

Contributing Author

Jon Scieszka

**U.S. National Ambassador for Young People's Literature,
Library of Congress**

Jon Scieszka attended Albion College and received a master's degree from the writing program at Columbia University. Before becoming a full-time writer, he worked as an elementary school teacher. Scieszka taught a little bit of everything, from first grade to eighth grade, for ten years in New York City. He received plenty of inspiration from his students to write *The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs!*, the *Time Warp Trio* series of chapter books, and the *Trucktown* series of books for beginning readers. His book *The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales* was named a Caldecott Honor Book in 1993. He credits his experiences in the classroom with teaching him the respect for kids' intelligence and humor that he tries to appeal to in all of his writings for them.

In 2001, Scieszka founded the nonprofit literacy initiative for boys called GUYS READ to call attention to the problem of getting boys connected with reading. Without that connection, boys face a struggle that can have a negative impact on their self-esteem, their success in school, and their futures. In 2008, he was named the first U.S. National Ambassador for Young People's Literature by the Library of Congress. And now, wherever he goes, he considers it his mission to inspire kids to want to be readers.



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