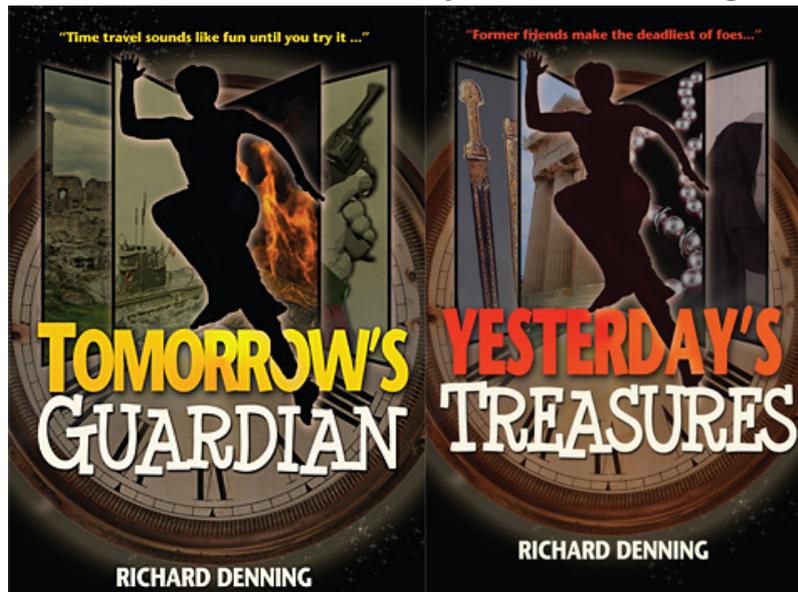


Time travel sounds like fun until you try it!

Outline of an event for children by Richard Denning author of



This presentation is designed to be entertaining and thought provoking for children of ages 10 to 14 - Years 5 to 9 - and is appropriate for World Book Day and other activities.

I will open with a reading from Tomorrow's Guardian (5 Mins)

Time Travel in TV, Movies and Books with props and pictures. (10 Mins)

A quick gallop through the use of Time Travel in popular culture, books and movies and on TV. I will use some images and some physical props. I will invite comments from the children as we go along. Reference will be made to:

Ancient Legends

I mention that travelling in time is not as new an idea as we might think. The Hindus and the Jews have stories dating back 2000 years.

Books

1819 - Washington Irving's "Rip Van Winkle" 1843 - Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol
1889 - Mark Twain's A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court 1895 - H. G. Wells' The Time Machine

TV

Dr Who (1963 to Present day). Time Tunnel 1966-67. Star Trek. 1966-69

Movies

Brigadoon (1954) The Time Machine (1960). Time Bandits (1981) Terminator (1984)
Back Ato the Future (1985), Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkabam (2004)

Is Time Travel Possible? (5 Mins)

A brief mention of a few theories. Baring in mind the audience, this will not be technical but will touch on travelling at light speed, falling through worm holes and experiments in the US using lasers. Very little detail. Just enough to get the imagination going.

The Fascination and opportunities of Time Travel (20 mins)

There is the desire to explore the past that many of us have. We like to go on holidays to exotic locations, to see the world and different cultures. We like to be present at important moments – a sporting triumph maybe or to meet celebrities and famous people.

History's Greatest People

Time Travel raises that chance of maybe meeting Leonardo DaVinci, Mozart, Caesar or Cleopatra. It also allows the possibility to changing history. This could be good or bad.

Activity involving Children:

1. King Harold don't go to Hastings!

The children take on the roles of the Saxons, Normans and Vikings and we consider what might have happened if some one could warn Harold to avoid Hastings.

The Time Tourist

There were once seven wonders of the ancient world. Of these only the Great Pyramid exists. How wonderful to be able to visit the other six. Think how marvellous to be present at the moment Newton discovered gravity, to sail (and hopefully get off) the Titanic or how fascinating to see the first airplane flight.

Activity involving Children:

2. "Holidays in the Past - When do you want to go?"

The children should be provided with some paper and pencils and I will ask them to write down where they would like to go to and who they would like to visit. I will pick out some and ask questions about them.

The dangers of Time Travel (10 mins)

We discuss the dangers of Time Travel.

Could you get trapped in the past and never return to the present?

Could you meet and kill your own ancestor and so never exist.

Could you prevent the discovery of fire, the light bulb or penicillin.

Activity involving Children:

3. "What happens if you ran over your Grandad in 1960?"

We will get 3 volunteers to play out the roles of a time traveller who accidentally kills his grandfather and see what happens to his father and himself.

I will close with another reading from Tomorrow's Guardian (5 Mins) followed by taking questions or signing books as appropriate. If my books are not carried by any book fair at the school I will bring my own supply along for sale at £5 each. Schools are advised to allow a total of 75 minutes for the event.

To find out more and see: www.richarddenning.co.uk

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Richard Denning - author of Tomorrow's Guardian.