



A G.A.T.E.WAYS JOURNEY

For gifted Year 1 and 2 children with a
love of reading and writing

'SAILING, SOARING, SPELUNKING AND EXPLORING: FANTASTIC VOYAGES WITH JULES VERNE'

G.A.T.E.WAYS is an independent organization offering challenging and enriching activities and experiences to develop and extend highly able children. This *JOURNEY* for both girls and boys will run over four sessions.

We'll be travelling down, up, in and around the world in this creative writing *Journey with Jules!* Jules who, you ask? Why, Jules Verne was the famous French "Father of Science Fiction" and adventure novels, and his classic stories of heart-stopping action and uncharted exploration have fired up the imaginations of readers for centuries! We'll be collecting stamps in our personal literary passports as we sail, soar, spelunk and speed through memorable extracts from Verne's best loved books, AND be collecting momentous narrative souvenirs to help us design, invent, map and write our own action-packed sci-fi stories!

Session One: Submerging With *20000 Leagues Under the Sea*

Move over, Nemo and make way, Ariel! Verne's classic adventure tale will be the inspiration for our brilliant, beautiful, bizarre and breathtaking creative writings today as we dive below the waves to explore the mysteries of the deep! We'll be designing our own unique seafaring vessels and submarines in the wake of the famous Nautilus, encountering giant sea monsters and dangerous whirlpools, and perhaps even discovering the lost city of Atlantis for ourselves...!

Session Two: Delving Into *Journey to the Centre of the Earth*

Long before games like *Minecraft* or *Terraria* were inviting us to explore underground, our favourite Jules was already digging up subterranean secrets for us to discover! Like the heroes of *Journey to the Centre of the Earth*, today's literary adventure will begin with mysterious messages to decode as we reveal a hidden entrance into an extraordinary under-world of primitive landscapes and prehistoric creatures. We will be mapping this remarkable fantasy land and studying its inhabitants, because in our new story, one of them is about to become our best friend or most dangerous foe when we bring them back to the surface - and let them loose in our neighbourhood...!

Session Three: Circumnavigating *Around the World in 80 Days*

Pack your valise and hang onto your top hat: that mysterious gentleman Phileas Fogg and his valet Passepartout are off to seek adventure - and you're the new sidekick coming with them! But we've only got four months to travel around the globe (unless Inspector Fix arrests us for robbery first of course...) Four months, you say? Sounds easy! Ah, but we only have the modes of transport Jules Verne did, like steam trains, paddle boats and hot-air balloons! As we cross continents and oceans, you'll need all your wits, your trusty map, and whatever useful things you packed in that travel bag to write yourself out of the problems we'll face during today's story quests!

Session Four: Blasting Off *From Earth to the Moon*

We haven't left much of the Earth unexplored nowadays, but the mysteries of space are a whole other story! That's definitely the case in Jules Verne's famous space-race sci-fi novel – the launch of the first interstellar space rocket is achieved, and its three passengers are catapulted into the stars... and THAT'S where his book ends?! Luckily he has us to write a modern-day sequel – because that same spacecraft has been discovered by NASA, and it's our job to interview those long-lost astronauts... Alien planets and wormholes, time-travel and light speed – what tale will you imagine up for this final Fantastic Voyage?!

Requirements: Adventurers on this Journey will all need to pack:

- your fullest pencil case
- a new A4 writing book
- bring along your wildest imaginings and your favourite sea creature/dinosaur/wild animal/alien toy as a mascot
- A small photo of themselves with name on the back
- A stamped, self-addressed envelope (for receiving their Reports)
- A snack

Let's find out what weird and wondrous secrets from the oceans' depths, the planet's core, the amazing continents and beyond the stars we can reveal in our OWN adventurous narratives...!

Homework:

There may be some homework between sessions.

About the Presenter

Kim Edwards teaches English literature and creative writing to university and high school students, and drama and theatre skills to both adults and kids all over Melbourne. She has run book clubs and cabarets, performed Shakespeare and written sonnets, dabbled in Dickens and is best buddies with the Brontes, and while she loves a ripping good yarn, she is still convinced *everything* we get to read and write in our lives is always a thrilling new adventure! Kim is currently the club leader for G.A.T.E.WAYS *Tolkiens* Club and a new writers' club for Years 7-9, *The Inklings*.

