From Poetry to Politics: The Gifts and Talents of Michael Rosen

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ABSTRACT

Michael Rosen is a well-known poet, author, radio broadcaster, playwright and speaker in the UK, with over a hundred books to his credit. In his writing and in the many workshops he gives, Rosen focuses on the spoken word and the “voice” of the child. He believes oral language forms the basis for children’s writing. To that end, he encourages teachers to capitalize on the child’s voice and experiences as they introduce children to the art of writing and motivate them to write for pleasure.
The English Association gave Michael Rosen's Sad Book (2004) an Exceptional Award for the Best Children's Illustrated Books of its year in the 4–11 age range. The book was written by Michael Rosen and illustrated by Quentin Blake. It deals in part with bereavement and followed the publication of Carrying the Elephant: A Memoir of Love and Loss, which was published in November 2002 after the death of his son Eddie (aged 18), who features as a child in much of his earlier poetry. [19] Rosen's This Is Not My Nose: A Memoir of Illness and Recovery (2004).