

What do individuals and groups say about Dr. Lockett and his work?

"Mike Lockett is one of the best storytellers we have had in the 18 years of our festival."

Emcee to audience at 18th Annual Tehran Storytelling Festival in Iran

"It's obvious that this man knows how to talk to kids."

NAPPA - National Association of Parenting Product Awards

For more references go to
www.mikelockett.com

"His specialty is to focus on the folk tales of America, including dialects, unusual language patterns, and regional vocabularies. The students were excited by his excellent presentations."

Pantagraph, Bloomington, IL

"What a wonderful presentation! Our teachers and students were "Wowed" by your stories and your storytelling skills. Thank you! The classroom presentations were especially enjoyable for our boys and girls. We look forward to your return to our school."

Dr. Robert P. Walter Jr., Past President Illinois Principals Association



"Mike is a master at using vocal sound effects and dialects in his stories, but he also sings and plays the mountain dulcimer to entertain his audiences and draw them into the magical world of story."

Geraldine Buckley, Master Storyteller & Coordinator Capitol Area Storytelling Festival, Wash. DC

"To make those stories in a high speed world where entertainment sound bites fly at you a dozen a minute, he uses old-fashioned fun and well-honed honest talent, singing barbershop music, imitating sounds of nature, adding music to help the tale. In his denim clothes and straw hat, he's the image of a farmhand, wire rim glasses on a delightful cherry face and hands that move constantly during presentations at schools, churches, workshops and libraries."

Bahamas Weekly

"Mike Lockett's visit today was wildly successful; a hit with the children, teachers, FCS college students and our parents in attendance."

Karen Stephens, Director of Illinois State University Child Care Center

"I received nothing but positive comments from students and staff regarding you and your presentation. THANK YOU! You know how difficult it is to have an assembly EVERYONE likes."

Rick Sharp, Principal, Beverly Manor Elementary School, Washington, IL

"Brother, You stole our dialect, and you did it better than we do."

Brother Blue, famed storyteller and street poet (In response to listening to Mike tell his Caribbean version of a story at the Sharing the Fire Conference in New Hampshire)

"Mike, You truly are a gift to the children of the world. I hope you realize how special you are."

Lori Cook Baird, Central Illinois Parent

"We want to express our appreciation for the workshop you did for us on Telling Stories to Children. You drew an enthusiastic audience. Most of them signed up for our newly formed Storytelling Guild. Your workshop was certainly a significant spark in what we hope will be a storytelling explosion here. As one participant commented, 'This opened up a whole new world for me.' "

Mike and Betty Roe, Storytelling Festival Committee Members, Performing Arts Alliance of Rural Tennessee (Following Dr. Lockett's appearance at the Cumberland Mountain Storytelling Festival)

"When I attend your programs I get a double pleasure. Your presentations are most interesting, but the children's reactions and undivided attention are a real joy to watch. Even in the present time of TV, iPads (or whatever), they are thoroughly engrossed in your performances. Their questions reflect that. I listen to you with my ears but can't keep my eyes off the children."

Marilyn Delap, Senior Citizen in Piper City, IL (Marilyn often travels an hour to attend programs)

"One of the things I love most about Mike is his way of drawing you into a tale. He is an expert at building the suspense in a story up to a cymbal-crashing crescendo. He can also make the most serious of listeners double over in full-bellied laughter. In addition, Mike builds in the element of participation into almost every tale he tells. The young and the young at heart are more than eager to jump in and play a part. The real story often begins with the spark Mike ignites in the mind of his listener."

Sadarri Saskill, from Sadarri and Company, Award Winning International Storyteller

"Dr. Lockett's tales contained wonderful messages, required audience participation and the use of imagination. Dr. Lockett shared interesting statistics and encouraging words with the parents regarding the importance of sharing time together and reading as a family."

Alison TouVelle, Event Chairperson, Northmoor-Edison Primary School, Peoria, IL

"I am the librarian at Olympia South Elementary and I just wanted to share with you that your books were purchased when you visited our students last year, and they are never on our shelves! The students love reading them and request them all the time! Thank you so much for providing such engaging reading material!"

Ami Lawson, Olympia South Elementary Librarian, Atlanta, IL

"I have nothing but rave reviews!!! I asked for a little feedback (from the staff) and received wonderful comments. I only wish I could have been at more of the sessions. Thank you, thank you, thank you."

Amy Coffman, Assistant Principal, Metcalf Lab School, Normal, IL

Thank you, thank you, thank YOU! It was my great honor to talk to you and learn from you during your visit (to Taiwan). You have no idea how touched I was when I was listening to your stories, watching you having fun and observing how you treated each person so nicely! I know it takes a lot of love and belief to do what you did for us!

Wendy Shyu, Classroom Teacher/Educational Consultant for Scholastic Company, Taipei, Taiwan

"Your presence and wonderful storytelling made a huge hit at all levels here. We find so many references to your stories in our lives here, and students beg to have you come back."

Judy Robinson, Central Illinois Title I Teacher

"The program last Wed. went above and beyond my expectations--and basic needs for the course. Already, we've talked about storytelling and students have referenced methods of storytelling in their writing."

Julie Fraser, Literature Instructor, Heartland Community College



Dr. Mike Lockett
Educator/Storyteller/Author