
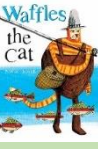


TomeCon 2025 Grades 2-5 Concurrent Session Descriptions (View [Complete Schedule](#))

Unless otherwise noted, all concurrent sessions are 45-minutes in duration.

Presenter	Audience Grades & Times	Session Title	Session Description	Location
Taryn Souders 	Grades 2-5 12:15pm 1:15 pm 2:15pm	Putting the History in Mystery	Where do great mysteries begin? Author Taryn Souders reveals the real history behind <i>The Mystery of the Radcliffe Riddle</i> —from bizarre wars (like the War of Jenkins' Ear!) to secret messages in samplers, treasure hunts, and even Colonial concrete. Get ready for a fun dive into the past, packed with adventure and hidden clues!	Athena E
Kate Albus 	Grades 2-5 12:15pm 1:15 pm 2:15pm	Down the Rabbit Hole	The research rabbit hole is Kate's favorite place to be. Join her as she shares tips and tricks for bringing history to life in story form using books, newspapers, film, radio, historical experts, and even family history.	Athena F
Jedwin Smith 	Grades 2-5 12:15pm 1:15 pm 2:15pm	Treasure Hunters Wanted: The Epic Hunt for the Atocha's Lost Fortune!	For 16 years, famed treasure hunter Mel Fisher searched for the Senora de Atocha—a legendary Spanish treasure ship lost off Florida's coast in 1622. Many thought it was just a myth. The search cost lives. But in July 1985, author Jedwin Smith was there when Fisher's team struck gold—literally! Join Jedwin as he shares the thrilling true story of how they uncovered \$800 million in gold, silver, and emeralds from the ocean's depths. Are you ready for an adventure?	Grand Hall 3
Josie Bailey 	Grades 2-5 12:15pm 1:15 pm 2:15pm	Storytelling Safari: Journey to the Heart of Kenya	Embark on an exciting storytelling adventure filled with humor, movement, and imagination! In this interactive session, Josie brings stories to life with expressive voices, vibrant dialects, and colorful costumes—often reflecting her African-American roots. Inspired by the Tome Book Award title <i>The Elephant Girl</i> by James Patterson, Ellen Banda-Aaku, and Sophia Kreyoy, this experience will transport you straight to an elephant preserve in Kenya. Get ready to laugh, learn, and explore the magic of storytelling!	Grand Hall 5
Nizrana Farook 	Grades 2-5 12:15pm 1:15 pm 2:15pm	Welcome to Serendib: The World of The Boy Who Met a Whale	Serendib, the ancient name for Sri Lanka, a place of adventure and wilderness. Join Nizrana Farook, best-selling author of <i>The Girl Who Stole an Elephant</i> and <i>The Boy Who Met a Whale</i> , as she takes you on a journey through the world of her books. Featuring fun animal facts and ideas for writing your own animal tales, prepare to be inspired by the natural world and all the stories in it.	Parthenon 1
McCall Hoyle 	Grades 2-5 12:15pm 1:15 pm 2:15pm	Beagles, and Bulldogs, and Books, Oh, My! How To Write Your Own Dog (or Pet) Story	Join bestselling author McCall Hoyle to learn how to use your five senses to write powerful stories, like Tome Award Nominee, <i>Millie</i> . Leave with a completed sensory chart, ideas for your own animal-themed story, a better appreciation of your four-legged friends, and play a quick round of dog breed trivia with a chance to win dog-themed prizes.	Parthenon 2
Hall County Library Services	Grades 2-5 12:30 pm ⁺ 1:15 pm 2:15pm	Gameshow Fun: The Wheel of TomeCon Fortune and Feud Is Right! <i>12:30pm: Shortened session to 30 minutes (pair with visiting the one of our drop-in offerings)</i>	Come on down for Season 2 of our mixed-up mashup of gameshow fun with new team challenges, trivia, a prize wheel and even Plinko! Survey says...you don't want to miss out!	Grand Hall 1

Presenter	Audience Grades & Times	Session Title	Session Description	Location
Joey Weiser 	Grades 2-5* 1:15 pm 2:15pm	How to Create a Graphic Novel <i>*Not offered to Grades 2-5 at 12:15pm</i>	Eisner Award-nominated author Joey Weiser takes you step-by-step through his process of writing and drawing a graphic novel! Followed by a short drawing demonstration.	Grand Hall 4
Nick Mask 	Grades 2-5* 12:15pm	Tails and Tales with Nick Mask and Waffles the Cat <i>*Session only offered at 12:15pm</i> Visit Nick all day in the Atrium Vendor Area	Join author and illustrator Nick Mask as he shares the story behind his beloved character, Waffles the Adventure Cat. Learn about his creative process, from developing characters to illustrating and bringing his picture books to life.	Grand Hall 4
Kathy Church	Grades 2-5 12:15 pm 1:15 pm 2:15pm	A Deep Dive Into Georgia's Snakes	Can snakes swim? What happens to them in the rain? Take a deep dive with Kathy Church from Georgia's Department of Natural Resources to uncover the secrets of Georgia's snakes! With live animals and cool displays, you'll explore how these slithery creatures adapt to water—and why learning about them is just like reading a great story full of twists and surprises. Get ready to jump in!	Grand Hall 2
Tome Team	<i>Drop In</i> Grades 2-5: 12-3pm	Minute to Win It	Dive into a literary showdown where quick wits and book smarts meet in speedy "minute to win it" challenges! Lively session packed with book-themed tasks, puzzles, and quizzes. Whether you're stacking book towers or unscrambling words, every second matters as you vie for victory against the clock.	Athena B
Marta Chapman Memorial Foundation	<i>Drop In</i> Grades 2-5: 11-3pm All Grades: 3:00-4:45pm	Make & Take: Book Inspired Crafts	Join us for "Make & Take: Book Inspired Crafts," sponsored by the Marta Chapman Memorial Foundation . Attendees can unleash their creativity by crafting fun projects inspired by their favorite books! Whether you're a book lover or a crafting enthusiast, this hands-on session offers a unique opportunity to bring stories to life through art. Get ready to dive into a world of imagination and leave with your very own literary-inspired masterpiece!	Athena C & D
The Storybook Market	<i>Shopping</i> All Grades 8:30 AM – 4:45 PM	The Official TomeCon Book Fair	Brought to you by The Storybook Market , the TomeCon Book Fair features all titles from your TomeCon author presenters plus the 24-25 & 25-26 Tome Book Award winners! Grab your favorites and get them signed during the afternoon author signing sessions. Dive in and discover your next great read!	Athena A
Chick-fil-a Plus Pop Up	<i>Shopping</i> All Grades 8:30 AM – 4:45 PM	Snack Stand + Meal Options in Venue	Snacks available for purchase all day (coffee, chips, candy bars, drinks) and Chick-fil-a breakfast and lunch menu items. Cash & Card Accepted.	Athena Lobby <i>(top of the escalators)</i>
Tome Merch & Bookish Vendors	<i>Shopping</i> All Grades 8:30 AM – 4:45 PM	Shopping	Vendors, Raffle Baskets, & Tome Merchandise <i>Get your Tome t-shirts, signing posters, stickers, and more!</i>	Atrium

Raffle Baskets at Tome Merch Table:

- **8:30 AM – 2:45 PM** – Raffle Basket Entry
 - \$1 = 1 ticket OR \$5 = 7 tickets
 - \$3 = Dive In 2025 Signing Poster + 1 ticket
- **2:45 PM** - LAST Chance to Enter Raffle Basket Drawings in Atrium.
- **3:45 PM** - Winners Posted at tomesociety.org/tomecon-gr

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM - Basket winners can pick up from the Tome Merch table. (Students should be accompanied by an adult (adviser/parent) to pick up their winning basket). **All Baskets must be picked up by 5 PM.**