2024 WETA PBS Kids Writers Contest FAQ

1. **Are stories required to have an original title?**
   Yes, all stories must have an original title.

2. **Do stories have to include the prompt?**
   Yes, all stories must begin with “A day at my favorite place…”

3. **Is there a word requirement for story submissions?**
   Yes, the word count includes short words such as “a,” “an,” and “the,” but not the words on non-story pages such as the title page or those words that enhance the illustrations.

   Kindergarten:
   - Minimum of 30 words
   - Maximum of 100 words

   First Grade:
   - Minimum of 50 words
   - Maximum of 200 words

   Second, Third, & Fourth Grade:
   - Minimum of 100 words
   - Maximum of 350 words

4. **How many illustrations must each story have?**
   Stories must have at least 5 illustrations.

5. **Do I have to draw my illustrations?**
   No, original art can include drawings, collages, or photographs taken by the author. All art must be original, created by the Entrant.

6. **Should story pages include page numbers?**
   Yes, stories must be written or printed on one side of each sheet of paper and page numbers must appear on each page.

7. **Can I handwrite my story?**
   Stories can be typed or handwritten; children who cannot write on their own may dictate their story to be printed or typed.

8. **Does the story need to be bound or stapled?**
   No, please only use a single staple or paperclip for your story.

9. **When are stories due?**
The deadline for the contest is **April 8, 2024.**

10. **How do I submit to my story?**
   Option 1: Email a completed 2024 WETA PBS KIDS Writers Contest Entry Form with your story submission to writerscontest@weta.org by **April 8, 2024,** or
   Option 2: Mail a completed 2024 WETA PBS KIDS Writers Contest Entry Form with your story submission to WETA, 3939 Campbell Avenue, Arlington, VA 22206. All entries must be postmarked by **April 8, 2024,** to be eligible.

11. **If I chose to email my child’s story, what should I include in the email?**
   Please try to send one complete email with your entrant’s contest materials. Here are some tips:
   - Subject Line: Please include First & Last Name / Grade
   - Attach story submission & completed entry form
   - PDFs are preferred

12. **Will I get my story back?**
   The Contest administrators will make every effort, but are not required, to return mailed entries *only if accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope* of an appropriate size.

13. **Can children from other states enter the contest?**
   No, only legal residents of the District of Columbia, Maryland or Northern Virginia may participate.

14. **Can I submit multiple stories?**
   No, participants may only enter one entry per year.

15. **How will I be notified that my story is a winner?**
   WETA staff will notify winners by phone and email after all grade levels have been judged.