

# THE ROLE OF RESEARCH IN WRITING LITERATURE FOR CHILDREN



# Why research in writing fiction?

- To give the credibility to the story and be able to justify it when presenting the book
- To create the convincing and realistic characters
- To effectively pass the information or the message to the readers
- To make the story more interesting and exciting
- To identify the needs of the potential readers



## **BC Book Prizes Tour North BC, 2009**

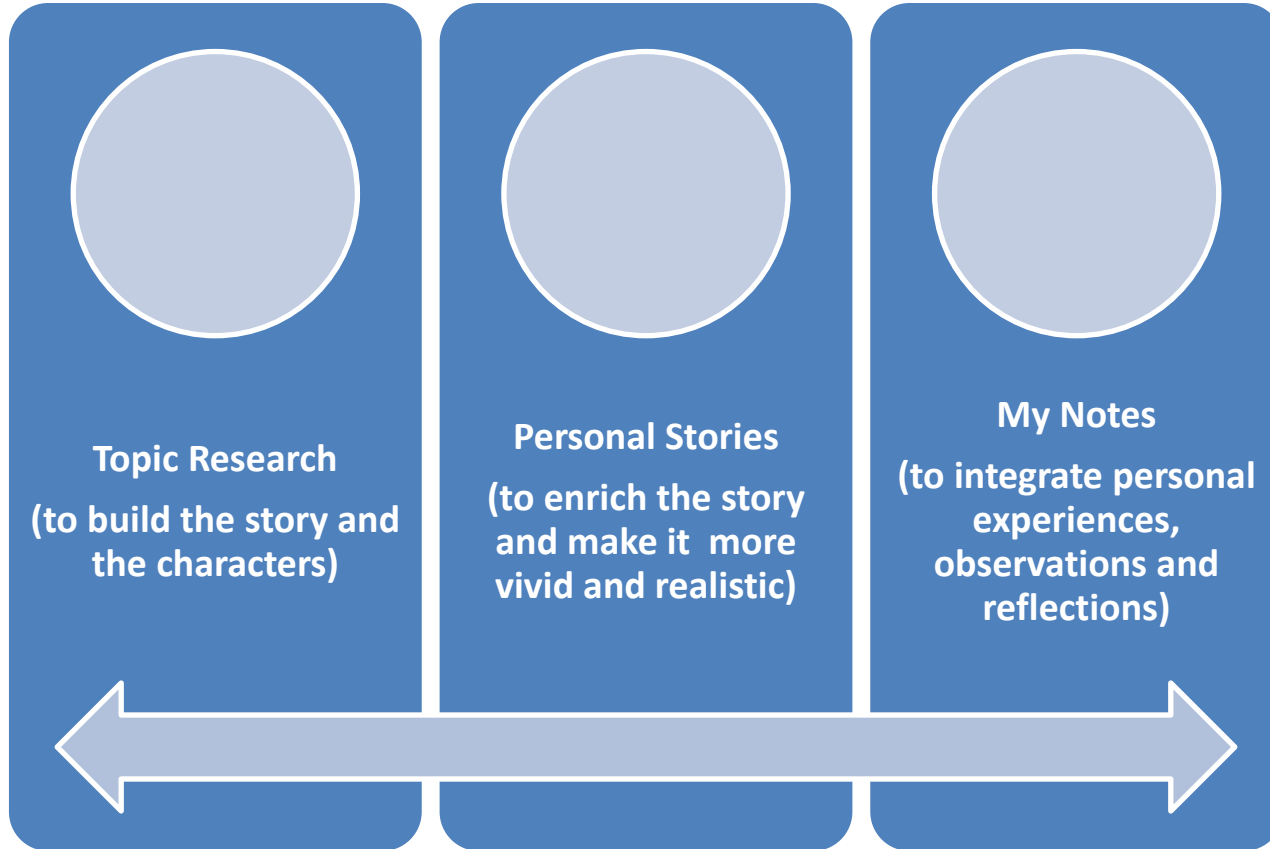
**John Field Elementary in Hazelton, BC**



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# Ways I used research to write “The Blue Vase”



# Topic Research

## (the topic of this book is: bullying)

- Stats on bullying; typical bully and bully victim personalities; issues of bullying; families of bullies and bully victims; bully targets; bullying in elementary schools.
- Ways to address bullying; teachers who make the issue worse and the ones who deal with it.
- Specific details related to characters' background (origin, names and food in the country of origin, etc.)

# Topic Research

- Also includes the research about the needs and expectations of the potential readers. The author should be aware of:
  - Language level, specific wording and jargon
  - Common interests, problems, worries..
  - What is funny? What creates tension? What motivates to continue reading a story?
  - Cognitive level(can readers grasp this?) and emotional readiness (can readers handle this?)

# Personal Stories

- Stories and experiences coming from people who went through bullying. This material is not used directly in the story. It is rather sharpening the writer's insight and making the writing more authentic.



# My Notes

- Searching through all the notebooks and finding the relevant observations, descriptions, reflections, feelings, thoughts, experiences which were recorded a while ago and could now, probably, be used in this story. Gives more life to the book, creates space for reflections.



## **School Presentation of “The Blue Vase”**

**Admiral Seymour School, Vancouver**

**May, 2017**