

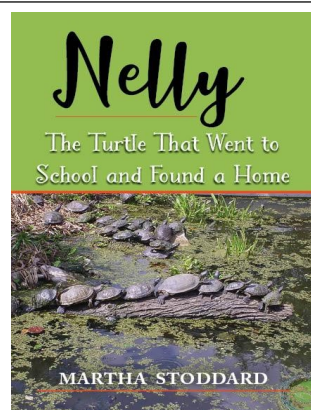
# Introducing *Nelly: The Turtle That Went to School and Found a Home*

by Martha Stoddard

Website: [www.mstoddardwrites.com](http://www.mstoddardwrites.com)

Martha Stoddard is a former teacher and current author and copy editor. She holds degrees in Elementary Education and Supervision and Curriculum Development. She served as a school district's certified teacher trainer for New Jersey Writing Project in Texas (12 years) as well as created reading and science products for educational publishers. She has published four articles in education periodicals. *Nelly: The Turtle That Went to School and Found a Home* is her first published book.

Stoddard's teaching experience with all subjects in grades prekindergarten–5 and 8, science presentations at teacher conferences, extensive research about turtles and tortoises from an earlier book manuscript which aligns with state science curriculum and Next Generation Science Standards, and education materials published make her well qualified as author of her debut book for middle grade readers.



Paperback: 40 pages

Publisher: Memories Publishing (December 9, 2019)

The Authors' Assistant, Austin, Texas

ISBN 978-0-999762257

Price: \$7.99

Genre: Narrative Nonfiction

Audience: Middle Grade Readers, Ages 8–12

**Available on Amazon.com**

This book is a narrative nonfiction chapter book for middle grade readers who empathize with a teacher's goal of caring for a rescue Red-eared Slider turtle at her home and solving problems that arise. The author's true experiences of friendship and caring for Nelly show readers that we can all care for the world's turtles one rescue at a time.

## Book Excerpt:

“Head up, head down. Head up, head down. Head up, head down. A ten-year-old boy named Luke watched a line of turtles circle around in the cloudy, green water like merry-go-round horses. He sat cross-legged on the sun-warmed rock rim of the turtle pond...As each turtle approached him, the boy softly touched its raised head with his fingertip.”

**School and Library Author Visits:**

Options and pricing for scheduled visits are effective beginning in **May 2022**.

- |                                                                               |                 |       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-------|
| • Virtual presentation on Skype                                               | 45–60 minutes   | \$150 |
| For Gr. 2–3 or Gr. 4–6                                                        |                 |       |
| • Two half-day in-person assembly programs (COVID safety protocols in effect) |                 |       |
| in <u>Central Texas locations</u>                                             |                 |       |
| For Gr. 2–3; then Gr. 4–6                                                     | 60 minutes each | \$250 |

**Benefits of Author Visits:**

Students will learn the importance of reading different genres of books in class and at home; understanding writing as a process and research skills used by writers, especially for narrative nonfiction; applying techniques for creating their own narrative nonfiction pieces; and how a book gets published. Program content meets state grade level English Language Arts and Science curriculum standards, Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts/Literacy in Science, and Next Generation Science Standards.

**Venues:**

Presentations are available for schools, libraries, and book fairs. Each program is interactive, age-appropriate, high interest, and instructional. Involving students with audience participation activities such as storytelling, music, acting, poetry, and movement keeps listeners engaged.

**Testimonials:**

\*“In my experience with Martha, she consistently demonstrated a strong work ethic, loyalty to the organization for which she is employed, and exhibited authentic and in-depth knowledge of literacy and the language arts curriculum. She possesses a keen eye for detail. Her writing skills reflect a passion for the art of writing, professionalism, accuracy, ingenuity, and thoroughness.” –ISD Assistant Superintendent, HR and Learning

\*“Our federal grant guidelines direct us to help students improve academic and test performance in reading, mathematics, and science by extending the regular classroom learning in these areas. We also teach character development and model appropriate behavior and problem solving strategies.” –21<sup>st</sup> CCLC After School Program

\*Book review excerpt: “In her book, based on her own experiences, Martha Stoddard deftly communicates how a love of animals translates into practical details of caring for them.” –*Kirkus Reviews*

**Contact Information:** To schedule an author visit, please e-mail the author at:

[stoddardmartha28@gmail.com](mailto:stoddardmartha28@gmail.com) to reserve dates and to request the Author Visit Forms packet.

**Note:** If sale copies of the book are needed, these must be ordered 2+ months in advance.

**Links on Social Media:**

Amazon.com

<https://www.amazon.com/Nelly-Turtle-That-School-Found/dp/0999762265>

LinkedIn

[www.linkedin.com/in/marthastoddard/](http://www.linkedin.com/in/marthastoddard/)

Society of Children’s Book Writers and Illustrators

<https://www.scbwi.org/members-public/martha-stoddard>