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7 Tips On How To Locate Junior Editors for Your Children'sBook

By Catherine Franz

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Are you writing a children's book — nonfiction or fiction?

Here are a few tips on how to test your almost final draft. And test your manuscript on the same audience that is going to read the book. Make them junior editors.

1. Talk with a teacher at your local school that has a classroom of your book's age group. Ask for permission to come in and read the book to the class. Video tape the children's reactions or ask two people to accompany you to record the children's reactions to direct parts of the story. Give each of the recorders a copy of the manuscript that they can write comments on in the exact location of the children's reaction. They can make smiley faces of J L to save time.

2. Or maybe ask the teacher if she is willing to give the manuscript to students to read as an assignment then ask for the children's opinion. Have a class discussion about the book afterwards with you present.

3. If the teacher doesn't like any of these, let her make some suggestions.

4. Do you have children the age of your readers? Ask the parents if you could provide a manuscript for them to read and get their feedback.

5. If this is a book that is read to children (they are too young to read yet). Find parents that frequently read to their child and have children that age. Ask them if they would read your book to them and fill out a questionnaire about their reaction. Offer to send them an autographed complimentary copy.

6. Don't forget to place this test information and results into your marketing plan for your agent/publisher. It does make the world of different on if it is accepted.

7. How about a Cub Scouts or Girl Scouts group? Find a few leaders and ask for their help in your goal. A local

community center director might also have some ideas for how you can do the same in their center.

Catherine Franz, a Certified Professional Coach, specializes in info product development. Newsletters and additional articles available: <http://www.abundancecenter.com/blog>:
<http://abundance.blogs.com/inthelight>

High School Baseball

By Andre Anderson

Both high school baseball players as well as their parents share the same mentality, thinking that reaching to play division 1 baseball (NCAA) is the main goal for any student. However the paradox is that the same players that think this end up being extremely unhappy about the choice they have made, Division 1 not being the best choice.

When Junior College might be the better choice:

1. You are not one of the top brains in high school. Most of 2.5–3.0 GPA high school students believe that to be the easiest way is to attend a junior college.

2. You might be a draft pick, not picked out of high school, wanting to get the benefits of two-year draft eligibility.

3. You're one of the chosen players but you're not good enough to sign a contract and still you would love to play professional baseball. Junior college way gives you the opportunity to either sign or be re-drafted when both seasons—freshman and senior seasons end.

4. You dream of conquering Arizona or Clemson State while you're being offered from only lesser division 1 schools. If you go to a junior college and show them what your abilities are, you will get the

opportunity at the college you really wanted to play at.

There is only one thing both players as well as their parents have to keep in mind: finishing 2 years in a junior college and then being transferred to a division 1 college will lead in one direction: receiving a degree that says "Clemson" or "Arizona State", but says absolutely nothing about the junior college.

Let's talk about money now. Almost every division 1 schools (who have 11.7 scholarships for baseball) have to share this money equally with 30–35 players, the player having left a large sum of money to pay. With lower tuition costs and more scholarships (24) many times a junior college can offer 2 free years.

You can save money this simple way: you attend a division 1 school 2 years for free and the next 2 at 50 %, which equals to four years at 75 % savings. All these lead you to a \$20,000 save from that 25 % left of every year.

You can also choose a JUCO because of the additional playing opportunities, being able to play against those who are your own age.

Although Junior College sounds good for some of the young players it isn't the right option for all of them. It's almost impossible for a 3.5– 4.0 student, who could attend some of the best colleges as Notre Dame or Duke to even take a junior college in consideration since all these top academic schools don't even consider JUCO transfers.

No matter what the choice is, it's yours and has got to be the right one. Good luck!

My name is Andre. I work at the Neiman Marcus at Lenox Square.



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