

Teaching Skills with Children's Literature as Mentor Text

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Enhancing the Curriculum with Children's Literature

Children's literature is valuable in the classroom for numerous instructional purposes across grade levels and subject areas. The purpose of this bibliography is to assist educators in selecting books for students or teachers that meet a variety of curriculum needs. In creating this handout, book titles have been listed under a skill category most representative of the picture book's story line and the author's strengths. Many times books will meet the requirements of additional objectives of subject areas. Summaries have been included to describe the stories, and often were taken directly from the CIP information. Please note that you may find some of these titles out of print or difficult to locate. The handout is a guide that will hopefully help all libraries/schools with current and/or dated collections.

To assist in your lesson planning, a subjective rating system was given for each book: "A" for all ages, "Y" for younger students, and "O" for older students. Choose books from the list that you will feel comfortable reading to your students. Remember that not every story time needs to be a teachable moment, so you may choose to use some of the books listed for pure enjoyment.

The benefits of using children's picture books in the instructional setting are endless. The interesting formats of children's picture books can be an excellent source of information, help students to understand vocabulary words in different context areas, motivate students to learn, and provide models for research and writing. Through children's literature, students learn that literature and reading are a part of all learning experiences.

Many of these books are also available in e books and many lessons may be taught easier using this format. An example would be context clues.

Language Acquisition:

- A *Ruby Mae Has Something to Say* by David Small, 1992, ISBN: 051758249X
Explains how poor communication skills can cause problems.
- A *Martha Speaks / Martha Habla* by Susan Meddaugh, 1992, ISBN: 0395633133
(English); ISBN: 1880507323 (Spanish)
Martha the dog eats alphabet soup and learns to talk.

VOCABULARY

Context Clues / Decoding

- A *The Vowel Family: A Tale of Lost Letters* by Sally M. Walker, 2008,
ISBN: 9780822579823
When Sm Vwl marries his bride Pm Smith, they find it difficult to talk. When their twins Alan and Ellen are born, communicating becomes easier, but they feel something is still missing...
- A *Nugget on the Flight Deck* by Patricia Newman, ill. Aaron Zenz, 2009,
ISBN: 9780802797353
Using context clues, readers learn the lingo used by naval and marine officers stationed on a Naval Air Carrier.
- Y *Silver Seeds: A Book of Nature Poems* by Paul Paolilli and Dan Brewer, ill. Steve Johnson and Lou Fancher, 2001, ISBN: 0670889415
Acrostic poems that describe various elements of nature provide the young reader an opportunity to develop vocabulary.
- Y *It's a Dog's New York* by Susan L. Roth, 2001, ISBN: 0792270541
Pepper misses his big backyard after he moves to New York City until he meets his new "nay-b" Rover who gives him a tour of the city. Use context clues from the text to decode Rover's words using a New York accent. This book also offers a chance to study environmental print through the illustrations.
- Y *To & Fro, Fast & Slow* by Durga Bernhard, 2001, ISBN: 0802787827
A girl who is shuttled between her parent's homes notices opposites along the way – "over-under," "rainy-sunny," and "full-empty."
- A *Lizards, Frogs, and Polliwogs*, 2001, ISBN: 015202591X; *Insectlopedia*, 1998, ISBN: 0152013067; and *Mammalabilia*, 2000, ISBN: 0152021671; *Beast Feast*, 1994, ISBN: 0152951784 all written by Douglas Florian
Descriptive adjectives and adverbs describe animals through various forms of poetry.
- A *Baloney (Henry P.)* by Jon Scieszka, ill. Lane Smith, 2001, ISBN: 0670892483
Henry P. Baloney is late to school and provides his teacher his lengthy excuse using words from various languages. Read the story and then ask students to

- use their context clues to decode the meaning of each sentence. Use the decoder found at the end of the book to check student predictions. Have students write their own tall tale that substitutes vocabulary words with words from other languages.
- Y *The Everything Book* by Denise Fleming, 2000, ISBN: 0805062920
Simple themes important to young children help readers develop vocabulary. Ladybugs hidden among the pages provide readers the opportunity to study illustrations fully.
- Y *A Kitten's Year* by Nancy Raines Day, ill. Anne Mortimer, 2000, ISBN: 0060272317
A kitten grows, month by month, into a cat. Students can recite each month of the year as the story is read.
- Y *And the Cow Said Moo!* by Mildred Phillips, ill. Sonja Lamut, 2000, ISBN: 0688168035
A cow questions why the other animals make their own sounds, instead of saying, "Moo!" as she does. Allow students to verbalize the animals sounds as the story is read.
- Y *Wake Up House!* by Dee Lillegard, ill. Don Carter, 2000, ISBN: 0679983511
Thirty-four poems which personify household objects from the bedroom window that greets the sun's morning rays to the night-light that watches over sleeping dreamers. Classify the household items in the book by the room you would find the item in your house.
- A *Miss Alaineus: A Vocabulary Disaster* by Debra Frasier, 2000, ISBN: 0152021639
When Sage's spelling and definition of a word reveal her misunderstanding of it to her classmates, she is embarrassed but uses it as inspiration for the vocabulary parade.
- Y *The Remarkable Farkle McBride* by John Lithgow, ill. C.F. Payne, 2000, ISBN: 0689833407
Farkle McBride is a remarkable musician who masters every instrument but tires of them easily until he discovers his true love is conducting a full orchestra.
- O *The Worst Band in the Universe* by Graeme Base, 1999, ISBN: 0810939983
In search of musical freedom, Sprocc leaves home and enters the annual Worst Band in the Universe contest. Great vocabulary in this selection which can also be used to emphasize music appreciation.
- O *The Disappearing Alphabet* by Richard Wilbur, ill. David Diaz, 1997, ISBN: 0152014705
A collection of twenty-six short poems pondering what the world would be like if any letters of the alphabet should disappear. After reading the book, ask students to choose one letter of the alphabet and explain the good and bad things about losing that letter of the alphabet.

- Y *Autumn: An Alphabet Acrostic* by Steven Schnur, ill. Steven Schnur, 1997, ISBN: 0395770432
Describes the autumn season, with its animals, rain, cold winds, and harvested food. When read vertically, the first letters of the lines of text spell related words arranged alphabetically, from “acorn” to “zero.” Ask students to create poems related to another season of the year.
- A *The War Between the Vowels and the Consonants* by Priscilla Turner, ill. Whitney Turner, 1996, ISBN: 0374482179
The vowels and consonants fight each other until they realize that if they work together they can create wonderful poems, stories, etc.
- A *Tomorrow’s Alphabet* by George Shannon, ill. Donald Crews, 1996, ISBN: 0688135056
Each letter of the alphabet represents the item it creates, for example, “A is for seed – tomorrow’s apple.” After reading several examples from the book, allow students the opportunity to guess the remainder of the alphabet phrases.
- O *The Sign of the Seahorse*, 1992, ISBN: 0140563873, *Animalia*, 1986, ISBN: 0810918684, *The Eleventh Hour*, 1989, ISBN: 0810908514, all written and illustrated by Graeme Base
The text of these stories offers a chance to study rich vocabulary as well as prefixes and suffixes.
- Y *Strange Visitors / Una Extrana Vista* by Alma Flor Ada, ill. Vivi Escrivá, 1989, ISBN: 158105226X (English); ISBN: 0882727931 (Spanish)
A Spanish song about strange musical visitors who come at 6 a.m. in the morning and what happens at the end of the week. Use to study days of the week.
- A *Down Down Down a Journey to the Bottom of the Sea* by Steve Jenkins, 2009, ISBN-13: 9780618966363.
Nonfiction account of the layers of the ocean and the sea life that is present in each ocean habitat. For science habitats discuss each level and how the animal’s adaptations allow these animals to live here. Research some of these animals in depth.
- O *Nic Bishop Frogs* by Nic Bishop, 2008, ISBN: 9780439877558
This beautifully photographed book, provides readers with factual information about frogs from around the world. The passages can be used to aid students in the use of context clues for vocabulary development.
- O *Balarama: A Royal Elephant* by Ted Lewin, ill. Betsy Lewin, 2009. ISBN: 9781600602658
Informational story about the Lewin’s trip to India and seeing the royal elephants. Good for exploring other cultures and traditions.
- A *The Pout-Pout Fish* by Deborah Diesen, ill, Dan Hanna, 2008, ISBN: 0545201233.
Told in rhymes, this humorous story of a fish who thinks he must always be sad because of his face meets other ocean creatures who try to get him to smile.

- Eventually he is convinced that he does not have to be sad and discovers he has a “kiss-kiss” face instead. A story which includes examples of alliteration, synonyms, adjectives, rhymes, and ocean life.
- Y *I Know the River Loves Me: Yo se que el rio me ama* by Maya Christina Gonzalez, 2009, ISBN: 978-0-89239-233-9.
A lyrical story of a young girl’s love and respect for her friend the river.
- A *Bad Boys* by Margie Palatini ill, Henry Cole, 2003. ISBN 006001038.
Two “bad” wolves meet up with three smart sheep in a humorous romp with fairy tale allusions. Great for use with lessons on synonyms, cause and effect, and conversation.
- O *Pale Male: Citizen Hawk of New York City* by Janet Schulman, ill. Meilo So, 2008, ISBN: 0375845585
Based on the true story of how a hawk adapts to life near Central Park in New York City. Great for use with prefixes, suffixes, figurative language in addition to elaboration in writing, and science.
- O *What to do About Alice? How Alice Roosevelt Broke the Rules, Charmed the World, and Drove Her Father Crazy!* by Barbara Kerley, ill. by Edwin Fotheringham, 2008, ISBN: 0439922313
The biography of Alice Roosevelt, daughter of President Theodore Roosevelt, who was known for her great spirit and was able to impact the world. Great for characterization and figurative language in addition to many research opportunities.
- O *Scarum Fair* poems by Jessica Swaim, ill. by Carol Ashley, 2010, ISBN: 9781590785904
The poems of Scarum Fair will entertain ghoulish readers of all ages. Use the poems to discuss main idea and elements of poetry.

Prefixes and Suffixes

- A *Things That Are Most in the World* by Judi Barrett, ill. John Nickle, 1998, ISBN: 0689813333
Study the suffix –est with this wildly funny picture book. Extend the lesson by asking students to write their own book using –est or challenge students further by creating a book of comparisons using the suffix –er.
- A *Verdi* by Janell Cannon, 1997, ISBN: 0152010289
A young python does not want to grow slow and boring like the older snakes he sees in the tropical jungle where he lives. Identify and define words using suffixes from the text.
- A *Moosetache* by Margie Palatini, ill. Henry Cole, 1997, ISBN: 0786822465
A moose’s moosetache is too big to control until he meets Ms. Moose, who has her own hair problems. They conquer each other’s heart and their hair problems. Study the prefix “un-“ and the suffix “y” by using the context of the story to define the “un-“ words.

- A *Math Curse* by Jon Scieszka, ill. Lane Smith, 1995, ISBN: 0670861944
When the teacher tells her class that they can think of almost everything as a math problem, one student acquires a math anxiety which becomes a real curse. Identify math prefixes and suffixes found in this story and in everyday math problems.
- A *Antics! : An Alphabetical Anthology* by Cathi Hepworth, 1992, ISBN: 069811350
Find and define prefixes and suffixes.
- A Shel Silverstein poetry collections – *A Light in the Attic, Where the Sidewalk Ends*, etc.
Identify and define prefixes and suffixes in these humorous poems.
- A Bill Watterson's *Calvin and Hobbes* and Charles Schultz' *The Peanuts* cartoon collections.
Great samples of words using prefixes and suffixes.
- O Books by Graeme Base
The Sign of the Seahorse, The Eleventh Hour, Jabberwocky and *Animalia*
Strong vocabulary for prefix and suffix studies.
- A *Biggest, Strongest, Fastest* by Steve Jenkins, 1995, ISBN: 0-395-86136-5.
This picture book introduces readers to animals who are the biggest, fastest, slowest, etc. Factual information about each animal is available on each page and on the end pages.
- A *A Visitor for Bear* by Bonny Becker, 2008, ISBN: 978-0-7636-2807-9.
Bear does not want any visitors but a persistent mouse changes his mind. Use this book for character study, cause/effect, sequencing, or prefixes un, im, in.

Word Play

- A *Mom and Dad are Palindromes: A Dilemma For Words... and Backwards* by Mark Shulman, ill. Adam McCauley, 2006, ISBN: 0811843289
This funny book introduces readers to palindromes with 101 examples hidden in the text and illustrations.
- A *The Vowel Family: A Tale of Lost Letters* by Sally Walker, ill. Kevin Luthardt, 2008, ISBN: 9780822579823
When PM SMTH married SM VWL, they had a lot of trouble communicating until their children Alan, Ellen, Iris, Otto, and Ursula were born. A great book to read when introducing vowels to your students or when you notice spelling errors in their writing.

Word Patterns

- Y *One Dark Night* by Lisa Wheeler, ill. Ivan Bates, 2003, ISBN: 0152023186

- Mouse and Mole feel afraid one dark night crossing a mush-mucky swamp and a marsh-misty wood.
- Y *Mrs. Wishy-Washy's Farm* by Joy Cowley, ill. Elizabeth Fuller, 2003, ISBN: 0399238727
A cow, pig, and a duck are tired of being washed by Mrs. Wishy-Washy when they are dirty so they take off for the city.
- Y *Down By the Cool of the Pool* by Tony Mitton, ill. Guy Parker-Rees, 2001, ISBN: 0439309158
The fun beat of the rhyming text in this picture book about a frog and other animals dancing by the "cool of the pool" provides an opportunity to study word patterns.
- Y *Bring On That Beat* by Rachel Isadora, 2002, ISBN: 039923232X
This beautifully illustrated poetic text brings the colorful beginning of jazz music to life.
- Y *Dumpy La Rue* by Elizabeth Winthrop, ill. Betsy Lewin, 2001, ISBN: 0805068354
A rhyming story about a pig whose passion for dancing becomes contagious.
- Y *The Flea's Sneeze* by Lynn Downey, ill. Karla Firehammer, 2000, ISBN: 0805061037
A flea with a cold startles all the animals in the barn when it sneezes unexpectedly. Many examples of word patterns in this tale of a barn filled with animals.
- Y *I Knew Two Who Said Moo: a Counting and Rhyming Book* by Judi Barrett, ill. Daniel Moreton, 2000, ISBN: 0689821042
Humorous verses using rhyming words for the numbers 1-10.
- Y *Vroomaloom Zoom* by John Coy, ill. Joe Cepeda, 2000, ISBN: 0517800101
Carmela can't sleep so her father takes her for a ride in his car. Introduce letter combinations and use words in the story as examples. Encourage students to come up with other words using the same letter sounds.
- Y *Horace and Morris but Mostly Dolores* by James Howe, ill. Amy Walrod, 1999, ISBN: 068931974X
Three mice friends learn that the best clubs include everyone.
- Y *Altoona Baboona* by Janie Bynum, 1999, ISBN: 0152018603
Altoona Baboona travels the world in her hot air balloon. Study the "oo" word pattern.
- Y *Cows Can't Fly* by David Milgrim, 1998, ISBN: 0670874752
After drawing a picture of cows that is blown away by a breeze, a child tries to convince others that cows are flying through the air. Identify rhyming words using stanzas in the text.

- Y *Ten on the Sled* by Kim Norman, 2010, ISBN: 9781402770760
Based on the song, *Ten in the Bed*, animals in the forest enjoy a trip down the hill on a sled.
- Y *Wolf's Coming!* by Joe Kulka, 2007, ISBN: 9781575059303
The simple text of the animals in the forest hiding from the wolf provides the reader with a big surprise at the end. The text includes rhyming and many sentence types to study.
- Y *Hogwash* by Karma Wilson, ill. by Jim McMullan, 2011, ISBN: 97803160988407
When the farmer wants to give his pigs a good cleaning, he finds the pigs are not interested in any of his options. Fun story with a lot of rhyme.

Alphabet Study

- Y *B is for Bulldozer: A Construction ABC* by June Sobel, ill. Melissa Iwai, 2003, ISBN: 0152022503
The rhyming text of this construction book introduces building terms and the letters of the alphabet. For your first and second grade students, ask them to make predictions from the illustrations about what the construction workers are building.
- Y *Naughty Little Monkeys* by Jim Aylesworth, ill. Henry Cole, 2003, ISBN: 0525469400
This rhyming picture book plays introduces 26 monkeys using the alphabet.
- A *Alphabet Under Construction* by Denise Fleming, 2002, ISBN: 0805068481
Beautifully illustrated, the alphabet is introduced with action words related to the construction of an object. For a challenge, ask language arts students to change the theme and create a new alphabet. For example, "Alphabet in the Kitchen" or "Alphabet at Work" or "Alphabet at the Park."

Homonyms

- Y *Which Witch is Which?* by Judi Barrett, ill. Sharleen Collicott, 2001, ISBN: 068982940
Witches in humorous situations are presented using rhyming words. Also a chance to learn usage of "which" and "witch".
- A *Dog Breath: The Horrible Trouble with Hally Tosis* by Dav Pilkey, 1994, ISBN: 0590474669
Hally, the Tosis family dog, has such bad breath that Mr. and Mrs. Tosis plan to give her away, until she proves to be an invaluable watchdog.
- A *Amelia Bedelia* by Peggy Parish, ill. Fritz Siebel, 1992, ISBN: 0060201878
A literal-minded housekeeper causes chaos in the Rogers household when she attempts to make sense of some instructions. Study homonyms and then illustrate a set of homonyms and write a sentence using each word.

- Y *Me First* by Helen Lester, ill. Lynn Munsinger, 1992, ISBN: 0395587069
Pinkerton the pig always manages to be first until he rushes for a sandwich and it turns out to be not the edible kind. Study the word play in the text. Can also be used to introduce a social skills lesson.
- Y *Eight Ate* by Marvin Terban, ill. Giulio Maestro, 1982, ISBN: 0899190863
Homonyms are written in the form of riddles and illustrated in cartoon form.
- Y Fred Gwynne books, *A Chocolate Moose For Dinner*, 1980, ISBN: 0671667416; *The Sixteen Hand Horse*, 1980, ISBN: 0671669680, *The King Who Rained*, 1970, ISBN: 0671663631
Be sure to read in advance and choose the most appropriate statements for your group of students.
- A *Dear Deer: A Book of Homophones* by Gene Barretta, 2007, ISBN: 978-0-545-20644-0.
Starting off with "Dear Deer, I now live at the zoo. Wait until you Hear what goes on over Here. Love, Aunt Ant " The story continues with clever illustrations for each pair of homophones.
- A *More Parts!* By Tedd Arnold. Scholastic. 2001. ISBN: 0-439-51977-2.
Humorous, literal, and somewhat gross interpretations of figures of speech and the body using rhyming text.
- A *Even More Parts! Idioms from head to toe.* By Tedd Arnold. Puffin Books. 2007. 978-0-14-240714-1.
The sequel to *Parts!* and *More Parts!* explains more figures of speech using rhyming text.

Synonyms/Antonyms

- Y *Thesaurus Rex* by Laya Steinberg, ill. Debbie Harter, 2003, ISBN: 1841480428
Rhyming text introduces children to synonyms and the importance of using a thesaurus.
- Y *Goldie and the Three Bears* by Diane Stanley, 2003, ISBN: 0060000082
Goldie, who reminds us of Goldilocks, searches for someone to love with all her heart until she visits the house of three bears. Many adjectives are in the text allowing students the opportunity to find words that create an opposite pair.
- A *The Boy Who Cried Fabulous* by Leslea Newman, ill. Peter Ferguson, 2004, ISBN: 1582461015
A boy is fascinated by everything he sees and shares his fascination with numerous adjectives that mean "fabulous".

LANGUAGE ARTS:

Initial Consonants

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- Y *Clara Caterpillar* by Pamela Duncan Edwards, ill. Henry Cole, 2001, ISBN: 0060289953
By camouflaging herself, Clara Caterpillar, who becomes a cream-colored butterfly, courageously saves Catisha the crimson-colored butterfly from a hungry crow.
- Y *Off We Go!* by Jane Yolen, ill. Laurel Molk, 2000, ISBN: 0316902284
One by one, baby woodland creatures leave home and sing their way to visit grandma. Study the initial sounds of “T”, “H”, “D”, “S”, and “C”.
- Y *The Worrywarts* by Pamela Duncan Edwards, ill. Henry Cole, 1999, ISBN: 0060281502
Wombat, Weasel and Woodchuck worry too much as they wander the world one warm Wednesday. Study the initial sound “W”.
- Y *Hooway for Wodney Wat* by Helen Lester, ill. Lynn Munsinger, 1999, ISBN: 0395923921
Wodney Wat is a rodent who has trouble with his “R’s”. The other rodents make fun of him until he saves the day with the class bully. Study the initial sounds of “W” and “R”.
- Y *Miss Mary Mack* adapted by Mary Ann Hoberman, ill. Nadine Bernard Westcott, 1998, ISBN: 0316931187
An expanded adaptation of the familiar hand-clapping rhyme about a young girl and an elephant. Study the initial sound “M”. Word endings can also be studied as students grow more advanced in their reading skills.
- Y *Dinorella: A Prehistoric Fairy Tale* by Pamela Duncan Edwards, ill. Henry Cole, 1997, ISBN: 078682249X
Dinorella the dinosaur works hard to please her stepsisters Dora and Doris until the day they received an invitation to the Dinosaur Dance. Study the initial sound “D”.
- Y *Some Smug Slug* by Pamela Duncan Edwards, ill. Henry Cole, 1996, ISBN: 0064435024
A smug slug that will not listen to the animals around it comes to an unexpected end. Study the initial sound “S”.
- Y *Four Famished Foxes and Fosdyke* by Pamela Duncan Edwards, ill. Henry Cole, 1995, ISBN: 0060249269
An alliterative tale about four foxes who go hunting in the barnyard while their gourmet brother fixes a vegetarian feast. Study the initial sound “F”.

Predicting Outcomes

- A Books by Julie Danneberg, ill. Judy Love...
First Day Jitters, 2000, ISBN: 1580890547 / *Last Day Blues*, 2006, ISBN: 1580891047
Sarah Hartwell has a hard time in both of these stories with facing the first and last day of school. Both books include a surprise ending for your readers.

- Y *Tackylocks and the Three Bears* by Helen Lester, ill. Lynn Munsinger, 2002, ISBN: 0618224904
When Tacky and his friends are asked to perform in the school play, things do not go quite as planned. Read the story without discussing the title and cover in detail. Have the students use clues in the story to predict the part in the play that Tacky is going to play.
- Y *The Magic Hat* by Mem Fox, ill. Tricia Tusa, 2002, ISBN: 0152010254
A wizard's hat flies through the town landing on the heads of different people and changing them into animals. The rhyming text allows the reader to guess which animal each person may become.
- A *Baghead* by Jarrett J. Krosoczka, 2002, ISBN: 0375815664
One morning Josh appears ready for the day with a bag over his head and manages to complete his daily routine despite the warnings from his friends.
- A *The Frog Principal* by Sephanie Calmenson, ill. Denise Brunkus, 2001, ISBN: 0590370707
Principal Bundy wants to hire a magician to perform for his students, but the magician turns him into a frog.
- A *The Blues of Flats Brown* by Walter Dean Myers, ill. Nina Laden, 2000, ISBN: 0823414809
To escape an abusive master, a junkyard dog named Flats runs away and makes a name for himself from Mississippi to New York City playing blues on his guitar. He learns life's lessons from an older dog named Caleb. For older students, use as an introduction to a study of the blues.
- Y *The Boy Who Lost His Belly Button* by Jeanne Willis, ill. Tony Ross, 2000, ISBN: 0789461641
A young boy loses his belly button and questions the jungle animals. Make predictions about the book's ending.
- Y *Who Took the Cookies From the Cookie Jar?* by Bonnie Lass and Philemon Sturges, ill. Ashley Wolff, 2000, ISBN: 0316830164
A skunk tries to find out which of his animal friends stole the cookies.
- A *Bark, George* by Jules Feiffer, 1999, ISBN: 0062051865
Every time George the Dog tries to bark, another animal sound comes out of his mouth so his mother takes him to the vet to find the answer to his problem. Make predictions as you read aloud. Brainstorm other animal sounds that George could make.
- A *Bullfrog Pops!* by Rick Walton, 1999, ISBN: 0439242444
A bullfrog hops the stagecoach to the town of Ravenous Gulch where he tries to find something to eat. Allow students to try to complete each sentence of the story as you read.
- A *Gingerbread Baby* by Jan Brett, 1999, ISBN: 0399234446

- A young boy and his mother bake a gingerbread baby that escapes from their oven and leads a crowd on a chase similar to the one in the familiar children's story.
- Y *The Squiggle* by Carole Lexa Schaefer, 1996, ISBN: 0517700476
A little girl walking at the end of a line, finds a squiggle and pretends it is many different objects.
- Y *Not in the House, Newton* by Judith Heide Gilliland, ill. Elizabeth Sayles, 1995, ISBN: 0395611954
Predict what the mother will say is the problem with Newton's drawings.
- Y *It Looked Like Spilt Milk* by Charles G. Shaw, 1992, ISBN: 0064431592
Students can make predictions about the illustrations.
- Y *Seven Blind Mice / Siete Ratonos Ciegos* by Ed Young, 1992, ISBN: 0399222618 (English); ISBN: 0590729276 (Spanish)
Seven blind mice discover different parts of an elephant and argue about its appearance.
- A *The Day of Ahmed's Secret* by Forence Parry Heide and Judith Heide Gilliland, ill. Ted Lewin, 1990, ISBN: 0688140238
A young Egyptian boy describes the city of Cairo as he goes about his daily work and waits for the evening to share a special surprise with his family.
- Y *The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything / La viejecita que no le tenia miedo a nada* by Linda Williams, ill. Megan Lloyd, 1986, ISBN: 0690045840 (English); ISBN: 0064434206 (Spanish)
The little old lady, who is not afraid of anything, is followed home by a variety of spooky objects. Have students predict what the objects make when all together.
- Y Laura Numeroff books – *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie / Si le das una galletita a un raton*, *If You Give a Moose a Muffin / Si le das un panecillo a un alce*, *If You Give a Pig a Pancake / Si le das un panqueque a una cerdita*, *If You Take A Mouse to the Movies / Si llevas un raton al cine*
- Y *Where's My Mummy?* by Carolyn Crimi, ill by Johan Manders, Scholastic, 2008, ISBN: 0545201314.
This story of little mummy who has lost his "mummy" is great for predicting who he encounters while looking for his mom. The story is full of descriptive words and examples of onomatopoeia and alliteration.

Sequencing

- A *No Dogs Allowed!* Sonia Marzano ill by Jon J Muth. 2004.
ISBN: 978-0-689-83088-4
Extended family picnic of a Puerto Rican family from New York City has many highlights.
Also good for characterization.

- Y *I Want My Hat Back* by Jon Klassen. 2011. ISBN: 978-0-7636-5598-3.
 Bear loses his hat and asks various animals if they have his hat.
 Style reminiscent of Eastman's *Are You My Mother?*
 Sequence order of events using picture clue cards.
 Compound words (anyway, anywhere, nobody)
 Contractions (haven't, doesn't, what's, don't)
- A *The Luck of the Loch Ness Monster A Tale of Picky Eating* by A. W. Flaherty.
 ill. by Scott Magoon, 2007, ISBN: 0618556443
 Young girl meets up with a sea monster who thanks to the girl throwing her
 oatmeal overboard the monster grows to become the Loch Ness Monster.
 Use this story for studying cause and effect. Be sure to add some research on
 the Loch Ness Monster.
- Y *Chicken Little* by Rebecca Emberley & Ed Emberley, 2008,
 ISBN: 9781596434646.
 Chicken Little believes the sky is falling and puts all of his feathered friends in a
 panic. The book included rhyming text and can be used to study cause and
 effect.
- Y *Always in Trouble* by Corinne Demas, ill. Noah Z. Jones. Scholastic, 2009,
 ISBN: 0545204135.
 Toby, Emma's dog, is always getting in trouble. Every day of the week he is up
 to mischief even though he has gone to obedience school twice.
- A *Stella Louella's Runaway Book* by Lisa Cambell Ernst, 1998, ISBN: 0689818831
 As she tries to find the book that she must return to the library, Stella gathers a
 growing crowd of people who also enjoyed reading the book. After reading, ask
 students to sequence the events. Clues in the story also allow the reader to
 predict the title of the book Stella checked out from the library. Use the end
 papers for a discussion of book care.
- Y *A Taste of Honey* by Nancy Elizabeth Wallace, 2001, ISBN: 1890817511
 A little bear and his father discuss the origin of honey.
- Y *Music From the Sky* by Denise Gillard, ill. Stephen Taylor, 2001,
 ISBN: 0888993110
 A girl and her grandfather search for the perfect tree branch to use to carve a
 flute.
- Y *Paperwhite* by Nancy Elizabeth Wallace, 2000, ISBN: 0618042830
 One winter, Lucy and her older friend Miss Mamie bring spring indoors by
 planting a paperwhite bulb and helping it grow into a plant.
- Y *Olivia* by Ian Falconer, 2000, ISBN: 0689829531 (English);
 ISBN: 1930332084 (Spanish)
 Olivia the Pig is very busy every day. This story chronicles the way she spends
 her day.
- Y *I know an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Pie* by Alison Jackson, ill. Judith Byron
 Schachner, 1997, ISBN: 0525456457

Similar to the story of The Old Lady who Swallowed a Fly, this version illustrates an old lady swallowing each item of a Thanksgiving feast one by one.

- A *Sunny Boy! The Life and Times of a Tortoise* by Candace Fleming, ill. Anne Wilsdorf, 2005, ISBN: 0374372977
Sunny Boy, the tortoise, is passed from one peaceful home to another and outlives each his owners until he is sent to live with Biff who turns his peaceful life into a scary set of adventurous daredevil antics including riding in a barrel over Niagara Falls. Sequence the events in Sunny Boy's life and estimate his age for each event.
- A *Previously* by Allan Ahlberg, ill. Bruce Ingman, 2007, ISBN: 9780763635428
The storyline of our favorite fairy tales and nursery rhymes are told in a backward sequence and intertwined with each other. Read the beginning of the story with students to share the book's pattern. For the remaining portion, ask students to identify the characters and fairy tales represented. For a challenge, ask students to write a backwards sequence for a familiar story.

Cause and Effect

- E *Clever Jack Takes the Cake* Candace Fleming, ill G. Briankaras 2010
ISBN: 978-0-375-84979-4
Jack tries to take a wonderful gift to the princess with many problems along the way. Causes and effects of problems.
Also comparisons to fairy tale characters, vocabulary, bartering
- A *The End* by David LaRochelle, ill. Richard Egielski, 2007, ISBN: 0439640114
This fun story begins at the end with the prince falls in love with the princess after she makes him some lemonade creating a chain reaction of events throughout the kingdom. This is an excellent example of cause and effect. Have students create their own stories beginning with "The End".
- A *The Great Gracie Chase: Stop That Dog!* by Cynthia Rylant, ill. Mark Teague, 2001, ISBN: 0590100416
Gracie the Dog's calm and quiet home is interrupted by a group of painters, and Gracie is on the run with a group of people on the chase to try to catch her. Identify examples of cause and effect.
- Y *Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon* by Patty Lovel, ill. David Catrow, 2001, ISBN: 0439442532
Molly Lou Melon is not like the average little girl in her class, but her grandmother gives her useful pieces of advice that help her conquer any problems that arise with the other students in her class. Use this book to develop self esteem and self-confidence in your young students.
- A *Hog Music* by M.C. Helldorfer, ill. S.D. Schindler, 2000, ISBN: 0670871826
Travelers along the National Road help make sure that the birthday gift that Lucy's great aunt has sent makes it all the way from Maryland to her family's farm in Illinois. Explain the causes and effects of the many adventures

Lucy's gift experiences on its way to her home.

- A *How Santa Got His Job* by Stephen Krensky, ill. S. D. Schindler, 1998, ISBN: 0689806973
Sequel: *How Santa Lost His Job*
Santa tries his hand at many jobs before finding the perfect job as the world's greatest gift giver. If your students enjoy this book, try the sequel *How Santa Lost His Job* Start with the effects of Santa's many earlier jobs ie his weight gain, finding the reindeer, knowing when children are bad or good and have the students determine the cause such as which job for example zookeeper, diner employee, etc.
- Y *Otis* by Loren Long, 2009. ISBN: 9780399252488
Otis has been s a tractor until his life takes on new meaning with his friendship to a calf who has lost his mother. Lots of effects from both Otis and the calf's behavior.
- Y *Frank was a Monster Who Wanted to Dance* by Keith Graves, 1999, ISBN: 0811821692
Frank loves to dance so much his body parts fall off one by one. This simple text includes great action words to exaggerate the descriptions. Have readers indentify the effects of each cause.
- A *Why the Chicken Crossed the Road* by David Macauley, 1987, ISBN: 0395442419
By crossing a road, a chicken sets off a series of wild events, in which the Anderson twins blow up their bathroom, and the brave young Hooper lad is rolled up and delivered inside an Oriental rug.
- Y *I'm Bad* by Kate and Jim McMullan, Harper Collins, 2008, ISBN 9780061229725.
A baby T Rex is looking for his dinner with descriptive language and onomatopoeia. Great examples of cause and effect.
- Y *Scaredy Squirrel* by Melanie Watt, Kids Can Press, 2008. , ISBN 9781553379591.
Scaredy Squirrel is afraid to leave his tree, but one day he accidently falls out and learns he is a flying squirrel. Good to use for cause and effect lessons and/or telling time.
- Y *The Perfect Nest* by Catherine Friend, ill, John Manders, Scholastic, 2007, ISBN 9780545154512.
Jack the Cat builds the perfect nest in hopes of having eggs for dinner. True to plan a hen finds the nest, but so does a duck and a goose. The resulting complications are hilarious. Great for dialogue and sequencing.
- Y *Not Afraid of Dogs* by Susanna Pitzer, ill by Larry Day, 2006, ISBN: 0892789679.

Story of a boy who is brave about everything except dogs. When his mom babysits his aunt's dog who is afraid of thunderstorms the boy and the dog overcome their fears.

- A *Wings* by Christopher Myers, 2000, ISBN: 0590033786.
Ikarus Jackson the new boy in school has wings and everyone makes fun of this different boy who can fly, though one quiet girl comes to his defense. Beautiful illustrations.
- Y *Ella Takes the Cake* by Carmela and Steven D'amico, 2005.
ISBN: 043962794X.
Ella finally gets the "grown up" job she wants but many encounters almost keep her from delivering the cake. Use this book for sequencing or map skills.
- O *Math Attack* by Joan Horton, ill. by Kyrsten Brooker, 2009,
ISBN: 9780374348618
When a girl in math class has an arithmetic attack, numbers begin flying out of her brain. Find examples of cause and effect in this original story.

Main Idea

- A *Postcards from Camp A Postal Story* by Simms Taback, 2011.
ISBN: 978-0-399-23973-1
Boy and his father exchange postcards while the boy is attending a summer camp that he at first hates and then grows to love.
Read letter and ask which postcard goes with the letter. Explain how using the main idea you can identify how the illustration and words go together.
Also good for letter writing and visualization.
- A *¡Yum! ¡MmMm! ¡Qué Rico!: America's Sproutings Spanish: . ¡Yum! ¡MmMm! ¡Qué Rico!: Brotos de Las Americas* by Pat Mora, ill. Rafael López. 2007,
ISBN: 9781600602689
Haiku poetry of various foods with detailed explanations. Write the titles of the haikus on the board and have students identify which poem matches each title.
Discuss the difference between the poems and the expository writing about each food.
- A *Tap Dancing on the Roof Sijo (Poems)* by Linda Sue Park,
ill by Istvan Banyai, 2007, ISBN-13: 9780618234837.
Korean line poetry. Write each title on the board. Read aloud each poem and have students infer the main idea and then select the title. Be sure to discuss the humor in poem particularly with ESL students. Compare the sijos with haikus.
Long division sijo is a great one for math.
- A *Dirty Laundry Pile: Poems in Different Voices*. Selected by Paul B. Janeczko,
ill Melissa Sweet, 2001, ISBN: 9760688162511.
Told in the voice of these common objects, animals, etc. This humorous book of poems will make you laugh and see the world from a different point of view.
Read each poem and have students guess the object represented.

- A *Family Pictures : Paintings and Stories = Cuadros de familia : cuadros y relatos* by Carmen Lomas Garza ; Spanish translation by Rosalma Zubizarreta. Children's Book Press, 2005, ISBN: 978892392070.
Growing up in a Hispanic community in Texas is pictured in text and paintings.

Similes and Figurative Language

- A *I Know the River Loves Me/Yo se que el rio me ama* by Maya Christina Gonzalez, 2009 ISBN: 978-0-89239=233-9
Artistically rendered a young girl expresses her love for the river. Bilingual. River is personified. Have students discover ways the river shows human characteristics. Also good for geography studies.
- O *A Quiet Place* by Douglas Wood, ill. Dan Andreasen, 2002, ISBN: 0689815115
Read this story and allow students to imagination the special places they like to go to be quiet and alone.
- A *Cowboy Sam and Those Confounded Secrets* by Kitty Griffin and Kathy Combs, ill. Mike Wohnoutka, 2001, ISBN: 0618088547
Dry Gulch loves Cowboy Sam because they trust him with all their secrets he keeps safely under his hat
- Y *One Dark Night* by Hazel Hutchins, ill. Susan Kathleen Hartung, 2001, ISBN: 078680646X
A boy staying with his grandparents on a story night worries about the stray cat who brings her kittens inside one by one. A simple introduction to similes.
- A *If You Hopped Like a Frog* by David M. Schwartz, ill. James Warhola, 1999, ISBN: 0590098578
Introduces ratio by using similes and other figurative language.
- A *The Colors of Us* by Karen Katz, 1999, ISBN: 0805058648
Identify the similes for each shade of brown and try to create new similes for another color. Use in art class to study color.
- A *I Love My Hair!* by Natasha Anastasia Tarpley, ill. E.B. Lewis, 1998, ISBN: 0316522759
A young African American girl describes the different, wonderful ways she can wear her hair. Find examples of figurative language.
- A *Earthdance* by Joanne Ryder, ill. Norman Gorbaty, 1996, ISBN: 08050623189
The author encourages you to imagine yourself as the earth and experience the happenings of the earth.
- A *Night of the Gargoyles* by Eve Bunting, 1994, ISBN: 039566531
Gargoyles from the art museum come alive in the middle of the night.

- A *New Shoes for Silvia* by Johanna Hurwitz, ill. Jerry Pinkney, 1993, ISBN: 0688952878
Identify the similes and metaphors in the story. Pick events in the story and rewrite the similes.
- A *Quick as a Cricket / Veloz como el grillo* by Audrey Wood, ill. Don Wood, 1993, ISBN: 0859531511 (English); ISBN: 0859539776 (Spanish)
A child uses similes to compare himself with animals in nature.
- Y *Gilberto and the Wind / Gilberto y el viento* by Marie Hall Ets, 1963, ISBN: 0140502769 (English); ISBN: 1880507196 (Spanish)
Gilbert uses the wind as a playmate.
- A *The Hinky Pink an old tale retold* by Megan McDonald III, Brian Floca, 2008, ISBN-13: 9780689875885.
The tale of a seamstress who longs to make a beautiful gown and is given the chance by a princess when a Hinky Pink interferes with her sleep and makes her task impossible. Good for plot structure.
- A *My Dog is as Smelly as Dirty Socks and Other Funny Family Portraits* by Hanoch Piven, 2007, ISBN: 9780375840524
A young girl draws a portrait of each member of her family, creates the family member using everyday objects, and writes a set of similes to describe what she likes and dislikes about each person.
- A *My Best Friend is as Sharp as a Pencil and Other Funny Classroom Portraits* by Hanoch Piven, 2010, ISBN: 9780375853388
A little girl draws a portrait and creates a sculpture using everyday objects to illustrate friends and teachers in her school. She also describes each person using similes. Have students draw a self portrait, create a sculpture using objects, and describe things they like and dislike using similes.

Onomatopoeia

- Y *Rralph* by Lois Ehlert. 2011. ISBN: 978-1-4424-1305-4.
Dog talks to child by answering questions with sounds he naturally makes. Also use for identifying shapes used in collages that are the illustrations. Good for identifying questions.
- Y *Dinosaurumpus* by Tony Mitton, ill. Guy Parker-Rees, 2003, ISBN: 0439395143
Dinosaur lovers will have a romping time making noise with their favorite dinosaurs.
- Y *Old MacDonald Had a Woodshop* by Lisa Shulman, ill. Ashley Wolff, 2002, ISBN: 0399235965
Old MacDonald has moved into the woodshop to introduce readers to the many sound words that are formed by tools found on a carpenter's work bench.
- Y *Book! Book! Book!* by Deborah Bruss, ill. Tiphonie Beeke, 2001,

ISBN: 0439135257

The farm animals are bored now that the children went back to school so they go to the local library to find something to do.

- A *Mmm, Cookies!* by Robert Munsch, ill. Michael Martchenko, 2000, ISBN: 0590896032
After Christopher plays a trick on his mom and dad by serving them cookies made of clay, they engage his teacher in a way to get back at him. Study the use of sound words to elaborate the story.
- A *Bark, George* by Jules Feiffer, 1999, ISBN: 00620518765
Every time George the Dog tries to bark another animal sound comes out of his mouth so his mother takes him to the vet to find the answer to his problem. Brainstorm other animal sounds that George could make.

Alliteration

- A *The Great Fuzz Frenzy* by Janet Stevens and Susan Stevens Crummel, 2005, ISBN: 0152046267
This fun storytime read about prairie dogs who discover a tennis ball at the bottom of their tunnel, provides wonderful examples of using short alliterative phrases to develop the plot of a story.
- Y *Toot & Puddle: Puddle's ABC* by Holly Hobbie, 2000, ISBN: 0316365939
Puddle teaches his friend Otto the alphabet so Otto can write his name. In studying the alphabet, readers are also introduced to alliteration. Have students come up with their own phrases.
- A *The Absolutely Awful Alphabet* by Mordicai Gerstein, 1999, ISBN: 0152014942
An alliterative alphabet book presents mean and monstrous letters. Study and define alliterative phrases. Write new phrases making an "absolutely awesome alphabet."
- Y *The Wacky Wedding* by Pamela Duncan Edwards, 1999, ISBN: 0786803088
An alphabet ant wedding, attended by other animals, is beset by various disasters.
- A *Animalia* by Graeme Base, 1996, ISBN: 08109186894
Study the alliterations for each letter and define the advanced vocabulary. Write and illustrate alliterative phrases for a class book.
- A *A Northern Alphabet* by Ted Harrison, 1982, ISBN: 0887762336
Alliterative puzzles covering the animals, people, and land of North America.

Characterization

- A *Manfish A Story of Jacques Cousteau* by Jennifer Berne, ill by Eric Puybaret, 2008 ISBN: 978-0-8118-6063-5
Biography of Jacques Cousteau. Have students brainstorm words to describe Jacques Cousteau. See if their words match the life of the man.
- Y *Ling and Ting Not Exactly the Same* by Grace Lin 2010
ISBN: 978-0-316-02452-5
Two sisters who are alike and yet very different.
Compare/contrast each girl.
- Y *Me...Jane* by Patrick McDonnell 2011
ISBN: 978-0-316-04546-9
Simple biography of Jane Goodall.
Brainstorm words describing Goodall.
- A *Albert* by Donna Jo Napoli, ill. Jim LaMarche, 2001, ISBN: 0152015728
One day when Albert is at his window, two cardinals come to build a nest in his hand, an event that changes his life.
- A *Sorry* by Jean Van Leeuwen, 2001, ISBN: 0803722613
Two brothers who cannot apologize to each other extend their feud down through their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.
- A *Aunt Claire's Yellow Beehive Hair* by Deborah Blumenthal, ill. Mary GrankPre, 2001, ISBN: 0803725094
A girl seeking her connection to family past and present creates a special book in tribute and remembrance, leaving blank pages for future memories.
- A *The Blues of Flats Brown* by Walter Dean Myers, ill. Nina Laden, 2000, ISBN: 0823414809
To escape an abusive master, a junkyard dog named Flats runs away and makes a name for himself from Mississippi to New York City playing blues on his guitar. He learns life's lessons from an older dog named Caleb. For older students, introduce a study of the blues.
- A *Troll Teacher* by Vivian Vande Velde, ill. Mary Jane Auch, 2000, ISBN: 0823415031
Elizabeth tries to tell her family that there is something wrong with her new teacher, but they cannot see it, even though Miss Turtledove has orange eyes, eats desks, and throws fruit at the students. Before reading, ask students to draw their impressions of a good teacher. Brainstorm as a group characteristics of good teachers. Then read the story and compare Miss Turtledove to the list.
- A *Black Cowboy Wild Horses: A True Story* by Julius Lester, ill. Jerry Pinkney, 1998, ISBN: 0803717881
Contrast the character of Bob the cowboy with the wild horses.
- A *Yours Truly, Goldilocks* by Alma Flor Ada, ill. Leslie Tryon, 1998, ISBN: 0689816081

Allow students to guess the identity of the characters writing the letters using their prior knowledge of the fairy tale characters.

- A *Tops and Bottoms* by Janet Stevens, 1995, ISBN: 0152928510
Hare turns his bad luck around by striking a clever deal with the rich and lazy bear down the road.
- Y *Chato's Kitchen* by Gary Soto, ill. Susan Guevara, 1995, ISBN: 0698116003
Chato the low-riding cat makes plans to have the new mice family next door over for dinner, but the mice undo his plan.
- A *The Stranger* by Chris Van Allsburg, 1986, ISBN: 0395423317
Use various character traits found in the story to predict the identity of the stranger who recovers at Farmer Bailey's farm.
- A *Miss Maggie* by Cynthia Rylant, ill. Thomas Di Grazia, 1983, ISBN: 0525440488
Young Nat is afraid of old Miss Maggie and her rotting log house until his heart conquers his fears.
- A *You Never Heard of Sandy Koufax?* By Jonah Winter, ill, Andre Carrilho.
This biography of Sandy Koufax becoming a great baseball pitcher is told in folksy style. Timelines (make one of Sandy's career), Research Sandy Koufax and other pitchers, good introduction example.
- O *Eleanor, Quiet No More The Life of Eleanor Roosevelt.* By Doreen Rappaport, ill by Gary Kelley. Disney Hyperion Books, 2009. ISBN: 978-0-7868-5141-6.
Biography of First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt. Important dates in Eleanor's life included at the end. Explore the characteristics of Eleanor and her family members. Also good for emotions, vocabulary, and research.
- A *Martina the Beautiful Cockroach: A Cuban Folktale* Spanish version: *Martina una cucarachita muy linda: Un Cuento Cubano* by Carmen Agra Deedy ill, Michael Austin, Peachtree Publishers, 2007.
Puerto Rican Folk Tale of a cockroach and her suitors. Voice, Cause/effect, emotions, compare with other Martina and Perez folk tales.
- Y *The One and Only Marigold.* By Florence Parry Heide. Ill. Jill McElmurry. Schwartz and Wade Books. 2009. ISBN: 978-0-75-94051-4.
Marigold is so stubborn she does not get along with anyone including her best friend Maxine. Use this story to study character traits or compare/contrast lessons.
- A *Big Bad Wolves at School* by Stephen Krensky, ill. Brad Sneed, 2007, ISBN: 9780689837999
Rufus the Wolf is not able to do the normal things wolves do, so his parents enroll him in the Big Bad Wolf Academy. Cute story with added details in the illustrations that make references to various fairy tales. Use the story and the illustrations to have students complete a character sketch on Rufus.

- O *The Duchess of Whimsy: An Absolutely Delicious Fairy Tale* by Randall de Sève and Peter de Sève, 2009, ISBN: 9780399250958
The Duchess of Whimsy and the Earl of Norm discover each other over a simple grilled cheese sandwich. Use this story to compare the two main characters.
- O *Amazing Faces*, poems selected by Lee Bennett Hopkins, ill. Chris Soentpiet, 2010, ISBN: 9781600603341
Use this selection of d to study the character traits of children of diverse backgrounds. Poems in the selection introduce readers to the emotions we all feel throughout our lives and include authors such as Joseph Bruchac, Nikki Grimes, Lee Bennett Hopkins, etc.
- A *Imogene's Last Stand* By Candace Fleming, Ill. Nancy Carpenter. 2009.
ISBN: 9780375836077
Imogene who loves history creates a town historical museum and must save it from demolition.
Also: Sequence, vocabulary, historical characters, Civic lessons
- A *Uncle Jed's Barbershop* by Margaree King Mitchell, ill. by James E. Ransome. 1998. ISBN: 9780689819131
Set in the south in 1920s both segregation and the depression are addressed through this story about a black man who keeps dreaming of owning his own barbershop and keeps the dream alive through many set backs.
Also cause/effect, black history
- Y *Cowboy Camp* by Tammi Sauer, ill. Mike Reed, 2005, ISBN: 9781402722240
Although Avery cannot eat the right grub, is allergic to horses, and gets rope burns from lassos, he learns that he is uniquely qualified to be a true cowboy in the most important way. Use Avery as a character study to identify his character traits.
- A *Just Being Audrey* by Margaret Cardillo, ill. by Julia Denos, 2011
ISBN: 978-0-06185283-1
Simple biography of actress Audrey Hepburn who lived through World War II persecutions and went on to become a famous actress known for her style and kind personality.
Also good for sequence.

Point of View

- O *Once Upon a Cool Motorcycle Dude* by Kevin O'Malley, ill. Carol Heyer and Scott Goto, 2005
ISBN: 9780802789471
A boy and a girl work together to write a new fairy tale. The girl imagines a beautiful princess whose ponies are being stolen by a giant. The boy imagines a muscular biker who is guarding the last pony. Great for comparing/contrasting points of view of boy and girl.

- A *Help Me Mr. Mutt: Expert Answers for Dogs with People Problems* by Janet Stevens and Susan Stevens Crummel, 2008, ISBN: 9780152046286
Letters written by Mr. Mutt, dogs with problems, and a cat who calls herself the Queen provide readers with opportunities to identify the point of view of each character. Also a great book to use to explain voice.
- A *Diary of a Worm* by Doreen Cronin, ill. Harry Bliss, 2003, ISBN: 006000150X
The point of view of a worm is illustrated in this adorable picture book diary of a worm. In addition to point of view lessons, this story can introduce students to journal writing.
- O *With Love, Little Red Hen* by Alma Flor Ada, ill. Leslie Tryon, 2001, ISBN: 0689825811
Fairy tale characters write letters to each other as they try to avoid the wolf Fer O'cious.
- Y *Birdhouse for Rent* by Harriet Ziefert, ill. Donald Dreifuss, 2001, ISBN: 0618048812
A birdhouse explains how it is used by various animals and insects until spring when new birds move in.
- A *My Big Dog* by Janet Stevens and Susan Stevens Crummel, ill. Janet Stevens, 1999, ISBN: 0307102203
A cat describes the Big Dog that lives with him. Told from the cat's point of view, discuss and retell the dog's point of view.
- A *I, Crocodile* by Fred Marcellino, 1999, ISBN: 0062051997
Crocodile explains excerpts from his life after Napoleon takes him back to Paris for the French to enjoy. Explain the concept of writing in the first person and use this story as an example. Discuss how the story would be different if the crocodile was not telling the story.
- A *Hey, Little Ant* by Phillip and Hannah Hoose, ill. Debbie Tilley, 1998, ISBN: 1883672546
A song in which an ant pleads with a child who is tempted to squish it. Also good for persuasion. Also lends itself to Reader's Theatre.
- A *Somebody and the Three Blairs* by Marilyn Tolhurst, ill. Simone Abel, 1990, ISBN: 0531084787
Similar to the story of The Three Bears, but told by a little bear who visits the family home of the three Blairs.
- A *The True Story of the Three Little Pigs / La verdadera historia de los tres cerditos* by Jon Scieska, ill. Lane Smith, 1989, ISBN: 0670827592 (English); ISBN: 0670841625 (Spanish)
The wolf gives his side of the story of what really happened with the three little pigs.

- A *The Pain and the Great One* by Judy Blume, ill. Irene Trivas, 1985, ISBN: 0440409675
Discuss the very different point of views of the two siblings.
- A *Who is Melvin Bubble?* by Nick Bruel, 2006, ISBN: 9781596431164
An introduction to six year old Melvin Bubble as presented by his family and friends. A great set up to a writing lesson. After reading the book and discussing the point of view of each character, ask students to write about some of their classmates to create. Then have the child gather their profiles from their friends and create a *Who is ...?* book.
- A *The Pigeon Finds a Hot Dog!* By Mo Willems, 2004. ISBN 0-7868-1869-7.
The pigeon's crazy antics with the bird give great opportunities for teaching point of view and voice. Other books in this series such as *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!* also work.
- A *Good Dog* By Maya Gottfried. 2008. ISBN: 978-0-553-11383-9
Poems about many different types of dogs gives voice to each dog. Also imagery. Go over dog breeds and then get students to make predictions about the breed of dog in each poem. Compare and contrast the dog's personalities.
- A *Arnie the Doughnut* by Laurie Keller. Henry Holt and Co. 2003. ISBN: 0-8050-6283-1.
Arnie is excited to be bought until he finds out he will be eaten. He attempts to talk Mr. Bing into using him in a different way.
Also: Sequence, Critical Thinking What can you do with a donut besides eat it?, persuasion
- A *Dirty Laundry Pile: Poems in Different Voices* by Paul B. Janeczko, ill. Melissa Sweet, 2001. ISBN: 9780688162511
Each poem tells the story of a household item using their voice.
Main Idea

Emotions

- A *One* by Kathryn Otoshi, Publishers Group West, 2008. ISBN 978-09723946-4-2.
A book about bullying that shows how just one person can make a difference. You can also use this book for math and language arts concepts such as counting to 7, colors, prepositional phrases, and emotions.
- Y *Art and Max* by David Wiesner. Clarion Books. 2010. ISBN: 978-0-618-7563-6.
Art and Max are two lizards and when Max decides to "paint" Art he paints his skin. Max is furious and sheds the colors revealing his true colors. Next he becomes a line drawing that only Max can fix.

- Y *Little Beauty* by Anthony Browne. Candlewick. 2008. ISBN: 978-0-7636-3959-4.
A gorilla who signs is lonely until he gets a little cat as a friend.
Great to use for Cause and Effect lessons.
- Y *Bear Feels Scared* by Karma Wilson, ill. Jane Chapman, 2008,
ISBN: 05452011179.
Bear gets lost in a storm and is rescued by his friends. Use for lessons on
rhyme, vocabulary, and visualization.
- A *Goal!* by Mina Javaherbin, ill. A. G. Ford, 2012.
ISBN: 9780763658229
Soccer on the streets of South Africa where bullies must be
tricked and careful watch is kept.
Also good for setting, vocabulary, bullies, cultural awareness
- A *Amazing Faces* compiled by Lee Bennett Hopkins, ill Chris K Soentpiet, 2010.
ISBN: 9781600603341
Collection of poetry from various poets uses words to portray emotions of
multicultural America.
Also: imagery

Setting

- O *What's Inside? Fascinating Structures Around the World* by Giles Laroche, 2009
ISBN: 978-0-618-86247-4
Studying one structure at time students can brainstorm types of stories that
would use each structure as a setting.
Also geography and drawing conclusions.
- Y *When the Fireflies Come* by Johnathan London, ill. Terry Widener, 2003,
ISBN: 0525454047
Summertime is a celebration all day and all night. The elements of setting bring
this story to life as the day turns to night and the fireflies come out to play.
- A *The Raft* by Jim LaMarche, 2000, ISBN: 0688139787
A young boy who frets about the summer he has to spend with his "river rat"
grandmother soon learns a love for the river, its animal habitants and drawing.
- Y *The Secret Shortcut* by Mark Teague, 1996, ISBN: 0590677152
Wendell and Floyd are trying to get to school on time so they decide to take a
shortcut that leads them on a jungle adventure.

Visualization

- Y *Never Take a Shark to the Dentist* by Judi Barrett with art by John Nickle, 2008
ISBN: 978-1-4169-0724-4

Read what not to do and ask the students to visualize in their head why not. Discuss pictures and show illustrations. Ask students to continue the story and do illustrations for their new animals and what not to do.

- A *A Drive in the Country* by Michael J. Rosen, ill by Marc Burckhardt., 2007
ISBN: 978-0-7636-2140-7
Family goes for a drive in the country and vividly describes what they see and do. Read page at a time and have students try a picture from their visualization of words. Then discuss the students drawings and compare to illustrations.
- Y *The Wildest Brother* by Cornelia Funke, ill. by Kerstin Meyer, 2004,
ISBN: 0439828627.
Younger brother plays with and “protects” his older sister during the day. Great opportunities to study vocabulary words within the text.
- Y *Miss Smith’s Incredible Storybook* by Michael Garland, 2003,
ISBN: 9780525471332.
Miss Smith reads aloud to her class and the books come alive in the classroom. Look for the sequels as well: *Miss Smith Reads Again* and *Miss Smith and the Haunted Library*.
- A *Read All About It!* By Laura Bush and Jenna Bush. Ill: Denise Brunkhus, 2008,
ISBN: 9780061560750.
For Tyrone, reading is boring until unusual visitors show up at story time.
- O *I Am the Mummy Heb-Nefert* by Eve Bunting, ill. David Christiana, 1997,
ISBN: 9780132004798
When read aloud, the descriptive verse of the Mummy Heb-Nefert provides the reader opportunities to ask students to discuss the images that come to mind.

Story Mapping Skills

Use the entertaining books below to teach the elements of a story and other reading skills

- Y *Weinerwolf* by Jeff Crosby, 2011
ISBN: 978-14231-3983-6
Weiner dog gets tired of his quiet life and hitch hikes his way to adventure in a park with real wolves before returning home.
Also sequencing.
- A *A Story For Bear* by Dennis Haseley, ill. Jim LaMarche, 2002,
ISBN: 0152002391
A bear is fascinated by the books a young woman reads every day.
- A *Sixteen Cows* by Lisa Wheeler, ill. Kurt Cyrus, 2002, ISBN: 0152026762

- Cowboy Gene and Cowboy Sue sing to their cattle their own rhyming tunes until the day the tornado blows down the fence and mixes the cows together with the songs.
- Y *Bippity Bop Barbershop* by Natasha Anastasia Tarpley, ill. E.B. Lewis, 2002, ISBN: 0316522848
Miles go to the barbershop with his daddy for his first haircut and learns the meaning of the word brave.
- A *Angelo* by David Macaulay, 2002, ISBN: 0618168265
Angelo works with perfection to restore old buildings in Rome. When he begins work on an old church, he finds a wounded pigeon that he reluctantly nurses back to health.
- A *Jabuti the Tortoise: A Trickster Tale From the Amazon* by Gerald McDermott, 2001, ISBN: 0152004963
Vulture is jealous of the beautiful flute music Jabuti plays for the other birds of the forest, so he tricks the tortoise into riding to the festival on his back.
- Y *Flora's Blanket* by Debi Gliori, 2001, ISBN: 0531303055
Flora cannot sleep because she can't find her blanket, so the whole family helps her look for it.
- A *The Golden Mare, the Firebird, and the Magic Ring* by Ruth Sanderson, 2001, ISBN: 0316769061
This fairy tale uses elements from many Russian fairy tales to tell the story of a huntsman who is helped by a golden mare to work for the greedy Tsar.
- A *Beatrice's Goat* by Page McBrier, ill. Lori Lohstoeter, 2001, ISBN: 0689824602
A young girl wants to go to school but does not have enough money to purchase supplies and uniforms until her family receives a goat which brings the family increased income. Based on the Heifer Project in Africa.
- A *The Hungriest Boy in the World* by Lensey Namioka, ill. Aki Sogabe, 2001, ISBN: 0823415422
After swallowing the Hunger Monster, Jiro begins eating everything in sight until his family finds a way to lure the monster out of Jiro's stomach.
- A *Crickwing* by Janell Cannon, 2000, ISBN: 043940505X
Crickwing is a cockroach with a crooked wing who is tired of being picked on bigger animals.
- Y *Toestomper and the Caterpillars* by Sharleen Collicott, 1999, ISBN: 0395911680
also sequel: *Toestomper and the Bad Butterflies*
Toestomper, who is mean, rude, and disgusting, changes his ways after he destroys the home of a bunch of caterpillars and is forced to adopt them.
Enjoy the sequel *Toestomper and the Butterflies*.
- Y *The Magic Hockey Stick* by Peter Maloney, ill. Felicia Zekauskas, 1999,

ISBN: 0803724764

When her parents win Wayne Gretzky's hockey stick at a charity auction, a young girl begins playing with it and becomes her team's star.

- A *Honk! : the Story of a Prima Swanerina* by Pamela Duncan Edwards, ill. Henry Cole, 1998, ISBN: 0786823844
A ballet-loving swan wins acclaim when she manages to join the other dancers in a performance of Swan Lake.
- Y *The West Texas Chili Monster* by Judy Cox, ill. John O'Brien, 1998, ISBN: 0816745463
Mama makes the best chili in her West Texas town and decides to enter a Chili Cook-Off to try to earn prize money to fix the ranch road near their home.
- Y *Arturo's Baton* by Syd Hoff, 1996, ISBN: 0395710200
When an orchestra conductor misplaces his baton and feels he cannot work without it, he learns that it is his own talent, not a little stick, that makes him famous.
- A *Raspberries!* by Jay O'Callahan, ill. Will Moses, 2009, ISBN: 9780399251818
When Simon, once the town baker, finds himself down on his luck, he begins to sell eggs to make a living until he is given some very special raspberries.
- O *Such a Prince: Will He Win Princess Vera's Heart?* by Dan Bar-el, ill. John Manders, 2007, ISBN: 9780618714681
Marvin wants to win the heart of Princess Vera, but first he must pass all of the King's tests.

Literature

- O *The Three Questions* by Jon J. Muth, 2002, ISBN: 0439199964
This picture book format bases its story line on Leo Tolstoy's "three questions."
- O *The Huckabuck Family and How They Raised Popcorn in Nebraska and Quit and Came Back* by Carl Sandburg, ill. David Small, 1999, ISBN: 0374335117
After the popcorn the Huckabucks had raised explodes in a fire and Pony Pony Huckabuck finds a silver buckle inside a squash, the family decides it is time for a change.
- O *William Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet* retold by Bruce Coville, ill. Dennis Nolan, 1999, ISBN: 0803724624
A simple retelling of Shakespeare's play about two young people who defy their warring families' prejudices and fall in love.
- O *William Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream* retold by Bruce Coville, ill. Dennis Nolan, 1996, ISBN: 0803717849

- A simplified prose retelling of Shakespeare's play about the strange events that take place in a forest inhabited by fairies who magically transform the romantic fate of two young couples. Other retellings of Shakespeare's work in picture book format available by Bruce Coville as well.
- O *Gilgamesh the King* retold by Ludmila Zeman, 1992, ISBN: 0887762832; *Last Quest of Gilgamesh*, 1995, ISBN: 0887763286; *The Revenge of Ishtar*, 1993, ISBN: 0887763154
Retelling of ancient legend based on the true life of Gilgamesh.
 - A *When the Frost is on the Punkin* by James Whitcomb Riley, ill. Glenna Lang, 1991, ISBN: 0879239123
Poem written by author James Whitcomb Riley using his Midwestern dialect.
 - O *Favorite Greek Myths* retold by Mary Pope Osborne, ill. Troy Howell, 1989, ISBN: 0590413384
Retells 12 tales from Greek mythology.
 - A *Casey Jones* by Stephen Krensky, ill. Mark Schroeder. 2006. ISBN: 9781575058900
The story of how the famous engineer, Casey Jones, risks his own life to save others on his train.
 - A *Casey At the Bat* by Ernest Lawrence Thayer, ill. Patricia Polacco, 1988, ISBN: 0698115570
This is the illustrated retelling of *Casey At the Bat*.
 - O *The Extraordinary Mark Twain (According to Susy)* by Barbara Kerley, ill. Edwin Fotheringham. 2010 ISBN: 9780545125086
Twain's daughter Susy's journal about her father is partially retold with added details and information about the family. Actual journal inserts are included.
 - O *Louisa: The life of Louisa May Alcott* by Yona Zeldis McDonough; ill. Bethanne Andersen 2009. ISBN: 9780805081923
Biography of the famous author.

Problem/Solution

- Y *The Woods* by Paul Hoppe, 2011
ISBN: 978-0-8118-75479
Boy can't find his favorite bunny and goes in search of it in the woods where he meets bears, giants, a three headed dragon, and a monster.
- Y *Dog in Boots* by Greg Gormley, ill by Roberta Angaramo, 2011
ISBN: 978-0-8234-2347-7
After reading Puss n Boots a dog goes to a shoe store to try to find some boots.

He keeps going back because one set of boots is good for one of dog's activities like digging, etc but not for all.

Also good for predicting outcomes.

Start by brainstorming activities that a dog would like to do and what type of boots would be good for the activity. Predict which boots would cause problems and why. Read the story and see which predictions came true. Follow up with a problem solution chart.

- Y *Mr. Tanen's Tie Trouble* by Maryann Cocca-Leffler, 2003, ISBN: 0807553050
Mr. Tanen is trying to find a way to raise money for the school's new playground when he finally decides to sell his tie collection. Check for other Mr. Tanen books including *Mr. Tanen's Ties* and *Mr. Tanen's Ties Rule!*
- Y *Ernest and the Big Itch* by Laura T. Barnes, ill. Carol A. Camburn, 2002, ISBN: 0967468124
Ernest the Donkey has a big itch and tries to get rid of it by rubbing the edge of Chipper's birdhouse. Rather than having his life disrupted, Chipper decides to help Ernest find another way to get rid of his itch.
- A *Tub-Boo-Boo* by Margie Palatini, ill. Glin Dibley, 2001, ISBN: 06898234940
When Henry gets his toe stuck in the water spout in the bathtub, everyone in the family and a few outsiders try to rescue him.
- A *What's Cooking Jamela?* by Niki Daly, 2001, ISBN: 0374356025
Jamela is responsible for fattening up the chicken intended for Christmas dinner, but instead she gives it a name and makes it her friend.
- A *The Scarecrow's Hat* by Ken Brown, 2001, ISBN: 1561452408
Chicken thinks Scarecrow's hat will make a nice nest, but first she must swap with Badger, Crow, Sheep, Owl, and Donkey.
- A *The Lima Bean Monster* by Dan Yaccarino, ill. Adam McCauley, 2001, ISBN: 0802787770
After Sammy's dumping of the lima beans he does not want to eat starts a neighborhood trend to put rejected vegetables in a hole on a vacant lot, a terrible lima bean monster rises to terrorize the town.
- A *Rattletrap Car* by Phyllis Root, ill. Jill Barton, 2001, ISBN: 0763609196
Various disasters threaten to stop Poppa and the children from getting to the lake in their rattletrap car but they manage to come up with an ingenious solution to each problem.
- Y *Chewy Louie* by Howie Schneider, 2000, ISBN: 0439356024
When father brings home a new puppy named Louie, the family tries desperately to solve the problem of his chewing.
- O *Bedhead* by Margie Palatini, ill. Jack E. Davis, 2000, ISBN: 0689823975
Oliver and his family think that they have solved his bad hair day problem until he gets to school and finds out that it is picture day.

- A *The Baby BeeBee Bird* by Diane Redfield Massie, 2000, ISBN: 0060280832
The zoo animals need some sleep so they find a way to get the BeeBee Bird to sleep at night instead of during the day.
- A *Roberto: The Insect Architect* by Nina Laden, 2000, ISBN: 0811824659
Roberto wants to be an architect. This seems to be an impossible dream for a termite, but Roberto is determined to reach his goal.
- A *Joseph Had a Little Overcoat* by Simms Taback, 1999, ISBN: 067087553
A very old overcoat is recycled several times into a variety of garments. Identify the problems and solutions which cause the recycling of Joseph's overcoat.
- Y *Wolf!* by Becky Bloom, ill. Pascal Biet, 1999, ISBN: 0531301559
A wolf desperately tries to learn how to read and is finally accepted by the other animals.
- A *A Bad Case of Stripes / Un caso grave de rayas* by David Shannon, 1998, ISBN: (0590929976 (English); ISBN: 0439409861 (Spanish)
Camilla Cream is so worried the other kids will find out that she loves lima beans that she breaks out in a bad case of stripes.
- Y *I Lost My Bear* by Jules Feiffer, 1998, ISBN: 0439133211
A little girl loses her bear and asks her family for help in finding it, but they ask her to use her detective skills to find the bear herself. Use this story to help students learn how to identify problems in stories.
- A *The Old Man and His Door / El Viejo y su puerta* by Gary Soto, ill. Joe Cepeda, 1996, ISBN: 0399227008 (English) ISBN: 0698116550 (Spanish)
Misunderstanding his wife's instructions, an old man sets out for a party with a door on his back.
- Y *Pigsty* by Mark Teague, 1994, ISBN: 0590459155
Wendall's room is always a mess, and his mom calls it a pigsty. When destructive pigs move into Wendall's room, Wendall learns that being messy isn't so good.
- A Mother Goose Rhymes – an idea from Peggy Sharp
Write rhyming solutions for Mother Goose rhymes.
- A *My Mom is Trying to Ruin My Life* by Kate Feiffer, ill. Diane Goode, 2009, ISBN: 1416941002
A little girl lists the ways her mother and father are ruining her life and comes up with a plan to solve her problems only to realize her solution would be the worst way to ruin her life.
- Y *Desert Rose and her Highfalutin Hog* by Alison Jackson, ill. Keith Graves, 2009, ISBN: 0802798349
Desert Rose wants to win first prize at the state fair in Laredo, but her hog will not budge to help her cross the river so she asks the other animals nearby for help

until finally she is able to make a deal with the armadillo. This is a simple illustration of a problem that is solved through a chain reaction of events.

- O *Meanwhile...* by Jules Feiffer, 1997, ISBN ????

Raymond will do anything to get out of doing what his mother asks him to do and he finds the perfect solution in his comic book.... the word MEANWHILE...

- Y *The Prince Won't Go to Bed!* by Dayle Ann Dodds, ill. Kyrsten Brooker, 2007, ISBN: 9780374361082

When the young prince will not go to bed, everyone in the palace tries to solve his problem by bringing him their perfect solution to the problem.

Fantasy/Reality

Identify the elements of the story which demonstrate reality and fantasy in the following books.

- A *Souperchicken* by Mary Jane and Herm Auch, 2003, ISBN: 0823417042

Henrietta is the only chicken in the coop that can read, but the importance of her talents is not appreciated until the day her aunts are loaded onto a truck with the name Souper Chicken Co.

- A *Edward in the Jungle* by David McPhail, 2002, ISBN: 0316563919

Edward loves to read books about Tarzan. While reading one day, he finds himself walking side by side with Tarzan himself.

- A *Christmas Magic* by Michael Garland, 2001, ISBN: 0525467971

Emily builds a special snow-woman and joins her and the new neighbor's snowman in a dance on a magical Christmas Eve, when all sorts of amazing things happen.

- A *Heat Wave!* by Helen Ketteman, ill. Scott Goto, 2000, ISBN: 0802786456

A terrible heat wave descends upon a farm, turning the corn to popcorn and almost cooking the cows, but a girl saves the day.

- A *Jimmy Zangwow's Out of This World Moon Pie Adventure* by Toni DiTerlizzi, 2000, ISBN: 0689822154

Jimmy flies to the moon for his favorite snack, Moon Pies.

- A *Zak's Lunch* by Margie Palatini, ill. Howard Fine, 1998, ISBN: 0395816742

Rather than eat his boring old ham and cheese sandwich, Zak conjures up Lou, a waitress who serves him a delectable feast for the imagination.

- A *Fanny's Dream* by Caralyn Buehner, ill. Mark Muehner, 1996, ISBN: 0803714971

Fanny Agnes is a sturdy farm girl who dreams of marrying a prince, but when her fairy godmother doesn't show up, she decides on a local farmer instead.

- A *Luck With Potatoes* by Helen Ketteman, ill. Brian Floca, 1995, ISBN: 0531094732

Hardscrabble Tennessee farmer Clemmon Hardigree's hard luck changes when he plants seed potatoes in Cow Hollow before his fat mountain cows cause the pasture to collapse.

- Y *Lily Brown's Paintings* By Angela Johnson, ill. E.B. Lewis. Orchard Books. 2007. ISBN: 0545099528.
Follow Lily through a day of painting that involves both fantasy and reality in her paintings. A great use for art lessons.
- A *Blueberries for the Queen* by John and Katherine Paterson. Ill by Susan Jeffers. Harper Collins 2004. ISBN 0-06-623942-7.
Based on a true story during World War II the Queen of the Netherlands spends summer in New England and meets a boy in the village who gives her blueberries. Compare William's imagination to the real events in the story.

Fact and Opinion (Nonfact)

- A *Jack's Path of Courage The Life of John F. Kennedy* by Doreen Rappaport, illus by Matt Tavares 2010
ISBN: 978-1-4231-2272-2
Biography of John F Kennedy.
- O *The Secret Knowledge of Grownups: The Second File* by David Wisniewski, 2001, ISBN: 0688178545
The real reasons parents tell kids to do things. Humorous.
- Y *Who Hops?* By Katie Davis, 1998, ISBN: 0152018395
This fun simple picture book lists creatures and how they move. After listing creatures who meet each characteristic, an animal who does not hop, crawl, etc. is added to the mix to try to trick the reader.
- A *When Marian Sang: the true recital of Marian Anderson the voice of a century* by Pam Munoz Ryan, Ill. Brian Sleznick, 2001, ISBN: 9780439269674.
Picture book biography of Marian Anderson who overcame discrimination and become a famous singer and civil rights activist.
- A *Marvelous Mattie: How Margaret E. Knight became an inventor* by Emily Arnold McCully, 2006, ISBN: 9780374348106.
Biography of Margaret E. Knight who fought discrimination to claim her patent on her invention of the machine that makes paper bags.
- A *Miss Lady Bird's Wildflowers : how a First Lady changed America* by Kathi Appelt, ill. by Joy Fisher Hein, 2005, ISBN: 97806001079.
Biography of Lady Bird Johnson and her highway beautification project as first lady.

- A *All Stations! Distress!: April 15, 1912: The Day the Titanic Sank* by Don Brown, 2008, ISBN: 9781596432222
A picture book version of the Titanic. Use lessons for Cause and Effect. Take the opportunity to research Molly Brown.
- A *John, Paul, George, and Ben* by Lane Smith, 2006, ISBN: 9781437952940.
Humorous interpretations of some of America's founding fathers including John Hancock, Paul Revere, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and Ben Franklin.

Drawing Conclusions

- Y *Giggle Giggle Quack* by Doreen Cronin, ill. Betsy Lewin, 2002, ISBN: 0689845065
When Farmer Brown goes on vacation, he asks his brother to take care of the animals and follow all of his written instructions exactly. Unfortunately, Bob is tricked by the duck who replaces Farmer Brown's notes with his own.
- A *Mice and Beans / Arroz con frijoles y unos amables ratones* by Pam Munoz Ryan, ill. Joe Cepeda, 2001, ISBN: 0439183030 (English); ISBN: 0439317371 (Spanish)
Grandma is planning Catalina's birthday party with a little help from the mice.
- A *Toot and Puddle: I'll Be Home For Christmas* by Holli Hobbie, 2001, ISBN: 0316366234
Delayed by a snowstorm, Toot gets unexpected help getting back to Woodcock Pocket in time to celebrate Christmas with Puddle.
- O *Ackamarackus: Julius Lester's Sumptuously Sill Fantastically Funny Fables* by Julius Lester, ill. Emilie Chollat, 2001, ISBN: 0590489135
Six humorous fables with serious and funny morals listed.
- O *Tough Cookie* by David Wisiewski, 1999, ISBN: 0688153380
When his friend Chips is snatched and chewed, Tough Cookie sets out to stop fingers.
- A *Armadillo Tattletale* by Helen Ketterman, ill. Keith Graves, 2000, ISBN: 0590997238
Armadillo's habit of eavesdropping and then misreporting what he hears makes the other animals so angry that they find a way to keep him from overhearing their private conversations.
- A *The Lizard Man of Crabtree County* by Lucy Nolan, ill. Jill Kastner, 1999, ISBN: 0761450491
James becomes the unwitting source of wild rumors that a Lizard Man has appeared in his quiet rural community.

- A *Pumpkin Fiesta* by Caryn Yacowitz, ill. Joe Cepeda, 1998, ISBN: 0060276584
Foolish Fernando desperately wants to win the pumpkin crown for the largest pumpkins at this year's Pumpkin Fiesta, but he can't seem to figure out Old Juana's award-winning secret.
- Y *Animals Should Definitely Not Wear Clothing* by Judi Barrett, ill. Ron Barrett, 1986, ISBN: 0689708076
Illustrations of animals wearing clothing show why this habit is a problem. Ask students to explain why each animal should not wear clothing based on the visual clues in the illustrations.
- O *Mirror Mirror: A Book of Reversible Verse* by Marilyn Singer, ill. by Josée Masse, 2010, ISBN: 978052547901
This beautifully illustrated book of poetry offers readers the opportunity to experience their favorite fairy tales from two different angles. Read the poems individually without sharing the illustrations. Students will be able to draw conclusions to identify the fairy tale and/or characters represented. Have students try to write their own reversible poems.
- A *Fairy Trails: A Story Told in English and Spanish* by Susan Middleton Elya, ill. Mercedes McDonald, 2005, ISBN: 9781582349275
Miguel and Maria meet many fairy tale characters on their path to their aunt's house. The text includes Spanish vocabulary and rhyming text. Read the story without showing the illustrations to see if the students can draw conclusions from the text to identify the fairy tale represented.
- O Aesop's Fables

Making Inferences

- O *Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Book?* by Lauren Child, 2002, ISBN: 0786809264
Herb falls asleep reading his book and falls right into the story. After experiencing the wild events from many fairy tales, Herb finds a way back home and erases the markings from the pages of his book.
- Y *Toot and Puddle: I'll Be Home for Christmas* by Holly Hobbie, 2001, ISBN: 0316366234
Toot has trouble making it home for Christmas but receives unexpected help from a mysterious traveler.
- A *The Web Files* by Margie Palatini, ill. Richard Egielski, 2001, ISBN: 0786823666
Ducktective Web and his partner are trying to crack the case of the pilfered peck of perfect purple almost-pickled peppers. Hints of nursery rhymes and other characters of literature appear throughout the text.
- A *And the Dish Ran Away With the Spoon* by Janet Stevens and Susan Steven Crummel, ill. Janet Stevens, 2001, ISBN: 0152022988

- When the Dish and the Spoon run away for good, the Cat, Dog, and the Cow follow a trail of clues to find their lost friends in order to be able to recite the rhyme again. Clues come from nursery rhymes and other characters from literature.
- A *If the Shoe Fits* by Alison Jackson, ill. Karla Firehammer, 2001, ISBN: 0805064664
The old woman who lives in a shoe sets out to find a larger home for her children, and gets mixed up in other nursery rhymes along the way.
- A *Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type / Clic, Clac, Muu Vacas escritoras* by Doreen Cronin, ill. Betsy Lewin, 2000, ISBN: 0689832133 (English); ISBN: 1930332289 (Spanish)
The cows at Farmer Brown's farm are making demands using the typewriter that they found in the barn, but the farmer refuses to meet their demands and the cows go on strike.
- A *Bark, George* by Jules Feiffer, 1999, ISBN: 0062051865
George's mother takes George to the vet to find out why he cannot bark.
- A *Where Does Joe Go?* by Tracey Campbell Pearson, 1999, ISBN: 0374383197
Because Joe's Snack Bar always closes for the season, the townspeople speculate about where Joe goes for the winter.
- A *Stella Louella's Runaway Book* by Lisa Campbell Ernst, 1998, ISBN: 0689818831
As she tries to find the book that she must return to the library that day, Stella gathers a growing group of people who have all enjoyed reading the book.
- A *Dear Peter Rabbit / Querido Pedrin* by Alma Flor Ada, ill. Leslie Tryon, 1994, ISBN: 0689318502 (English); ISBN: 0689319150 (Spanish)
Letters are written between many characters from popular fairy tales. The reader can make inferences from the information in the letters to explain possible connections between the characters.
- Y *Being a Pig is Nice: A Child's Eye View of Manners* by Sally Lloyd-Jones, ill, Dan Krall, 2009, ISBN: 9780375945908.
The girl in the story is told to remember to be polite, and she begins to imagine the different rules for manners that might be found in the animal kingdom such as pigs, monkeys, elephants, etc. and their humorous results. Great for having students infer the human rule. Ask students to write other rules for different members of the animal kingdom. Also loaded with words that contain prefixes and suffixes and lots of synonym vocabulary building opportunities.
- A *What Really Happened to Humpty? (from the files of a hard-boiled detective) by Joe Dumpty as told to* Jeanie Franz Ransom, ill by Stepehn Axelsen, 2009, ISBN: 97815808891097.

Joe Dumpty (Humpty's brother) tells the humorous tale of how he solved the mystery of Humpty's fall. Full of nursery rhyme and fairy tale characters, story mapping

- A *Bad Bear Detectives An Iring and Muktuk Story* by Daniel Pinkwater, ill by Jill Pinkwater, 2006, ISBN: 061843125X.
Two mischievous bears are upset when they are suspected of stealing a shipment of muffins, and they set out to find the real thief.

Fractured Versions of Fairy Tales and Folk Tales

- A *Uglified Ducky: A Maynard Moose Tale* by Willy Claflin. ill, James Stimson. August House, 2008, ISBN 9780874838589
Maynard Moose resembles the story of The Ugly Duckling but is the story of Maynard the Moose who is convinced he is a duck. Great Voice of the Piney Woods. Use with mini-lessons on onomatopoeia. Consider researching the characteristics of moose and ducks. Glossary practice with moose words. Audio CD included. Look for more Maynard the Moose titles to come.
- A *Arthur and Guen: an Original Tale of Young Camelot* by Jon Koons, ill. Igor Oleynikov, 2008, ISBN: 9780525479345
A story of what might have happened if Arthur and Princess Guenevere had met as young children. For a creative writing challenge, have students choose another set of characters from folklore and write the story of what happened before they became "famous".

Mysteries

*** higher level thinking skills such as drawing conclusions and making inferences.

- A *The Composer is Dead* by Lemony Snicket, ill. Carson Ellis, music by Nathaniel Stookey, 2009, ISBN: 978006123680
The inspector begins his investigation to solve the crime of the dead composer. When interrogating each member of the orchestra, the inspector finds that each group of musicians has a motive as well as an alibi. A music CD is included.
- Y *Alphabet Mystery* by Audrey Wood, ill. by Bruce Wood, 2003, ISBN: 0439443377
When little "x" runs away, the rest of the lower case letters search to find him and convince him to come home. The illustrations allow the reader to stop a focus on clues to solve the mystery.

- A *The Web Files* by Margie Palatini, ill. Richard Egielski, 2001, ISBN: 0786823666
Ducktective Web and his partner are trying to crack the case of the pilfered peck of perfect purple almost-pickled peppers. Hints of nursery rhymes and other characters of literature appear throughout the text.
- Y *The Missing Mitten Mystery* by Steven Kellogg, 2000, ISBN: 0803725663
Annie loses her fifth mitten of the season and asks everyone for help in finding it.
- A *Bark, George* by Jules Feiffer, 1999, ISBN: 0062051865
George's mother takes George to the vet to find out why he cannot bark.
- A *Tough Cookie* by David Wisniewski, 1999, ISBN: 0688153380
Tough Cookie is on the case to find Fingers after his friend Chips is taken from the cookie jar.
- Y *Where Does Joe Go?* by Tracey Campbell Pearson, 1999, ISBN: 0374383197
Joe's Snack Bar is open only in the summer so the people in the town wonder where Joe goes all winter.
- A *Grandpa's Teeth* by Rod Clement, 1998, ISBN: 0064435571
Soon after Grandpa's teeth disappear from a glass of water near his bed, Inspector Rate has the whole town under investigation.
- Y *Stella Louella's Runaway Book* by Lisa Campbell Ernst, 1998, ISBN: 0689818831
Stella Louella has lost her library book and searches all over town and everyone she meets has another clue to help her solve her problem.
- A *Art Dog* by Thatcher Hurd, 1996, ISBN: 0060244259
Arthur is a guard at the Dogopolis Museum of Art, but at night he is the mysterious Art Dog until the night the Mona Woofa is stolen from the museum and Art Dog must find the painting to save himself.
- Y *The Night I Followed the Dog* by Nina Laden, 1994, ISBN: 0811806472
A boy follows his dog one night to discover the answer to the mystery of what dog's do at night.
- A *Tuesday* by David Wiesner, 1991, ISBN: 0395551137
One Tuesday night around eight, frogs mysteriously rise up on their lily pads and explore the town.
- A *The Eleventh Hour: A Curious Mystery* by Graeme Base, 1988, ISBN: 0590447890
Horace is celebrating his eleventh birthday party with eleven of his friends when someone steals the birthday feast. Clues are hidden in each illustration to help the reader find the true thief.
- O *The Stranger* by Chris Van Allsburg, 1986, ISBN: 0395423317
Farmer Bailey hits a stranger with his truck and takes him home to recover, but the stranger's identity remains a mystery.

- A *The Mysteries of Harris Burdick* by Chris Van Allsburg, 1984, ISBN: 0395353939
One page illustrations ask the reader's to draw conclusions about the possible solutions to each mystery.
- Y *The Mysterious Tadpole* by Steven Kellogg, 1977, ISBN: 014054870X
Louis receives a unique gift for his nature collection each year from his uncle in Scotland. When Louis receives a tadpole, everyone is sure he will grow into a frog until he grows too big even for his apartment.
- A *Detective Blue* by Steve Metzger, ill by Tedd Arnold, 2011, ISBN: 9780545172868
Little Boy Blue a.k.a. Detective Blue works hard to keep the nursery rhyme characters in check until Jack Sprat informs everyone that Miss Muffet is missing and he has a real mystery to solve.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATION

Sentence Types

- A *Where Does Joe Go?* By Tracey Campbell Pearson, 1999, ISBN: 0374383197
Because Joe's Snack Bar always closes for the winter season, the townspeople speculate about Joe's whereabouts. This rhyming book is a fun way to discuss the use of complete or incomplete sentences. After identifying the incomplete sentences, ask students to rewrite the sentence correctly.
- Y *Whose Baby Am I?* by John Butler, 2001, ISBN: 0670896837
Beautiful illustrations of animal babies are introduced with the question "Whose Baby am I?" The answer to each question is found on the following page. Use the simplicity of the text to introduce young writers to question marks and periods. Animal baby vocabulary is also provided at the end of the book.
- A *The Great Fuzz Frenzy* by Janet Stevens and Susan Stevens Crummel, 2005, ISBN: 0152046267
This story about prairie dogs and a tennis ball provides readers with fun examples of using variety of sentence lengths and types to great the drama and climax of a story.
- A *Wemberly Worried / Prudencia se preocupa* by Kevin Henkes, 2000, ISBN: 0688170277 (English); ISBN: 8424180984 (Spanish)
A mouse named Wemberly, who worries about everything, finds that she has a whole list of things to worry about when she faces the first day of nursery school.

- O *CDB!* by William Steig, 2000, ISBN: 0689831609
Letters and numbers are used to create the sounds of words and simple sentences for the reader to decode with the aid of illustrations. Give students a word puzzle each day as a warm-up. Ask students to write the sentence and punctuate correctly.
- A *David Goes to School / David va al colegio!* by David Shannon, 1999, ISBN: 0590480871 (English); ISBN: 8424158865 (Spanish)
Identify the use of imperative sentences and exclamation marks. Also by Shannon---*No, David!* (English or Spanish).
- A *Froggy* books by Jonathan London
Identify the types of sentences used in the story and the punctuation needed. *Froggy Goes to School, Froggy Learns to Swim, Froggy Gets Dressed / Froggy Se Viste, Let's Go, Froggy! Froggy's First Kiss, Froggy's Halloween, Froggy Plays Soccer, Froggy Goes to Bed*

Sentence Combining

- A *Moe McTooth: An Alley Cat's Tale* by Eileen Spinelli, ill. Linda Bronson, 2003, ISBN: 0618117601
Moe McTooth is an alley cat who finds winter to be quite cold and is welcomed in to a woman's apartment until Spring. The text follows a pattern of repetitive phrases to explain Moe McTooth's daily habits. Have students practice combining sentences using these repetitive passages within the story.
- A *Oh, Ducky! A Chocolate Calamity* by David Slonim, 2003, ISBN: 0811835626
Mr. Peters is a candy maker and an inventor. When Johnny's rubber ducky lodges itself in the chocolate machine, all systems stop and the team must solve the problem. This cute story is written in very short, simple sentences and phrases. Students can use the text as an opportunity to practice sentence combining and elaboration.
- A *Two Cool Coyotes* by Jullian Lund, 1999, ISBN: 0525461515
Frank the coyote is sad when his friend Angelina moves away, but then he finds a new friend when Larry moves into the den next door. Practice sentence combining using the strategy above or another strategy which shows students how to better their composition writing.

Punctuation

- A *Twenty-Odd Ducks: Why, EVERY Punctuation Mark Counts!* by Lynne Truss, ill. Bonnie Timmons, 2008, ISBN: 9780399250583
Sentences are punctuated and illustrated to show how the placement of punctuation can completely change the meaning of your text.

- A *Punctuation Takes a Vacation* by Robin Pulver, ill. Lynn Rowe Reed, 2003, ISBN: 0823416879
Tired of being misused, the punctuation marks in Mr. Wright's class take a vacation. Have students edit the passages without punctuation.
- Y *Froggy Plays in the Band* by Jonathan London, ill. Frank Remkiewicz, 2002, ISBN: 0670035327
Froggy wants to be in the marching band so he can march in the Apple Blossom Parade. As with all "Froggy" books, every sentence type is used – use this as an opportunity to show how various sentence types can help form a story.
- A *The Girl's Like Spaghetti Why You Can't Manage without Apostrophes!*
By Lynne Truss. Ill. Bonnie Timmons. Penguin Group. 2007. ISBN: 0399247068
Picture Book of funny situations where apostrophes really do make a difference.
- A *Eats, Shoots, and Leaves Why Commas really do make difference*
By Lynne Truss. Ill. Bonnie Timmons. Penguin Group. 2006.
Picture book of funny situations where a misplaced comma can change the whole meaning.
- A *Greedy Apostrophe: a cautionary tale* By Jan Carr. Ill. Ethan Long. Holiday House. 2007. ISBN: 082342006X.
Apostrophes all get jobs such as in contractions but the Greedy Apostrophe takes the possessive use to the extreme.
- A *Mama Don't Allow* by Thacher Hurd, 1984, ISBN: 0060226900
Miles starts a swamp band with his friends after receiving a saxophone for his birthday, but the loud noise drives the residents of Swampville to send the band to the Swamp to play their tunes. This story provides the opportunity to teach a mini-lesson on the use of dialogue. Have students rewrite the text with the correct punctuation marks using quotation marks.

Word Choice

- A *Mr. Mosquito Put on His Tuxedo* by Barbara Olenyik Morrow, ill. Ponder Goembel, 2009, 9780823420728
Mr. Mosquito puts on his finest dress to attend the Queen's ball. When an intruding bear tries to ruin the party, Mr. Mosquito and his friends save the party. This rhyming text is filled with excellent examples of action verbs.
- A *Turkey Bowl* by Phil Bildner, ill. C.F. Payne, 2008, ISBN: 0689878966
After years of watching his relatives play football every Thanksgiving, a young boy is finally old enough to join the game only to have the weather be too bad to play. Great word choice is used in the text to explain the various weather conditions of the past Turkey Bowls.
- A *Crow Call* by Lois Lowry, ill. Bagram Ibatoulline, 2009, ISBN: 0545030358

- A young girl and her father spend a quiet morning together reconnecting after his absence while he was away at war.
- Y *Scoot!* by Cathryn Falwell, 2008, ISBN: 978006128821
Six silent turtles enjoy the afternoon on the log in the pond while the rest of the animals in the forest are moving around energetically.
- Y *Lion's Lunch?* by Fiona Tierney, ill. by Margaret Chamberlain, 2010, ISBN: 9780545176910
When Lion comes upon Sarah walking in the jungle, he threatens to eat her unless she shows that she can do something that none of the other animals can do.

Parts of Speech

- Y *Let's Save the Animals A Lift the Flap Book* Frances Barry.
ISBN: 978-0-7636-4501-4
Verbs used in discovering endangered animals.
- A *Someday* by Eileen Spinelli, ill. Rosie Winstead, 2007, ISBN: 9780803729414
A little girl dreams about things she will do in the future and remembers what she is able to do in the present. A fun way to explain the difference between the future tense and the present tense. Extend the book by asking students to choose one of the ideas and write about their own experiences in the past tense.
- A Books by Janet Stevens and Susan Stevens Crummel – *The Great Fuzz Frenzy, Jackalope, And the Dish Ran Away With a Spoon, Cook-A-Doodle-Do, My Big Dog*, etc. are great examples of using word choice to develop narrative writing.
- Y *Dearly, Nearly, Insincerely: What is an Adverb?* by Brian P. Cleary, ill. Brian Gable, 2003, ISBN: 0876149247
One book from the *Words are categorical* series that illustrate the parts of speech through rhyming text. Other titles include *A Mink, a Fink, a Skating Rink: What is a Noun?*; *To Root, To Toot, To Parachute: What is a Verb?*; *Hairy, Scary, Ordinary: What is an Adjective?*; and *Under, Over, By the Clover: What is a Preposition?. Etc.*
- Y *Roller Coaster* by Marla Frazee, 2003, ISBN: 0152045546
A roller coaster ride is explained in this simple picture book full of action words.
- Y *Little Green* by Keith Baker, 2001, ISBN: 0152928596
A little boy observes a hummingbird flying through the yard and paints his interpretation of the flight.
- A *Gugu's House* by Catherine Stock, 2001, ISBN: 0618003894
Kukamba loves helping her grandmother decorate her mud home in a dusty Zimbabwe village, but when the annual rains partially destroy all her work,

- Kukamba learns to see the goodness of the rains. Story based on Mrs. Khosa who is known for the stories she tells that resemble the Brer Rabbit stories. Great example of verbs.
- A *Goal!* by Robert Burleigh, ill. Stephen Johnson, 2001, ISBN: 0152017895
Illustrations and poetic text describe the movement and feel of a fast-paced game of soccer. Great example of verbs. Another poetic text titled *Hoops!* describes basketball also by Burleigh.
- O *Come on, Rain!* by Karen Hesse, ill. Jon J. Muth, 1999, ISBN: 0590331256
A young girl eagerly awaits a coming rainstorm to bring relief from the oppressive summer heat. Identify the parts of speech in this well-elaborated text.
- Y *John Willy and Freddy McGee* by Holly Meade, 1998, ISBN: 0761450335
Two guinea pigs find the door open to their boring cage and decide to explore the house and find the exciting world of a pool table.
- A *Moosetache* by Margie Palatini, ill. Henry Cole, 1997, ISBN: 0786822465
A moose's moustache is too big to control until he meets Ms. Moose, who has her own hair problem. They conquer each other's heart and their hair problems. Identify the parts of speech in this delightful text richly elaborated with adjectives and action words.
- O *The Book that Jack Wrote* by Jon Scieska, ill. Daniel Adel, 1994, ISBN: 0140553851
A new twist to the old rhyme, "The House that Jack Built." Identify the parts of speech used in the story.
- Y *Trouble at the Dinosaur Café* by Brian Moses III by Garry Parsons. Walker Publishing Co. 2006. ISBN: 0-8027-9599-4.
The herbivore dinosaurs are eating at the dinosaur café when in walks in carnivorous Tyrannosaurus Rex who wants to make a dinosaur stew. Triceratops saves the day. Use for verbs, rhymes, and problem/solution.

COMPOSITION

Narrative

- Y *Chalk* by Bill Thomson, 2010, ISBN: 978-0-7614-5526-4
Wordless picture book
Students may write a simple story for pictures.
- A *The End* by David LaRochelle, ill. Richard Egielski, 2007, ISBN: 0439640113
When the princess makes some lemonade, she starts a chain of events involving a fire-breathing dragon, one hundred rabbits, a hungry giant, and a handsome knight.

- A *The Plot Chickens* by Mary Jane Auch, ill. by Mary and Herm Auch, 2009, ISBN: 9780823420872
Henrietta loves books so much she decides to write her own book and finds a set of writing rules in a book from the library to guide the writing process. Her other chicken friends set out to help but keep trying to end the story too soon.
- Y *Busy, Busy Mouse* by Virginia Kroll, ill. Fumi Kosaka, 2003, ISBN: 0670035270
Simple sentences and phrases describe the activity of a family while the mouse that also lives in the house is sound asleep until the family goes to bed at night. The mouse's practice their narrative writing by producing the words for the mouse's daily activity.
- A *The Name Quilt* by Phyllis Root, ill. Margot Apple, 2003, ISBN: 0374354847
Sadie's favorite part of visiting Grandma in the summer, is listening to the family stories related to Grandma's name quilt. Use this book to inspire students to write some family memory narratives.
- A *The First Thing My Mama Told Me* by Susan Marie Swanson, ill. Christine Davenier, 2002, ISBN: 0152010750
A Little girl named Lucy chronicles the important events surrounding her name. Use with *A Perfect Name* by Charlene Constanzo during and "All About Me" unit. Have students discover the importance of their own name.
- Y *Olivia Saves the Circus* by Ian Falconer, 2001, ISBN: 068982954X
Olivia tells her class about her summer vacation and how she saved the circus. Have students write Olivia's story in narrative form adding elaboration to add detail to her story.
- Y *10 Minutes till Bedtime* by Peggy Rathmann, 1998, ISBN: 039923103X
A boy leads a group of hamsters on a tour of his house while father counts down the minutes until bedtime.
- A *Aunt Flossie's Hat (and Crab Cakes, Later)* by Elizabeth Fitzgerald Howard, Ill. James Ransome, 1995, ISBN: 0395546826
As Aunt Flossie takes out her many hats, she tells the story of the day each hat was worn. Use this book to study the elements of personal narrative.
- Y *Good Night, Gorilla* by Peggy Rathmann, 1994, ISBN: 039922459
Write a story about the gorilla that lets all the zoo animals out of their cages to follow the zookeeper home.
- A *Aunt Isabel Tells a Good One* by Kate Duke, 1992, ISBN: 0525448357
Penelope and her Aunt Isabel make up an exciting bedtime story about the adventures of Prince Augustus and Lady Nell. Elements of a story are explained throughout the story.
- A *Tuesday* by David Wiesner, 1991, ISBN 0395551137

Frogs rise on their lily pads, float through the air and explore nearby houses while the town sleeps. Write a story for the book. Check out other wordless picture books by Caldecott Award winner David Wiesner.

- Y *Carl Goes Shopping* by Alexandra Day, 1989, ISBN: 0374311102
Write a story for this wordless picture book about Carl the dog. Carl the dog is the subject of other wordless picture books by Alexandra Day as well.
- A *The Knight and the Dragon* by Tomie de Paola, 1980, ISBN: 0698116232
Inexperienced at fighting, a knight and a dragon meet for battle. Write a story for the book.

Compare and Contrast

- Y *City Chicken* by Arthur Dorros, ill. Henry Cole, 2003, ISBN: 0060284838
Henrietta the city chicken begins to worry that she has made her home in the wrong place after she listens to her friend Alex describe the quiet, calm atmosphere of the country. Use this with a study of the *City Mouse and the Country Mouse*.
- O *The Brave Little Seamstress* by Mary Pope Osborne, ill. by Giselle Potter, ISBN: 0689844867
This retelling of Grimm's fairy tale "The Brave Little Tailor," stars a brave seamstress who outwits a king and becomes the kind and wise queen of the land.
- A *Dusty Locks and the Three Bears* by Susan Lowell, ill. Randy Cecil, 2001, ISBN: 0805058621
After reading this Western-style story, compare and contrast it to the traditional tale of *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*.
- A *The Jalapeno Man* by Debbie Leland, ill. Ann Hollis Rife, 2000, ISBN: 096670861X
This southwest version for the Gingerbread Man provides readers with the opportunity to compare and contrast this story with the original tale.
- A *Cook-A-Doodle-Do!* by Janet Stevens and Susan Stevens Crummel, ill. Janet Stevens, 1999, ISBN: 0152019243
With the questionable help of his friends, Big Brown Rooster manages to bake a strawberry shortcake which would have pleased his great-grandmother, Little Red Hen. Compare and contrast with a traditional version of the Little Red Hen.
- A *The Enormous Carrot* by Vladimir Vagin, 1998, ISBN 0590454919
A group learns the value of teamwork as one animal after another joins in the effort to pull a giant carrot out of the ground. Compare and contrast with the Russian Folktale of *The Turnip*.
- A *The Three Little Pigs* by Steven Kellogg, 1997, ISBN: 0688087329

Serafina Sow starts her own waffle-selling business in order to enable her three offspring to prepare for the future, which include an encounter with a surly wolf.

- A *Sleepless Beauty* by Frances Minters, ill. G. Brian Karas, 1996, ISBN: 0670870331
This modern day Sleeping Beauty is told in a rapping style, and offers students a chance to compare and contrast this version with a traditional version of the book.
- A *Sam and the Tigers* by Julius Lester, ill. Jerry Pinkney, 1996, ISBN: 0803720289
The Story of Little Babaji / La historia del pequeno Babachi by Helen Bannerman, ill. Fred Marcellino, 1996, ISBN: 0062050648 (English); ISBN: 842613064X (Spanish)
Create a Venn Diagram of the two stories.
- A *Grandfather's Journey* by Alan Say, 1993, ISBN: 0395570352
A Japanese-American man recounts his grandfather's journey to America and the feelings of loving two different countries. Compare life in the United States with life in Japan.
- O *Nic Bishop Frogs* by Nic Bishop. Scholastic Nonfiction, 2008.
Nonfiction information with great photographs and descriptions of frogs and toads and their lives. Context clues, fact and opinion, science: animal adaptations
- A *That Book Woman* by Heather Henson, ill. by David Small, 2008, ISBN: 9781416908128.
Based on true story of "Book Women" who were librarians bringing books to people of Appalachia Mountains and a young boy who learns to read. Compare and contrast Cal and Lark. Voice of the Appalachia Mountains, research book women and pair with *Mary on Horseback*
- A *I love Saturdays y domingos* by Alma Flor Ada, ill by Elivia Savadier, 2002
ISBN: 0689318197
Young girl visits her grandparents of European ancestry on Saturdays where she speaks English and then on Sundays she visits her Mexican American grandparents who speak Spanish.
Compare and contrast weekend days and compare two cultures.

Like and Dislike (Classificatory)

- A *Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs* by Judi Barrett, ill. Ron Barrett, 1978, ISBN: 0689306474
Write about what you would like and dislike about living in the town of Chewandswallow.

- A *The Pain and the Great One* by Judy Blume, ill. Irene Trivas, 1985, ISBN: 0440409675
Write about what you like and dislike about your brothers and sisters. Students that are only children can write about what they like and don't like about being an only child.

How-To Writing

- Y *Beverly Billingsly Borrows a Book* by Alexander Stadler, 2002, ISBN: 0152025103
Beverly receives a library card and can't wait to check out a book from the library. When she realizes she is late returning the book, she worries that something awful will happen to her. Read this story and then write about how to check out a book from the school library.
- Y *Olivia* by Ian Falconer, 2001, ISBN: 0689829531 (English); ISBN: 1930332084 (Spanish)
Olivia the Pig is very busy every day. This story chronicles the way she spends her day. Read this story before asking students to write a composition about how to get ready in the morning.
- Y *A Taste of Honey* by Nancy Elizabeth Wallace, 2001, ISBN 1890817511
Plan a how-to writing by listing the steps of making honey.
- A *Mmm, Cookies!* by Robert Munsch, ill. Michael Martchenko, 2000, ISBN: 0590896032
A little boy wants to trick his parents by making cookies for them to snack on out of clay.
- A *Growing Frogs* by Vivian French, ill. Alison Bartlett, 2000, ISBN: 0763603171
The life cycle of a frog is explained with both factual and story format. Write about how a frog grows.
- Y *Fall Leaves Fall* by Zoe Hall, ill. Shari Halpern, 2000, ISBN: 0763603171
Write about the life cycle of a leaf.
- Y *The Little Red Hen Makes a Pizza* by Philemon Sturges, ill. Amy Wlarod, 1999, ISBN: 0525459537
This story is the fractured version of the *Little Red Hen* in which the hen makes an unusual pizza.
- A *The Pumpkin Book* by Gail Gibbons, 1999, ISBN: 0823414655
Detailed description of the steps that lead to a pumpkin patch full of pumpkins.
- A *Pete's a Pizza* by William Steig, 1998, ISBN: 0439133394
Pete is in a bad mood so his dad decides to cheer him up by pretending to make Pete into a pizza. Use this book as an introduction to a hot-to writing lesson about making pizzas.

- Y *The Apple Pie Tree* by Zoe Hall, ill. Shari Halpern, 1996, ISBN: 0590623826
An apple tree grows, blossoms, and bears fruit delicious enough for an apple pie. Write about how to grow an apple tree or how to make a pie.
- Y *The Tortilla Factory* by Gary Paulsen, ill. Ruth Wright Paulsen, 1995, ISBN: 0152928766
Poetic text and beautiful painting explain the steps needed to make a tortilla.
- Y *It's Pumpkin Time!* by Zoe Hall, ill. Shari Halpern, 1994, ISBN: 0590478338
This story explains how a pumpkin grows.
- Y *The Little Red Hen* by Byron Barton, 1993, ISBN: 0060216751
The Little Red Hen asks for help making bread, but the cat, the pig, and the duck do not want to help. Write about how to make bread.
- A *Sam's Sandwich* by David Pelham, 1991, ISBN: 0525447512
Sam makes a sandwich for his sister but adds his own touches just to "bug" her.
- Y *Pumpkin Pumpkin* by Jeanne Titherington, 1986, ISBN: 0833561049
The steps of growing a pumpkin are presented.
- Y *Building a House* by Byron Barton, 1981, ISBN: 0688093566
Simple sentences explain the steps needed to build a house. Write these steps using elaboration – time words and tips for safety.
- A *Stone Soup* by Ann McGovern, ill. Winslow Pinney Pels, 1968, ISBN: 0590416022
A peddler convinces the village people to help him create his stone soup by adding their own ingredients.
- Y *The Very Hungry Caterpillar / La oruga muy hambrienta* by Eric Carle, 1969, ISBN: 0399208534 (English); ISBN: 0399227806 (Spanish)
A very hungry caterpillar prepares for the cocoon which will help him develop into a beautiful butterfly. Write about how a caterpillar transforms into a butterfly.
- Y *The Carrot Seed* by Ruth Krauss, 1945, ISBN: 0060233516
A boy plants a carrot seed and cares for it as it grows.

Persuasive

- A *Rivka's First Thanksgiving* by Elsa Okon Rael, Ill. Maryann Kovals, 2001, ISBN: 0689839014
Rivka learns about Thanksgiving in school and decides to write a letter to her family's rabbi to convince him to let her immigrant Jewish family celebrate this American holiday. Have students find an issue they would like to support and write a letter of support.

- Y *Angora Kidd* by CeCe Benningfield, ill. Dan Arnold, 2000, ISBN: 157168378X
An Angora Kidd Goat does not want to be sheared, but learns why shearing is important.
- A *Click Clack Moo: Cows That Type* by Doreen Cronin, ill. Betsy Lewin, 2000, ISBN: 0689832133
When Farmer Bronw's cows find a typewriter in the barn, they start making demands and go on strike when the farmer refuses to give them what they want.
- A *The Best Place* by Susan Meddaugh, 1999, ISBN: 0395979943
A wolf has to persuade a rabbit family to give him back the house that he sold them.
- O *Aunt Chip and the Great Triple Creek Dam Affair* by Patricia Polacco, 1996, ISBN: 0399229434
Aunt Chip saves the town of Triple Creek where everyone has forgotten how to read because of the invasion of television. Persuade your school to keep your library.
- O *Ruby Mae Has Something to Say* by David Small, 1992, ISBN: 051758249X
Tongue-tied Ruby Mae Foote addresses the United Nations about World Peace. Persuade your classmates to speak their opinion. Persuade your teacher to let you wear a crazy hat.
- A *The Memory String* by Eve Bunting, ill. Ted Rand, 2000, ISBN: 0395861462
While still grieving for her mother and unable to accept her stepmother, a girl clings to the memories represented by forty-three buttons on a string. Have students write a personal narrative about their favorite memory.

Descriptive

- Y *Subway* by Anastasia Suen, ill. Karen Katz, 2003, ISBN: 0670036226
Poetic text describes a young girl's ride on the subway. Have students write a book about riding on the school bus.
- Y *Dog's Colorful Day* by Emma Dodd, 2001, ISBN: 0525465286
A clumsy dog gets messier and messier throughout the day. Use the story line to study the descriptive phrases.
- O *The Christmas Adventure of Space Elf Sam* by Audrey Wood, ill. Bruce Robert Wood, 1998, ISBN: 0590031430
In attempting to deliver Christmas presents, Space Elf Sam crashes on Gom and must explain to the inhabitants what he is doing and how to celebrate Christmas.
- Y *The Biggest, Best Snowman* by Margery Cuyler, 1998, ISBN: 0590139223
Read the story and then write a description of Little Nell's snowman.

- Y *Snowballs* by Lois Ehlert, 1995, ISBN: 0152000747
A snow family is made out of different materials. Have students create a snowman out of various materials. Write a description of one of the snowman.
- O *Tree of Cranes* by Allen Say, 1991, ISBN: 039552024X
A Japanese boy learns of Christmas when his mother decorates a pine tree with paper cranes.
- Y *Who is the Beast? / Quien es la bestia?* by Keith Baker, 1990, ISBN: 0152960570 (English); ISBN: 0152001859 (Spanish)
Read this story without showing the cover to the students. Have them guess the name of the beast in the jungle from the descriptive phrases in the text.
- A *Mud* by Mary Lyn Ray, ill. Lauren Stringer, 1996, ISBN: 9780152562632
This simple picture book describes the joy of mud to the reader. Use the simplicity of the text to help students learn to use descriptive phrases in their writing.
- A *A Quiet Place* by Douglas Wood, ill. Dan Andreasen, 2002, ISBN: 0689815115
Where is your quiet place? The text and illustrations in this picture book describe many quiet places. After reading, have students write about their own quiet place.
- A *The Snaggle Grollop* by Daniel Postgate, ill. Nick Price, 2009, ISBN: 9780545104708
Sam creates an imaginary creature that becomes a beloved family pet. Have students draw an imaginary creature including many types of animal parts (wings, claws, beaks, etc.) Have students give their new creature a name and write about the creature's adventures.
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Voice

- A *Chester* by Mélanie Watt, 2007, ISBN: 9781554531400
Chester the Cat finds every opportunity to add his own comments and storyline to the author's attempt to tell her story. A great way to introduce voice into writing. Also see *Chester's Back!*
- A *Help Me Mr. Mutt! Letters From Dogs With People Problems*

Dogs write to Mr. Mutt for advice for their people problems and Mr. Mutt and the cantankerous cat supply their answers. The different voices of the dogs, Mr. Mutt and the Cat develop the mood of the book.

- A *Shot Heard 'Round the World* by Phil Bildner, ill. C.F. Payne, 2005, ISBN: 0689862733
Use this fictionalized account of the 1951 World Series game between the Giants and the Dodgers to identify the voice of the author.
- A *The Pigeon Finds a Hot Dog!* By Mo Willems, Hyperion Books for Children, 2004, ISBN 0786818697.
The pigeon's crazy antics with the bird give great opportunities for teaching point of view and voice. Other books in this series such as *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!* also work.
- A *Help Me, Mr. Mutt!* by Janet Stevens and Susan Stevens Crummel. Harcourt, Inc. 2008, ISBN: 0152046283
In a series of letters of advice for fellow dogs Mr. Mutt takes you into a dog's world. Study the voice of the various dogs that write Mr. Mutt. Think about using for Reader's Theatre, graphs, and letter writing.
- A *Good Dog* by Maya Gottfried, paintings by Robert Rahway Zakanitch, 2008, ISBN: 9780553113839
Poems about many different types of dogs gives voice to each dog.
- A *Arnie the Doughnut* by Laurie Keller, 2003, ISBN: 0805062831
Arnie is excited to be bought until he finds out he will be eaten. He attempts to talk Mr. Bing into using him in a different way. Sequence, Critical Thinking: What can you do with a donut besides eat it?
- O *Once Upon a Cool Motorcycle Dude* by Kevin O'Malley, ill. Carol Heyer and Scott Goto, 2005, ISBN: 9780802789471
A boy and a girl work together to write a new fairy tale. The girl imagines a beautiful princess whose ponies are being stolen by a giant. The boy imagines a muscular biker who is guarding the last pony.
- O *Postcards From Camp* by Simms Taback, 2011, ISBN: 9780399239781
Michael is "forced" by his dad to go to camp and has no problem letting him know exactly how he feels about counselor, the frogs, the rain, etc. Of course dad is patient and answers each letter from camp with a positive message. Use the letters back and forth between dad and son to study the voice of the characters.
- O *Dirty Laundry Pile: Poems in Different Voices* selected by Paul B. Janeczko, ill. by Melissa Sweet, 2001, ISBN: 9780688162511
A scarecrow, washing machine, cow, and other objects express themselves in this collection of poems. Use to explain a character's influence on the reader.
- A *What Really Happened to the Little Red Riding Hood: The Wolf's Story* by Toby Forward, ill. Izhar Cohen, 2005, ISBN: 9780763627850

The wolf comes forward to show how he is completely innocent of scaring Little Red Riding Hood and her grandmother.

Dialogue

- A *The Trouble with Sisters and Robots* by Steve Gritton, ISBN: 9780807580905
 Kyle doesn't want to listen to his sister Lizzy when trying to stop his new robot from turning everything it touches to metal, but when he finally lets her speak, her solution is just what he needs. When trying to explain the use of dialogue in writing, this book may be of help with great examples given as a child would speak.
- A *Baghead* by Jarrett Krosoczka, 2002, ISBN: 0375815664
 One morning Josh appears ready for the day with a bag over his head and manages to complete his daily routine despite the warning from his friends.
- A *The Spider and the Fly* by Mary Botham Howitt, ill. Tony DiTerlizzi, 2002, ISBN: 0689852894
 The illustrated version of the poem by Mary Botham Howitt where the wily spider preys on the innocence of the little fly. The conversation between the spider and the fly opens up the opportunity to introduce the punctuation needed to write a sentence using dialogue. Brainstorm the variations of words that mean "said" and ask students to write a conversation between the Spider and the Fly using quotation marks and commas correctly. To display, provide black construction paper and a white crayon for students to draw the spider web. Then glue on a spider and fly and add the dialogue sentences. A fun, meaningful activity for your fall holidays that may not be recognized in your building.

Elaboration

- A *Diary of a Wombat* by Jackie French, ill. Bruce Whatley, 2003, ISBN: 0618381368
 The daily activities of a wombat are described in list format. Younger students can use the text as an example of writing lists while older students can elaborate the story and create complete sentences for the wombat's daily activities.
- A *Tatty Ratty* by Helen Cooper, 2002, ISBN: 0385600062
 Molly leaves her favorite stuffed rabbit Tatty Ratty on the bus. While Tatty Ratty waits for his owner to return, he encounters many fairy tale characters like Cinderella and the Three Bears. This book can be used as an example of using voice in writing.
- O *You Have to Write* by Janet S. Wong, ill. Teresa Flavin, 2002, ISBN: 0689834098
 Students often have trouble getting started when given a writing assignment. The poetic text in this picture book provides understanding to those who struggle to find something to write about.

- A *Look Out, Jack! The Giant is Back!* By Tom Birdseye, ill. Will Hillenbrand, 2001, ISBN: 0823414507
Taking up where “Jack and the Beanstalk” left off, the felled Giant’s big brother comes after Jack, but one again Jack’s quick mind gets him out of trouble in the nick of time.
- A *Ring! Yo?* By Chris Raschka, 2000, ISBN: 0789426145
In a conversation on the telephone, two friends have a disagreement and then make up. Read the book and ask students to elaborate the conversation. The end of the book offers one version of the conversation that students can expand on or completely change.
- A *My Duck* by Tanya Linch, 2000, ISBN: 0439206707
A girl is trying to write a story about a duck for her teacher, but while the duck’s actions are illustrated throughout, the teacher has a difficult time at first understanding the girl’s imagination.
- A *The Fungus that Ate the School* by Arthur Dorros, ill. David Catrow, 2000, ISBN: 0590477048
While the students are home for spring vacation, the fungus they are growing in their classroom grows and grows and takes over the entire school. The word “IT” is repeated throughout the story. Have students find creative ways to change the word to add elaboration.
- A *Billy Twitters and His Blue Whale Problem* by Mac Barnett, ill. Adam Rex, 2009, ISBN: 9780786849581
Billy Twitter’s lacks of responsibility earns him a blue whale that accompanies him throughout his day. The story and illustrations are filled with exaggeration, scientific information about the blue whale and size comparisons with daily objects.

Letter Writing

- A *Help Me Mr. Mutt: Expert Answers for Dogs With People Problems* by Janet Stevens and Susan Stevens Crummel, 2008, ISBN: 9780152046286
This funny book about “Dogs With People Problems” is an excellent way to teach formal and informal letter writing.
- A *First Year Letters* by Julie Danneberg, ill. Judy Love, 2003, ISBN: 0329324160
Mrs. Hartwell saves the letters from her students throughout the year. Use the story to practice letter writing. To extend the story, have students make inferences and draw conclusions from the letters which do not explain the details of an event.
- O *My Grandma, My Pen Pal* by Jan Dale Koutsky, 2002, ISBN: 1563971186
Treasured pieces of correspondence between a grandmother and her granddaughter record the special memories the two share.

- A *Plantzilla* by Jerdine Nolen, ill. David Catrow, 2002, ISBN: 0152024123
Letters exchanged between Mortimer, his mother and his science teacher discuss the strange behavior of an unusual plant that takes on human characteristics.
- A *Dear Mrs. LaRue: Letters From Obedience School* by Mark Teague, 2002, ISBN: 0439206634
Mrs. LaRue sends her dog Ike to the Brotweiler Canine Academy, and Ike writes numerous letters to his owners trying to convince her to let him come home. Students can practice this skill by writing letters from Mrs. LaRue to Ike.
- Y *Toot and Puddle: I'll Be Home for Christmas* by Holly Hobbie, 2001, ISBN: 0316366234
Toot has trouble making it home for Christmas but receives unexpected help from a mysterious traveler.
- Y *Toot and Puddle* by Holly Hobbie, 1997, ISBN: 0316365521
Toot and Puddle are best friends with very different interests, so when Toot spends the year traveling around the world, Puddle enjoys receiving his postcards.
- A *Dear Peter Rabbit / Querido Pedrin* by Alma Flor Ada, ill. Leslie Tryon, 1994, ISBN: 0689318502 (English); ISBN: 0689319150 (Spanish)
Letters are written between many characters from popular fairy tales. Have students write a letter to their favorite fairy tale character.
- A *Thank You, Santa* by Margaret Wild, ill. Kerry Argent, 1992, ISBN: 0590458051
A little girl becomes Santa's pen pal throughout the course of one year and learns some interesting facts about polar animals.
- A *Dear Mr. Blueberry* by Simon James, 1991, ISBN: 0689505299
A young girl and her teacher correspond about the whale she has discovered in her pond.
- A *George Shrinks* by William Joyce, 1985, ISBN: 0060230703
George has to find a way to complete his chores after waking up and discovering he shrunk. The note left by his parents is written in letter format.

Journal Writing

- A *Zoe Sophia's Scrapbook: An Adventure in Venice* by Claudia Mauner and Elis Smalley, ill. Claudia Mauner, 2003, ISBN: 0811836061
Zoe Sophia journals her trip to Venice to visit her aunt – a famous author.
- O *Seaman's Journal: On the Trail with Lewis and Clark* by Patti Reader Eubank, 2002, ISBN: 0824954424

Seaman, the Newfoundland dog belonging to Merriweather Lewis, keeps an account of their adventures during the journey to the Pacific.

- O *Amelia's Notebook* by Marissa Moss, 1995, ISBN: 9781416909057
The hand-lettered contents of a nine-year old girl's notebook that records her thoughts and feelings about moving, starting school, her sister, and her new and old friends.

Poetry

- A *Fiesta! A Celebration of Latino Festivals* by Sherry Sahan ill by Paula Barragan, 2009 ISBN: 978-0-87483-861-9
A Latino festival for each month of the year is highlighted. A poem about the holiday on one side of the page along with a text description on the other. Additional information on the end pages.
- Y *Dancing Feet* by Lindsey Craig, ill by Marc Brown 2010
ISBN: 978-0-375-86181-9
Very simple poetry
Onomatopoeia
- Y *In the Wild* by David Elliot ill by Holly Meade 2010
ISBN: 978-0-7636-4497-0
Simple poetry about animals
Rhymes, imagery
- O *Scarum Fair* poems by Jessica S Waim, ill Carol Ashley 2010
ISBN: 978-1-590788-590-4
Humorous ghoulish poems
Good for word play and rhymes
- O *Mirror Mirror* by Marilyn Singer, ill. Josée Masse, 2010, ISBN: 9780525479017
Fairy tale characters are introduced through Reverso poetry which allows you to read a poem from top to bottom and bottom to top. The poems can be used to illustrate the importance of punctuation and sentence construction. The poetry and illustrations allow reader to identify character's point of view. May also be useful for making inferences and rhyming.
- A *Sky Magic* compiled by Lee Bennett Hopkins, ill. by Mariusz Stawarski, 2009, ISBN: 9780525478621.
Fantastical illustrations combine with a selection of poems that describe the sun, the moon, and the stars. Use for science, art, or lessons on fantasy vs. reality.
- O *Pirates* By David L. Harrison, Ill, Dan Burr. Wordsong. 2008, ISBN 9781590784556.
Realistic poetry about pirates. Start with KWL chart about what you know and do not know about pirates. Do illustrations fit the poem? Why or why not? Do the

illustrations capture the mood. To study map skills plot pirate waters in the Caribbean. After reading the poem “Blackbeard” create a character map. Read an encyclopedia account of Blackbeard and compare the poem to the encyclopedia entry. After reading the poem “Another Day” discuss feelings and emotions. Write about your own feelings and a time when you may have felt the same way. Read “Cat of Nine Tails” and “Ships Rules” to lead to a discussion on why people break the rules and discipline. Using the poems “Sail in Sight” and “Through the Glass” study point of view. After reading the poems “Pirates Nest” and “Signing on a Crew” create a character sketch of the typical pirate. Research other pirates from the past and modern pirates.

- A *A Whiff of Pine, A Hint of Skunk: A forest of Poems* by Deborah Ruddell, ill. Joan Rankin, 2009, ISBN: 1416942114.
A collection of poems featuring the forest and many of its animal inhabitants. Great to use for rhyming and science lessons.
- A *The Geezer in the Freezer* by Randall Wright, ill. Thor Wickstrom, 2009, ISBN: 1599901350
This funny story of an old man stuck in a freezer for years, is written using couplets.
- A *Wabi Sabi* by Mark Reibstein, ill Ed Young, 2008, ISBN: 9780316118255
A cat named Wabi Sabi searches for the meaning of her name and finds beauty in unexpected places. A beautiful book with simple text, Japanese haikus, and amazing artwork.

HISTORICAL FICTION

America

- O *Silent Movie* by Avi, ill. C.B.Mordan, 2003, ISBN: 0689841450
Avi and Mordan team up to create a silent movie in picture book format. The black and white pages and simple text entice the reader to pop some popcorn and sit back to enjoy the “show”. Use this book with your units on inventors as a spring board for continued research.
- A *Shoeless Joe and Black Betsy* by Phil Bildner, ill. C.F. Payne, 2002, ISBN: 0689829132
A fictional account of Shoeless Joe Jackson and his love and care for his baseball bat Betsy. Biographical information about Shoeless Joe and his career follows the story.
- Y *Liberty!* by Allan Drummond, 2002, ISBN: 0374343853
The day the Statue of Liberty was unveiled to the American people is celebrated in this story about America’s freedom.
- O *John, Paul, George and Ben* by Lane Smith, 2006, ISBN: 9780786848935
A humorous look at the lives of the five founding fathers of America - George Washington, John Hancock, Paul Revere, Ben Franklin, and Thomas Jefferson.

- O *Lady Liberty: A Biography* by Doreen Rappaport, ill. by Matt Tavares, 2008.
ISBN: 0763625302
An illustrated biography of the Statue of Liberty, describing who designed it and why, and how it became the symbol of the United States.
- A *The Impossible Patriotism Project* by Linda Skeers, ill. Ard Hoyt, 2007,
ISBN: 9780803731387
Caleb is having a hard time with the patriotism project his teacher assigned the class for President's Day until he realizes that his dad who is away in the military represents his definition of "patriotism". Create read for Veteran's Day lessons.
- A *Imogene's Last Stand* by Candace Fleming, ill. Nancy Carpenter, 2009,
ISBN: 9780375836077
Imogene loves history so much that you often hear her quoting famous Americans from history. When the town's historical society is in danger of being torn down to make room for a shoelace factory, Imogene decides to save the building herself.

German Occupation

- A *The Yellow Star: The Legend of King Christian X of Denmark* by Carmen Agra Deedy, ill. Henri Sorensen, 2000, ISBN: 1561452084
The retelling of the story of King Christian X of Denmark. King Christian X loved his people so much he would not allow the Danish people to be ostracized by the Nazi's during the German occupation of Denmark.
- A *The Lily Cupboard* by Levey Schulamith Oppenheim, ill. by Robert Himler, 1992 ISBN: 0064433935
During World War II when the Nazi's occupy Holland a young girl is sent to hide out in the country on the farm of a family she does not know. When the Nazi's come she must hide in the Lily Cupboard.
Also plot summary

Cultural Traditions

- A *Everybody Brings Noodles* by Norah Dooley, ill. Peter J. Thornton, 2002,
ISBN: 0876144555
Carrie sets up a block party in her neighborhood and everyone brings a noodle dish from their country. Also by the same author – *Everybody Cooks Rice*, *Everybody Bakes Bread*, and *Everybody Serves Soup*.
- Y *Apple Pie 4th of July* by Janet S. Wong, ill. Margaret Chodos-Irvine, 2002,
ISBN: 015202543X
A Chinese girl is worried her parents will have to waste the Chinese food made to sell on the Fourth of July.
- A *Chinatown: One Year in Poems* by Kam Mak, 2002, ISBN: 0060291915

- A boy thinks about his home in Hong Kong as he adjusts to his new life in America.
- Y *I Live in Tokyo* by Mari Takabayashi, 2001, ISBN: 0618077022
Seven year old Mimiko describes her life in Tokyo. Use this story as an introduction to the Japanese culture. Students can compare and contrast their own lives with Mimiko's life.
- Y *Dim Sum for Everyone!* by Grace Lin, 2001, ISBN: 0375910824
A young girl describes the "little" dishes of dim sum her family and friends eat when they visit a Chinatown restaurant. An author's note is included to explain the term "dim sum" and the traditional way the dishes are served.

Immigration

- A *Dreaming of America: An Ellis Island Story* by Eve Bunting, ill. Ben F. Stahl, 1999, ISBN 0816765200
Annie Moore and her brothers were the first people to be processed through Ellis Island.
- A *Junk Man's Daughter* by Sonia Levitin, ill. Guy Porfirio, 2007, ISBN: 9781585363155
When Hanna's father decides to move his family to America, he claims they will find "streets of Gold". Unfortunately, their arrival does not bring the family fortune until one wintry day when Hanna and her brothers find their own kind of "gold".
- O *Landed* by Milly Lee, ill. Yangsook Choi, 2006, 0374343144
When 12 year old Sun leaves his home in China to immigrate to the United States he is detained at Angel Island to be interrogated about his true heritage because of the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882. Historical information about this time period is included for the reader.
- O *When Jessie Came From Across the Sea* by Amy Hest, ill. P.J. Lynch, 1997, ISBN: 9780763600945
When the Rabbi in Jessie's village is unable to use his ticket to travel to America, thirteen year old Jessie is chosen to take his place.

SOCIAL STUDIES

Black History

- O *Ruth and the Green Book* by Calvin Alexander Ramsey with Gwen Strauss. 2011. ISBN: 978-0-7613-52555-6.
Ruth and her family encounter racial prejudice as they travel from Chicago to Alabama in the early 50s. After discovering "The Green Book" travel gets much safer.
Also good for personal narrative and US geography.

- A *Uncle Jed's Barbershop* by Margaree King Mitchell, ill. by James Ransome, 1998, ISBN: 9780689819131
Sarah Jean's favorite Uncle Jed works through obstacles and setbacks as he tries to save enough money to open his very own barber shop.
- A *Martin's Big Words: The Life of Martin Luther King, Jr.* by Doreen Rappaport, ill. Bryan Collier, 2001, ISBN: 0439405114
This beautifully illustrated story of Martin Luther King, Jr. introduces young readers to his life and the "big words" he used to inspire Americans of the past and present.
- A *The Secret to Freedom* by Marcia Vaughan, ill. Larry Johnson, 2001, ISBN: 1584300213
Great Aunt Lucy tells a story of her days as a slave, when she and her brother, Albert, learned the quilt code to help direct other slaves to freedom in the north.
- A *Goin' Somewhere Special* by Patricia McKissack, ill. Jerry Pickney, 2001, ISBN: 0689018858
An African-American girl tries to find a place to go where everyone is welcome.
- A *If the Bus Could Talk* by Faith Ringgold, 1999, ISBN: 0689818920
A biography of Rosa Parks who refused to give up her seat on a bus in Montgomery, Alabama.
- A *Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt* by Deborah Hopkinson, ill. James Ransome, 1995, ISBN: 067987420
A young slave stitches a quilt with a map pattern which guides her to freedom in the North.
- A *The Story of Ruby Bridges* by Robert Coles, ill. George Ford, 1995, ISBN: 0590572814
The story of six-year-old Ruby Bridges who became the first African-American girl to integrate Frantz Elementary School.
- A *Aunt Harriet's Underground Railroad in the Sky* by Faith Ringgold, 1995, ISBN: 0517885433
With Harriet Tubman as her guide, Cassie retraces the steps escaping slaves took on the Underground Railroad in order to reunite with her younger brother.
- A *The Great Migration: An American Story* by Lawrence Jacob, 1993, ISBN: 0064434281
A series of paintings illustrating the story of African-American families who migrated to the North in search of a better life during the early twentieth century.
- A *Follow the Drinking Gourd* by Jeanette Winters, 1992, ISBN: 0679819975
Runaway slaves followed the directions in a song, "The Drinking Gourd," to journey north along the Underground Railroad to freedom in Canada.

- O *Crossing Bok Chitto A Choctaw Tale of Friendship and Freedom* By Tim Tingle, ill. Jeanne Rorex Bridges. Cinco Puntos Press, 2006. 978-1-933693-20-0. The retelling of the Choctow folktale of a friendship between a slave and a Choctow family that lead to the Choctow's helping a black family escape to freedom. Examples of cause and effect can be discussed using this text.
- A *The Escape of Oney* Judge Martha Washington's Slave Finds Freedom by Emily Arnold McCully, 2007, ISBN: 9780374322250. Based on the true story of Martha Washington's slave whom Martha brings with her to New York and then Philadelphia where Oney learns that there are free blacks. After Martha dies Oney learns of her fate and decides to escape. Great to use for cause and effect or visualization.
- O *The Old African* by Julius Lester, ill. Jerry Pinkney, 2005, ISBN: 0803725647. Based on legend, this beautifully written tale expresses the horrors experienced by slaves taken from their homes in Africa and brought by force to America. Haunting details of the plight of the slaves are intermingled with magical images of hope and strength lead by "The Old African" whose power to positively control the souls of his villagers helps keep their pain and suffering at bay. Many passages in the story would be useful in American History courses. Due to the great detail in which the suffering of the slaves is explained, be sure to pre-read and select passages best suited for the age group you teach.
- O *Finding Lincoln*, by Ann Malaspina, ill. Colin Bootman, 2009, ISBN: 9780807524350. Louis needs to write an essay about Abraham Lincoln but is unable to use the library due to segregation. One librarian, however, decides to help him out and meets him after hours to let him borrow the book his needs.
- A *The Hallelujah Flight* by Phil Bildner, ill. John Holyfield, 2010, ISBN: 9780399247897. This picture book biography shares the story of James Banning and Thomas Allen who were the first African-Americans to fly across the United States. The two men were so determined to fly their "jalopy" across America that they came up with a plan to have people make donations along the way and in return they would be able to sign their name on the plane.
- A *Ruth and the Green Book* by Calvin Alexander Ramsey with Gwen Strauss, ill. by Floyd Cooper, 2010, ISBN: 9780761352556. When Ruth and her parents take a motor trip from Chicago to Alabama to visit her grandma, they rely on a pamphlet called "The Negro Motorist Green Book" to find places that will serve them. Includes facts about "The Green Book".

Old West

- A *The Old Chishom Trail* by Rosalyn Schanzer, 2001, ISBN: 0792275594

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An illustrated version of the legendary song made up by cowboys while herding cattle on the Chishom Trail.

- Y *Rodeo* by Roxie Munroe, 2007, ISBN: 1933979038
This fun introduction to the rodeo offers 50 lift-the-flaps of several rodeo events.
- A *Roughing It On the Oregon Trail* by Diane Stanley, ill. Holly Berry, 2000, ISBN: 0060270667
Twins Liz and Lenny, along with their time-traveling grandmother, join a group of pioneers journeying west on the Oregon Trail in 1843. Use this picture book to explain the time period when the pioneers followed the Oregon Trail.
- A *Cowboys and Cowgirls: Yippee-Yay!* by Gail Gibbons, 1998, ISBN: 0316309443
Explains and illustrates the equipment, work, and lifestyle of cowboys and cowgirls in the Old West.

Genealogy

- Y *Me and My Family Tree* by Joan Sweeney, ill. Annette Cable, 1999, ISBN: 0517709678
Using a family tree, a child explains how her brother, parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc. are related to her. Have students create a simple family tree.

Women's History

- A *Players in Pigtales* by Shana Corey, ill. Rebecca Gibbon, 2003, ISBN: 0439183057
A fictional account of the beginning of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League.
- A *Dirt on Their Skirts: The Story of the Young Women Who Won the World Championship* by Doreen Rappaport, ill. E.B. Lewis, 2000, ISBN: 0803720424
Margaret experiences the excitement of watching the 1946 championship game of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League as it goes into extra innings.
- A *Amelia and Eleanor Go for a Ride* by Pam Munoz Ryan, ill. Brian Selznick, 1999, ISBN: 059096075X
A fictionalized account of the night Amelia Earhart flew Eleanor Roosevelt over Washington, D.C. in an airplane. Sequence the events in the story Compare and contrast to the actual event as explained in the author's note.
- A *Alice Ramsey's Grand Adventure* by Don Brown, 1997, ISBN: 0395701279
Describes the cross-country journey of the first woman to travel from New York to San Francisco in an automobile in 1909.
- A *Mama Played Baseball* by David Adler, ill. Chris O'Leary, 2003, 9780152021962

Amy helps her mother get a job as a player on the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League when her father is sent overseas to fight during World War II.

Communities

- Y *Everything is Different at Nonna's House* by Caron Lee Cohen, ill. Hiroe Nakata, 2003, ISBN: 0618073353
A young boy describes the differences between city life and country life as he visits his grandparent's farm. Use to introduce units on communities.

Geography

- O *Earthscapes: Landforms Sculpted by Water, Wind and Ice* by Jerry Wermund, 2003, ISBN: 097262550X
This picture book features photographs of landforms formed by water, wind and ice. The descriptions of each formation are in poetic form. Have students identify the landform and research other locations where these landforms are found.
- O *The Top of the World: Climbing Mount Everest* by Steve Jenkins, 1999, ISBN: 0395942187
Describes the conditions and terrain of Mount Everest. Also the equipment needed to climb the mountain is discussed.
- O *Around the World: Who's Been Here?* by Lindsay Barrett George, 1999, ISBN: 0688152686
A teacher travels around the world and writes letters to her students describing what she experiences. This book allows the reader to make predictions about animals and their habitats and practice map reading skills.
- O *Rio Grande From the Rocky Mountains to the Gulf of Mexico* by Peter Lourie, 1999, ISBN: 1563977060
Author travels the Rio Grande exploring life on the river and its banks. Gorgeous photographs illustrate the river. Look for other nonfiction books from the travels of Peter Lourie.
- Y *From Here to There* by Margery Cuyler, ill. Yu Cha Pak, 1999, ISBN" 080503191X
Maria explains her place in the universe starting with her place in the family, home, state, country, etc. Special note: Maria lives in Splendora, Texas...
- Y *Me on the Map* by Joan Sweeney, ill. Annette Cable, 1996, ISBN: 051770094
A child describes her place in the world from her bedroom to her country.
- A *The Armadillo From Amarillo* by Lynne Cherry, 1994, ISBN: 0152003592
A wandering armadillo sees some of the cities, historic sites, geographic features, and wildlife of Texas.

- A *As the Crow Flies: A First Book of Maps* by Gail Hartman, ill. Harvey Stevenson, 1993, ISBN: 0027430057
Using the perspective of different animals, various geographical area are examined.
- A *The House on Maple Street* by Bonnie Pryor, ill. Beth Peck, 1992, ISBN: 0688120318
During the course of three hundred years, many people have passed by or lived on the spot now occupied by a house numbered 107 Maple Street.
- O *La Rue Across America: Postcards from the Vacation* by Mark Teague, 2011, ISBN: 9780439915021
La Rue is forced to take a road trip across the United States Mrs. Hibbins' cats. He chronicles his trip through a series of postcards to Mrs. Hibbins to share his complaints regarding the miserable ride across the country. Use this book to map the their travels.
- A *Mapping Penny's World* by Loreen Leedy, 2000, ISBN: 9780805061789
After learning about maps in school, Lisa maps all her favorite places with her dog Penny.

Government

- A *The Buck Stops Here: The Presidents of the United States* by Alice Provensen, 1997, ISBN: 0152016287
Pictures with facts about each President of the United States written in a two-line rhyme. This version includes Clinton. Author updates this book as new Presidents are elected.
- A *House Mouse and Senate Mouse* by Peter Barnes and Cheryl Shaw Barnes, 1996, ISBN: 0963768840
The Squeaker of the House and the Senate Mouse-jority leader have a big job to do” Miss Tuftmore’s second grade class in Moussouri has written Congress with an idea for a law to declare a National Cheese.
- A *Woodrow, the White House Mouse* by Peter Barnes and Cheryl Shaw Barnes, 1996, ISBN: 0963768840
The adventures of Woodrow G. Washingtontail, newly elected Mouse President living in the White House.
- A *A More Perfect Union: The Story of our Constitution / Una Union Mas Perfecto La Historia De nuestra Constitucion*, by Betsy and Giulio Maestro, 1987, ISBN: 0688101925
Describes how the Constitution was written and ratified.
- O *The Composition / La composicion* by Antonio Skarmeta and Elis Amado, ill. Alfonso Ruano, 2000, ISBN: 0888993900 (English); ISBN: 9802572152 (Spanish)

- In the story of Pedro and his family who live in a dictatorship, Pedro slowly begins to realize what is happening around him and how it affects the other villagers. Soldiers show up in class one day and ask the students to write a composition titled, "What My Family Does At Night". Use this book to teach students about tyranny and the advantages of democracy.
- O *We the Kids: the Preamble to the Constitution of the United States* by David Catrow, 2005, ISBN: 0142407761
The preamble to the Constitution of the United States illustrated for better understanding.

Election

- Y *Duck for President* by Doreen Cronin, 2004, ISBN: 0689063772
Duck is tired of working for Farmer Brown so he decides to run for president.
- A *President and Mom's Apple Pie* by Michael Garland, 2002, ISBN: 0525468870
President William Howard Taft was known for his big appetite. On a train trip across the country Taft stops along the way to campaign.
- A *Grace for President* by Kelly S. Dupicchio, 2008, ISBN: 0786839198
After discovering that there has never been a female U.S. President, Grace sets out to run her school's mock election and learns about the nation's electoral system.
- Y *My Teacher for President* by Kay Winters, ill. by Denise Brunkus, 2004, ISBN: 0525471863
A second grader writes a television station with reasons why his teacher would make a good president, but only if she can continue teaching for the rest of the year.
- Y *President Pennybaker* by Kate Feiffer, ill. Diane Goode, 2008, ISBN: 1416943548
Luke finds the house rules to be unfair and decides to run for President and makes his dog his running mate.

Texas History

- A *Jane Wilkinson Long: Texas Pioneer* by Neila Skinner Patrick, ill. Joyce Haynes, 2004, ISBN: 1589801474
This picture book narrative describes the life of the Mother of Texas. Students can use the information to create a timeline of her life.
- A *Juneteenth Jamboree* by Carole Boston Weatherford, ill. Yvonne Buchanan, 1995, ISBN: 1880000180
The story of a town's Juneteenth Celebration to honor the end of slavery in Texas.

- A *Susanna of the Alamo* by John Jakes, ill. Paul Bacon, 1986, ISBN: 0152005927
Relates the experiences of the Texas woman who, along with her baby, survived the 1836 massacre at the Alamo.
- O *The Alamo From A to Z* by William R. Chemerka, ill by Wade Dillon, 2011, ISBN: 9781455614615
Factual information explained in alphabetic form to share the history of the Alamo.

Biography

- O *What to Do About Alice?: How Alice Roosevelt broke the rules, charmed the world, and drove her father Teddy crazy!* by Barbara Kerley, ill. Edwin Fotheringham, 2008, ISBN: 0439922313
As a child Alice Roosevelt didn't always follow the rules and worried her father, Teddy Roosevelt constantly. But, as an adult, Alice's free spirit helped her make positives changes around the world.
- A *Harvesting Hope: The Story of Cesar Chavez* by Kathleen Krull, 2003, ISBN: 0152014373
This beautiful picture book provides a small glimpse into the heroic life of Cesar Chavez.
- A *They Called Her Molly Pitcher* by Anne Rockwell, ill. Cynthia von Buhler, 2002, ISBN: 0679891870
The picture book biography of Molly Pitcher and her bravery during the American Revolution.
- A *Fly High! The Story of Bessie Coleman* by Louise Borden and Mary Kay Kroeger, ill. Teresa Flavin, 2001, ISBN: 0689824572
The story of Bessie Coleman and her determination to become a female pilot.
- A *The Dinosaurs of Waterhouse Hawkins* by Barbara Kerley, ill. Brian Selznick, 2001, ISBN: 0439114942
Benjamin Waterhouse Hawkins loved dinosaurs so much he developed a way of building life-size models to teach the world about these ancient animals.
- A *Love to Langston* by Tony Medina, ill. R. Gregory Christie, 2001, ISBN: 1584300418
Tony Medina has written poems about Langston Hughes' life to introduce people to the poet through poetry. A brief history of Hughes and the inspiration behind each poem is included.
- A *Ella Fitzgerald: The Tale of a Vocal Virtuosa* by Andrea Davis Pinkney, ill. by Brian Pinkney, 2002, ISBN: 0786805684
Scat Cat Monroe tells the story of how a young girl named Ella Fitzgerald became a popular singer around the world.

- O *Fannie in the Kitchen: the Whole Story From Soup to Nuts of How Fannie Farmer Invented Recipes with Precise Measurements* by Deborah Hopkinson, ill. Nancy Carpenter, 2001, ISBN: 068981965X
A story based on the real Fannie Farmer and how she invented recipes with precise measurements and created one of the first cookbooks.
- A *Abigail Adams* by Alexandra Wallner, 2001, ISBN: 0823414426
The biography of the woman who was the wife and mother of two United States Presidents. Discusses the Revolutionary War, Women's Rights and Abigail's dislike of slavery.
- A *Salt in His Shoes* by Deloris Jordan and Roslyn M. Jordan, ill. Kadir Nelson, 2000, ISBN: 0689833717
move to another locale....Michael's Golden Rules???
The story of young Michael Jordan who dreamed of being taller, so his mother put salt in his shoes and told him to say his prayers each night to help his dream come true.
- O *The Amazing Life of Benjamin Franklin* by James Cross Giblin, ill. Michael Dooling, 2000, ISBN: 0590485342
A biography of the eighteenth-century printer, inventor, and statesman who played an influential role in the early history of the United States.
- A *Satchel Paige* by Lesa Cline-Ransome, ill. James Ransome, 2000, ISBN: 0689811519
Examines the life of the legendary baseball player, who was the first African-American to pitch in a Major League World Series.
- A *Only Passing Through: The Story of Sojourner Truth* by Anne Rockwell, 2000, ISBN: 0679891862
The story of Sojourner Truth who obtained her freedom with the help of abolitionists and then became a leader in the Anti-Slavery movement.
- A *Through My Eyes* by Ruby Bridges, 1999, ISBN: 0590189239
Ruby Bridges recounts the story of her involvement in the integration of her school in New Orleans in 1960.
- O *Cleopatra* by Diane Stanley, 1994, ISBN: 0688104142
The life of Cleopatra, Queen of Egypt, is celebrated in picture book format.
- A *The Fantastic Undersea Life of Jacques Cousteau* by Dan Yaccarina Alfred A. Knopf, 2009, ISBN-13: 978-0375855733.
Easy to read biography of Jacques Cousteau and his inventions. Make a time line of Cousteau's life. (Important events in his life are listed at the back of the book.) For Critical Thinking discuss the quote found on each page. Ask what Cousteau meant and why the author used that quote on that page. Pair with *Down Down Down a Journey to the Bottom of the Sea*.
- A *Surfer of the Century: The Life of Duke Kahanamoku* ill. by Richard Waldrep, 2007, ISBN: 9781584302766.
Biography of Hawaii's first Olympic athlete a swimmer, Duke Kahanamoku, who overcame prejudice and went on to promote surfing and helped to grow tourism

in Hawaii. Create a timeline of his life. Compare Duke with Jim Thorpe by reading a biography of Thorpe. Also good for fact/opinion.

- A *Pele King of Soccer/Pele El rey del futbol* by Monica Brown, ill by Rudy Gutierrez Harper Collins, 2009. ISBN: 978-0-06-122778-0.
Simple biography of the famous soccer star who rose from poverty to be the best soccer player in the world. Examples of cause and effect can be discussed using this text. Also research Pele and the World Cup.

Vietnam War

- O *Patrol: An American Soldier in Vietnam* by Walter Dean Myers, ill. Ann Grifalconi, 2002, ISBN: 0060283637
An American soldier faces combat in the forests of Vietnam.
- O *The Wall* by Eve Bunting, ill. Ronald Himler, 1990, ISBN: 0395515882
A young boy and his father visit the Vietnam War Memorial in Washington, D.C. to find his grandfather's name.

World War I

- A *In Flanders Field: The Story of a Poem* by John McCrae by Linda Granfield, ill. Janet Wilson, 1996, ISBN: 0385322283
The writing of the famous poem written by John McCrae during World War I is illustrated and given context in this picture book.

World War II

- O *A Hero and the Holocaust: the story of Janusz Korczak and His Children* by David Adler, ill. Bill Farnsworth, 2002, ISBN: 0823415481
True story of a Polish doctor who founded an orphanage for Jewish children and then lost his life trying to help the children. Dark ending...
- A *The Butterfly* by Patricia Placco, 2000, ISBN" 0399231706
During the Nazi occupation of France, Monique's mother hides a Jewish family in her basement and tries to help them escape to freedom.
- A *Baseball Saved Us* by Ken Mochizuki, ill. Dom Lee, 1993, ISBN: 1880000016
A Japanese-American boy learns to play baseball when he and his family are forced to live in an internment camp during World War II, and his talent helps him after the war is over.
- A *The Lily Cupboard* by Shulmith Levey Oppenheim, ill. Ronald Himler, 1992, ISBN: 0060246693
Miriam, a young Jewish girl, is forced to leave her parents and hide with strangers in the country during the German occupation of Holland.

- O *The Cats in Krasinski Square* by Karen Hesse, ill. Wendy Watson, 2004, ISBN: 0439435404
The war has left so many to fight to survive including a girl and her sister who risk their lives to bring food to those trapped behind the walls of Warsaw's ghetto.
- A *Boxes for Katje* by Candace Fleming, ill. Stacey Dressen-McQueen, 2003, ISBN: 0374309221
After the war, the people of Holland struggled to survive. In America, the Children's Aid Society was created to collect and send much needed items to children in Holland. This story is based on a story told by the author's mother of the boxes they would send to Holland after the war. Her mother's box arrived at the home of a Dutch family with a daughter named Katje and a friendship was made. Katje's family and friends survived the winter of 1945 in part from the generosity of the American boxes that arrived. When things were better, the Dutch families wanted to send a thank you to America and decided the perfect gift would be a box of tulip bulbs.
- O *Faithful Elephants: A True Story of Animals, People and War* by Yukio Tsuchiya, translated by Tomoko Tsuchiya Dykes, ill. Ted Lewin, 1988, ISBN: 0395465559
During the air attacks over Japan of World War II, the zookeepers were forced to kill many of the animals for fear that they would run free through the city if the zoo was damaged. This is the story of three elephants and how they died at the Ueno Zoo in Tokyo.

American Revolution

- A *The Boston Tea Party* by Steven Kroll, ill. Peter Fiore, 1998, ISBN: 0823413160
Describes the events surrounding the Boston Tea Party.
- A *Dangerous Crossing: The Revolutionary Voyage of John Quincy Adams* by Stephen Krensky, ill. Greg Harlin, 2005, ISBN: 0525469664
In 1778, young John Quincy Adams travels with his father across the Atlantic in the middle of Winter to gain support from the French government to help the colonies fighting for independence in the American Revolution.

Constitution Day

- A *The U.S. Constitution* by Normal Pearl, ill by Matthew Skeens, Picture Window Books, 2007, ISBN 978-1-4048-2643-4. The story of the Constitution is told by James Madison through a series of questions that he answers.
- O *Lady Liberty: A Biography* by Doreen Rappaport Ill: Matt Tavares, Candlewick Press, 2008.
Each section is told from the point of view of a different person/persons who were in some way responsible for the Statue of Liberty. Research, symbolism, timelines, and figurative language.

- Y *Dolley Madison Saves George Washington* by Don Brown. Houghton Mifflin, 2007, ISBN: 0-618-41199-2, Biography of Dolley Madison with introduction to War of 1812. Endnotes about Gilbert Stuart and Dolley Madison. Make a timeline of Dolley's life using endnotes and book. Character Study of Dolley Madison. Research Dolley Madison, James Madison, Francis Scott Key, Thomas Jefferson and/or George Washington.

Civil War

- O *Pink and Say / Pink y Say* by Patricia Polacco, 1994, ISBN: 0399226710 (English) ; ISBN: 1880507307 (Spanish)
Say Curtis describes his meeting with Pinkus Aylee, a black soldier, during the Civil War and their capture by Southern troops. Read the book without showing the cover or the illustrations and have students draw one of the characters from the story's descriptive phrases.
- O *Yankee at the Seder* by Elka Weber, ill. Adam Gustavson, 2009 1582462569
A Confederate family prepares to celebrate Passover the day after the Civil War ends and invites a young Yankee soldier to join them. Based on the story of Corporal Myer Levy

Depression Era

- O *Rudy Rides the Rails: A Depression Era Story* by Dandi Daley Mackall, ill. Chris Ellison, 2007, 1585362867
When the Depression takes its toll on Rudy's family, he decides to "hop" the train and head west to California to find a better life for his family. Included in the book is a glossary of Hobo terms used at the time. Hidden in the illustrations are symbols carved into trees, walls, etc. by other hobos to identify safe and unsafe areas along the route to California.

American Symbols

- Y *Happy Birthday, America* by Mary Pope Osborne, ill. Peter Catalanotto, 2003, ISBN: 0761327614
A small town celebrates Independence Day.
- A *Uncle Sam and Old Glory Symbols of America* by Delno C. West and Jean M. West, ill. Christopher Manson, 2000, ISBN: 0689820437
Each page has a woodcut of the symbol on one side and then an explanation about the symbol on the opposite side.

- A *A Picnic in October* by Eve Bunting, ill. Nancy Carpenter, 1999, ISBN: 0152016562
A family visits Ellis Island each year to celebrate their grandmother's coming to America.
- Y *This Land Is Your Land* by Woody Guthrie, ill. Kathy Jakobsen, 1998, ISBN: 0316392154
Paintings illustrate the beauty of America and this well-known folk song.
- A *The Flag We Love* by Pam Munoz Ryan, ill. Ralph Masiello, 1996, ISBN: 0881068454 version in espanol *La Bandera que amamas*
An excellent description of the American flag in poetic text with factual information included.
- Y *The Fourth of July Story* by Alice Dalgliesh, ill. Marie Nonnast, 1995, ISBN: 0689718764
Picture book explanation of why we celebrate the Fourth of July and the founding of our country.
- A *A Very Important Day* by Maggie Rugg Herold, ill. Catherine Stock, 1995, ISBN: 0688130666
The story of 219 people who make their way through New York City to be sworn in as U.S. Citizens.
- Y *America the Beautiful* by Katharine Lee Bates, ill. Neil Waldman, 1993, ISBN: 0689318618
An illustrated edition of the nineteenth-century poem, later set to music, celebrating the beauty of America.

Founding of America

- A *America: A Patriotic Primer* by Lynne Cheney, ill. Robin Preiss Glasser, 2002, ISBN: 0689851928
Packed with patriotic information, this alphabet book introduces the reader to people and events important to the development of the United States.
- Y *America is...* by Louise Borden, ill. Stacey Shuett, 2002, ISBN: 0689839006
Presents an illustrated celebration of the history, people, and natural and manmade wonders of the United States of America.
- A *Squanto's Journey: The Story of the First Thanksgiving* by Joseph Bruchac, ill. Greg Shed, 2000, ISBN: 0152018174
The story of Squanto's life before and with the Pilgrims told in Squanto's point of view.
- A *Sarah Morton's Day: A Day in the Life of a Pilgrim Girl*, 1989; *Samuel Eaton's Day: A Day in the Life of a Pilgrim Boy*, 1993.
Explains a day in the life of Pilgrim children using photographs from Plymouth Plantation historical site.

- O *How We Crossed the West...the Adventures of Lewis and Clark* by Rosalyn Schanzer, 1997, ISBN: 0792237382
This well-written picture book chronicles the adventures of Lewis and Clark and their trip West. The excellent use of upper level vocabulary provides detailed character information about Lewis and Clark allowing students to write brief sketches of the two explorers.
- A *California Here We Come!* by Pam Munoz Ryan, ill. Kay Salem, 1997, ISBN: 0881068810
An imaginary trip through California is described to introduce the reader to the geographical and historical sites.
- A *Spanish Missions* by Bobbie Kalman and Greg Nickles, 1997, ISBN: 0865054363
A picture book history of the development of the Spanish Missions in the United States.

Settlers

- A *Pappy's Handkerchief* by Devin Scillian, ill. Chris Ellison, 2007, ISBN: 9781585363162
Moses and his family join others from the East Coast who decide to head West to the Oklahoma Territory. There they will participate in the Oklahoma Land Run to stake their claim for their family's new homestead.
- A *Rachel's Journal: The Story of a Pioneer Girl* by Marissa Moss, 1998, ISBN: 9780152021689
This fictional journal of a pioneer girl traveling along the Oregon Trail with her family helps the reader understand the struggles and triumphs of the families who traveled West to start a new life.

Cultural Relations

- Y *My Name is Yoon* by Helen Recorvits, ill. Gabi Swiatkowska, 2003, ISBN: 0374351147
Yoon is new to America and wants to fit in, but she doesn't like the look of her Korean name in English. As she begins to settle in to her new life, Yoon slowly begins to realize her name is a part of her.
- Y *Sumi's First Day of School Ever*, by Soyung Pak, ill. Joung Un Kim, 2003, ISBN: 067003522X
Sumi is sure her first day of school will be horrible, but is pleasantly surprised when the teacher makes her feel welcome.
- A *Joe-Joe's First Flight* by Natasha Anastasia Tarpley, ill. E.B. Lewis, 2003, ISBN: 0375910530
This fantasy about Joe-Joe and the Flying Men of Blind Eye provides some background on the obstacles African-Americans faced to be able to fly like everyone else.

- O *If the World Were a Village: A Book About the World's People* by David Smith, ill. Shelagh Armstrong, 2002, ISBN: 1550747797
Readers take a special look at the world as if it had the population of a village of 100 people.
- A *The Other Side* by Jacqueline Woodson, ill. E.B. Lewis, 2001, ISBN: 0399231161
Two girls, one white and one black, gradually become friends as they sit on the fence that divides their land.
- A *A Bus of Our Own* by Freddi Williams Evans, ill. Shawn Costello, 2001, ISBN: 087509701
Although she really wants to go to school, walking the five miles is very difficult for Mable Jean and the other black children, so she tries to find a way to get a bus for them like the white children have. Based on real events in Mississippi.
- A *My Name is Jorge: On Both Sides of the River* by Jane Medina, ill. Fabricio Vanden Broeck, 1999, ISBN: 1563978423
A collection of poems about a migrant boy and his troubles transitioning between two lands.
- A *Children of the Midnight Sun: Young Native Voices of Alaska* by Trisha Brown, photos by Roy Corral, 1998, ISBN: 0882405004
Stories about Native Alaskan children.
- A *Throw Your Tooth on the Roof: Tooth Traditions From Around the World* by Selby B. Beeler, ill. G. Brian Karas, 1998, ISBN: 0618152385
Fun facts and cultural traditions are explained in this book about children around the world and what happens when they lose a tooth.
- O *Sacred Places* by Jane Yolen, ill. David Shannon, 1996, ISBN: 0152699538
Poems about different places that are considered sacred by various cultures. Topics included are Mecca, Easter Island, Stonehenge, the Wailing Wall, and Cathedrals.
- A *Sitti's Secrets* by Naomi S. Nye, ill. Nancy Carpenter, 1994, ISBN: 0027684601
A young girl describes a visit to see her grandmother in a Palestinian village on the West Bank.
- A *Muktar and the Camels* by Janet Graber, ill. Scott Mack, 2009, ISBN: 0805078347
Muktar dreams of his old life when his parents were alive and they lived as nomads in Somalia. When a traveling librarian comes to visit the orphanage, Muktar finds his a little piece of "home" with the camels.
The story an author's note that briefly introduces the reader to the Civil War that changed the lives of children and families like Muktar's.
- A *A Party in Ramadan* by Asma Mobin-Uddin, ill. Laura Jacobsen, 2009,

Leena is excited about her first day of fasting during Ramadan until she receives an invitation from her friend for her party on the same day. An author's note is included to help readers understand the Muslim traditions of Ramadan.

- A *One Hen: How One Small Loan Made a Big Difference* by Katie Smith Milway, ill. Eugene Fernandes, 2008, ISBN: 9781554530281
 Kojo lives in a small village in West Africa. He helps his mother gather firewood for money, but there is never enough food or money. When he is given a small loan, he decides the best thing to do for his family is to buy a hen so they will have eggs to eat. Soon they have extra eggs to sell and Kojo is able to buy more hens. Eventually he is able to also go to school, start a poultry farm, and give out small loans to others in his town. The story is based on a real person who was able to help his own community after receiving his own small loan as a young man.

Ancient World

- O *Seven Wonders of the Ancient World* by Lynn Curlee, 2003, ISBN: 0711219869
 The illustrations in this book provide a fantastic introduction of the ancient wonders of the world and how they compare in size to "modern" wonders of the world.

SCIENCE

- A *Science Verse* by Jon Scieszka, ill. Lane Smith, 2007.
 This hilarious sequel to *Math Curse* explains various scientific terms in poetic form. The poems are written in various formats to represent classic poems by famous poets.

Scientific Investigation and Reasoning

- A *Let's Try It Out with Towers and Bridges* by Seymour Simon, 2003
 ISBN: 068982923X
 Encourage exploration of basic principles of engineering and construction with simple experiments. Materials are easily accessible and formatted to allow young readers to explore on their own.
- O *Bridges: Amazing Structures to Design, Build & Test*_(Kaleidoscope Kids), 1999, by Carol A. Johmann and Elizabeth Rieth
 ISBN-10: 1885593309
 More complex experiments and more in depth explanations for an older audience. Contains many excellent examples to set up as challenges that reinforce scientific investigation and scientific method as well as physics concepts.
- A *What Is Science?* by Rebecca Kai Dotlich, 2006 ISBN 0805073949

Poem that covers many fields of science. Good book to read to discuss careers in science - name the field and the profession/science. Bring in etymology and suffixes – gist, - ology, etc.

- A *Scien-Trickery: Riddles in Science* by J. Patrick Lewis, 2007
 ISBN-10: 0152058494
 Riddles bring out vocabulary and context clues to guess the answers. Select a few that cover concepts previously taught to revive discussion with science vocabulary.

Matter and Energy

- A *Bein' With You This Way* by W. Nikola-Lisa, 1997
 ISBN: 1880000261
 Read as a rap, this book celebrates how people are different and the same. Use physical characteristics to discuss physical properties and to compare and contrast like 'objects' (people).
- Y/A *Five Creatures* by Emily Jenkins, 2005
 ISBN: 0374423288
 Five creatures live in one house. They can be classified many ways. Introduce, or show a different spin on classifying objects.
- A *Hannah's Collections* by Marthe Jocelyn, 2005
 ISBN: 0887766900
 Hannah loves to collect things. Learn about her collections and how she classifies them. Begin class or individual collections and have students identify the 'rule' of classification for them.
- A *Green as a Bean* by Karla Kuskin, 2007
 ISBN: 0060753323
 The author uses physical characteristics to create similes in this book. Extend students' abilities to identify physical characteristics and classification to create similes and metaphors.
- A *Actual Size* by Steve Jenkins, 2004
 ISBN: 0618375945
Actual Size is a picture book with life-sized illustrations of organisms. Students can measure string to show the 'actual' size of organisms and compare and contrast the different lengths. Linear measurement with metric rulers and meter sticks are required tools in science.
- A *Millions to Measure* by David M. Schwartz, 2006
 ISBN: 0060848065
 This book offers a history of measurement in an lively illustrated story that includes linear, volume and weight. There is a brief, but thorough introduction to metric conversion for older students. Good for either short, independent reading

times for students to read on their own or selecting excerpts to engage students prior to introducing measurement.

- A *Just a Little Bit* by Ann Tompert, 1996
ISBN: 039577876X
Mouse and Elephant want to play on the seesaw and work together (with many friends) to find a way to 'balance'. This is a great introduction to balances and mass and a great, quick and humorous way to revisit the concepts.
- A *Who Sank the Boat?* by Pamela Allen 1996
ISBN-10: 069811373X
Who sank the boat - a cow, donkey, sheep pig or tiny mouse? Use as an engagement for learning (or reviewing) properties of matter and density.

Force, Motion and Energy

- Y *What Do Wheels Do All Day?* by April Jones Prince 2006
ISBN:0618563075
Simple picture book with rhyming text showing different kinds of wheels at work. Use to scaffold discussion using vocabulary from the book's concrete examples of systems and force and motion (push/pull).
- O *Marvelous Mattie* (2008 Bluebonnet Book) by Emily Arnold McCully
ISBN: ISBN-10: 0-374-34810-3
Biography of first American woman to receive a patent. This title includes sketches from a science notebook, exemplifies design process and scientific method.
- A *Sheep in a Jeep* Nancy E. Shaw, 2006
ISBN-10: 0618695222
Stop reading just before the jeep crashes and hypothesize/predict what happens to the sheep using science vocabulary and reasoning. Create a reenactment with toys, highlighting hypothesis and laws of force and motion.

Earth and Space

- A *A Drop of Water* by Walter Wick, 1997
ISBN: 0590221973
Stop-action photography captures each phase change of the water cycle and characteristics of water.
- O *Water Dance* by Thomas Locker, 1997
ISBN: 0152163964
With simple text written as *What am I* verse accompany illustrations of each phase of the water cycle. Show and read individually or as a whole book as students identify the phases with science vocabulary. Science content for each illustration is provided at the back of the book.

- O *Cloud Dance* by Thomas Locker, 1997
ISBN-10: 0152045961
Same format as *Water Dance*, but about weather.

Life Science

- Y *Bear Wants More* by Karma Wilson, ill. Jane Chapman, 2003,
ISBN: 068984509X It is Spring and Bear is hungry after his long winter's nap.
- Y *Bear Shores On* by Karma Wilson, ill. Jane Chapman, 2002, ISBN: 0689831870
Bear's friends organize a party in his den while he hibernates, and Bear feels sad that he missed out. Use this book to introduce hibernation.
- A *Eaglet's World* by Evelyn Minshull, ill. Andrea Gabriel, 2002, ISBN: 087589292
The life of an eaglet is described from inside the egg to learning how to fly freely.
- Y *The Beeman* by Laurie Krebs, ill. Melissa Iwai, 2002, ISBN: 0792272242
This simple book with rhyming text explains the equipment and the steps a beeman must follow to care for honeybees and harvest their honey.
- Y *Waiting for Wings* by Lois Ehlert, 2001, ISBN: 0152026088
The life cycle of a butterfly is explained and beautifully illustrated.
- Y *Growing Like Me* by Anne Rockwell, 2001, ISBN: 0152022023
Explains how plants and animals grow like children. Study the difference between living and non-living things.
- Y *Growing Frogs* by Vivian French, ill. Alison Bartlett, 2000, ISBN: 0763603171
A mother and child watch the steps in which a tadpole grows into a frog. Includes factual information about the life cycle of a frog.
- Y *Pumpkin Circle: The Story of a Garden / El Círculo de las calabazas: Historia de un huerto* by George Levenson, photos by Shmuel Thaler, 1999,
ISBN: 1582460043 (English) ; 1582460868 (Spanish)
Every step of a pumpkin's life is captured in this beautiful story and photographs. Videos in both English and Spanish show the time-elapsed photography of the growth of a pumpkin.
- A *Mammabilia*, 2000, ISBN: 0152021671 and *Insectlopedia* 1998, ISBN: 0152013067, by Douglas Florian
Two collections of poetry about mammals and insects. Use the poetry in these collections to study the animals and insects during life science units. Students can write their own animal or insect poems to make a class book. Be sure to look for additional poetry books by Douglas Florian.
- Y *Our Yard is Full of Birds* by Anne Rockwell, ill. Lizzy Rockwell, 1992,
ISBN: 002777273X

Describes the variety of birds visiting a yard, from the phoebe and wren to the crows and blue jays.

- Y *Who's Hatching Here? Quien Nacera Aqui?* by Alma Flor Ada, ill. Vivi Escriva, 1989, ISBN: 158105523324 (English) 0882728008 (Spanish)
Eggs are laid by various creatures that turn into chicks, mosquitoes, butterflies, frogs, lizards, hummingbirds, etc.
- Y *Winnie Finn, Worm Farmer* by Carol Brendler, ill. Ard Hoyt, 2009, 0374384401
Winnie Finn loves worms! When she discovers that the county fair is around the corner, she decides to find a way to include her worms and be a part of a winning team. An author's note explains to readers the steps for creating a worm farm.
- A *Turtle Summer: A Journal for my Daughter* by Mary Alice Monroe, ill. Barbara J. Bergwerf, 2007, ISBN: 9780977742356
Written as a scrapbook journal, this story explains the life cycle of the Loggerhead Turtles on the Atlantic coast.
- Y *I See a Kookaburra! Discovering Animal Habitats Around the World* by Steve Jenkins and Robin Page, 2005, ISBN: 0618507647
Jenkins and Page introduce readers to the habitats of the world and the animals prefer each habitat.

Science, Ecology, Food Chains

- A *The Wolves are Back* by Jean Craighead George, paintings by Wendell Minor, Dutton Children's Books, 2008, ISBN 978-0-525-47947-5. This beautifully illustrated book tells the story of how returning the wolves to Yellowstone National Park restored the needed balance of nature. Food Chains, ecology, vocabulary, and cause and effect are skills that may be taught from this book.
- Y *Does a Sea Cow Say Moo?* By Terry Webb Harshman, ill by George McClements, Bloomsbury Children's Books, 2008, ISBN 978-1-58234-740-0. This story in rhyme tells the story of how sea creatures names may be misunderstood like sea horse, sea cow, etc. Good for homonyms, ocean habitat, and vocabulary.
- A *Sparrow Girl* By Sara Pennypacker 9, ill by Yoko Tanaka. Disney-Hyperion Books. 2009. ISBN: 13-9781423111870.
Based on a true incident, The Sparrow War, this is the story of young girl in China who tries to save the sparrows when the government orders their destruction to stop them from eating the crops. Great for critical thinking ie did type of government in China contribute to this situation, discuss similarities and differences with *The Wolves are Back*. Research another animal and write about the consequences if that animal is destroyed and becomes extinct. Good for visualization. Read author's note and discuss consequences of actions. Visualization, animal adaptations.

- O *“Mrs. Riley Bought Five Itchy Aardvarks” and other Painless Tricks for Memorizing Science Facts.* By Brian P. Cleary. Ill. By J.P. Sandy. Millbrook Press. 2008. ISBN: 978-0-8225-7819-2.
Some ideas to help students memorize science facts. Includes glossary and index.
- A *The Brook Book: Exploring the Smallest Streams* by Jim Arnosky, 2008, ISBN: 978-0-525-47716-7.
Explores the habitat of the Brook. Learn about plants and animals who call the brook home and explore the rocks found there. Includes life cycle of mayflies and caddis.

Organisms and Environments:

- A *A Seed is Sleepy* by Diana Hutts Aston, 2007
ISBN: 0811855201
This book shows different seeds and the plants they mature into – plant life cycle, adaptations, diversity, needs of plants.
- A *Sunflower House* by Eve Bunting, 1999
ISBN: 0152019529
A close look at the life cycle of a sunflower – life cycles, needs of organisms.
- A *Somewhere Today* by Bert Kitchen, 1994
ISBN: 156402377X
A study of twelve animals supposedly on the same day, going through their day – surviving, thriving, perishing, adapting.
- A *And So They Build* by Bert Kitchen, 1995
ISBN-10: 1564025020
A study, in the same format as *Somewhere Today*, Kitchen illustrates how twelve animals modify their environment to build shelter – needs of organisms, modifying environments.

Environmental Issues

- A *Ballyhoo Bay* by Judy Sierra, ill. Derek Anderson, 2009, ISBN: 1416958886
Mira Bella loved to teach art on the beach of Ballyhoo Bay until the day a billboard announced that the beach would be closed to build a resort. Mira Bella gathers the children and animals of the bay to stop the city council from passing the vote.
- A *Once I Was a Cardboard Box... But Now I'm a Book About Polar Bears!* by Anton Poitier, ill. Melvin Evans, 2009, ISBN: 1906726159
This book made of a recycled cardboard box, explains the process of recycling in the sidebars while providing the reader with information about polar bears.
- A *10 Things I Can Do to Help My World: Fun and Easy Eco-Tips* by Melanie Walsh, 2008, ISBN 9780763641143

Made from recycled materials, this earth-friendly book illustrates simple ways children can help the world.

- Y *Recycle Everyday!* By Nancy Elizabeth Wallace, 2003, ISBN: 0761451498
Minna the bunny needs an idea for the poster contest at school to choose the illustrations for the Community Recycling Calendar. Minna and her family help the world with a different form of recycling every day. This becomes her inspiration for her poster idea which becomes the calendar's cover.
- Y *Fish Wish* by Bob Barner, 2000, ISBN: 0823414825
A young boy dreams about a journey through a coral reef. Includes factual information about coral reefs.
- O *Nobody Particular: One Woman's Fight to Save the Boys* by Molly Bang, 2000, ISBN: 0805053964
Describes a female shrimper's attempt to stop a large chemical company from polluting a bay in Texas.
- A *River* by Devvy Atwell, 1999, ISBN: 0395935466
This book follows the increased use of a river, the environmental problems that occur, and the steps taken to clean up the river.
- O *The Sign of the Seahorse* by Graeme Base, 1992, ISBN: 0810938251
Environmental issues concerning ocean life are set in this section of a Australian Coral Reef. (Written in a format ready for dramatic play.)
- Y *The Great Trash Bash* by Loreen Leedy, 1991, ISBN: 0823408698
When a town is polluted with litter, the citizens begin to find ways to clean up their neighborhoods by finding better ways to dispose of trash and learn to recycle.
- A *Sparrow Girl* by Sara Pennypacker, ill. Yoko Tanaka, 2009, ISBN: 9786835509349
When her country's leader decided that sparrows were eating too much grain in the field's, he ordered that the sparrows be banished from China. Ming-Li couldn't bare to see the sparrows dying around her so she vowed to save them one bird at a time. Use this story to discuss the ramifications of deleting an entire species from our world.

Seasons

- Y *It's Fall!* by Linda Glaser, ill. Susan Swan, 2001, ISBN: 0761317589
A child experiences the colors and textures of fall. Excellent cut-paper illustrations.
- Y *Fall Leaves Fall* by Zoe Hall, ill. Shari Halern, 2000, ISBN: 0590100793
When studying the autumn season, this story helps illustrate the characteristics of fall.

- Y *Cold Little Duck, Duck, Duck* by Lisa Westberg Peters, ill. Sam Williams, 2000, ISBN: 0688161782
The story of a duck who returns to the pond before winter ends and watches the pond's transformation to spring.
- Y *Tell Me a Season* by Mary McKenna Siddals, ill. Petra Mathers, 1997, ISBN: 0395710219
In this simple picture book, the characteristics of each season are listed giving the reader an opportunity to guess which season is being described.
- Y *The Tiny Seed* by Eric Carle, 1987, ISBN:0887080154
A tiny seed travels through the different seasons before growing into a new plant.
- A *Groundhog Weather School* by Joan Hulub, 2009, ISBN: 9780399246593
When Groundhog realizes he needs helpers all over the country to accurately forecast the weather, he establishes a school to teach young groundhogs how to properly determine when spring will arrive. Great information not only about Groundhog's Day, but also weather, seasons, and animal characteristics.

Senses

- Y *Rain* by Manya Stojic, 2000, ISBN" 0517800853
The animals of the African savannah experience the rain through the five senses.
- A *Livingstone Mouse* by Pamela Duncan Edwards, ill. Henry Cole, 1996, ISBN: 0060258705
An explorer mouse in search of China discovers that he must be careful to choose a new home that does not offend his sense of smell, sight, hearing, taste, or touch. Use this story to help students review the five senses.

Anatomy

- Y *Me and My Amazing Body* by Joan Sweeney, ill. Annette Cable, 1999, ISBN: 0517800543
A girl describes how her skin, bones, muscles, brain, blood, heart, lungs, and stomach receive energy and function as parts of her body.
- A *Dem Bones* by Bob Barner, 1996, ISBN: 0811808270
A song from the African-American culture is used to explain the body's anatomy through rhyme and language. Students can identify the bones in the body.

Solar System

- Y *Me and My Place in Space* by Joan Sweeney, ill. Annette Cable, 1998, ISBN: 0517709694
A child describes how the earth, sun and planets are part of our solar system, which is just one small part of the universe. Students can identify the planets of our solar system.

- Y *One Giant Leap: The Story of Neil Armstrong* by Don Brown, 1998, ISBN: 0395884012
Discusses the life and accomplishments of astronaut Neil Armstrong, from his childhood in Ohio to his famous moon landing.

Natural Disasters

- Y *Twister* by Darleen Bailey Beard, ill. Nancy Carpenter, 1999, ISBN: 0374379777
Two children experience a tornado.
- A *Hurricane!* by Jonathan London, 1998, ISBN: 0688129781
A young boy describes the experiences of his family when a hurricane hits their home on the island of Puerto Rico. Use this book to introduce the elements of a hurricane.

Ecosystems

- Y *The Water Hole* by Graeme Base, 2001, ISBN: 0810945681
The importance of the water hole in all ecosystems is introduced in this beautifully illustrated counting and puzzle book. As the animals coming to the water hole increase from one to ten, the frogs in the background decrease in number from ten to one. Animals are also labeled around the borders and are hidden within the illustrations for the reader to find.
- O *Flute's Journey: The Life of a Wood Thrush* by Lynne Cherry, 1997, ISBN: 0152928537
A young wood thrush makes his first migration from his nesting ground in a forest preserve in Maryland to his winter home in Costa Rica and back again.
- A *Welcome to the Sea of Sand* by Jane Yolen, ill. Laura Regan, 1996, ISBN: 0399227652
Poetic text and colorful illustrations describe the desert.
- Y *In the Woods: Who's Been Here?* by Lindsay Barrett George, 1995, ISBN: 0688123198
When hiking through the woods, a boy and girl discover empty animal homes and guess the name of the animal that lives in each home.

Health

- Y *Clarabella's Teeth* by An Vrombaut, 2003, ISBN: 0618333797

Clarabella the crocodile begins to brush her teeth in the morning, but she has so many teeth she misses out on playtime until her friends buy her a crocodile toothbrush. Use to introduce your lessons on dental health.

MATHEMATICS

Size Comparison

- Y *A Pig is Big* by Douglas Florian, 2000, ISBN: 0688171266
Rhyming text demonstrates the concept of big.
- Y *Gigantic! How Big Were the Dinosaurs?* By Patrick O'Brien, 1999, ISBN: 0805057382
This fun book compares 14 dinosaurs to objects in the world using size relationship, physical characteristics, and/or behavior.
- Y *The Three Bears* by Byron Barton, 1991, ISBN: 0060204249
Use this version of the traditional tale to study size comparison and opposites.

Ordinal Numbers

- Y *One Pup's Up* by Marsha Wilson Chall, art by Henry Cole, 2010
ISBN: 978-1-4169-7960-9
Counting to 10 forwards and backwards
some alliteration
- Y *Eight Animals on the Town* by Susan Middleton Elya, ill. Lee Chapman, 2000, ISBN: 0399234373
Eight animals go around town to introduce the numbers one through eight in English and Spanish.
- Y *Henry the Fourth* by Stuart Murphy, ill. Scott Nash, 1999, ISBN: 006027610X
A simple story about four dogs at a dog show that introduces the ordinal numbers.
- Y *Zero* by Kathryn Otoshi. Publisher's Group West. 2010. ISBN:978-09723946-3-5.
Fun story of 0 looking for value and finding it by counting past 9.
Counting, Self-esteem

Reasonableness

- A *Pumpkins: A Story For a Field* by Mary Lyn Ray, ill. Barry Root, 1992, ISBN: 0152522522
A man harvests and sells a bountiful crop of pumpkins so that he will be able to preserve a field from developers. Reasonable and unreasonable numbers are presented in the story.

Area and Perimeter

- A *Spaghetti and Meatballs for All: A Mathematical Story* by Marilyn Burns, ill. Debbie Tilley, 1997, ISBN: 059044592
The seating for a family reunion gets complicated as people rearrange the tables and chairs to seat additional guests. Use graph paper to practice the table arrangements to determine the area and perimeter of each setup.

Problem-Solving

- A *Math Appeal: Mind-Stretching Math Riddles* by Greg Tang, ill. Harry Briggs, 2003, ISBN: 0439210461
Promote creative thinking with another problem-solving book of visual math riddles by Greg Tang.
- A *MATH-terpieces: The Art of Problem-Solving* by Greg Tang, ill. Greg Paprocki, 2003, ISBN: 0439443881
The painting of masterpiece artists become the visuals for finding mathematical solutions to Tang's riddles.
- A *Math For All Seasons* by Greg Tang, ill. Harry Briggs, 2002, ISBN: 0439210429
Seasonal math riddles provide readers with the opportunity to solve problems in a variety of ways.
- A *Arithme-tickle: An Even Number of Odd Riddle-Rhymes* by J. Patrick Lewis, ill. Frank Remkiewicz, 2002, ISBN: 0152164189
Use this math picture book in the classroom as a warm-up to problem-solving at the start of each day.
- O *The Grapes of Math: Mind-Stretching Riddles* by Greg Tang, ill. Harry Briggs, 2001, ISBN: 043921033X
Mind-stretching math riddles for the reader to explore how to solve problems in the most efficient way.
- A *Five Creatures* by Emily Jenkins, ill. Tomek Bogacki, 2001, ISBN: 0374323410
In words and pictures, a girl describes the three humans and two cats that live in her house, and details some of the traits they share.
- A *Counting on Frank* by Rod Clement, 1991, ISBN: 0836803582
A boy and his dog present amusing counting, size comparison, and mathematical facts. Practice the problem-solving activities related to the story found at the end of the book. Create your own problems to solve with a friend.
- A *The Eleventh Hour* by Graeme Base, 1989, ISBN: 0810908514
Help the guests at Horace's Birthday Party solve the mystery of the missing feast. Study the hidden puzzles found in each illustration to eliminate the suspects.

- A *Math-terpieces The Art of Problem Solving* by Greg Tang, ill by Greg Paprocki, Scholastic News, 2003, ISBN 0-439-56090-X.
Told in rhyme and using ideas from great art students are asked to solve a simple math problem. Good for art, problem solving, and rhyming words.
- A *The Great Math Tattle Battle* by Anne Bowen, ill. by Jaime Zollars, 2006, ISBN: 9780807531631
Harley Harrison the biggest tattle-tale and best math student in second grade, meets his match in both areas when Emma Jean Smith joins him Mr. Hall's class.

Skip Counting

- Y *100th Day Worries* by Margaret Cuyler, ill. Arthur Howard, 2000, ISBN: 0689629795
Jessica worries about collecting 100 objects to take to class for the 100th day of school. Group objects as sets of 10.
- Y *Spunky Monkeys on Parade* by Stuart Murphy, ill. Lynne Cravath, 1999, ISBN: 0060280158
In the Monkey Day Parade, monkey majorettes, cyclists, tumblers, and band members create a spectacle as they move along in groups of two, three, and four.

Counting

- Y *Look Who's Counting* by Suse MacDonald, 2000, ISBN: 0590683209
The owl learns how to count one night. Watch the owl's wings and the animals as each number 1-10 is represented.
- Y *One Monkey Too Many* by Jackie French Koller, ill. Lynn Munsinger, 1999, ISBN: 0152000062
Adventurous monkeys have a series of mishaps and escapades involving a bike, a canoe, a restaurant, and a hotel. Predict the number of monkeys that are involved in each event and count the monkeys to confirm the answer.
- Y *One Duck Stuck* by Phyllis Root, ill. Jane Chapman, 1998, ISBN: 0763603341
In this counting book, increasingly larger groups of animals try to help a duck that is stuck in the sleepy, slimy marsh. Practice counting using the rhyming text and colorful illustrations of this duck.
- Y *Mouse Count / Cuenta Ratones* by Ellen Stoll Walsh, 1991, ISBN: 0152002669 (English) ; ISBN: 9681637666 (Spanish)
Ten mice outsmart a hungry snake.
- Y *How Happy I Would Be... / Me Gustaria Tener...* by Alma Flor Ada, ill. Viva Escriva, 1989, ISBN: 1581051948 (English) ; 0882727958 (Spanish)
An animal song about counting and rhyming.

Multiplication

- A *The Best of Times* by Greg Tang, ill. Harry Briggs, 2002, ISBN: 0439210445
This visually pleasing riddle book helps readers practice their multiplication facts.
- Y *Bats on Parade* by Kathi Appelt, ill. Melissa Sweet, 1999, ISBN: 0688156665
On a midsummer night the Marching Bat Band makes a rare appearance, its members grouped in formations that demonstrate multiplication from two times two up to ten times ten. Create arrays for each of the multiplication problems presented in the book.
- Y *Amanda Bean's Amazing Dream* by Cindy Neuschwander, ill. Liza Woodruff, 1998, ISBN: 0590300121
Amanda loves to count everything, but not until she has an amazing dream does she finally realize that being able to multiply will help her count things faster. Extend the learning by solving the multiplication problems at the end of the book.

Patterns

- O *A Cloak For the Dreamer* by Aileen Friedman, ill. Kim Howard, 1994, ISBN: 0590489879
When a tailor asks each of his three sons to make a cloak for the archduke, the third son's design reveals his desire to travel the world rather than follow in his father's footsteps. Use wooden pattern blocks to create designs that could be the archduke's next cloak. Explore the concept of patterning with the activities found at the end of book.

Addition/Subtraction

- Y *Quack and Count* by Keith Baker, 1999, ISBN: 0152928588
Seven ducklings take a rhyming look at addition. Use manipulatives to master understanding of the addition facts using 7's. Try making a class book of another set of facts (4's, 5's)
- Y *Ten Terrible Dinosaurs* by Paul Strickland, 1997, ISBN: 0525459057
Countdown from 10 to 1 with dinosaurs who are playing around and lose one dinosaur at a time. Great vocabulary in the dinosaur's actions. Have students write subtraction sentences for the story.
- Y *12 Ways to Get to 11* by Eve Merriam, ill. Bernie Karlin, 1993, ISBN: 0671755447
Addition is simply illustrated to show twelve combinations that add up to eleven.

Money

- Y *Pigs Go to the Market: Fun with Math and Shopping* by Amy Axelrod, ill. Sharon McGinley-Nally, 1997, ISBN: 0689810695

The pigs go shopping for their annual Halloween party after Grandpa and Grandma Pig eat all of the candy. Set up a market in the classroom and have students role play. For older students, increase the number of items purchased at the market and ask students to write word problems which represent their purchases.

- Y *Alexander, Who Used To Be Rich Last Sunday* by Judith Viorst, ill. Ray Cruz, 1987, ISBN: 0689711999
Alexander has a dollar from his grandparents and he is rich until he realizes it is less than what his brother Anthony has to spend. Give students play money to use to work through the ideas Alexander has for spending his money.
- A *Once Upon a Dime: A Math Adventure* by Nancy Kelly Allen, ill. by Adam Doyle, 1999, ISBN: 9781570911613
Farmer Worth discovers that a special tree on his farm produces different kinds of money, depending on what animals fertilizer he uses.
- Y *Three Silly Billies* by Marjorie Palatini ill. Barry Moser. 2005, ISBN: 9780689858628
Funny retelling with plays on words where the troll demands payment of the Tollbooth toll in order to pass. As each new character arrives they bring more coins to add to the change needed to make a dollar in order to pay the toll.

Measurement

- A *Millions to Measure* by David M. Schwartz, ill. Steven Kellogg, 2003, ISBN: 0688129161
The history of measurement is explained including explanations of the metric system.
- Y *Inchworm and a Half* by Elinor J. Pinczes, ill. Randall Enos, 2001, ISBN: 039582849X
Several small worms use their varying lengths to measure the vegetables in a garden.
- Y *Pigs in the Pantry: Fun With Math and Cooking* by Amy Axelrod, ill. Sharon McGinley-Nally, 1997, ISBN: 0689806655
When Mrs. Pig gets a cold, Mr. Pig and the piglets decide to cook her favorite five-alarm chili. Have students practice their measuring skills by creating their own classroom treat.
- Y *Measuring Penny* by Loreen Leedy, 1997, ISBN: 0805053603
Lisa learns about the mathematics of measuring by measuring her dog Penny with all sorts of units, including pounds, inches, dog biscuits, and cotton swabs. Choose an object to measure and find as many ways to measure the object as possible.

- Y *Pastry School in Paris An Adventure in Capacity* By Cindy Neuschwander. Ill by Bryan Langdo. Henry Holt. 2009. ISBN: 978-0-8050-8314-9. Tells an adventure that compares metric and standard measures in capacity and equal capacities. Last page is ideas for teaching capacity.

Geometry

- Y *Perfect Square* by Michael Hall. 2011. ISBN: 978-0-06-191513-0. Square has many creative transformations.
- Y *Pigs on the Ball: Fun With Math and Sports* by Amy Axelrod, ill. Sharon McGinley-Nally, 1998, ISBN: 0689815654. The Pig family visits a miniature golf course and learns about shapes, angles, and geometry.
- A *The Greedy Triangle* by Marilyn Burns, ill. Gordon Silveria, 1994, ISBN: 0590489917. Dissatisfied with its shape, a triangle keeps asking the local shape-shifter to add more lines and angles until it doesn't know which side is up. While reading the story, build the shapes using popsicle sticks and count the sides for each shape.

Graphs

- A *Help Me Mr. Mutt: Expert Answers for Dogs With People Problems* by Janet Stevens and Susan Stevens Crummel. Mr. Mutt supplies advice to the dogs who seek his help with their people problems by illustrating his explanations with many different graphs and diagrams. An excellent opportunity to emphasize the importance of reading all elements of a text for increased comprehension skills.
- A *The Great Graph Contest* by Loreen Leedy, 2005, ISBN: 0823417107. Gonk and Chester, two amphibian friends, hold a contest to see who can make better graphs.

Time

- A *Peeny Butter Fudge* by Toni and Slade Morrison, ill. Joe Cepeda, ISBN: 9781416983323. When mom leaves to go to work, she leaves a detailed schedule for Grandma to follow, but Grandma has her own ideas on how to spend her day. Use the book to create Grandma's schedule and predict the time each event took place.
- Y *All In One Hour* by Susan Stevens Crummel, ill. Dorothy Donohue, 2003,

ISBN: 0761451293

A cumulative rhyme about a mouse that wanders around town one morning causing a commotion wherever he goes. Each event is labeled in digital time with clocks of different shapes and sizes also found in the illustrations.

- Y *Parade Day: Marching Through the Calendar Year* by Bob Barner, 2003, ISBN: 0823416909
The simple rhyming text celebrates parades for each month of the year. Descriptions of each month and information about calendars follow the story.
- Y *Bats Around the Clock* by Kathi Appelt, ill. Melissa Sweet, 2000, ISBN: 0688164692
Click Dark hosts a special twelve-hour program of American Batstand, where the bats rock and roll until the midnight hour ends. Use student clocks to allow students to manipulate the hours as they pass in the story.
- Y *Me Counting Time: From Seconds to Centuries* by Joan Sweeney, ill. Annette Cable, 2000, ISBN: 051780056X
Describes the relationship between many measurements of time.
- O *A Very Improbable Story: A Math Adventure* by Edward Einhorn, ill. by Adam Gustavson, 2008, ISBN: 9781570918711
When Ethan wakes up with a cat on his head, his cat tells him he won't get down until Ethan wins a probability game.

SOCIAL SKILLS

Honesty

- Y *Liar, Liar, Pants On Fire* by Diane deGroat, 2003, ISBN: 1587172151
Gilbert and his friends learn a lesson about honesty when Gilbert takes George Washington's hat home to practice his lines.
- A *Edwurd Fudwupper Fibbed Big* by Fannie Fudwupper, 2000, ISBN: 0316106755
Edwurd's little sister comes to the rescue when Edwurd's humungous fib lands him in trouble with a three-eyed alien from another galaxy.
- Y *The Honest-to-Goodness Truth* by Patricia C. McKissack, 2000, ISBN: 0689826680
After promising never to lie, Libby learns it's not always necessary to blurt out the whole truth either.

Fear

- Y *One Dark Night* by Lisa Wheeler, ill. Ivan Bates, 2006, ISBN: 0152058885
A mouse and a mole cautiously creep through the forest one night.
- Y *Splat the Cat* by Rob Scotton, 2008, ISBN: 9780060831554

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Sally, Rasch, Aldine ISD librarian
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Splat the Cat wakes up on the morning of his first day of school and begins to worry so much he does not want to go.

Taking Risks

- A *Who Moved My Cheese? For Kids: An Amazing Way to Change and Win* by Spencer Johnson, M.D., 2003, ISBN: 0399240160
Readers learn about the benefits of adapting to change through the story of four mice that travel a maze to find the “magical cheese”.

Manners

- A *Do Unto Otters: a Book About Manners* by Laurie Keller, 2007, ISBN: 9780805079968
Mr. Rabbit worries about getting along with his new neighbors, who are otters, until he is reminded of the Golden Rule.

Anger

- Y *That Makes Me Mad!* by Steven Kroll, ill. Christine Davenier, 2002, ISBN: 1587171848
Many different everyday tasks make Nina angry.
- Y *Sometimes I'm Bombaloo* by Rachel Vail, ill. Yumi Hei, 2002, ISBN: 1587171848
Katie is a normal child but sometimes she loses her temper. Read this story to help students understand why they become angry and how they can control their anger.
- Y *Finn Throws a Fit!* by David Elliot, ill. Timothy Basil Ering, 2009, ISBN: 9780763623562
Young children can identify with this toddler who throws a colossal temper tantrum when he doesn't want his peaches or anything else. Use this book to discuss the bad behaviors shown in the story and create a list of good behaviors that help you grow into a good citizen and student.

Empathy

- Y *The Teddy Bear* by David McPhail, 2002, ISBN: 0805064141
A little boy loses his treasured teddy bear and searches for him. Meanwhile a homeless man finds the bear in the park and begins to love him as much as the little boy. When the little boy realizes the homeless man needs the bear more than he does, he decides to give up the bear showing great empathy for those who are less fortunate.

- A *A Castle on Viola Street* by Dyanne Disalvo, 2001, ISBN: 0688176909
A hardworking family gets their own house at last by joining a community program that restores old houses. Information about housing organizations such as Habitat for Humanity is included. A great story for a discussion on helping others.
- A *Melissa Parkington's Beautiful, Beautiful Hair* by Pat Brisson, ill. Suzanne Bloom, 2006, ISBN: 9781590784099
Melissa receives compliments for her long beautiful hair all the time, but she wants to change how people look at her by finding a way to shine in a new way. After trying different ideas, she discovers an advertisement for volunteers to give up their hair, and Melissa knows she has found the perfect way to show her heart.

Accepting Differences

- A *The Greatest Story Never Told: The Babe and Jackie* by Ray Negron, ill. Laura Seeley, 2008, ISBN: 9780061471612
Skippy and Connor decide they don't like each other because they are different when they are roommates in the hospital. Nurse Linda won't hear of it and asks for some help from a special bat boy who takes the boys on an adventure to meet Babe Ruth and Jackie Robinson. A great story about accepting differences and friendship.
- Y *The Brand New Kid* by Katie Couric, ill. Margorie Priceman, 2000, ISBN: 0385500300
Laslo is the new kid in class and he looks and talks different. When all of the kids ignore him or tease him, Ellie realizes how lonely he must be and offers to play with him. Use this story to help students accept the differences in others.

Self-Esteem

- Y *Stand Tall, Molly Lou Melon* by Patty Lovell, ill. David Catrow, 2001, ISBN: 0439442532
Molly Lou Melon is not like the average little girl in her class, but her grandmother gives her useful pieces of advice that help her conquer any problems that arise with the other students in her class. Use this book to develop self esteem and self-confidence in your young students.
- Y *Shrinking Violet* by Cari Best, ill. Giselle Potter, 2001, ISBN: 0374368821
Violet, who is very shy and hates for anyone to look at her in school, finally comes out of her shell when she is cast as Lady Space in a play about the solar system.
- A *A Bad Case of Stripes / Un caso grave de rayas* by David Shannon, 1998, ISBN: 0590929976 (English) ; ISBN: 0439409861 (Spanish)

Camilla Cream is so worried the other kids will find out that she loves lima beans that she breaks out in a bad case of stripes. Use this story to study self-esteem with your students.

- A *Regina's Big Mistake* by Marissa Moss, 1990, ISBN: 039555330X
Regina has no confidence in her art ability but learns to believe in herself and makes a beautiful picture.
- A *Long Shot: Never Too Small To Dream Big* by Chris Paul, ill. Frank Morrison, 2009, ISBN: 9781416950790
When young Chris wanted to try out for the basketball team, many friends and family members tried to discourage him because he was too small. But with a lot of practice and determination, Chris makes the team. Pair this book with Delores Jordan's *Salt in His Shoes* and compare and contrast the lives of Michael Jordan and Chris Paul.
- A *Too Perfect* by Trudy Ludwig, ill. Lisa Fields, 2009, ISBN: 1582462585
Maisie is convinced that her life would be "perfect" if she was as good as her classmate Kayla who is always perfect at everything. After the girls are assigned to work together on a class project, Maisie realizes that trying to always be "perfect" can make you very unhappy. Information for adults to open discussions with children about perfection is included at the end of the book.

Accepting Responsibility

- Y *I'm Sorry* by Sam McBratney, ill. Jennifer Eachus, 2000, ISBN: 0060286865
Having a best friend makes life so much better. However, even best friends fight, and when that happens, "I'm sorry" is the hardest thing to say. Discuss how to react after an argument.
- A *The Blunder of the Rogues* by Tim Eagan, 1999, ISBN: 0395910072
A group of friends decide to play like criminals until they are used by real crooks to commit real crimes.
- Y *I Did It, I'm Sorry* by Caralyn Buehner, ill. Mark Buehner, 1998, ISBN: 0803720114
Ollie Octopus, Bucky Beaver, Howie Hogg, and other animal characters encounter moral dilemmas involving honesty, thoughtfulness, and trustworthiness. The reader selects the appropriate behavior from a series of choices.
- Y *Too Many Tamales / Que Monton de Tamales!* by Gary Soto, ill. Ed Martinez, 1996, ISBN: 0698114124 (English) ; ISBN: 0698114132 (Spanish)
Maria tries on her mother's wedding ring while helping making tamales for a Christmas family get-together. Use to teach students how to accept consequences for their actions.
- Y *Martha Doesn't Say Sorry!* by Samantha Berger, ill. by Bruce Whatley, 2009, ISBN: 9780316066822

Martha learns that she must apologize for her bad behavior if she wants people to cooperate with her.

Grief

- Y *The Bug Cemetery* by Frances Hill, ill. Vera Rosenberry, 2002, ISBN: 0805063706
A boy and his sister begin burying dead bugs from the neighborhood in their backyard "bug cemetery" and holding mock funerals until the day Billy's cat is hit by a car and dies. This story introduces the concept of death.
- O *That Summer* by Tony Johnston, ill. Barry Moser, 2002, ISBN: 015201585X
A child who is dying creates a quilt of family memories with help from other family members.
- Y *Remembering Grandpa* by Uma Krishnaswami, ill. Layne Johnson, 2007, 9781590784242
A rabbit notices how sad his grandma is now that grandpa is gone so he sets out to help her remember him through memories of grandpa's favorite places.

Positive Thinking

- Y *Smile A Lot* by Nancy Carlson, 2002, ISBN: 0876148690
This simple picture book explains the importance of smiling as a positive way to make friends and make it through the hard times.
- A *A Fine, Fine School* by Sharon Creech, ill. Harry Bliss, 2001, ISBN: 006027736X
When Principal Keene decides to have school on Saturdays, everyone begins to realize that the important things in life are often compromised.
- A *Hip, Hip Hooray for Annie McRae* by Brad Wilcox, ill. Julie Olson, 2001, ISBN: 158685058X
Annie McRae finds that she does not need to depend on other people to make her day a happy one. A great example to teach the power of positive thinking.
- Y *Ready for Anything!* by Keiko Kasza, 2009, ISBN: 9780399252358
Raccoon is nervous about all of the things that could spoil a picnic, from bees to dragons, until Duck convinces him that surprises can be fun. Duck helps his friend by sharing the positive side of things to show him that not everything has to be a problem.
- Y *Pete the Cat I Love My White Shoes* by Eric Litwin, ill. by James Dean, 2008, ISBN: 9780061906237
Pete the Cat loves his white shoes even when he steps in strawberries, blueberries and mud.... "because it's all good!"
- Y *Pete the Cat Rocking in My School Shoes* by Eric Litwin, ill. by James Dean, 2011, ISBN: 9780061910241

Pete the Cat is rocking in his school shoes and ready to come back every day...
"because it is all good!"

Patience

- A *Me First* by Helen Lester, ill. Lynn Munsinger, 1992, ISBN: 0395587069
A little pig who must always go first learns a lesson from a "sandwich."

Friendship

- Y *Meet the Barkers: Morgan and Moffat Go to School* by Tomie DePaola, 2001, ISBN: 0399237089
Morgan and Moffat begin school together. While Moffie is busy collecting gold stars for having all the right answers, Morgan is busy making friends.
- A *Stellaluna / Stelaluna* by Janell Cannon, 1993, ISBN: 0152802177 (English); ISBN: 0152015040X (Spanish)
After she falls headfirst into a bird's nest, a baby bat is raised like a bird until she is reunited with her mother. Discuss friendship and accepting differences.
- A *Marshall Armstrong is New to Our School* by David Mackintosh, 2011, ISBN: 9781419700361
Marshall Armstrong is new to the school but the narrator doesn't think he will ever fit in until Marshall invites everyone in the class to his birthday party and they all have a great time.
- Y *Help! A Story of Friendship* by Holly Keller, 2007, ISBN: 9780061239144
Mouse hears a rumor that snakes do not like mice and while trying to avoid his former friend, Snake, he falls into a hole from which neither Hedgehog, Squirrel, nor Rabbit can help him out.

Be Careful of Strangers

- Y *Mabela the Clever* retold by Margaret Read MacDonald, ill. Tim Coffey, 2001, ISBN: 0807549029
Mabela the mouse was taught by her father to be very clever and observant in her surroundings. As a result, Mabela is able to save her mice friends from being tricked by the cat. This African folktale offers a great lesson on the importance of being aware of your surroundings and careful of strangers.
- A *Faux Paw Meets the First Lady* and *Faux Paw's Adventures in the Internet: Keeping Kids Safe Online* both by Jacalyn Leavitt and Sally Linford, ill. J. Chad Erekson, foreword by First Lady Laura Bush 2006.
Faux Paw the cat meets danger after giving personal information online to a stranger pretending to be her friend.

Hygiene

Contact: Sheri McDonald, Conroe ISD librarian
sdmcdonald@conroeisd.net

Sally, Rasch, Aldine ISD librarian
srasch@aldine.k12.tx.us

- Y *The Dirty Little Boy* by Margaret Wise Brown, ill. Steven Salerno, 2001, ISBN: 189081752X
When a little boy tries to get clean the way the animals do, he only gets dirtier.

Table Etiquette

- Y *Table Manners* by Chris Raschka, ill. Vladimir Radunsky, 2001, ISBN: 076361453X
Answers to questions about mealtime etiquette are illustrated in this brightly illustrated picture book.
- Y *Froggy Eats Out* by Jonathan London, ill. Frank Remkiewicz, 2001, ISBN: 0670896861
Froggy helps his parents celebrate their anniversary at a fancy restaurant, but has trouble following the proper table manners. Introduce and model table setting and proper table manners.

Taking Care of Books

- Y *Mr. Wiggle's Book* by Paula M. Craig, ill. Dan Sharp, 2000, ISBN: 1568229755
With an original copyright date of 1972, Mr. Wiggle describes in rhyme the ways careless readers hurt their books.
- Y *Goldie Socks and the Three Libearians* by Jackie Mims Hopkins, ill. John Manders, 2007, ISBN: 1932146989
Goldie Socks stops by a home in the forest owned by three "libearians" and learns about the proper care of books.
- Y *Stella Louella's Runaway Book* by Lisa Campbell Ernst, 2001, ISBN: 0689844603
Stella Louella loses her library book and ends up with the help of the entire town.
- Y *Who's Afraid of the Big Bad Book?* by Lauren Child, 2003, ISBN: 0786809264
Herb falls asleep on a dusty book of fairy tales and falls into the story where the characters scold him for the way he takes care of books.
- O *The Boy Who Was Raised by Librarians* by Carla Morris, ill. Brad Sneed, 2007 ISBN: 9781561453917
Melvin discovers that the public library is exactly where he needs to go to fulfill his quest for knowledge.
- A *Our Librarian Won't Tell Us Anything* by Toni Buzzeo, ill. by Sachiko Yoshikawa, 2006, ISBN: 9781932146752
When Robert is new to the school, a classmate warns him that the librarian will not tell the students anything. But, after Robert listens to the librarian's lesson on how to use the library, he becomes a "Library Success Story."

Bullies

- A *Just Kidding* by Trudy Ludwig, ill. Adam Gustavson, 2006, ISBN: 1582461635
D. J. is bullied by a classmate who continues to claim he is “Just Kidding”. With the help of his family and his teacher, D.J. learns tricks of handling this bully. The foreword written by Stan Davis provides adult readers with information to assist children with this matter. Also included at the end of the story is a list of Do’s and Don’t for students to help children understand appropriate ways to use humor with their friends and classmates.
- A *My Secret Bully* by Trudy Ludwig, ill. Abigail Marble, 2004, ISN: 1582461597
When a young girl begins to realize that her best friend is bullying her, she goes to her mother for advice. The story provides a realistic view of bullying and offers discussion questions for adults to help students prevent and/or face the problem of bullies.
- Y *Jungle Bullies* by Steven Kroll, ill. Vincent Nguyen, 2006, ISBN: 0761452974
After a chain reaction of the larger animals of the jungle choosing not to share with the smaller animals, Monkey goes to his mother for help. Her advice helps Monkey explain the importance of sharing to the other animals. This simple book opens the discussion of bullying with our young students.
- Y *Hooway for Wodney Wat* by Helen Lester, ill. by Lynn Munsinger, 1999, ISBN: 0395923921
Wodney Wat cannot say his "R's", but his classmates are always very patient with him. When the new student, Camilla Capybara joined their class and began to bully everyone, his classmates came up with a game at recess to help Wodney take care of Camilla quickly. Use for discussions of accepting differences and dealing with bullying.
- Y *Wodney Wat's Wobot* by Helen Lester, ill by Lynn Munsinger, 2011, ISBN: 9780547367569
Wodney receives a robot for his birthday that is very helpful since he is unable to say his "R's". When Camilla Capybara moves back to town, she starts her bullying again, and Wodney's Robot is the perfect thing to save the day.
- Y *Lucy and the Bully* by Claire Alexander, 2008, ISBN: 9780807547861
Lucy loves everything about school except for Tommy who bullies her everyday. A parent/teacher note is included at the front of the book. Use the book with young students to open the discussion of dealing with bullies.
- Y *The Three Bully Goats* by Leslie Kimmelman, ill. by Will Terry, 2011, ISBN: 9780807579008
Billy goat brothers Gruff, Ruff, and Tuff are bullies who rule their meadow, but when they cross the Little Orge's Bridge and are mean to the baby animals on the other side, they are in for a big surprise.

Conflicts

- Y *Why Are You Fighting, Davy?* By Brigitte Weninger, ill. Eve Tarlet, 1999, ISBN: 0735810745
Davy has a fight with his best friend but realizes he can forgive Eddie and work with him to finish their project. Discuss how to act in an argument.

Following Rules

- Y *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse / Lily y su bolso de plastic morado* by Kevin Henkes, 1996, ISBN: 0688128971 (English); ISBN: 08424133668 (Spanish)
Lilly loves everything about school, especially her teacher, but when he asks her to wait a while before showing her new purse, she does something for which she is very sorry later. Use at the beginning of the year when teaching school rules.

ART

- Y *Millie in the Meadow* by Janet Pedersen, 2003, ISBN: 0763617253
Millie the cow just wants the artist in her field to paint her portrait. Use this story with young artists when describing the career of an artist.
- O *Painting the Wind* by Patricia & Emily MacLachlan, ill. Katy Schneider, 2003, ISBN: 0060297999
The same island is painted by many different artists in many different ways. Use in art class to explain or illustrate brush techniques when using various paints.
- A *The Dot* by Peter H. Reynolds, 2003, ISBN: 0763619612
Vashti is convinced she has no artistic talent, so she jabs a dot of paint on a blank sheet of paper. To her surprise, her teacher treasures the dot by asking her to sign her work and then framing it for all to enjoy on the wall. Also read the sequel *Ish*.
- Y *Leon the Chameleon* by Melanie Watt, 2001, ISBN: 155074867X
Leon the Chameleon is insecure about looks because he always stands out in a crowd by turning the opposite color. A fun introduction to the color wheel and complementary colors.
- Y *David's Drawings* by Cathryn Falwell, 2001, ISBN: 158400310
David's drawings of a bare tree becomes colorful and full of detail as members of his class begin adding their own creative ideas. This simple story can be used to illustrate how a drawing develops.
- O *Norman Rockwell Storyteller with a Brush* by Beverly Gherman, 2000, ISBN: 0689820011

- Describes the life and work of the popular American artist who depicted both traditional and contemporary subjects, including children, family scenes, astronauts, and presidents.
- A *The Starry Night* by Neil Waldman, 1999, ISBN: 1563977362
In this fantasy, a young boy meets Vincent Van Gogh on the streets of New York City and learns about painting.
- Y *A Bird or 2: A Story About Henri Matisse* by Bijou Le Tord, 1999, ISBN: 0802851843
An analysis of Matisse's art.
- O *Anna's Art Adventure* by Bjorn Sortland, ill. Lars Elling, 1999, ISBN: 1575053764
Anna finds herself in the midst of famous paintings by Rembrandt, Picasso, and Warhol during her visit to the museum.
- Y *Bijou, Bonbon, and Beau: The Kittens Who Danced for Degas* by Joan Sweeney, ill. Leslie Wu, 1998, ISBN: 0811819752
Marmalade, a weary cat, decides to stop in a Parisian theater known for its ballet and its resident artist, Edgar Degas.
- A *Picasso and the Girl With a Ponytail: A Story About Pablo Picasso*, 1998, ISBN: 0764150316 ; *Camille and the Sunflowers: A Story About Vincent Van Gogh*, 1994, ISBN: 0812064097 ; *Degas and the Little Dancer: A Story about Edgar Degas*, 1996, ISBN: 0812065832 ; *Leonardo and the Flying Boy: A Story About Leonardo Da Vinci*, 2000, ISBN: 0764152254
This series of picture books written by Laurence Anholt introduce readers to a few of the world's most famous artists.
- A *Rumplestiltskin's Daughter* by Diane Stanley, 1997, ISBN: 0688143288
Rumplestiltskin's Daughter may not be able to spin straw into gold, but she is more than a match for a greedy king. Famous paintings have been modified by Stanley and can be found in illustrations throughout the story.
- Y *Mouse Paint / Pinta Ratones* by Ellen Stoll Walsh, 1989, ISBN: 0152560254 (English) ; ISBN: 9681637682 (Spanish)
Three white mice discover jars of red, blue, and yellow paint and explore the world of color.
- A *Seen Art?* by Jon Scieszka and Lane Smith, 2005, ISBN: 0670059862
A child searches for his friend Art and finds himself on a tour of the Museum of Modern Art in New York.
- O *Gertrude is Gertrude is Gertrude is Gertrude* By Jonah Winter, ill. By Calef Brown. Atheneum Books, 2009. ISBN: 1-4169-4088-3.
Whimsical tale that uses word play to introduce the writer Gertrude Stein. Also introduces Picasso, Matisse, and Hemingway. Discuss way author uses words in a playful manner.
- A *Morris the Artist* by Lore Segal, ill. Boris Kulikov, 2003, ISBN: 0374350639

Morris needed to purchase a gift for Benjamin's birthday party but he is not happy with anything until he found the perfect gift... a set of paints.

- A *I'm the Best Artist in the Ocean* by Kevin Sherry, 2008, ISBN: 9780803732551
An octopus shares his art with everyone in the ocean until the shark tries to stop him by letting him know that he is making a mess. But, the octopus is not worried ... he knows he is the creator of masterpieces not messes.
- A *Rockwell: A Boy and His Dog* by Loren Spiotta-DiMare, ill. Cliff Miller, 2005, ISBN: 0764157906
This book is a fictionalized story of American artist Norman Rockwell and his friendship with one of his child models and his dog.
- A *The Origami Master* by Nathaniel Lachenmeyer, ill Aki Sogabe, 2008, ISBN: 978087561348
An origami master lives alone in the mountains is surprised when a secret friend begins to leave him origami gifts to find each morning. Directions to make an origami bird are included at the end of the book.
- Y *Scribble* by Deborah Freedman, 2007, ISBN: 9780375839665
After scribbling a cat on her sister's drawing, Lucie follows her "Scribble Cat" in the the picture to try to fix things.
- A *Art and Max* by David Wiesner, 2010, ISBN: 9780618756636
Max wants to be an artist like his friend Art, but his first attempt at painting sends them on an art adventure.
- A *Renoir and the Boy With Long Hair: A Story About Pierre-Auguste Renoir* by Wendy Wax, ill. Nancy Lane, 2007, ISBN: 9780764160417
Jean's father is an artist who loves to paint portraits of Jean. Unfortunately his father thinks his hair is too beautiful to cut short and Jean is annoyed and embarrassed that his hair is as long as a pretty girl's hair.
- A *Chasing Degas* by Eva Montanari, 2009, ISBN: 9780810938786
A young ballet dancer races around Paris looking for Monsieur Degas who accidentally took her bag and the tutu she needs for her dance recital.

MUSIC

- A *The Composer is Dead* by Lemony Snicket, ill. Carson Ellis, music by Nathaniel Stookey, 2009, ISBN: 978006123680
The inspector begins his investigation to solve the crime of the dead composer. When interrogating each member of the orchestra, the

- inspector finds that each group of musicians has a motive as well as an alibi. A music CD is included.
- Y *Arturo's Baton* by Syd Hoff, 1996, ISBN: 0395710200
When an orchestra conductor misplaces his baton and feels he cannot work without it, he learns that it is his own talent, not a little stick, that makes him famous.
- Y *Music From the Sky* by Denise Gillard, ill. Stephen Taylor, 2001, ISBN: 0888993110
A girl and her grandfather search for the perfect tree branch to use to carve a flute.
- A *M is for Music* by Kathleen Krull, ill. Stacy Innerst, 2003, ISBN: 0152014381
This alphabet book introduces musical key words. Each musical term is explained in detail at the end of the book.
- O *Imani's Music* by Sheron Williams, ill. Jude Daly, 2002, ISBN: 0689822545
The importance of music in our lives is illustrated with this story of Imani the grasshopper who helped bring music to the world.
- A *When Marian Sang: The True Recital of Marian Andersen* by Pam Munoz Ryan, ill. Brian Selznick, 2002, ISBN: 0439269679
Marian Andersen was one of America's greatest singers, but she was better known in Europe than the U.S. due to her race. This celebration of her work includes stanzas from many of her songs.
- A *My Favorite Things* by Rodgers and Hammerstein, 2001, ISBN: 0060287101
This book is a beautiful illustration of Rodgers and Hammerstein's 1959 song *My Favorite Things*.
- A *Harp O'Gold* by Teresa Bateman, ill. Jill Weber, 2001, ISBN: 0823415236
A poor musician dreams of owning a beautiful gold harp to attract the rich and famous and better his career. However, when his dream comes true, he realizes that rich and famous people do not appreciate his music in the same way as his poor colleagues. A terrific example of music appreciation.
- A *The Jazz Fly* by Matthew Golub, 2000, ISBN: 1889910171
A fly who plays the drums gets lost on his way to a gig and has to ask for directions. The rhyming text provides an introduction to jazz even without listening to the CD that accompanies the book.
- A *Dancing in the Wings* by Debbie Allen, ill. Kadir Nelson, 2000, ISBN: 0439329426
Teased about her appearance by other dancers in her ballet class, Sassy worries about her chances of doing well at an important audition.

- A *The Story of the Incredible Orchestra* by Bruce Koscielniak, 2000, ISBN: 0395960525
Describes the orchestra, the families of instruments of which it is made, and the individual instruments in each family.
- A *Mole Music* by David McPhail, 1999, ISBN: 0805028196
Feeling that something is missing in his simple life, Mole acquires a violin and learns to make beautiful, joyful music.
- A *Zin! Zin! Zin!: A Violin* by Lloyd Moss, ill. Marjorie Priceman, 1995, ISBN: 0671882392
Ten instruments take their parts one by one in a musical performance.
- A *Meet the Orchestra / Te presento a la orquesta* by Ann Hayes, 1991, ISBN: 0152005269 (English) ; ISBN: 0152002758 (Spanish)
Describes feature, sounds, and roles of each musical instrument in the orchestra.
- O *Jazz* by Walter Dean Myers, ill. Christopher Myers, 2006, ISBN: 0823415457
Walter Dean Myers introduces readers to the history of the music genre we call Jazz. Included in the book is a glossary of Jazz terms and a timeline of Jazz in America.
- O *Do Re Mi: If You Can Read Music, Thank Guido D'Arezzo*, Susan L. Roth and Angelo Mafucci, 2006, ISBN: 9780618465729
Guido d'Arezzo created a system of lines and spaces as the written language of music.
- Y *Chuck's Band* by Peggy Perry Anderson, 2008, ISBN: 9780618965069
Chuck and his barnyard friends form a band, but they have trouble finding an instrument for Fat Cat Pat to play, since all the cat wants to do is sleep all day.
- Y *Freddie the Frog and the Bass Clef Monster* by Sharon Burch, ill. Tiffany Harris, 2006, ISBN: 9780974745480
Freddie the Frog introduces readers to the bass clef as he recalls his scary dream during hibernation. Includes an audio CD.
- Y *Freddie the Frog and the Mysterious Wahooooo* by Sharon Burch, ill. Tiffany Harris, 2007, ISBN: 9780974745473
Freddie the Frog and Eli the Elephant discover rhythm, beat, and tempo on Tempo Island. Includes an audio CD.
- Y *Freddie the Frog and the Secret of Crater Island* by Sharon Burch, ill. Tiffany Harris, 2009, ISBN: 9780974745466
Freddie the Frog and Eli the Elephant teach readers about the treble clef, 12-bar blues music, and the unique sound of the coastal blow hole. Includes audio CD.

- Y *Freddie the Frog and the Thump in the Night* by Sharon Burch, ill. Tiffany Harris, 2003, ISBN: 9780974745497
Introduces readers to the fundamentals of music when Freddie the Frog hears a mysterious sound in the middle of the night and leaves his tree house to investigate. Includes an audio CD.

Dance

- Y *Tanya and the Red Shoes* by Patricia Lee Gauch, ill. Satomi Ichikawa, 2002, ISBN: 0399233148
Tanya wants to be old enough and experienced enough to dance in toe shoes like her sister.
- Y *Giraffes Can't Dance* by Giles Andreae, ill. Guy Parker-Rees, 1999, ISBN: 1860399185
Gerald the giraffe is too clumsy to dance with all the other animals at the Jungle Dance, until he finds the right music.
- A *Stompin' at the Savoy* by Bebe Moore Campbell, ill. Richard Yarde, 2006, ISBN: 0399241973
The day of Mindy's dance recital she becomes so nervous she is afraid to go until a magical drum comes in and takes her to the Savoy Ballroom in Harlem where she finds her "happy feet".

Sample Lesson Ideas

A Visitor for Bear by Bonnie Becker

Vocabulary:

Words:

Visitors, business, commanded, vamoose, rigid, farewell, whisked, begone, boarded, plugged, drain, wept, sniffled, attentive, announced, impressive, heartily, plenty, wailed, nodded, politely, agreed, nibbled, sipped

Phrases:

Shut the door firmly.

For good measure

Springing up

Prefixes meaning not:

Unbelievable

Impossible

Intolerable, insufferable

Disbelief

Unbolt, undone, unstopper, unshuttered, unboarded, unlocked, unplugged,

Synonyms

Begone, out , vamoose

Inference:

Bear hears a tap tap tapping on his door. (What could it be?)

Cause/effect

Bear does not want any visitors (Bear puts up a sign that says no visitors)

Bear does not want mouse to come back (Bear locks his door and windows tight,)

Bear clears his throat (Mouse looks attentively at bear)

Bear does a handstand. (Mouse says the handstand is impressive.)

Mouse says he must leave. (Bear does not want mouse to leave.)

Mouse was attentive to Bear. (Mouse and Bear became friends.)

Dialogue:

Different sentence types.

Punctuation for dialogue.

Varying words used for said, etc.

Characterization

Read the story of bear and mouse. Have an outline of a bear and one of a mouse.

Have the students tell you words to describe bear and have them justify their words by using evidence from the story.

Discussion:

Why do you think bear says No Visitors at the first of the book?

What do you think makes bear change his mind about mouse?

Sequence

Put the events on sentence strips. Pass the strips out to the students in random order. Have the student's line up in order. (This works for other books too.) This is a great book to practice before, after and in between. Also do about 5 events at a time when you first start this activity. Then add more.

No one ever comes to bear's house.

Bear hears a tapping on his window.

Bear opens the door and sees mouse.

Bear says "No visitors allowed."

Bear gets ready for breakfast.

Bear opens the cupboard and finds mouse.

Bear tells mouse to leave and puts him outside.

Bear continues to make breakfast.

Bear opens the bread drawer and finds mouse

Bear tells the mouse to go away.

The mouse asks for a bit of cheese.

Mouse says farewell and leaves.

Bear shuts and locks his door and his windows too.

Bear opens the fridge to get an egg and sees mouse.

Bear tells mouse to go away but mouse asks for a fire.

Bear gets very angry and mouse says he is sorry and will leave.

Bear lets mouse out and locks the doors, boards the windows, stops up the chimney, and plugs the drain in the bathtub.

Bear opens his cupboard, his bread drawer, and his fridge and finds nothing.

Bear opens his teakettle and finds mouse.

Bear says he gives up.

Mouse asks for a bit of cheese, a cup of tea, and a fire.

Bear snuffles and says ok but then you must go.

Mouse says you have my word.

Bear unlocks his house.

Bear and mouse eat cheese, drink tea and sit by the fire.

Bear's clock ticks loudly and bear clears his throat.

Mouse looks attentively at bear.

No one had ever looked attentively at bear before.

Bear did a handstand and told a joke.

Bear offers mouse more tea.

Mouse says he must go.

Bear tells mouse to wait.

Mouse says I have to go because of bear's no visitors sign.

Bear says do not go.

Mouse says but I gave you my word.

Bear tears down the no visitors sign.

Bear says the no visitors sign is for salesmen not friends.

Mouse's eyes glow brightly. Mouse and Bear reenter the house.

Bear asks mouse if he wants one lump or two of sugar.

Duchess of Whimsy An absolutely delicious Fairy Tale
by Randall de Seve and Peter de Seve

Vocabulary: unusual, uncommon, extraordinary, refreshing
 whimsy, duchess, extravagant, elaborate, attire, conversation, peculiar,
 acquaintances, ruttled, manor, kingdom, apparel, absurd, impress, foliage,
 composed, recited, brocaded, cape, flamboyant, ordinary, panic, reigned, truffle,
 Charisma, knack, figures, scrumptious, delay, divine, toiling, sumptuous,
 exhausted
 prefix/suffix: unusual, uncommon, extraordinary, extravagant, refreshing, recited
 From French: joie de vivre, canapés
 Find antonyms in story for: normal, ordinary, seriousness
 Synonyms: attire/apparel; delicious/delectable
 Royal titles: Duke, Duchess, Shah, Marquise, King
 Context clues: soiree

Inference: Look at the Front Cover and tell what do you see... (old style dress,
 feathers, beehive tall hair, fairies, wheels on shoes)
 Who is a Duchess? What does Whimsy mean? What do you know about
 fairytales? Now predict what the book is about.

Characterization and compare/contrast: Duke of Normal/Duchess of Whimsy
 Write a description of what you think the Duke of Normal's flamboyant twin
 brother Nigel is like.
 Develop a character map for Duke of Normal.
 How would you compare Duchess to
 Squid, platypus, penguinWhat are similar traits?
 Do the names fit the characters? Why or why not?
 Duke of Normal, Duchess of Whimsy, Marquise of Charisma,
 Duke of Dreams

Louisa: The life of Louisa May Alcott
by Yena Zeldis McDonough

Vocabulary: unusual, unconventional, disappointed, publisher, hopeful, unconscious,
 blustery, opinions, respect, existed, idealistic, practical, compelled, solemn,
 alternative, enthusiasm, harsh, bitterly, published, homesick, grieved, funeral,
 bitter, conjectured, ward, rations, dictated, pleasure, recover, ambitions, reaction,
 interview, privacy, castles, orphanages, asylums, devoted, sequel, pneumonia,
 lingered

Prefix/suffix: unusual, unconventional, unconscious, disappointed, recover,
 reaction, hopeful, bitterly

Context clues: abolitionists, financial, communal, chores, labor, frail, decision,
 chamber, companion, feeble, solace, ailing

Characterization: Bronson Alcott....Abigail Alcott (Read the poem *To Mother* at the end of the book to see if you included any of these ideas in your character traits), Louisa Alcott, Elizabeth Alcott

Lesson Idea: Read one of the quotes from the back of the book by Louisa. Does this quote better help you understand Louisa? How?

Discussion: How were the Alcott's ideas on school, women, slavery, etc. ahead of their time? Would you have wanted to live in Fruitland? Why or why not?

Pale Male Citizen Hawk of New York City by Janet Schulman

Based on a true story

Vocabulary: These are just from the first few pages:

Oasis, surveyed, keen, vision, spectacular, loomed, unusual, terrorizing, distinctive, mature, thrived, swooping, unison, inexperienced, undaunted, immediately, construction, location, harassed, disoriented

Prefix, suffix: Unusual, undaunted, inexperienced, disoriented, disappointed, removed, reinstall, rebuild, relentless, sadness, delighted, oversized, safely, scarcely, slowly, greatest, heartless,

Fact/opinion:

And the view of the park from the first floor was spectacular.

By forcing sticks and branches between these spikes, the hawks made a nest that could withstand hurricane winds.

New York couldn't ask for a better address.

Figurative Language:

Pale Male hung around the park the way a teenager hangs out at the mall.

He dive-bombed tasty pigeons and rats at their litter-can snack bar.

Elaboration:

He chased after ducks and was spotted terrorizing squirrels, seemingly just for the fun of it.

Writing Styles: Strong introduction and conclusion -- read first and last pages.

What to do about Alice? How Alice Roosevelt Broke the Rules, Charmed the World, and Drove Her Father Teddy Crazy!

By Barbara Kerley

Vocabulary Lesson Idea:

This strategy works for any book. Read the book to your class. Next go back and reread the book, this time stopping at words that could be unfamiliar to your class. Go over the meaning of any words that the class does not know. Next make a list of ten of these words. Post the list. Tell the students that you will keep the list posted for a week. Anytime they see or hear the word from the vocabulary list, have them tell you where they saw it and what it means. Keep track of who finds the most words.

Sample Words:

Charmed, charged, captured, governed, gamboled, voraciously, exploring, primly, properly, encouraged, cautious, ruse, grumbled, unruly, inconsiderate, shriveled, resemblance, exposition, plantations, compliment, publicity, outrageous, protested, inauguration, brokering, delegation, trumpeted, boarded, marvelous, reviewed, debonair, preferably, trinkets, dignitaries, accept, debates, advisors, champions, diplomatic, prosperity

Characterization: Describe Alice’s character traits. Who does she remind you of in literature and why? Draw a blank girl on a page and fill in the girl with Alice’s traits – such as outrageous, headstrong, stubborn, hardships, political, charming, helpful, intelligent, spoiled, fun loving, tomboy. Give examples for each description used.

Figurative Language:

“enough was enough”	“running riot”
“eating up the world”	“what to do about Alice”
“poor little thing”	“best official behavior”
“beware of publicity”	

Research and/or identify these people mentioned in the story:

Davy Crockett	Theodore Roosevelt
George Armstrong Custer	Charles Darwin
Daniel Boone	Charles Dickens
Mark Twain	

Paired Reading: *A Christmas Tree in the White House* by Gary Hines

A story about a White House adventure of Theodore Roosevelt’s sons.

Lady Liberty: A Biography by Doreen Rappaport

informational text

Vocabulary: rival, parlor, hollow, elegant, inspired, riveted, massive, dictator, sketched, section, pedestal, harbor, precise, donation, natural, impatiently, persecuted, colossal, ancient, ancestors, jagged, oblivious, huddled, artisans, disgust, generosity, mocking, immigrant, vicious, protrude, anchored, hoisted

Prefix/suffix: impatiently, disgust, protrude

Timeline: Make a timeline of the Statue of Liberty using each chapter as an entry on the timeline.

Figurative Language:

“prowling tiger”	“ocean bucked and roared”
“Bartholdi stalks”	“arms reached out as if to caress her”
“shrieking tugboats”	“Muscles bulge”

Symbolism: Identify symbolism in the construction of the statue.

Points of View: Each chapter is told from a different point of view -- sculptor, fund raisers, immigrants. Compare and contrast these views.

Research: Identify these well known pieces of art work and people from the story.

7 Wonders of the Ancient World	Great Pyramid of Egypt
Gold and Ivory Statue of Zeus at Olympus	Colessus of Helros in Rhodes
Napoleon III	Marcus de Lafayette
George Washington	Joseph Pulitzer

Paired Readings: *A Picnic in October* by Eve Bunting
Liberty by Lynn Curlee

The Luck of the Loch Ness Monster A Tale of Picky Eating

by A. W. Flaherty

Cause Effect

Katerina-Elizabeth hated oatmeal, and she threw it into the water.

Lump of oatmeal landed near a sea worm, and the sea worm ate it.

Sea worm wanted more oatmeal so the sea worm followed the ship.

Katerina-Elizabeth's parents ordered oatmeal for her everyday; the worm ate oatmeal.

The worm learned new tricks so Katerina-Elizabeth liked the worm.

Katerina's grandmother grew up in the Ukraine. Her grandmother did not know how to make oatmeal.

Katrina's grandmother did not make oatmeal. Katerina was glad to leave the ship.

Katrina left the ship. The worm was sad.

Looking for oatmeal the worm circled Loch Ness.

Scottish children hated oatmeal. Monster found oatmeal to eat in the lake.

Oatmeal is the national breakfast food of Scotland.

Oatmeal served for breakfast every day.

Worm ate lots of oatmeal. Worm grew into a monster.

Sea worm moved to a lake. Worm was a lake worm.

Worm allowed itself to be seen at dawn. Tourists came to Loch Ness.

Science Experiment on Taste - Located in the back of the book

Make a diagram of the tongue and label the taste buds

Research:

Look up America and Scotland Do a Venn diagram on the two countries.

Learn about the Loch Ness Monster and Scotland

Make an ad encouraging tourists to visit Loch Ness

Visualization

Read the description of the monster and have the students draw their own picture of the monster.

Sequence

Put the events on sentence strips. Pass the strips out to the students in random order.

Have the student's line up in order.

Possible events:

Katerina-Elizabeth gets on a ship to travel from America to Scotland.

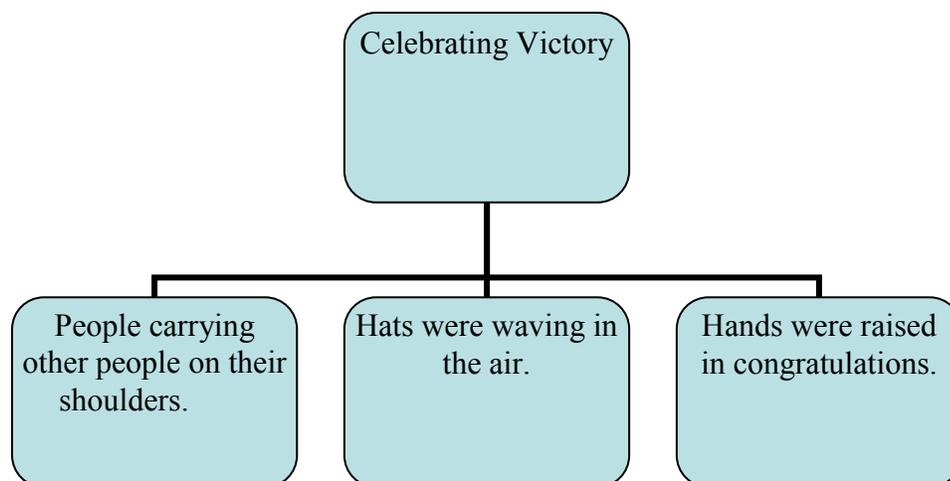
Katerina-Elizabeth gets oatmeal for breakfast.
 Katerina-Elizabeth throws the oatmeal out the ship's window.
 The sea worm eats the oatmeal.
 The sea worm follows the ship.
 Katerina-Elizabeth continues to throw the oatmeal over board.
 The sea worm gets bigger and bigger.
 Katerina-Elizabeth sees the sea worm for the first time.
 Katerina-Elizabeth at first does not like the sea worm.
 Katerina-Elizabeth likes the sea worm because it learns new tricks easily.
 The boat anchors in Loch Ness.
 Katerina Elizabeth leaves the boat.
 The worm is worried about where to find oatmeal.
 The worm begins searching the Loch.
 The worm eats all of the oatmeal thrown into the Loch by the Scottish children.
 A child calls the worm a monster.
 The worm sees its reflection and realizes how big it has grown.
 The worm is worried that children are moving away.
 The worm thinks that advertising will help.
 The worm lets itself be seen at dawn.
 Tourists come to Loch Ness to see the worm.
 Tourists throw the oatmeal off of the tour boat providing food for the monster.
 Monster is sighted kissing Katerina-Elizabeth as she sails home.

We are the Ship The Story of the Negro Baseball League by Kadir Nelson

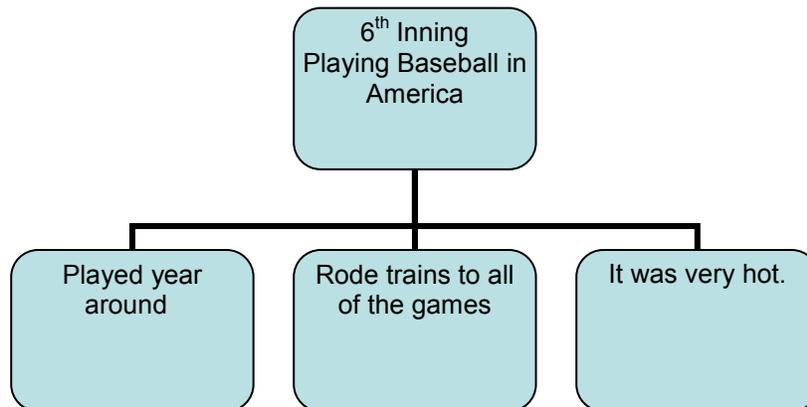
Main Idea and details

Show each photo and have children tell you the main idea of the photograph and then tell why that is the main idea.

Example: 6th inning photo



Or take each inning make a chart.



Fact and Opinion

Read a page and find the opinions

Paired Readings:

Shoeless Joe and Black Betsy by Phil Bildner

Dad, Jackie and Me by Myron Uhlberg

Teammates by Peter Golenback

Satchel Paige: Don't Look Back by David Adler

Dirt on Their Skirts by Doreen Rappaport