

AUTHOR "CREATOR" STUDY

Some quirky facts about the author
of the **LOTTIE LOVES NATURE** series:

♥ JANE CLARKE



About Jane: Jane is the talented *author* of over 100 books for young children, including the *Sky Private Eye* picture book series and the *Al's Awesome Science* young fiction series for Five Quills. She has also written the young fiction series *Dr Kitty Cat* (OUP), *Pet Hotel* (Scholastic USA) and *Dinosaur Cove* (OUP). She is the author of many award-winning picture books, such as *Gilbert the Great*, *Neon Leon*, *Leap Frog*, *Firefly Home*, *Knight Time* and *Stuck in the Mud*. Jane loves animals, fossils and being a grandma. She enjoys writing her stories and poems and sharing them online and in person on visits to schools and nurseries.

Find out more here: <https://www.fivequills.co.uk/authors-and-illustrators/jane-clarke/>

What does Jane do? Jane is the *author* of the *Lottie Loves Nature* series, and has been involved in creating and writing the storylines, characters and the setting right from the beginning.



am up the
of Jane's



In the early stages of writing storylines and ideas, Jane uses pencil and paper and makes lots of notes. As she goes along, she collects interesting facts and pictures – and the occasional humorous pun – and jots them down in her notebooks.

research, fact check and amend the story. Jane loves to research using books and magazines (she's a member of her local Wildlife Trust and gets a lovely magazine from them). She also uses Google a lot and spends ages clicking on links to see video clips of the wonderful creatures she's writing about.

10 COOL FACTS ABOUT JANE CLARKE:

1. When she was a child, Jane wanted to be an acrobat. She spent a lot of time hanging by her knees from a trapeze bar that her dad attached to a branch of the damson tree in the garden.
2. Jane was once an archaeologist. She was also a history teacher and a library assistant before she became a writer. Being a writer is the best job ever.
3. Jane has always loved making up stories, but when she was at school, she didn't like writing them down because of her untidy handwriting and bad spelling. Her spelling's a bit better, but her handwriting hasn't improved much.
4. Jane only started writing books for children when she was 40 years old – and now it's hard to stop her. She has written over 100 published books – and at least double that are unpublished ones. That's a lot of different kinds of books!
5. Jane's always loved animals and nature, and is curious about every little thing. She's been lucky enough to have had loads of pets in her life, including several much-loved daft dogs, who have given her lots of ideas for Einstein.
6. Jane's never had a pet parrot, but one of her friends owned a very cheeky one. Whenever she visited, it would shout "go away!"
7. Lottie is inspired by Jane's younger son who kept things like stick insects and crickets, and whose first job was as a wildlife adventure tour guide.
8. Jane once went on one of those wildlife adventure tours in Venezuela. She didn't want to ruin her hiking boots so she ended up wearing sandals to squelch through a bog and almost fell over an anaconda.
9. Jane likes to write in the morning. After that, she goes for walk along the canal or to a park, or into town. She jots down ideas in her notebook that accompanies her everywhere, but writes her stories at her desk.
10. Jane's motto is: Writing isn't brain surgery; no-one gets hurt if you get it wrong. So have fun – and get creating!

