

# Tips for a Successful School Visit

## What Doug can do at your school:

- ◆ Meet the Graduation Rule requirement
- ◆ Present an all-school program
- ◆ Excite students' interest in reading, writing and music
- ◆ Young Authors' writing workshop
- ◆ Highlight environmental issues
- ◆ Demonstrate effective storytelling
- ◆ Discuss the process of writing and what it's like to be an author
- ◆ Engage students through sing-a-longs
- ◆ Be very entertaining!

Children who know something about Doug, his books and music, will get more out of his presentation.

## Suggested related activities:

- ◆ Read Doug's books in class
- ◆ Have an art class make posters, banners, and bookmarks welcoming Doug
- ◆ Plan visit during curriculum focus (I love to Read month, Earth Day, etc)
- ◆ Do art projects: Papier-mâché turtles, rabbits, etc.
- ◆ Call local newspaper. If they don't send a photographer, take pictures and submit them
- ◆ Have a contest, with the winners receiving autographed books
- ◆ Have classes write reviews of Doug's books
- ◆ Have children write their own stories or songs, perhaps based on Doug's works (What Readers Can Do, What Brothers or Sisters Can't Do, Favorite Quiet Places, Things to be Thankful For, etc...)
- ◆ Talk it up. The more excited you are, the more excited the kids will be

## Check List

### Before the program

- Send Doug a map and schedule of events
- Does the library have Doug's books?
- Copy enclosed poster & distribute
- Create a display of Doug's books
- Brainstorm with children about possible questions they might ask
- Listen to Doug's music
- Learn the words to two of Doug's songs (words and music enclosed)
- Visit Doug's website:  
*www.douglaswood.com*
- For book sales, duplicate the enclosed order form and send home with students
- Distribute a News Release to the community

### Day of the program

- Provide area and system for autographing books and for selling additional books and music CDs
- Camera on hand for taking pictures of Doug with children (optional)

### Following the program

- Share Doug's website with children
- Follow-up discussions about Doug's books and music and messages
- Read books aloud
- Write thoughts and impressions
- Send photos and comments to Doug for his website (optional)

## What Doug needs when he arrives:

- Four-wheel cart to haul in equipment
- Non-carbonated cold bottled water
- Four folding chairs in performance area
- Someone to help with electrical needs
- Someone available to do an introduction