



COMP GUIDELINES - Story Studios Australia Fresh Fiction Competition

Entries open on 24 April 2026 and close at 11.59pm on 26 June 2026.

2026 THEME

Lost and Found

WHO CAN ENTER

KIDS: open to young writers aged 7-12 years residing in Australia OR enrolled for Semester 1, 2026.

Entry is free for young writers enrolled in a Story Studios Australia weekly group or mentorship for Semester 1, 2026.

Entry for all other young writers is \$15.

TEENS: open to teen writers aged 13-17 years residing in Australia OR enrolled for Semester 1, 2026 and aged 13-17.

Entry is free for young writers enrolled in a Story Studios Australia weekly group or mentorship for Semester 1, 20256.

Entry for all other teen writers is \$15.

THE PRIZES

KIDS: 7-12 year olds winner to receive \$150

TEENS: 13-17 year olds winner to receive \$300

Winners will be announced in Term 3, 2026 (Victorian Government School Terms)

RULES

Entries that fail to meet the following criteria will not be accepted:

KIDS AND TEENS:

- Stories must be between 500 words (minimum) and 1000 words (maximum)
- Your entry must be a new and original story (no assistance from parents, teachers, AI etc.) and should not infringe on a third party's intellectual property rights (i.e. no copycats)
- Your story must relate to the theme in some way
- You are only permitted to submit one story
- Your story cannot be something you have worked on in school or in a Story Studios Australia weekly group or mentorship
- All stories must be works of fiction (poetry will be accepted as long as there is an element of story/narrative)
- Entries must not contain any strong language, strong violence or gore. (think PG)
- Submissions must not be offensive or rude (a little bit cheeky is fine). We recommend ambiguity and subtlety for any stories dealing with darker or more mature themes and references!
- The entry must be unpublished (either in print or online) and not under consideration elsewhere.
- They must adhere with the Terms of and Conditions and Entry Formatting Rules (view these in submissions portal).

How to enter:

- Enter via the submissions portal on the website

Submission portal formatting rules:

- All stories must be submitted in font Arial size 12 with 1.15 spacing
- All stories must be submitted as a Word or Pages document
- Title the subject of your document '*Fresh Fiction Entry - Writer Name*'