Biography

Born in Portland, Oregon, Roland Smith knew what career path he wanted to take at an early age. When he was five years old, he received an old manual typewriter from his parents that quickly became his favorite possession. Smith’s passion for writing unexpectedly led him to working with animals. While pursuing an English major at Portland State University, Smith took a part-time job at the local children’s zoo. Little did he know that his part-time job would lead to a twenty-year career with the zoo and that his work with animals would take him all over the world.

Smith continued to practice his writing, but it was hard because the animal work took a lot of time. Still, he kept writing and getting his books published. Eventually, Smith left the zoo to write full-time. Even though he no longer works with animals, his love for them still shapes a large part of his work as a writer. “Most of my novels are a result of my travels and experiences in the field,” notes the author.

Over the years, Smith has written numerous books for young readers, including *Jack’s Run*, *Zach’s Lie*, *Cryptid Hunters*, *Peak*, *Tentacles*, and the *Storm Runners* series. He is also the co-author of numerous picture books with his wife. A frequent speaker at schools and libraries across the country, Smith lives with his wife on a farm near Portland, Oregon.

—from [www.scholastic.com](http://www.scholastic.com)
Books at Bentonville Public Library

**Young Adult Fiction**
*The Edge* (2015) [YAF Smith Roland]
*Peak* (2007) [YAF Smith Roland]

**Juvenile Non-fiction**
*Sea Otter Rescue: The Aftermath of an Oil Spill* (1999) [JNF 639.9 SMI]

**Juvenile Fiction**
*Above* (2016) [JF Smith Roland]
*The Alamo* (2013) [JF Smith Roland]
*Alcatraz* (2014) [JF Smith Roland]
*Beneath* (2015) [JF Smith Roland]
*Chupacabra* (2003) [JF Smith Roland]
*The Cryptid Hunters* (2005) [JF Smith Roland]
*Elephant Run* (2007) [JF Smith Roland]
*Eruption* (2012) [JF Smith Roland]
*Independence Hall* (2008) [JF Smith Roland]
*Jack’s Run* (2007) [JF Smith Roland]
*Kitty Hawk* (2012) [JF Smith Roland]
*Mutation* (2014) [JF Smith Roland]
*Sasquatch* (1998) [JF Smith Roland]
*Shatterproof* (2012) [JF Smith Roland]
*Storm Runners* (2011) [JF Smith Roland]
*The Surge* (2011) [JF Smith Roland]
*Tentacles* (2009) [JF Smith Roland]
*Thunder Cave* (1995) [JF Smith Roland]
*The White House* (2010) [JF Smith Roland]
*The Windy City* (2014) [JF Smith Roland]
*Zach’s Lie* (2001) [JF Smith Roland]

Books at Bentonville Public Library as Contributing Author

**Juvenile Non-fiction**
*B is for Beaver: An Oregon Alphabet* (2003) with Marie Smith [JNF 979.5 SMI]
*E is for Evergreen: A Washington Alphabet* (2004) with Marie Smith [JNF 979.7 SMI]
*N is for Our Nation’s Capital: A Washington, DC Alphabet* (2005) with Marie Smith [JNF 979.7 SMI]

*Recycle This Book: 100 Top Children’s Book Authors Tell You How to Go Green* (2009) edited by Dan Gutman [JNF 640 GUT]

*S is for Smithsonian: America’s Museum Alphabet* (2010) with Marie Smith [JNF 069.09 SMI]

*T is for Time* (2015) with Marie Smith [JNF 529 SMI]

*W is for Waves: An Ocean Alphabet* (2008) with Marie Smith [JNF 551.46 SMI]

*Z is for Zookeeper: A Zoo Alphabet* (2005) with Marie Smith [JNF 590.73 SMI]
Related Authors Recommended by NoveList Plus

Anthony Horowitz  Mary Downing Hahn
Gordon Korman  Caroline B. Cooney
Carol Plum-Ucci  Paul Zindel
Lois Duncan  Charles Higson

Link to Lesson Plan

http://www.bentonvillelibrary.org/assets/YLF/pdfs smith-lesson.pdf

Additional Library Resources

Print

Stories of Survival –

100 Most Dangerous Things on the Planet (2008) by Anna Claybourne [JNF 613.6 CLA]
Hidden Like Anne Frank: Fourteen True Stories of Survival (2014) by Marcel Prins [YANF 940.53 PRI]
I Survived True Stories: Five Epic Disasters (2014) by Lauren Tarshis [JNF 363.34 TAR]
The World’s Most Amazing Survival Stories (2007) by Tim O’Shei [JNF 920.02 O’SH]
The Worst-Case Scenario Book of Survival Questions (2005) by Joshua Piven [YANF 613.69 PIV]

E-Learning on BPL’s Student Portal Page

Stories of Survival–


"The Gemini IV space capsule as it was launched, or pushed into space." PowerKnowledge Earth & Space Science. The Rosen Publishing Group, Inc. 2016. Web. 8 Mar. 2016.