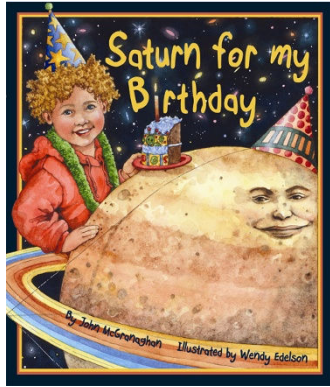


# Schedule a School Visit with Pennsylvania Children's Author John McGranaghan!



*Saturn for My Birthday*, illustrated by Wendy Edelson, tells the story of one little boy's very unusual birthday request—a whole planet! Jeffrey doesn't only want the planet, he wants all 47 moons, too. As Jeffrey explains his reasons for his birthday wish to his dad, he also teaches readers about Saturn's unique characteristics. Edelson accurately illustrates the active imagination of a young child and turns Saturn into a child's favorite playmate—and maybe their next birthday wish!

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**John McGranaghan** has always been fascinated by outer space. He remembers entering the science fair in fourth grade and doing a project on outer space, particularly Jupiter and Saturn. However, it was his youngest son, Kyle, who inspired *Saturn for My Birthday*, when he asked for the planet Saturn for his fourth birthday. John has also written stories and articles for *Boys' Quest Magazine*, *Pockets Magazine*, *Columbia Magazine*, and local newspapers. He is winner of the 2001 Pockets Fiction Contest. When John isn't writing, he enjoys sports and spending time with his wife and two boys. John currently works as a school counselor in the Philadelphia suburbs. This is his first picture book.

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## Where did you get the idea for *Saturn for My Birthday*?

"The inspiration for my book came from my son Kyle. A few days before his fourth birthday I asked Kyle what he wanted for his birthday. Kyle asked for the planet Saturn. That answer stuck with me. It eventually became an idea, which eventually turned into a book. His request must have awakened all those old 3rd & 4th grade science fair projects I did on the solar system."



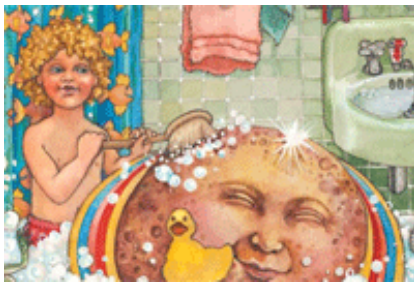
## Not only is John's book fun, it's educational, too!

The back of each Sylvan Dell book features a "[For Creative Minds](#)" section:

### *Saturn for My Birthday*

- Solar System Fun Facts
- Saturn Fun Facts
- Edible Rings Activity

Additional Online Resources include: Cross-curricular [Teaching Activities](#), [English/Spanish eBooks](#), [Audiobooks](#), child-friendly [Related Websites](#), Comprehension & Math [Quizzes](#). Aligned to [national and state curriculum Standards](#), and AR & Reading Counts Quizzes.



### Visit Details:

- John varies his classroom visits and assemblies based on the age of the students involved.
- Visits include an introduction and student ice breaker, the story behind the book, a reading of the book or highlights, a science lesson about Saturn, question and answer period, and any activities the teacher would like to include as well.

### Rates:

- John is currently not charging for local visits, so contact him today for a school or library visit at [fishdina@comcast.net](mailto:fishdina@comcast.net) or visit John's website at <http://www.johnmcgranaghan.com/>.

### How To Schedule:

1. Coordinate with other classes (or schools or libraries), and decide what day works best.
2. Contact author directly to schedule date, time and details.  
John McGranaghan, [fishdina@comcast.net](mailto:fishdina@comcast.net)
3. Send letter home to parents announcing the author visit and offering them the opportunity to order autographed books for their children. (Form letter enclosed!)
4. Preorder books and coordinate book sales with author.

Dear Parents,

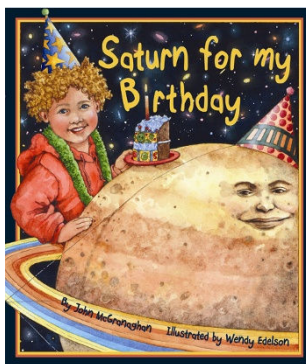
We are excited to announce that children's author John McGranaghan (*Saturn for My Birthday*) will be visiting our school on \_\_\_\_\_ to meet our students, talk about his book and lead the classroom(s) in fun, educational discussions and activities! To purchase a copy of his book so that your child can receive an autograph and remember this special day, please fill out and return the attached order form by \_\_\_\_\_.

Best wishes,

**Yes! I would like to help my child remember  
John's school visit!**

Name of Child: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Personalize Autograph To: \_\_\_\_\_



Title		Retail Price	School Fair Price	Quantity	Total
<i>Saturn for My Birthday</i>	Hardcover	\$16.95			
	Paperback	\$8.95			

Please make checks payable to (if applicable):

SUBTOTAL  
SALES TAX \_\_\_\_\_%  
TOTAL

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_