

COMMON CORE-BASED LESSON IDEAS FOR GRADES K-3

* * * CONTAINS PENGUIN'S CALDECOTT CLASSICS! * * *



INSPIRE · ENGAGE · EDUCATE



DEAR EDUCATOR,

Everyone loves great picture books, which combine engaging texts with effective, and beautiful illustrations. These books motivate primary students to learn to read and create a lifetime love of reading. They introduce children to excellent art of all varieties, inspiring them to create their own pictures. The simple, honed stories enrich children's vocabulary and serve as fine models for their own writing. In this brochure, you'll find a rich array of picture books for the primary grades, many of them Caldecott Medal winners or Honor Books.

Picture books create excitement about reading and also fit perfectly into the **English Language Arts requirements of the Common Core State Standards**. The K-3 standards call for students to pay close attention to words and illustrations and to learn to identify characters, setting, and plot. The books in this brochure offer the sort of multilayered language that the standards emphasize. Common Core also requires second and third graders to learn about folklore, which is a pleasure with outstanding folktales like *Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears* and *Seven Blind Mice*.

The brochure is organized by categories that reflect the needs of primary grade classrooms. Within each category is an annotated list of appropriate books, each aligned to a specific Common Core standard, with at least one activity related to that standard. You'll also find additional annotated book selections in each category. The suggested activities fulfill the standards in ways that acknowledge different learning styles. Visual learners thrive on exercises like picture walks and drawing scenes from a book to create a class scroll. Read-alouds and discussions work effectively for auditory learners, while activities like making books or sequencing sentence strips appeal to tactile learners. Many students enjoy performing skits and role-playing, which are especially geared toward kinesthetic learners.

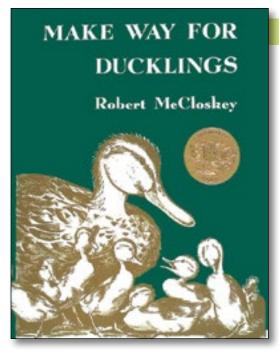
An activity provided for one book or at one level is likely to be useful for other books or levels as well. For example, the picture walk suggested for *Ladybug Girl* works well with any picture book. The time line activity and resources for *The Glorious Flight* can be done with any chronological nonfiction or fiction book to practice sequencing. Some of the activities also point to Web tie-ins, which reflect Common Core's emphasis on technology. Those can be used with different grade levels. So no matter which level you teach, look through the whole brochure for ideas. We know you'll find something for your needs. Happy reading!



This guide was prepared by Kathleen Odean. Kathleen, who was a school librarian for more than fifteen years, now presents all-day workshops on new books for young people, including one that focuses on Common Core nonfiction. Kathleen served as **chairperson of the 2002 Newbery Award Committee** and on the **1996 Caldecott Award Committee**. She's the author of four guides to children's books, including *Great Books for Girls, Great Books for Boys,* and *Great Books About Things Kids Love*, all of which recommend nonfiction as well as fiction. Kathleen reviews young people's nonfiction for *Kirkus Reviews*.



* * * READ-ALOUD FAVORITES * * *



MAKE WAY FOR DUCKLINGS

BY ROBERT McCLOSKEY

(HC) 978O67O451494 · \$18.99 - (PB) 978O14O564341 · \$7.99 ALSO AVAILABLE IN SPANISH K-GRADE 2

The generous size of this well-loved Caldecott winner makes it ideal for reading to groups. Mr. and Mrs. Mallard search for a good home in Boston, settle in, and their ducklings are born. Tension mounts when Mrs. Mallard leads her children across the busy city to the Public Garden, a hazardous journey made safely thanks to concerned police. Invite children to recite the refrain of ducklings' names as you read them.

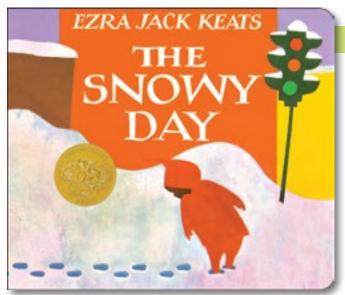
RL.K.4 ASK AND ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT UNKNOWN WORDS IN A TEXT

Although this time-honored favorite is longer than many books that are read aloud to kindergarteners, it captures their attention. Most of the words and phrases are simple and familiar, but some may be new to your class. Read the book aloud once, showing students the pictures. Then read it aloud again, stopping at words that some students may not know, such as "mallard," "hatch," "molt," "waddled," and "waded," which are related to the ducks and their habits. Others are old-fashioned words or phrases, like "all of a dither," "beckoned," and "called on" to mean "visited."

Discuss these and other unfamiliar language, having students guess meanings based on context and pictures. Create a Word Wall, cutting out outlines of ducks and having students print a word or phrase on each duck.

SOCIAL STUDIES TIE-IN: In 1987, artist Nancy Schön created a bronze sculpture of Mrs. Mallard and the ducklings to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Boston's Public Garden. Photographs of the sculpture are easily found on the Internet. Show children the photograph, a map that includes Boston, and a map of Boston that shows the Public Garden.

RESOURCES: New Hampshire Public Television provides access to the Weston Woods video of this book: video.nhptv.org/video/1688004705



THE SNOWY DAY

BY EZRA JACK KEATS

(HC)9780670654000 · \$16.99 - (PB) 9780140501827 · \$6.99 ALSO AVAILABLE IN SPANISH K-GRADF 2

In this timeless story, a boy named Peter wakes one morning to find his world covered with snow. He ventures outside and builds a snowman, makes tracks in the snow, and smacks snow off branches. That evening he thinks about his adventures and rejoices the next morning to find the snow is still there. Joyful collage illustrations set Peter in his red jacket against expanses of white snow.

RL.1.7 USE ILLUSTRATIONS AND DETAILS IN A STORY TO DESCRIBE ITS CHARACTERS, SETTING, OR EVENTS.

One way to have students "retell" a story is through sentence strips: strips of paper or oak tag, each with one simple sentence about the

story. Create the strips, maybe leaving space for students to draw a small picture of the action or adding pictures yourself. Make enough copies for students to work alone or in small groups, and put each set in an envelope or plastic bag. Students practice putting the strips in the order of how the actions occur in the story. If you have pocket charts, those work well for this.

Read The Snowy Day aloud, sharing the pictures. Read it again, telling students to pay attention to what happens in the story. Review the action together after reading. Now distribute the sentence strips. If you want students to illustrate them, talk about how to match the picture to the sentence. Then have students alone or in small groups put the sentence strips in order. They can start by referring to the book and then try without the book. This useful exercise in sequencing can be used with any simple story.



MADELINE

BY LUDWIG BEMELMANS

(HC) 978O67O4458O6 · \$17.99 - (PB) 978O14O564396 · \$7.99 K-GRADE 2

"In an old house in Paris that was covered in vines lived twelve little girls in two straight lines." So begins this popular read-aloud, a Caldecott Honor Book, about the smallest, most daring of the girls, Madeline. Charming old-fashioned illustrations show them in their daily life in Paris. One night, Madeline has an emergency that sends her to the hospital. All ends well-until the next book, Caldecott Award winner Madeline's Rescue, in which Madeline falls into a river and is rescued by a dog.

RL.2.1 ASK AND ANSWER SUCH QUESTIONS AS WHO, WHAT, WHERE, WHEN, WHY, AND HOW TO DEMONSTRATE UNDERSTANDING OF KEY DETAILS IN

A TEXT. First read this favorite aloud and share the pictures. Create a chart for the four W's that speak to character, setting, and plot: Who, What, Where, and When. Start with "Who," introducing or reviewing the concept of characters and the difference between major and minor characters. Have the students name the major and minor characters. Write them on the chart or have a student do so. Then go to "Where" and "When." You might show them Paris on a map. The time

period of the story is not entirely clear. Discuss what details in the text or illustrations might suggest the time period, such as clothing and cars. Have students in pairs or small groups examine the pictures to try to find clues about "When." "What" speaks

to the plot. As a group, come up with a few sentences to describe the main points of the plot. Since this is a series book, have students choose another book in the series and fill out the same chart on paper alone or with a group.

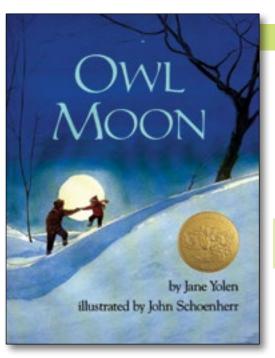








ALSO AVAILABLE



OWL MOON

BY JANE YOLEN · ILLUSTRATED BY JOHN SCHOENHERR 9780399214578 - \$16.99 K-GRADE 3

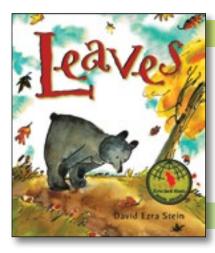
One magical night, a father takes his daughter owling in the winter woods. She tries to stay utterly quiet as her father makes the call of a Great Horned Owl again and again. The lyrical text and superb watercolors convey the hush of the woods, the icy cold of the night, and the wonder when an owl swoops majestically overhead. An enchanting Caldecott winner.

RL.3.4 DETERMINE THE MEANING OF WORDS AND PHRASES AS THEY ARE USED IN A TEXT, DISTINGUISHING LITERAL FROM NONLITERAL

LANGUAGE. Yolen's lyrical story offers many examples of nonliteral phrases along with clearly written literal language. Start by discussing the difference between literal and nonliteral phrases. Brainstorm with your students or offer your own examples of nonliteral phrases, such as metaphors, similes, and personification, from daily speech. Then read the book aloud as the students follow along in copies, or have them read it independently. Have them note figurative language and unfamiliar words. As a group, clarify unfamiliar literal

language, then make a list of the figurative language and discuss each phrase. What does the phrase add to the story? How does it make them feel? Is the phrase reflected in the illustrations? Have each student print out one of the phrases and decorate it to add to a bulletin board. Have them add figurative phrases that they run across in other books to the bulletin board, as well.

★ * MORE TITLES FOR READ-ALOUD * ★ *



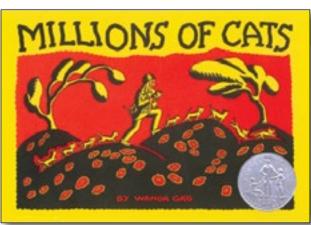
LEAVES

BY DAVID EZRA STEIN 9780399246364 · \$15.99 K-GRADE 2

In this celebration of the seasons, a young bear revels in his first year. After the leaves fall, he hibernates through the winter, then emerges in the spring exuberantly happy. A short text with joyful illustrations, this book is an Ezra Jack Keats Book Award Winner.

ALSO AVAILABLE





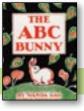
MILLIONS OF CATS

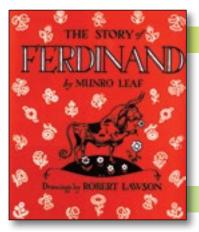
BY WANDA GÁG

(HC) 978O399233159 · \$15.99 - (PB) 978O1424O7O8O · \$7.99 K-GRADE 2

Children will chant along with the refrain "Millions and billions and trillions of cats" in this Newbery Honor Book. Wonderful black-and-white illustrations tell the story of an old couple who want one cat but find themselves with too many.







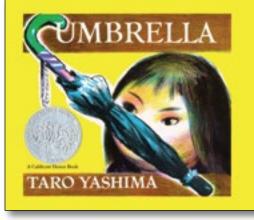
THE STORY OF FERDINAND

BY MUNRO LEAF · ILLUSTRATED BY ROBERT LAWSON (HC) 978O67O674244 · \$17.99 - (PB) 978O14O5O2343 · \$7.99 K-GRADE 2

Everyone loves the mild bull named Ferdinand, who prefers flowers to fighting. When Ferdinand is taken from his field to the city to be in a bullfight, the crowd is in for a surprise in this longtime favorite.



ALSO AVAILABLE



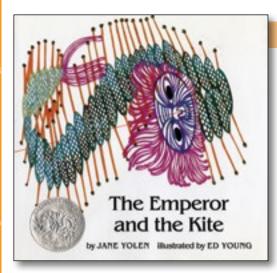
UMBRELLA

BY TARO YASHIMA

(HC) 978O67O73588 · \$16.99 - (PB) 978O14O5O24O4 · \$6.99 K-GRADE 2

A young girl can't wait to use her new umbrella, but it never seems to rain. Then one happy morning she walks to school with the rain beating a rhythmic refrain on her umbrella in this delightful Caldecott Honor Book set in a big city.

* * * FAMILY * * *



THE EMPEROR AND THE KITE

BY JANE YOLEN · ILLUSTRATED BY ED YOUNG (HC) 978O698116443 · \$6.99 - (PB) 978O698116443 · \$6.99 K-GRADE 3

No one pays attention to the Chinese emperor's youngest child, so she passes her time flying kites. But when her father is kidnapped and locked high in a tower, she uses her kites to come to his rescue. Her father finally sees that someone young and small can be of great value. The striking illustrations, which resemble Chinese cut-paper art, extend gracefully across the wide pages.

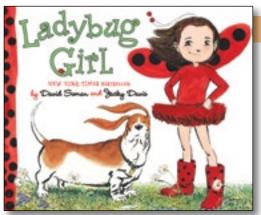
RL.K.6 WITH PROMPTING AND SUPPORT, NAME THE AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR OF A STORY AND DEFINE THE ROLE OF EACH IN TELLING THE STORY.

W.K.7 PARTICIPATE IN SHARED RESEARCH AND WRITING PROJECTS (E.G.,

EXPLORE A NUMBER OF BOOKS BY A FAVORITE AUTHOR AND EXPRESS OPINIONS ABOUT THEM). Read this book aloud to your class, sharing the illustrations. Start with the title, author, and illustrator as given on the title page. After the reading, introduce or review those terms. Go back through the book again as a group and talk about what the author and illustrator each contributed. What would the book be like with only words? What would it be like with only pictures? This activity can be extended by reading another book by Jane Yolen with a different illustrator or a book that Ed Young both wrote and illustrated.

Yolen is a prolific author, which makes her a good choice for the research and writing project in the writing standards. Gather many of her picture books and have students peruse them. Read several aloud. Then have a group discussion in which students express their opinions of the books. Write the opinions on a flip chart or whiteboard, adding hatch marks to indicate how many students share an opinion. Students could also vote on their favorite of the books.

RESOURCES: Find a list of Jane Yolen's books and photographs of her as a child at janeyolen.com/biography.



LADYBUG GIRL

BY DAVID SOMAN AND JACKY DAVIS 9780803731950 - \$16.99 K-GRADE 3

Lulu, dressed in her ladybug costume, is stumped when she has to entertain herself one day when her parents and big brother are busy. But after some setbacks, Lulu uses her imagination to have outdoor adventures with her dog. Lulu's vibrant personality comes across in the cheerful pen-and-watercolor illustrations where she stands out in her red costume, complete with wings. This is the first book in a popular series.

RL.K.7 WITH PROMPTING AND SUPPORT, DESCRIBE THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ILLUSTRATIONS AND THE STORY IN WHICH THEY APPEAR (E.G., WHAT MOMENT IN A STORY AN

ILLUSTRATION DEPICTS). Before reading this book aloud, do a picture walk with the whole group or have them do one in pairs. A picture walk consists of previewing a book through its illustrations and making predictions about the story. It starts with the cover and then goes to the first page with pictures. As you do it with the class, ask simple questions, such as "What do you think this story might be about?" "Where is it taking place?" and "What might happen next?" Respond to student answers without giving away the story, using remarks such as "That seems possible." After the class or paired picture walks, read the story aloud, sharing the pictures. Then have the students discuss which parts of the story they had understood or predicted from the pictures.

RESOURCES: Find many activities and printables at ladybuggirl.com. The nonprofit Reading to Kids provides a useful guide to picture walks at readingtokids.org/ReadingClubs/TipPictureWalk.php.













MISS RUMPHIUS

BY BARBARA COONEY

(HC) 978O67O47958O · \$17.99 - (PB) 978O14O5O5399 · \$7.99 ALSO AVAILABLE IN SPANISH K-GRADE 3

Miss Rumphius, the narrator's great-aunt, vowed as a child to travel far away, then live by the sea when she grew up. Her grandfather suggested one more goal: "You must do something to make the world more beautiful." Glowing detailed paintings follow Miss Rumphius on her travels and back home, where she comes up with a wonderful way to make her world more beautiful in this inspiring story.

RL.2.5 DESCRIBE THE OVERALL STRUCTURE OF A STORY, INCLUDING DESCRIBING HOW THE BEGINNING INTRODUCES THE STORY AND THE ENDING CONCLUDES THE ACTION. This modern classic combines two structures: chronological and cause-and-effect. First read the book as students follow in their own copies. Then have students trace the chronology of Miss Rumphius's life from a little girl to an old woman and what she does in between. The cause-and-effect element is her promise to her grandfather to make the world more beautiful and how she does it. A young narrator frames the story, starting with the phrase "Once upon a time" and ending with her own plans to make the world more beautiful.

Introduce the idea of a story map, a graphic organizer for identifying characters, settings, events, problems, and solutions. Have students reread the book in pairs or small groups and enter the book's components on a story map handout. Then compare answers as a class, creating a group story map from the class discussion.

Another activity is to discuss what things make the world beautiful, such as music and architecture. Dance? Theater? Fashion? Cars? Sports? Have students consider what they could do to beautify the world. They can write about it, draw it, or both, and share their work with one another.

RESOURCES: The Saskatoon Public Schools offers several story map templates. Their Story Map Template 2 includes the components suggested above: olc.spsd.sk.ca/DE/PD/instr/strats/storymapping.



ALSO AVAILABLE



COMING ON HOME SOON

BY JACQUELINE WOODSON · ILLUSTRATED BY E. B. LEWIS 9780399237485 · \$16.99 GRADES 1-4

In this Caldecott Honor Book set during World War II, Ada Ruth stays in the countryside with her grandmother when her mother goes to work in Chicago. Although times are hard, Ada Ruth and her grandmother get by. Ada Ruth writes to her mother and consoles herself with a stray kitten, all the while waiting until the day her mother comes on home. The lyrical text and the impressionistic watercolors bring alive the characters and their emotions.

RL.3.7 EXPLAIN HOW SPECIFIC ASPECTS OF A TEXT'S ILLUSTRATIONS CONTRIBUTE TO WHAT IS CONVEYED BY THE WORDS IN A STORY (E.G., CREATE MOOD, EMPHASIZE ASPECTS OF A CHARACTER OR SETTING).

SL.3.1 ENGAGE EFFECTIVELY IN A RANGE OF COLLABORATIVE DISCUSSIONS (ONE-ON-ONE, IN GROUPS, AND TEACHER-LED) WITH DIVERSE PARTNERS ON GRADE 3 TOPICS AND TEXTS, BUILDING ON OTHERS' IDEAS AND EXPRESSING THEIR OWN CLEARLY.

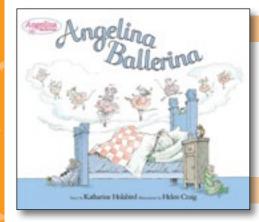
Lewis's illustrations excel at expressing emotions and developing character. After reading the book with the class, have students read it again in small groups, focusing on what the illustrations add in terms of information (furniture, clothing, seasons), action (petting the cat, staring out the window), and characters and their emotions. Have them make notes that link details in the pictures to specific information and emotions.

They should start with the cover, title page, copyright, and dedication, and finish with the back cover. Have them notice where the illustrations echo the text and where they supplement the text. Why are some pictures framed with a circle? Why doesn't the final page have words? Gather again together as a group to go through the book page by page and have students contribute their observations.





* * * MORE TITLES ABOUT FAMILY * * *



ANGELINA BALLERINA

BY KATHARINE HOLABIRD · ILLUSTRATED BY HELEN CRAIG 9780670060269 · \$14.99 K-GRADE 2

Angelina, a little mouse, loves to dance everywhere. Her exuberance causes problems at home and school until her loving parents come up with the perfect solution. Follow Angelina's escapades through many sequels, too.

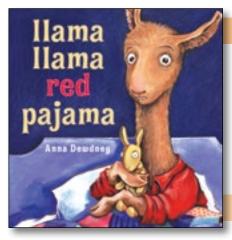
ALSO AVAILABLE











LLAMA LLAMA RED PAJAMA

BY **ANNA DEWDNEY** 9780670059836 · \$17.99 K-GRADE 2

In this rhyming story, Baby Llama puts off going to sleep by calling out a request for a drink. His mother is delayed by a phone call, sending Baby Llama into whimpers and tantrums until his mother makes all well for him. This is the first book in a popular series.

ALSO AVAILABLE

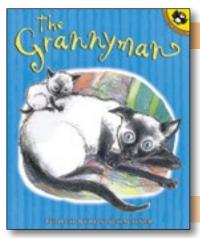










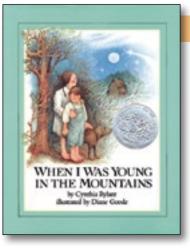


THE GRANNYMAN

BY JUDITH BYRON SCHACHNER
(HC) 9780525461227 · \$15.99 - (PB) 9780142500620 · \$6.99
K-GRADE 3

A cat named Simon is growing old, and his adoring human family makes sure he's comfy and cared for. Simon feels useless until the family gets a kitten who needs his help—almost like he's a grandfather. Vibrant scruffy illustrations show Simon's happy transformation.

ALSO AVAILABLE

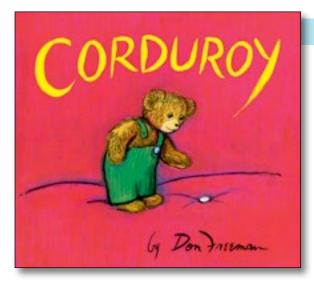


WHEN I WAS YOUNG IN THE MOUNTAINS

BY **CYNTHIA RYLANT** • ILLUSTRATED BY **DIANE GOODE** (HC) 9780525425250 • \$16.99 - (PB) 9780140548754 • \$6.99 K-GRADE 3

A girl remembers growing up in the mountains with her grandfather, who was a miner, and her grandmother, who cooked and cared for the girl and her brother. The simple, poetic text and lovely illustrations, which won a Caldecott Honor, take readers to a guiet, happy time long ago.

* * FRIENDS *



CORDUROY

BY DON FREEMAN (HC) 978O67O24133O · \$16.99 - (PB) 978O14O5O1735 · \$6.99 K-GRADE 2

This classic has won the hearts of generations with its simple story about a bright-eyed teddy bear in a department store who longs for a child to take him home. One day a girl named Lisa wants to buy Corduroy, but her mother refuses, pointing out that he's missing a button. So that night Corduroy sets off to find a button, with humorous consequences. Despite a few setbacks, things work out just right in the end for the lovable bear and his new friend.

RL.K.2 WITH PROMPTING AND SUPPORT, RETELL FAMILIAR STORIES, INCLUDING KEY DETAILS. Read and reread this book with your students, sharing the pictures. Then have students act out the story in their own words,

preserving the book's sequence. Have them look through copies of the book alone or in pairs, noticing who the characters are and what they do. Discuss those topics together as a class. Then divide the students into small groups and have them practice retelling it. Have students rotate which role they play as they act out the story several times. They can have the book at hand for double-checking the sequence, which is clear in the illustrations. The same exercise can be done with the whole class at once, with five students at a time performing in front of the others.

RESOURCES: NCTE's ReadWriteThink website includes an extensive lesson plan for the next book in the series, A Pocket for Corduroy: readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/lesson-plans/journal-corduroyresponding-literature-30.html



ALSO AVAILABLE



OTIS

BY LOREN LONG 9780399252488 - \$17.99 K-GRADE 2

A jaunty tractor named Otis loves working on the farm and playing when his workday is done. Life gets even better when a little calf moves into the barn. Expansive pictures show their friendship and then sadness when Otis is put out to pasture, replaced by a new tractor. But just when the farmer plans to show the calf at the County Fair, she sinks into a muddy pond—and only Otis can save her.

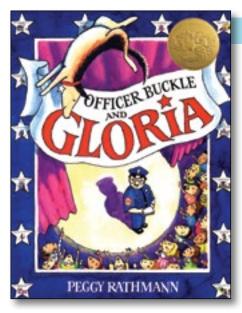
RL.1.3 DESCRIBE CHARACTERS, SETTINGS, AND MAJOR EVENTS IN A STORY, USING KEY DETAILS. First read Otis aloud to the whole class. After reading, ask basic questions, such as "Who is important in this story?" "Where does it take place?" and "What are the big things that happen?" Guide the

discussion to focus on the major elements. Then have children divide into pairs or small groups and assign each group a two-page spread in the book. Their goal is to examine the pictures carefully and notice details about the characters, setting, and action. Come back together as a class and go through the book page by page, reading it again and asking the small groups to report on details they found. You can deepen the discussion with more complex questions, like "What kind of 'person' is Otis?" and "What were the big problems in this book? How were they solved?" Have students draw pictures based on the pages they studied in the book. Assemble the pictures into one long scroll, a format that reinforces story sequence.

RESOURCES: The author's website provides six activity pages, including one about sounds and one about counting: lorenlong.com/otis/otis_activities.html







OFFICER BUCKLE AND GLORIA

BY **PEGGY RATHMANN** 9780399226168 · \$16.99 K-GRADE 3

Officer Buckle visits schools to share safety tips. But the students pay attention when he starts bringing a police dog named Gloria. Gloria loves Officer Buckle, but can't resist acting out the tips behind his back in comical ways. When he learns of Gloria's antics, Officer Buckle feels hurt, but in the end he follows his own safety tip: "Always stick with your buddy." The honed text and hilarious pictures make this Caldecott winner a hit.

RL.1.7 USE ILLUSTRATIONS AND DETAILS IN A STORY TO DESCRIBE ITS CHARACTERS, SETTING, OR EVENTS. This popular read-aloud relies on the details in the illustrations to tell much of the story. The text explains that Officer Buckle and Gloria are visiting schools, but only the pictures show that Gloria is acting out the safety tips in funny ways. First read the book aloud, pointing out that the endpapers are filled with funny safety tips. Then ask students to read, if they can, or study the pictures in their copies, looking carefully for details. Students could be assigned specific two-page

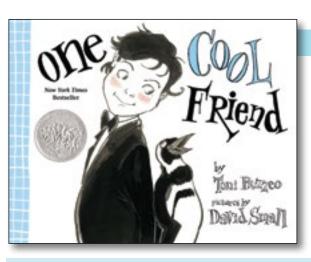
spreads on which to focus. Have them work alone or in small groups to find information, then come back together as a class to go through the book page by page and point out details in text and pictures. Then create a bulletin board of stars, with each star drawn by one student to show one of the details in the book.

AUTHOR TIE-IN: Rathmann's Good Night, Gorilla, another book about animals, also conveys much of its information and humor through the illustrations. Since it is nearly wordless, except for repeated variations on "good night," even students who can't read yet can enjoy it on their own.

RESOURCES: New Hampshire Public Television provides access to the Weston Woods video of this book: video.nhptv.org/video/1688053835



ALSO AVAILABLE



ONE COOL FRIEND

BY **TONI BUZZEO** • ILLUSTRATED BY **DAVID SMALL** 9780803734135 • \$16.99 K-GRADE 3

Elliot, who wears a tuxedo and always speaks politely, isn't looking forward to going to the noisy aquarium with his father. But when Elliot's easygoing father lets his son go off alone, Elliot makes friends with a penguin and takes him home. What will his father say when he finds out? Droll pictures show the delightful escapades of the new friends and a surprising revelation about Elliot's father.

RL.2.6 ACKNOWLEDGE DIFFERENCES IN THE POINTS OF VIEW OF CHARACTERS, INCLUDING BY SPEAKING IN A DIFFERENT

VOICE FOR EACH CHARACTER WHEN READING DIALOGUE ALOUD. The son and father in this entertaining book have distinct personalities conveyed by the dialogue. Read the book aloud to the whole class without creating different voices for the characters. Then lead a discussion about Elliot and his father, asking students what they know about each character from their actions and the illustrations. Ask the students to ground their comments in details. How are the two characters different? How are they alike? You could make a chart to compare them with a heading for each character and their characteristics and actions underneath. Use a line to connect the similar features or actions of each. Ask the students what they think each character would sound like. For example, the father might have a deeper voice, and Elliot might sound more proper. Come to a consensus on each voice and then assign half the students to read Elliot's part and half to read the father's. You can read the narration or assign it to a student, and have the student groups chime in with the dialogue, using the types of voices agreed upon.

RESOURCES: Find an extensive teacher's guide at the author's website: tonibuzzeo.com/booksonecoolfriend.html

* * * MORE TITLES ABOUT FRIENDS * * *



DRAGONS LOVE TACOS

BY ADAM RUBIN - ILLUSTRATED BY DANIEL SALMIERI 9780803736801 - \$16.99 K-GRADE 2

Zany pictures reveal a world of dragon friends who love to party. And the best food for a dragon party? Tacos—but without spicy salsa. If you forget and serve the spicy salsa, watch out for dragon fire!

ALSO AVAILABLE



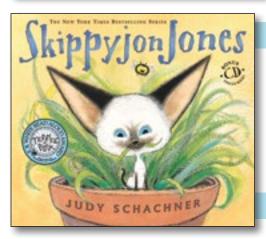
FROGGY'S SLEEPOVER

BY JONATHAN LONDON • ILLUSTRATED BY FRANK REMKIEWICZ (HC) 9780670060047 • \$15.99 - (PB) 9780142407509 • \$5.99 K-GRADE 2

Froggy's excited about his first sleepover at a friend's house. But scary stories and too much popcorn keep the boys awake much longer than they expect in this cheerful story about a first experience. This is just one of the many humorous books in the Froggy series.

ALSO AVAILABLE





SKIPPYJON JONES

BY JUDY SCHACHNER (HC) 9780525471349 · \$16.99 - (PB) 9780142404034 · \$6.99 K-GRADE 3

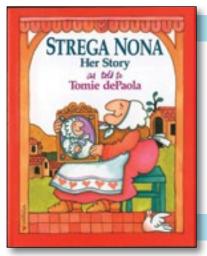
An exuberant kitten bounces around the pages as he imagines being El Skippito, a great sword fighter in Mexico. He makes new friends, trading banter in Spanish and English and fighting off enemies until it's time to return home again. This is the first book in a popular series.

ALSO AVAILABLE









STREGA NONA: HER STORY

BY **TOMIE** DE**PAOLA** (HC) 9780399228186 · \$17.99 - (PB) 9780698118140 · \$6.99 K-GRADE 3

How did the beloved Strega Nona learn her magical ways? She and her friend Amelia take different paths to learning their craft in this charming tale with tidy, colorful pictures.



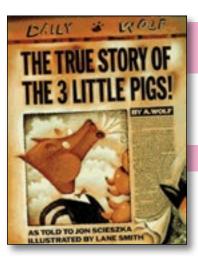








* * * FOLKLORE * * *





THE TRUE STORY OF THE 3 LITTLE PIGS

BY JON SCIESZKA · ILLUSTRATED BY LANE SMITH (HC) 9780670827596 · \$16.99 - (PB) 9780140544510 · \$7.99 AVAILABLE IN SPANISH GRADES 1-4

THE THREE NINJA PIGS

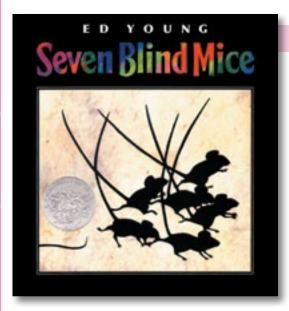
BY COREY ROSEN SCHWARTZ ILLUSTRATED BY DAN SANTAT 9780399255144 · \$16.99 K-GRADE 3

THE TRUE STORY OF THE 3 LITTLE PIGS - Fairy tales don't get much more fractured than this zany retelling of "The Three Little Pigs" from the wolf's point of view. He claims that "the whole Big Bad Wolf thing is all wrong." He was trying to borrow a cup of sugar, he sneezed, and the houses blew in. He was framed! The whimsical illustrations match the tongue-in-check retelling that turns the tale on its head.

THE THREE NINJA PIGS - In this entertaining rhyming version of the classic story, the pigs plan to defeat the wolf by learning martial arts. The first two quit when their lessons get too demanding, but their sister masters karate: "She balanced and blocked like an expert, and practiced her lessons nonstop. By the time she was through, she could break boards in two by performing a perfect pork chop!" Action-packed pictures show her triumph over the villain.

RL.2.9 COMPARE AND CONTRAST TWO OR MORE VERSIONS OF THE SAME STORY (E.G., CINDERELLA STORIES) BY DIFFERENT AUTHORS OR FROM DIFFERENT CULTURES. First review the traditional tale about the three little pigs with your class. Have children tell the version they know or tell it yourself. Point out that folktales used to be told aloud, not written down, and that led to different versions of the same story. Then talk about "fractured fairy tales," in which writers humorously change the traditional story. Read these two versions aloud. Then have students go over the books in small groups, taking special note of what's the same and what's different in the two versions. Give each student a handout with a Venn diagram on it. Have them write similarities and differences in the appropriate spaces, possibly limiting them to four or five items in each space. Come back together as a group and compare what students put in their graphic organizers.

RESOURCES: NCTE's ReadWriteThink offers an interactive tool for students to write their own fractured fairy tales: www.readwritethink.org/files/resources/interactives/fairytales/



SEVEN BLIND MICE

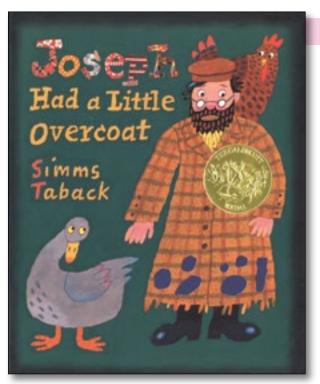
BY ED YOUNG

(HC) 978O39922261O · \$17.99 - (PB) 978O698118959 · \$7.99 K-GRADE 2

This brilliant Caldecott Honor Book retells the story of seven blind mice, using it to reinforce concepts of numbers, colors, and days of the week. The mice, each a different color, go one by one on consecutive days of the week to explore a strange Something that has appeared. This exquisitely beautiful book invites listeners to make their own guesses.

RL.K.1 WITH PROMPTING AND SUPPORT, ASK AND ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT KEY DETAILS IN A TEXT. Read the book aloud, sharing the pictures. Reread it and invite children to ask questions about words they don't know or anything confusing in the pictures. Then make a chart with columns for Number, Color, Day, Guess, and Answer. Go through the book one more time, with children following in their copies, and fill in the chart as a group. The entries for the first mouse would be Number: 1, Color: Red, Day: Monday, Guess: Pillar, and Answer:

Leg. At the end, the white mouse adds a simile for each guess, a wonderful first lesson in figurative language. The story lends itself to acting out because the numbers and days make sequencing clear.



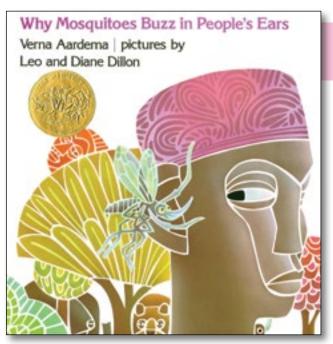
JOSEPH HAD A LITTLE OVERCOAT

BY **SIMMS TABACK** 9780670878550 · \$16.99 K-GRADE 3

In this delightful retelling of a Yiddish folk song, a man named Joseph has an overcoat that gets "old and worn," so he makes it into a jacket. When that's "old and worn," he makes a vest. And so it goes until it seems like nothing's left. Then Joseph makes something surprising: a book. Vivid collage illustrations show Joseph enjoying life in his recycled clothes in this Caldecott Medal winner.

RL.1.2 RETELL STORIES, INCLUDING KEY DETAILS, AND DEMONSTRATE UNDERSTANDING OF THEIR CENTRAL MESSAGE OR LESSON. Read the story aloud to the group, sharing the pictures, pointing out the die-cut holes, and showing the page with the song. You might also want to play the clip from the song, found on Simms Taback's website (see below for link). Then have students retell the story by drawing pictures. Eight-page books can be made by folding two 8-1/2 x 11 pieces of paper in half and stapling them together, providing enough pages for each piece of clothing. Each student will create his or her own book just like Joseph did. Then display the books for everyone to see.

RESOURCES: Here is the folk song with a little video of the book: www.simmstaback.com/Simms_Taback_Videos_-_Joseph_Had_a_Little_Overcoat.html



WHY MOSQUITOES BUZZ IN PEOPLE'S EARS

BY VERNA AARDEMA
ILLUSTRATED BY LEO AND DIANE DILLON
(HC) 9780803760899 · \$16.99 - (PB) 9780140549058 · \$7.99
ALSO AVAILABLE IN SPANISH
K-GRADE 3

Outstanding storytelling and large gorgeous illustrations make this Caldecott winner a great read-aloud. It opens in the jungle with a mosquito annoying an iguana. The iguana puts sticks in his ears to block the noise and so ignores a python's greeting, setting off a chain reaction among jungle animals that results in Mother Owl not waking the sun. At a hearing, King Lion investigates the events, which lead back to Mosquito.

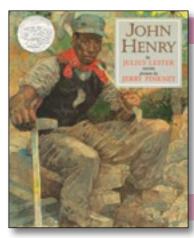
RL.3.2 RECOUNT STORIES, INCLUDING FABLES, FOLKTALES, AND MYTHS FROM DIVERSE CULTURES; DETERMINE THE CENTRAL MESSAGE, LESSON, OR MORAL AND EXPLAIN HOW IT IS CONVEYED THROUGH KEY DETAILS IN THE TEXT.

This well-loved folktale is a pourquoi tale, a story that purports to explain a common phenomenon—in this case, why mosquitoes buzz around people's ears. The story's central message, however, is that one small action can cause an unexpected series of other actions and have serious consequences. Read the story aloud to the class. After the reading, discuss the story and its message. What set off the series of events? What were the consequences? How was the problem resolved?

The folktale has eight speaking roles plus the narrator. Do a group reading of the tale by assigning each role to one or more students to read together. Have them practice their parts and then have the group read it aloud. An alternative is to have some students act out the parts while others read aloud.

RESOURCES: New Hampshire Public Television provides access to the Weston Woods video of this book: video.nhptv.org/video/1689064464

*** MORE TITLES ABOUT FOLKLORE * ★ ***



JOHN HENRY

BY JULIUS LESTER · ILLUSTRATED BY JERRY PINKNEY (HC) 9780803716063 · \$18.99 - (PB) 9780140566222 · \$7.99 **GRADES 1-5**

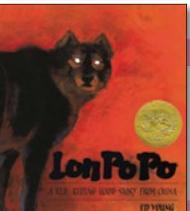
This oversize Caldecott Honor Book retells the legend of John Henry with a colloquial voice and impressionistic watercolors. The tall tale hero, who's enormously strong, takes on his bigaest challenge when he pits his great strength

against a newfangled machine—and wins.

ALSO AVAILABLE







LON PO PO: A RED-RIDING HOOD STORY FROM CHINA

BY ED YOUNG

(HC) 978O39921619O · \$16.99 - (PB) 978O698113824 · \$6.99 **GRADES 1-4**

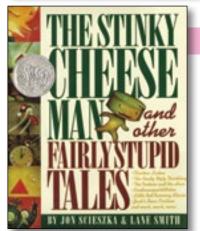
Three children are home alone with the door latched when it seems their grandmother has arrived. It turns out to be a wolf, and the oldest of the children schemes to defeat him.

Graceful illustrations divided into panels reflect the story's Chinese origins.

ALSO AVAILABLE



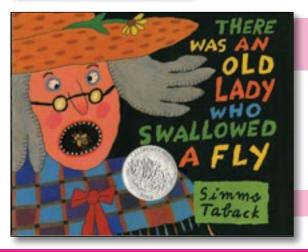




THE STINKY CHEESE MAN AND OTHER FAIRLY STUPID TALES

BY JON SCIESZKA · ILLUSTRATED BY LANE SMITH 9780670844876 - \$17.99 **GRADES 1-5**

Traditional tales like "Little Red Riding Hood" and "Jack and the Beanstalk" will never be the same! This Caldecott Honor Book plays with the stories and the whole concept of a book. It's a collection of fractured fairy tales that keeps kids laughing.



THERE WAS AN OLD LADY WHO SWALLOWED A FLY

BY SIMMS TABACK 9780670869398 · \$16.99 K-GRADE 2

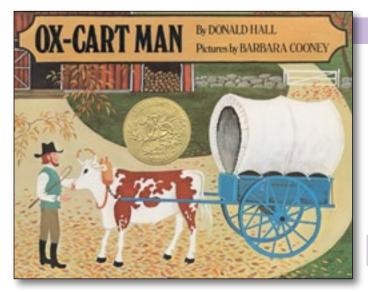
The childhood song comes to life in vividly colored, funny pictures in this Caldecott Honor Book. Each animal that the old lady swallows, from fly to horse, peeks through die-cut pictures that grow bigger and bigger until the explosive end.







* * HISTORY * *



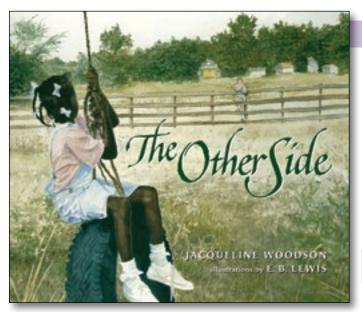
OX-CART MAN

BY DONALD HALL · ILLUSTRATED BY BARBARA COONEY (HC) 978O67O533282 · \$16.99 - (PB) 978O14O5O4415 · \$6.99 K-GRADE 3

Set many years ago in New England, this memorable Caldecott winner opens with a man packing his oxcart to take goods to market. He and his family have worked all year to make candles and brooms, grow potatoes and apples, and more. He walks the laden cart to a city, sells everything, buys what the family needs, and walks home through the beautiful countryside, all depicted in exquisite paintings with a folk art feel.

RL.1.1 ASK AND ANSWER QUESTIONS ABOUT KEY DETAILS IN A TEXT. This poetic book focuses on the objects that the farmer brings to market. Read it aloud slowly to the class, showing them the pictures or having them follow along in

copies. Reread it, telling the students to be alert to details in the text and pictures. Then draw a large chart with three columns. Have students name objects they noticed, such as candles, brooms, mittens, potatoes, and more. Write the objects in the first column. You can read through one more time to add objects that weren't remembered. In a discussion, students can ask about objects they aren't familiar with. As a group, decide on general categories for the objects, such as food or transportation, to put in the second column. In the third column, indicate based on discussion if the object is something the students use in their lives now, which will highlight similarities and differences with times past. Have each student draw one of the objects and label it with its name. Create a large oxcart for a bulletin board and fill it with the labeled pictures.



THE OTHER SIDE

BY JACQUELINE WOODSON · ILLUSTRATED BY E. B. LEWIS 9780399231162 - \$16.99 **GRADES 1-5**

Clover knows that a fence divides the small town's black population from their white neighbors. Her mother says it's not safe to climb over. But when Annie, a white girl with a pretty smile, moves in next door, Clover sees she's lonely. So one groundbreaking day, Clover approaches the fence and the two girls start talking. Could it be the beginning of a friendship? Luminous watercolors skillfully convey the girls' personalities and emotions.

RL.2.3 DESCRIBE HOW CHARACTERS IN A STORY RESPOND TO MAJOR EVENTS AND CHALLENGES. This powerful story about reaching across the "fence" of racial prejudice shows two girls who make a courageous choice. Read the book aloud to

the class. After the reading, have a general discussion about the book. Ask students to identify the characters and setting, which is historical without a specific date given. Then talk about what happens in the book. Students may simply see a plot about the narrator befriending a lonely new girl; some may recognize the theme of racial prejudice. Talk about both themes and why it takes courage to cross boundaries. What role do the mothers play? And Clover's friends? Go back to the illustrations to look at how the fence symbolizes the barriers between the girls and the races. Reread the book

aloud and then talk about the last page of the book and what it means.







THE GLORIOUS FLIGHT: ACROSS THE CHANNEL WITH LOUIS BLÉRIOT

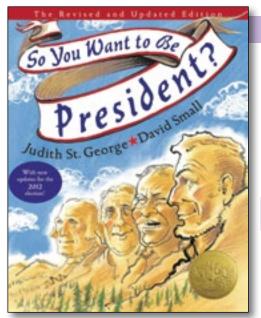
BY ALICE AND MARTIN PROVENSEN (HC) 9780670342594 · \$17.99 - (PB) 9780140507294 · \$6.99 GRADES 1-5

In 1909, Louis Blériot was the first person to fly across the English Channel. This excellent informational book opens with the Frenchman's first glimpse of an airship overhead, after which he's fascinated with flying. He starts to design and fly gliders and then a series of planes. Despite accidents, Blériot persists and makes history with his 1909 flight. Witty illustrations with a folk art feel bring the past alive in this charming Caldecott winner.

RI.3.3 DESCRIBE THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN A SERIES OF HISTORICAL EVENTS, SCIENTIFIC IDEAS OR CONCEPTS, OR STEPS IN TECHNICAL PROCEDURES IN A TEXT, USING LANGUAGE THAT PERTAINS TO TIME,

SEQUENCE, AND CAUSE/EFFECT. This historical picture book lends itself to creating a time line, a useful graphic organizer for understanding sequence. The time line will have only two specific dates, but it can incorporate pictures as well as words about the events in between them. Read the story aloud slowly. It's helpful to introduce or review Roman numerals, which appear in the story. Have students in small groups or alone go through the book and note the important events in order. Then as a group, agree on a list of events and create a time line, beginning with 1901 and ending with 1909. Students will write labels for the events, including Blériot's series of planes, and draw pictures to attach to the time line. An advanced project would be a time line based on research about air flight that would include Blériot's feat as well as the Wright brothers, Amelia Earhart, and others.

RESOURCES: Free time line tools on the Internet include www.dipity.com and www.xtimeline.com.



SO YOU WANT TO BE PRESIDENT?

BY JUDITH ST. GEORGE · ILLUSTRATED BY DAVID SMALL 9780399243172 · \$17.99 GRADES 3-7

Teddy Roosevelt and his children had pillow fights in the White House. Rutherford Hayes played croquet on the White House lawn. Witty illustrations and a lively text introduce all the US presidents through well-chosen facts and details about them. Unlike most collective biographies, this is organized by topic rather than chronologically, turning a potentially solemn subject into a romp through the presidential past.

RI.3.1 ASK AND ANSWER QUESTIONS TO DEMONSTRATE UNDERSTANDING OF A TEXT, REFERRING EXPLICITLY TO THE TEXT AS A BASIS FOR THE ANSWERS.

This lively introduction to US presidents starts with the title question and then answers many questions about their lives. Begin with a prereading activity in which students brainstorm questions they would like answered about the presidents, such as "Where were they from?" or "Did they have pets?" Read the book aloud. Then have students go through it again in pairs or small groups, noting what questions are answered. Each student will choose three of those questions and write down the answer and the page

number. As a group, create a chart with three columns: questions, answers, and page numbers. For a follow-up, each student could take the role of a president, look through the book for information, and report back to the class with details such as, "I'm Chester Arthur, the twenty-first president, and I played the banjo."

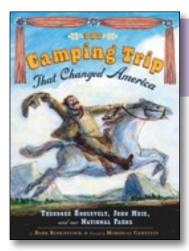
RESOURCES: Penguin offers a teacher's guide with ten activities for this book: www.us.penguingroup.com/static/images/yr/pdf/tl-guide-soyouwanttobepres.pdf

AUTHOR TIE-IN: Steer students to So You Want to Be an Inventor? and So You Want to Be an Explorer? by the same author and illustrator team.





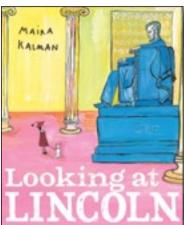
* * MORE TITLES ABOUT HISTORY * *



THE CAMPING TRIP THAT CHANGED AMERICA: THEODORE ROOSEVELT, JOHN MUIR, AND OUR NATIONAL PARKS

BY BARBARA ROSENSTOCK · ILLUSTRATED BY MORDICAL GERSTEIN 9780803737105 - \$16.99 GRADES 1-3

In this true story, President Theodore Roosevelt meets wilderness advocate John Muir for an outdoor trip in California in 1903. While camping together, Muir talks to Roosevelt about saving the wilderness, which inspires Roosevelt's vital role as a conservationist.



LOOKING AT LINCOLN

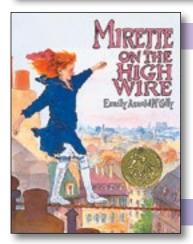
BY MAIRA KALMAN 9780399240393 - \$17.99 **GRADES 2-5**

A girl learns about Abraham Lincoln, wondering aloud about his life and habits. Striking, whimsical paintings reflect the unusual approach of the text that shares information in a personal voice.

ALSO AVAILABLE







MIRETTE ON THE HIGH WIRE

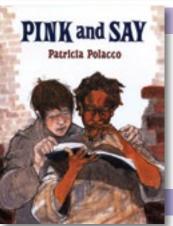
BY EMILY ARNOLD McCULLY

(HC) 978O3992213O9 · \$16.99 - (PB) 978O698114432 · \$7.99 K-GRADE 4

In this Caldecott Medal winner's charming illustrations that echo the French Impressionists, a girl in nineteenth-century Paris learns to walk the tightrope from the Great Bellini. Mirette's persistence helps the world famous tightrope-walker regain his lost courage, leading to a dramatic finale.

ALSO AVAILABLE





PINK AND SAY

BY PATRICIA POLACCO 9780399226717 · \$17.99 **GRADES 3 AND UP**

Two Union soldiers meet behind enemy lines in the South. Pinkus, who is black, rescues Sheldon, who is white and badly wounded. The two take refuge together and become friends, but must flee again to escape marauders. This powerful book is based on a true story.

DOWNLOAD A CURRICULUM GUIDE TO POLACCO'S BOOKS AT PENGUINCLASSROOM.COM









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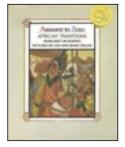


CALDECOTT MEDAL WINNERS

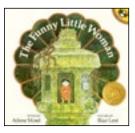




1975: ARROW TO THE SUN



1977: ASHANTI TO ZULU: AFRICAN TRADITIONS



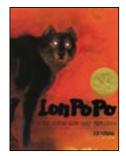
1973: THE FUNNY LITTLE WOMAN



1984: THE GLORIOUS FLIGHT: ACROSS THE CHANNEL WITH LOUIS BLERIOT



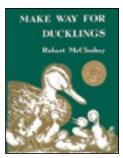
2000: JOSEPH HAD A LITTLE OVERCOAT



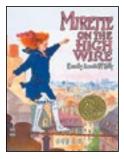
1990: LON PO PO: A RED-RIDING HOOD STORY FROM CHINA



1954: MADELINE'S RESCUE



1942: MAKE WAY FOR DUCKLINGS



1993: MIRETTE ON THE HIGH WIRE



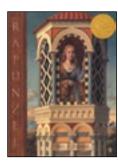
1996: OFFICER BUCKLE AND GLORIA



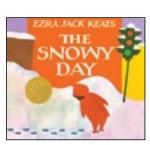
1988: OWL MOON



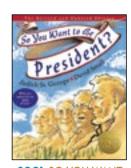
1980: OX-CART MAN



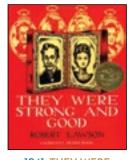
1999: RAPUNZEL



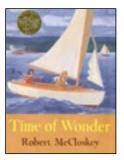
1963: THE SNOWY DAY



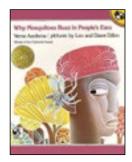
2001: SO YOU WANT TO BE PRESIDENT?



1941: THEY WERE STRONG AND GOOD



1958: TIME OF WONDER



1976: WHY MOSQUITOES BUZZ IN PEOPLE'S EARS

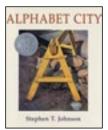
COLLECTION



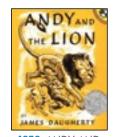


CALDECOTT HONOR WINNERS





1996: ALPHABET CITY



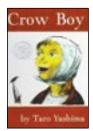
1939: ANDY AND THE LION



1949: BLUEBERRIES FOR SAL



2005: COMING ON HOME SOON



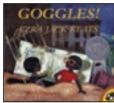
1956: CROW BOY



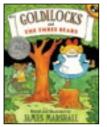
1968: THE EMPEROR AND THE KITE



1958: FLY HIGH, FLY LOW



1970: GOGGLES!



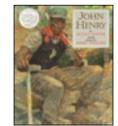
1989: GOLDILOCKS AND THE THREE BEARS



1985: HANSEL AND GRETEL



1975: JAMBO MEANS HELLO: A SWAHILI ALPHABET BOOK



1995: JOHN HENRY



1940: MADELINE



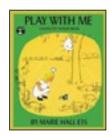
1972: MOJA MEANS ONE: SWAHILI COUNTING BOOK



2013: ONE COOL FRIEND



1953: ONE MORNING IN MAINE



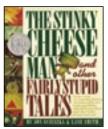
1956: PLAY WITH ME



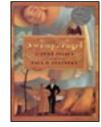
1987: RUMPELSTILTSKIN



1993: SEVEN BLIND MICE



1993: THE STINKY CHEESE MAN AND OTHER FAIRLY STUPID TALES



1995: SWAMP ANGEL



1990: THE TALKING EGGS



1999: THERE WAS AN OLD LADY WHO SWALLOWED A FLY



1970: THY FRIEND, OBADIAH



1959: UMBRELLA



1983: WHEN I WAS YOUNG IN THE MOUNTAINS



1983: WHERE THE BUFFALOES BEGIN



PENGUIN YOUNG READERS GROUP



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