

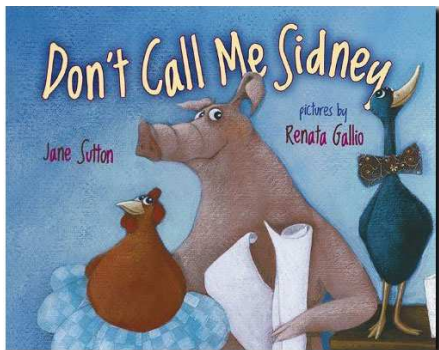
# Jane Sutton



## Children's Book Author

Jane Sutton is “a real live author” who has never forgotten what it’s like to be a kid. Through her entertaining school and library talks, students learn about the writing process and the trials and rewards of being a writer, and are inspired to want to write themselves.

## Don't Call Me Sidney



Jane is excited to share her brand new picture book, *Don't Call Me Sidney*, about a poetry-writing pig who decides to change his name because its only rhyme is “kidney.” When he announces that his new name is Joe, unexpected, hilarious consequences occur, and he eventually learns the subtle art of compromise. The appealing illustrations, by the Italian illustrator Renata Gallio, capture the characters’ quirky personalities.

## Reviews

“This fun story about the importance of a name stars Sidney, a slightly goofy pig who has a way with words...Sidney’s creative solution, which he comes up with himself, demonstrates effective problem solving without making the story overly didactic. After reading or hearing this, young readers may enjoy trying to come up with rhymes for their own and their friends’ names.”

—*Booklist*

“This amusing story about a poetic pig’s search for his true identity is accompanied by humorous acrylic and pencil collage illustrations...Children who wonder what life would be like if they were given a different name will identify with Sidney.”

—*School Library Journal*

“...Sutton’s story will appeal to young poets and listeners who are searching for their own individuality.”

—*Kirkus Reviews*

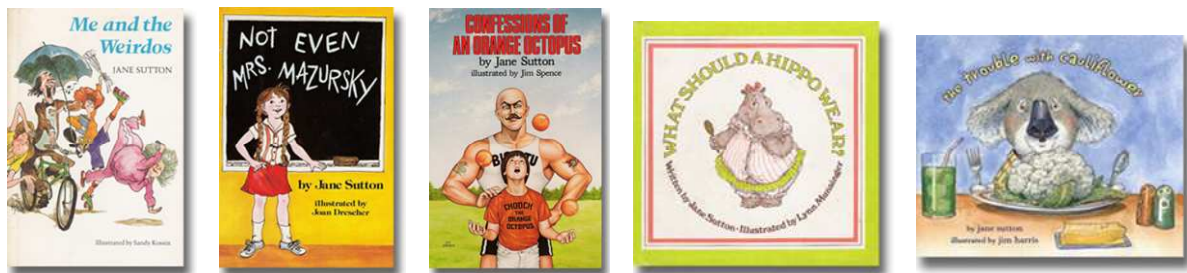
## About the Author

The author of six other books for children, Jane has given many guest author presentations to elementary school through college audiences. She and her husband live in Lexington, MA where their two children attended Lexington Public Schools.

Jane's interest in writing has led her to be a special education tutor, a creative writing teacher, a newspaper reporter, and an advertising copywriter. She is now a writing tutor, helping students from middle school through college express their ideas clearly.

## Jane's Books

Jane Sutton has three previously published middle grade novels: *Me and the Weirdos*, *Not Even Mrs. Mazursky*, and *Confessions of an Orange Octopus*. *Me and the Weirdos*, which sold over 90,000 copies, was an ALA-CBC Children's Choice, winner of the Utah Children's Book Award, and an Arizona Children's Book Award nominee. She has two previous picture books – *What Should a Hippo Wear?*, and *The Trouble With Cauliflower*, which was nominated for the Texas Mockingbird Award the New Hampshire Children's Book Award. Jane's young adult novel, *Definitely Not Sexy*, was an ALA Book for Reluctant Readers. Several of her books have been published in French.



## What are Jane's Presentations Like?

To allow children and teachers to get the most from a visit by an author, Jane tailors each presentation to the size and age group of the audience. For example, when describing the writing process, she goes into more or less detail, depending on the grade level she's addressing. With older students, she shows shockingly messy drafts, galley sheets, and even heartbreaking rejection slips.

Jane's talks are peppered with humorous anecdotes, and she allows plenty of time for questions and dialogue. Teachers are provided with suggestions for follow-up activities and standards-based curriculum guides. Schools have the option to order copies of Jane's books, which she will happily sign for individual students, often in conjunction with school fundraisers. Jane is available to give after-school or evening presentations to parents, which include a humorous slide show about the roller coaster life of a children's book author.

## Special Requests

Whenever requested, Jane customizes her presentations to support ongoing classroom curriculum and language arts standards. Single or multiple sessions can be scheduled. Teachers of younger children often request programs in the form of a story-hour. Jane's latest picture book lends itself to an interactive rhyming activity. Requested topics for older students include How to Show Characters' Personalities and Emotions, Fictionalizing Personal Experiences, Doing Research to Make Fiction Authentic, and Using Senses to Create Vivid Descriptions. In multiple-session presentations, follow-up meetings focus on students' individual work.

## Feedback from Presentations

“You have a wonderful way of giving feedback to children so that they hear what can be improved and yet feel positive about what they accomplished.”

—an enrichment volunteer parent

“Your presentation is lovely, low key and filled with information to help children appreciate authors and their work.”

—an enrichment volunteer parent

“Many thanks for coming to [school] to enlighten and inspire our students.”

—a teacher

“Our class learned so much about how to write books and how to get ideas for writing. We appreciate your kindness and help.”

—a third grade class



Contact Jane Sutton

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