommend that you familiarise yourself with stories currently published by The Sensory Projects to get a feel for what we are looking for.



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Advice

The Sensory Story project stories aim to be inclusive of people of all ages and abilities. Your story should be accessible to someone who experiences it at a purely sensory level. You should pay as much attention to the sensations in your story as you do to the text. Ensure that whilst they are linked to the text their interest is not dependent on the text. For example a photo maybe an interesting visual experience if I understand something about what I am looking for, but without that understanding it is a few blobs of colour, whereas looking through coloured cellophane changes everything I see and is a massive visual experience whether I understand anything about what it represents or not.

We want the stories to be motivating to tell so as well as appealing to people who will experience them on a sensory level we want them to be of interest to the people sharing the stories.

We want your story to stand out. Consider what is currently on offer at The Sensory Projects and whether what you are submitting overlaps with it or stands out as something new and exciting.

If you are able to add extra advice, guidance, or insight into your story booklet – information that will help the reader to not only tell the story but may also help them in other areas of their life, then this will be welcomed. If you are able to provide references to research or supportive material to underpin your advice this will be celebrated.

We are happy to provide advice to you as you create your story, however we cannot write it for you so if you feel that you need more support we recommend reaching out to people you know to help you with a first draft before submitting the story to us.

Our very best wishes with your creative endeavours we look forward to reading your submissions.



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