

Learn with Author Samantha M Clark

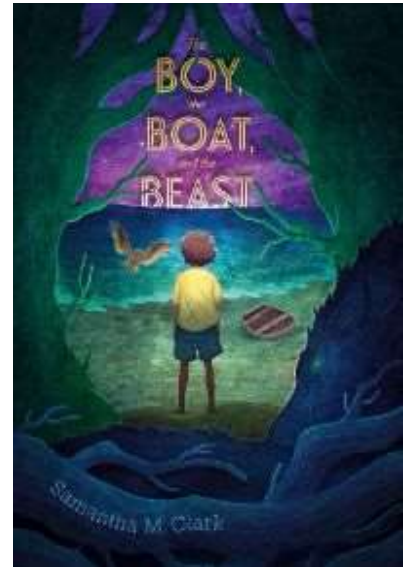
Samantha M Clark is the author of the middle-grade novel **THE BOY, THE BOAT, AND THE BEAST** (Paula Wiseman Books/Simon & Schuster) and upcoming **ARROW** (Summer 2021). In **BEAST**, a Boy wakes up on a mysterious beach where everything's scary and he has no memory of who he is, where he is or how he got there. After a bright light shines over the trees, the Boy gathers up his courage and follows it, hoping to find answers and his family. But when he discovers the terrifying truth, he must face his biggest fear—going home.

“An unforgettable, life-affirming tale.” —*ALA Booklist*

“A poignant story.” —*School Library Journal*

“This debut novel should be savored.” —*BookPage*

“Excellent mentor text for teaching POV.” —*Reading Rumpus*



A former journalist and editor, Samantha can talk to students young and older on a number of topics. For example:

- Long Winding Road to Publication
- Story Behind Story
- Make Your Own Courage
- Creative Writing
- Writing Process
- Figurative Language

Has your classroom or book club read **THE BOY, THE BOAT, AND THE BEAST**? Get a **FREE 15-minute Skype Q&A**

Learn more at SamanthaMClark.com/Author-Visits

THE BOY, THE BOAT, AND THE BEAST
ISBN 9781534412552 (hardcover)
9781534412576 (ebook)



Creative Writing Activities For Educators

Author **Samantha M Clark** uses many types of figurative language in **THE BOY, THE BOAT, AND THE BEAST**. Here's a sample of explanations and activities you can try with your class.

METAPHOR

With metaphor, one object or idea is used to describe another in a creative way. When the boy in **THE BOY, THE BOAT, AND THE BEAST** comes to a giant boulder, instead of saying it's too big to climb over, the book says, "The boulder might as well be a mountain." (Page 51)

You Try...

Think of the characteristics of a friend or family member, or a character in one of your stories, that you want to describe. Perhaps they're short or tall, happy or sad. Next think of other things that have the same characteristics, and write them in a sentence as a metaphor.

ONOMATOPOEIA

Onomatopoeia is a word that imitates the sound of something. For example, in the storm scene of **THE BOY, THE BOAT, AND THE BEAST** (pages 78-85), we find "Pitter-patter, pitter-patter. CRACK! BOOM!" as the rain, lightning and thunder surrounds the boy.

You Try...

Think of a scene you're writing. Are there any sounds that could be part of the scene, a boot thumping, a rat gnawing, or a bird singing? Find places to insert words that mimic their sounds.

PERSONIFICATION

Personification is a type of figurative language where an object is described in human-like ways. For example, on page 5 of **THE BOY, THE BOAT, AND THE BEAST**, "He ran until he splashed into the searching fingers of the incoming tide." Also, here's a line from page 37: "The sun's warmth kissed the boy good morning." A tide doesn't have fingers to search with and the sun's warmth doesn't have lips with which to kiss, but by using this personification, the reader understands the actions in a special way. Instead of just the tide coming in, a tide coming in as "searching fingers" gives it a spooky feeling. A sun's warmth that kisses lets us know it's comforting.

You Try...

Choose an object that's around you and write a paragraph that describes that object in human-like ways. As you're writing, think about how the object moves, or the sounds it makes. Perhaps think about the object's purpose, or how its action can be interpreted like human actions. All of these can help you find ways to use personification in your writing.

Download the full Creative Writing Exercises at SamanthaMClark.com/My-Books

You can also download:

- **Make Your Own Courage Art Therapy Project**, with exercises to help children build confidence and banish self-doubt
- **THE BOY, THE BOAT, AND THE BEAST Discussion Guide**, with questions to more deeply understand the book
- **THE BOY, THE BOAT, AND THE BEAST Chapter Guide**, with lighter questions for a read-aloud