Abegail Prado Children’s Literature

May 18, 2011 Timothy Swann

*1*] Ajmera, Maya, and John D. Ivanko. *Come Out and Play.* Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge, 2001. Print.

**Description:** Children will appreciate the diversity of countries and how American kids can do the same things they do from other countries by reading this book. It talks about the different games and movements that any children could do from around the globe. Real pictures were used to showcase children in more than 35 countries.



**Characters:** children from around the world

**Genre:** Non-fiction, multicultural

**Themes:** games, play, toys, body movements

**Literary Qualities:** easy to read, bold text, real photographs

**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Pre-K through 3 and the reading level is 1st grade.

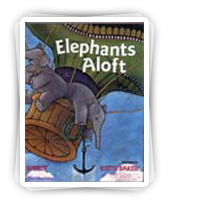
**Personal Response:** I love the pictures of children from different countries and the explanation on how playing a string can be a game in Egypt and speeding down a hill in a snow for children in the United States.

**Instructional Uses:** A PE teacher can use this book when explaining body movements or games in PE with the touch of cultural differences. Pre-K teacher can use this for a topic on “I can do this” and initial sounds.

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*2]* Appelt, Kathi, and Keith Baker*. Elephants Aloft.* San Diego: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1993. Print.

**Description:** This book is exclusively prepositions where the pictures tell the story. Two baby elephants climb in a hot air balloon, float above the onion-domed structures, between stone pillars, behind a waterfall, beyond the rainbow, going to Africa and "into the arms of Auntie Rwanda."



**Characters:** Two baby elephants and Auntie Rwanda

**Genre:** fiction, concept book

**Themes:** preposition, telling positions, family, flying

**Literary Qualities:** The story only uses prepositions together with the big pictures of the elephant and their adventure.

**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Pre-K through 3 and the reading level is 1st grade.

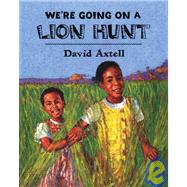
**Personal Response:**  I love the big illustrations and words. It’s cute and makes every child wonder how two baby elephants can fly using a hot-air balloon.

**Instructional Uses:** It can be used for a Pre-K class using the prepositions, above, under, below, beside, etc. for a topic in telling positions.

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*3]* Axtell, David. *We're Going on a Lion Hunt.* New York: Holt, 2000. Print.

**Description:** In African savanna, two loving sisters enjoy a day's adventure. With fruit, juice, and teddy bear in hand, they travel through towering green grasses under the watchful eye of a giraffe, swim through a dappled blue lake with zebras and a flamingo, and pull each other through a squishy swamp to a hippopotamus. They wake the lion sleeping in his cave, and as he follows them, they arrive home and shut the door safely.



**Characters:** two sisters from African savanna, giraffe, zebra, flamingo, hippopotamus, lion

**Genre:**  fiction, adventure

**Themes:** Africa, telling positions, adventure

**Literary Qualities:** Big watercolor illustrations that are appealing and movements that students can imitate, and a catchy song for the readers.

**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Pre-K through 3 and the reading level is 1st grade.

**Personal Response:** I think this book is great for camping stories about animals and what can be found in a savanna forest.

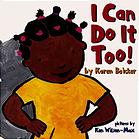
**Instructional Uses:** This could be one of the books to read for Pre-K students about telling positions where they can also be motivated to know what will happen next because of its adventure theme.

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*4]* Baicker, Karen, and Ken Wilson-Max*. I Can Do It Too!* Brooklyn, N.Y: Handprint Books, 2003. Print.

**Description:** Supported by her family, an African American girl is self confident about what she can do and in turn supports a younger family member. The heartwarming story reminds us how satisfying it is to grow up surrounded by love.

**Characters:** Dad, little girl, Sister, Grandma, Grandpa, Uncle, Mom, Best friend, Neighbor, Baby



**Genre:**  Realisticfiction

**Themes:** family, “I can do it”

**Literary Qualities:** Getting love and support from all the people around her gives heart-warming feeling. Watercolor pictures with black outlines make the pages appealing.

**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Pre-K through 3 and the reading level is 1st grade.

**Personal Response:** I was touched at the end of the story, how all the family members are gathered around in the living room and supporting one of their little members. This is a wonderful book to read for the Pre-schoolers.

**Instructional Uses:** This can be read by a Pre-K teacher on the topic of “I can” and movements.

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*5]* Bruel, Robert O, and Nick Bruel. *Bob and Otto*. New Milford, Conn: Roaring Brook Press, 2007. Print.



**Description:**  Bob and Otto were very good friends who looked pretty much alike and loved to do pretty much the same things. Then one day, Otto the worm is shocked to discover that his best friend Bob is actually a caterpillar who emerges one day as a butterfly. They discovered how each one became a help to the other like a chain reaction.

**Award:** 2009 Chickadee Award – Honors; 2009 Black-Eyed Susan Picture Book Award

**Characters:** Bob and Otto

**Genre:** fiction

**Themes:** life cycle of a butterfly, crawling insects, worm, telling positions, friendship

**Literary Qualities:** Colorful pictures and description of what Bob and Otto do on the tree and under the ground are shown on the same pages.

**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Pre-K through 3 and the reading level is 1st grade.

**Personal Response:** The love the pictures and how each characters were doing two different things at the same time.

**Instructional Uses:** This could be a good book to read when talking about life cycle of a butterfly or other crawling animals during spring time. It is also a great book to read when discussing the topic on telling positions.

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*6]* Carle, Eric. *The Very Clumsy Click Beetle*. New York: Philomel Books, 1999. Print.



**Description:** A clumsy young click beetle fell on the ground upside down and does not know how to land on his feet. A wise old beetle taught him how to do it, and he met various animals who gave him words of encouragement as he learns how to click and flip through the air and land on his feet.

**Characters:** young click beetle, wise old click beetle, worm, turtle, snail, mouse, boy

**Genre:**  fiction, board book

**Themes:** patience, encouragement, self-confidence

**Literary Qualities:** An electronic chip with a built-in battery creates clicking sounds to accompany the story. There are words of encouragement from the animals around the beetle.

**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Pre-K through 3 and the reading level is 1st grade.

**Personal Response**: At the end of the story, I was surprised with the cricket sound. It’s cute and will really be appreciated by the little ones.

**Instructional Uses:** This is a good book to teach students on character building. This could also be read by a Pre-K teacher for at topic about body movements and telling positions. In PE, this is a great book for building gross motor skills. To prevent clumsiness, students can stand on one foot, walk on a taped line, play hopscotch, and walk a balance beam. This could also be used for a topic in Poetry writing.

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*7]* Demarest, Chris L. *My Little Red Car*. Honesdale, Pa: Caroline House, Boyds Mills Press, 1992. Print.

**Description:**  A little boy received a red car on his birthday and wished things that he wants to do when he grows up. Together with his little red car, he will travel the world, cross many streams, go up the mountains, explore the city, visit other places and heads back home when it gets dark. It’s a beautiful book about child’s imagination and places to visit.

**Characters:** little boy, little red car



**Genre:** fiction

**Themes:** dream, imagination, travel

**Literary Qualities:** Water color illustrations that cover the whole pages. It has a simple, yet a good story to teach little kids to dream big for their future.

**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Pre-K through 3 and the reading level is 1st grade.

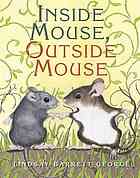
**Personal Response:** The book is a little old for me compared to most of the books that I’ve read. But I like how the simple child’s imagination tells the readers about things that he wants to do when he grows up.

**Instructional Uses:** This is a wonderful book to tell about places around the world while discussing the topic on telling positions for Pre-K and Kindergarten.

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*8]* George, Lindsay B. *Inside Mouse, Outside Mouse.* New York: Greenwillow Books, 2004. Print.

**Description:**  Two mice, one who sleeps inside the house in a clock and one who sleeps outside the house in a stump, follow complicated but strangely parallel paths and meet each other at a window.



**Characters:** the inside mouse and outside mouse

**Genre:** fiction

**Themes:** opposite, telling positions

**Literary Qualities:** The comparison of the lives of the two mice are shown in the opposite pages

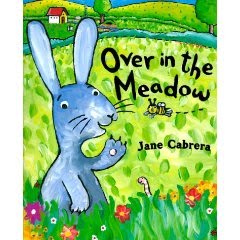
**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Pre-K through 3 and the reading level is 1st grade.

**Personal Response:** I like the big pictures for every page and the words written at the bottom. The two mice are compared on the opposite pages, and describing what is the difference between a mouse that lives inside and outside the house. I personally don’t like rodents, so this was the last book in my mind to pick. But I would say, it has described well the difference between the two.

**Instructional Uses:** This is a good book to teach about positions like beside, under, over, between, and the like for Pre-K and Kindergarten.

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*9]* Cabrera, Jane. *Over in the Meadow*. New York: Holiday House, 2000. Print.



**Description:**  This is a variety of counting rhyme that introduces different animals over in the meadow and their activities. This book is based on the song by the same title, so it is a fun read as well as a fun sing. But even if you don't know the song, the words are simple and funny. Children can follow along easily with the repeated pattern of words. The book revolves around different animal moms and their babies. The animals' homes and their actions are quite funny for children, especially if they pretend to be the animal babies.

**Characters:** toads, fishes, bluebirds, muskrats, bees, crows, crickets, lizards, frogs, spiders

**Genre:** fiction

**Themes:** counting, animals, rhymes

**Literary Qualities:** Vibrant pages teeming with brilliantly colored animals.

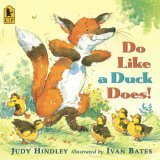
**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Pre-K through 3 and the reading level is 1st grade.

**Personal Response:** I enjoyed singing/reading this book with the Pre-K class.

**Instructional Uses:** Students can learn counting from 1 to 10 and identifying the first letter of the words as well as introducing rhymes.

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*10]* Hindley, Judy, and Ivan Bates. *Do Like a Duck Does*. Cambridge, MA: Candlewick Press, 2002. Print.



**Description:**  A mother duck proves that the hairy stranger is a fox and not a duck by challenging the fox and imitating her behavior and the ducklings.

**Award:** Booklist Editors' Choice

**Characters:** mother duck, ducklings, fox

**Genre:** fiction

**Themes:** trust, how animals move, animal story, honesty

**Literary Qualities:** Big book of colorful watercolor pictures.

**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Pre-K through 2 and the reading level is 1st grade.

**Personal Response:** It’s funny and I love the pictures, which adds more laugh to the story. The illustrations show a lot emotion too!

**Instructional Uses:** In Science, teachers can discuss the animal duck, how it moves, its sound, what it eats, etc. It can also inject the values of compassion and honesty while discussing this book. The students can also predict what will happen next to the story as the teacher read aloud.

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*11]* Hutchins, Pat*. Rosie's Walk.* New York: Macmillan, 1967. Print.

**Description:** Rosie, the hen takes a walk around the farmyard. Unaware that a fox is after her, she was able to get rid of the fox after he gets into one accident after another.



**Award:** ALA Notable Books For Children

**Characters:** Rosie (the hen), fox

**Genre:**  fiction

**Themes:** chronological pattern, community and neighborhoods, family relationships

**Literary Qualities:** Humorous and colorful illustrations that uses dominant shades of yellow and red.

**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Pre-K through 2 and the reading level is 1st grade.

**Personal Response:** I like the type

**Instructional Uses:** It makes a good large group activity if you use sentence strips and a pocket chart. Children can assemble the story with simple pictures for clues. They can trade pictures for print and vice versa. Early map skills can be developed through making a crow's eye view of the barnyard with Rosie's landmarks carefully labeled. Children can move Rosie and the fox around the map as the story is read aloud.

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*12].* Kalan, Robert, and Byron Barton*. Jump, Frog, Jump!* New York: Greenwillow Books, 1981. Print.

**Description:** A tale in which a frog tries to catch a fly without getting caught itself. It was able to escape from his predators and shows his place in the natural world.



**Characters:** frog, fly, snake, fish, turtle

**Genre:** fiction

**Themes:** frogs

**Literary Qualities:** Rhyming words and can be fun for readers because of the sequencing in the story.

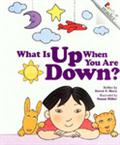
**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Pre-K through 2 and the reading level is 1st grade.

**Personal Response:** This is an old book and not very appealing for me. The story still is catchy because of the pattern in the story from turtle to the frog…that eats this and that.

**Instructional Uses:** After read aloud, teacher can point out the repetition of the phrase “Jump, Frog, Jump” and encourage students to predict when it will occur and to join in repeating it. Point out the accumulation of events and let students try to repeat the sequence as it occurs in the story. Teacher can have an art activity, where students will make their own frogs and lily pads using construction papers.

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*13]* Marx, David F, and Susan Miller. *What Is Up When You Are Down*? New York: Children's Press, 2000. Print.



**Description:** The boy illustrates questions and answers about what is up and down, in and out, cool and hot?

**Characters:** Chinese boy

**Genre:** fiction, multicultural

**Themes:** question and answer, synonyms and antonyms

**Literary Qualities:** The character has Chinese eyes that make it interesting for young readers if the boy came from a different county.

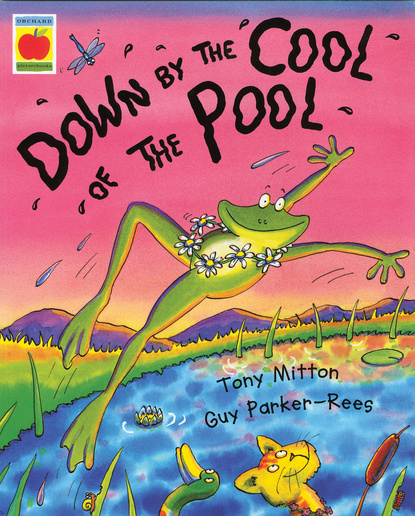
**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Pre-K through 1 and the reading level is 1st grade.

**Personal Response:** This is a very easy book and I was surprised to see a Chinese-looking boy in the cover. Pre-K and Kindergarten students will enjoy this book because it has a short story and very handy.

**Instructional Uses:** In Language Arts, students can learn opposites and have a game of identifying what things can be found from up or down.

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*14]* Mitton, Tony, and Guy Parker-Rees*. Down by the Cool of the Pool.* New York: Orchard Books, 2002. Print.



**Description:**  Join Frog and his farmyard friends as they dance around the pool. Flip and flop, splish and splash, stomp and stamp! This little story has lots of noises for children to have fun with. It’s guaranteed to make them all laugh!

**Characters:** cat, cow, dog, donkey, duck, frog, goat, pig, pony, sheep

**Genre:**  fiction

**Themes:** animals

**Literary Qualities:** Reading the story in rap music can be fun and exciting for the readers.

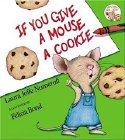
**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Pre-K through 3 and the reading level is 1st grade.

**Personal Response:** I like this story because it let me rap/sing along and the kids enjoy it too! There are plenty of games that can be integrated with this book.

**Instructional Uses:** Flashcard game, where the teacher puts on the board different pictures of the animals that will be mentioned in the story. The teacher then reads the story to the class. After the read aloud, students will arrange the animals in order as how they were mentioned first to last in the story.

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*15]* Numeroff, Laura J, and Felicia Bond. *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie.* New York: HarperCollinsPublishers, 1996. Print.



**Description:**  This is a story about a boy who gives a cookie to a mouse, which in turn asks for various other favors. At length this leads back around to the mouse wanting another cookie.

**Characters:** mouse, boy

**Genre:**  fiction

**Themes:** wants, satisfaction, sequencing

**Literary Qualities:** Funny and cute illustrations of the mouse with the boy

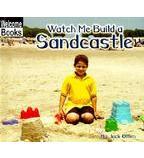
**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Pre-K through 3 and the reading level is 2nd grade.

**Personal Response:** Anyone who reads this will keep on reading it over and over again because of its funny story. It is easy to understand especially for read aloud.

**Instructional Uses:** After read aloud, students will go through an activity where they will give the sequencing of the things that the mouse wants. The teacher will introduce the topic of cause and effect afterwards using the sequencing of events in the story. Students will also write in a piece of paper the things that they want or something that they don’t have yet but want to get. Then teacher will ask them to write the things that they need, at the end, students will differentiate wants from needs.

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*16]* Otten, Jack. *Watch Me Build a Sandcastle*. New York: Children's Press, 2002. Print.



**Description:**  Jim is a boy who loves making sand castles at the beach. He will guide you to the steps on how to make a sandcastle in this book.

**Characters:** Jim

**Genre:** non-fiction

**Themes:** building things, beach, how-to

**Literary Qualities:** The photo-essay makes it more interesting for visual learners. At the back, there is a glossary, suggested books and websites and index.

**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Pre-K through 3 and the reading level is 1st grade.

**Personal Response:** This book was never checked-out in my library this year. But when I showed this to my student, she liked it! The how-to concept of this book makes it easier to read because of the real photographs and predictable text pattern in each page.

**Instructional Uses:** Pre-K students will appreciate the steps on how to create sandcastle in this book and do it by themselves using the sandbox. The parts of the house can also be discussed after a read aloud.

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*17]* Steinberg, Laya, and Debbie Harter. *Thesaurus Rex.* Cambridge, MA: Barefoot Books, 2003. Print.



**Description:**  Thesaurus Rex is a playful young dinosaur with a way with words. He especially likes trying out synonyms as he starts his day, drinks his milk, goes exploring, plays and prepares himself before going to bed.

**Awards:**

* Children’s Round Table 2X 2 Reading List selection--2004
* Top 20 books recommended for children age 2 to grade 2
* Junior Library Guild List--2003

**Characters:** Thesaurus Rex

**Genre:**  fiction

**Themes:** dinosaurs, keeping body healthy, synonyms

**Literary Qualities:** Big book of illustrations. Know action words that have the same meaning.

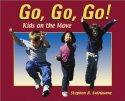
**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Pre-K through 3 and the reading level is 2nd grade.

**Personal Response:** The little ones will especially love this book because of the dinosaur theme where the character bounces, jumps, springs and flies through the colorful pages, all the while introducing them to the wide world of synonyms.

**Instructional Uses:** Teacher will introduce verbs, which are the actions in a sentence. They are what people or animals do during each day. After read aloud, students will make a list of at least ten verbs that they could be doing this week. Then, with a partner, try to think of other verbs that might go with the ones they have.

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*18]* Swinburne, Stephen R. *Go, Go, Go!: Kids on the Move*. Honesdale, PA: Boyds Mills Press, 2002. Print..



**Description:**  This book contains photographs of children cart wheeling, bouncing, dancing, and jumping celebrate the joy of movement and invite youngsters to join in the fun.

**Characters:** children

**Genre:**  fiction

**Themes:** body movements

**Literary Qualities:** Excellent photographs that describes the body movements.

**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Pre-K through 1 and the reading level is 1st grade.

**Personal Response:** I like the photo-essay on each page because it explains well what the text is all about, especially for the early readers.

**Instructional Uses:** In PE, the lesson can be understood better after a read aloud of this book. Then teacher will teach each student how to do the body movements listed in this book.

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*19]* Watt, Mélanie*. Scaredy Squirrel.* Toronto: Kids Can Press, 2008. Print



**Description:**  Scaredy Squirrel is afraid to leave his nut tree because of all the dangers, but one day a bee invades Scaredy's nest and he leaps into the unknown.

**Award:** ALA Notable Books For Children

**Characters:** Scaredy Squirrel, bee

**Genre:**  fiction

**Themes:** conquering fear, anticipating danger

**Literary Qualities:** Colorful pages with brief descriptions and drawings of Scaredy Squirrel’s everyday routine. There is a touch of humor in the story.

**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Pre-K through 2 and the reading level is 2nd grade.

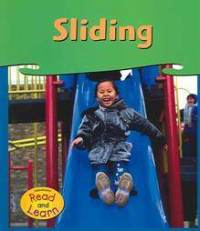
**Personal Response:** This is funny, cute and very interesting. It is not just an animal fiction book, but a great story to read for kids who are always afraid of something.

**Instructional Uses:** The teacher can teach the students how to resolve their fear. They can work as a team and each member from a team will think of one thing they are always afraid of and haven’t tried yet. After read aloud, students will identify what are the things Scaredy Squirrel was afraid of doing. This could also be used to introduce safety tips in school.

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*20]* Whitehouse, Patricia. *Sliding.* Chicago, Ill: Heinemann Library, 2003. Print.

**Description:**  Pictures and words in the book demonstrate the properties that make sliding easier or more difficult.



**Characters:** children

**Genre:** non-fiction

**Themes:** sliding techniques

**Literary Qualities:** Simple experiments to show how to slide. There are also picture glossary, quiz, index and note to parents at the back page.

**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Pre-K through 3 and the reading level is 1st grade.

**Personal Response:** Pre-K students will have an easy time to understand this book because of the real photographs used.

**Instructional Uses:** In PE, students will be asked to show how to slide and where it is easier to slide.

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*21]* Freeman, Don. *Corduroy*. New York: Viking Press, 1968. Print.



**Description:**  A toy bear in a department store wants a number of things. He left to find the things that he wants, but the watchman saw him and brought him back to the store. When a little girl finally buys him, he finds what he has always wanted most of all.

**Characters:** Corduroy, little girl, mom of the little girl, watchman, sales lady

**Genre:**  fiction

**Themes:** caring, friendship, imagination  
**Literary Qualities:** All pages have drawing illustrations with black lining and few texts to go with the illustrations.

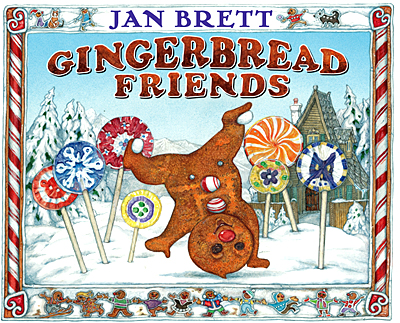
**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Pre-K through 3 and the reading level is 3rd grade.

**Personal Response:** The cute story of a bear seeking for what he wants makes it a touching story for young readers.

**Instructional Uses:** Students can make their own bear using a brown paper bag. When they are finished with their own bear design, they have to share to the class their work.

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*22]* Brett, Jan. *Gingerbread Friends*. New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2008. Print. **Description:**  Lonely Gingerbread Baby, having set out to find a friend, enters a bakery where he tries to talk to different cookies and other figures, but winds up leading a crowd back to his house on a chase similar to the one in the familiar tale.



**Characters:** Gingerbread Baby, Mattie, man and woman cake topper, sugar cookie girl, seven white swans, baker, mouse, cat, fox

**Genre:**  fiction, fantasy

**Themes:** friendship

**Literary Qualities:** Includes one fold-out illustration and a recipe for gingerbread cookies.

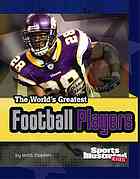
**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Pre-K through 3 and the reading level is 1st grade.

**Personal Response:** This is another version of the Gingerbread Boy. It is great to read during winter because the setting of the story is during that season.

**Instructional Uses:** Teacher can show the students how to make gingerbread cookies as part of “I can” lesson.

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*23]* Doeden, Matt. *The World's Greatest Football Players.* Mankato, Minn: Capstone Press, 2010. Print.



**Description**: The book talks about 12 popular football players from different teams in NFL sports stating a little biography, regular season rushing statistics, achievements, some facts and real pictures on each page. There are also vocabulary words from each page. This would be loved by football fan readers. It also has some glossary, some suggested readings, internet sites, and index.

**Characters:** famous football players in NFL

**Genre:** non-fiction

**Themes:** football, Math

**Literary Qualities:** It has excellent photos of famous NFL players that will really attract readers, especially those who love football. There are Math questions at every page.

**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Grades 2 through 9 and the reading level is 2nd grade.

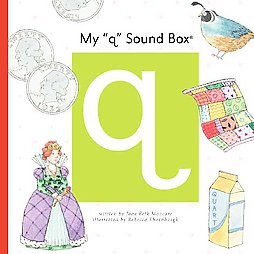
**Personal Response:** I had this book for my library because almost all my boys from 2nd to 6th grades were asking about football books. This is great, because they don’t just read their favorite book, but also they can practice Math problems related to football.

**Instructional Uses:** Math teacher can use this book to teach the concept of PEMDAS using the football score statistics. PE teacher can use this book to teach the concept of football.

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*23*] Moncure, Jane B and [Rebecca Thornburgh](http://www.borders.com/online/store/SearchResults?type=1&contrib=Rebecca+Thornburgh). *My “Q” Sound Book.* Elgin, Ill: Child's World, 2009. Print.

**Description**: The story of the books talks about the adventures of Little “q” with things beginning with the letter Q sound like quilts, quarters, and a quarreling queen. It also teaches a child the concept of counting money using coins / quarters.



**Characters:** little “q”,things and persons that begin with letter Q

**Genre:** non-fiction, concept book

**Themes:** initial word

**Literary Qualities:** The pages have big words and pictures which are attractive for young readers. It also has the word list and activity page in the back. There is also a bibliography for the author and illustrator.

**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Pre-K through 3 and the reading level is 1st grade.

**Personal Response:** Teachers have been asking about this book in my library especially the Head Start and Pre-K teachers. They said this is really a good book because the words are simple and easy to understand for readers.

**Instructional Uses:** Language Arts from Pre-K to 1st Grade can use this book for teaching the initial sound of letter “q”.

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*24]* McAllister, Margaret, and Peter Utton. *The Magic Porridge Pot.* Minneapolis, Minn: Picture Window Books, 2007. Print.

**Description**: The story was about good woman named Mrs. Molly, who adopted 4 children, took care, feed and loved them as her own. She is a very kind woman and one cold winter night, she gave shelter to an old woman and the next morning, their guest has repaid their kindness by leaving them a very special pot. It gives them delicious food in the morning that they never got hungry again and Mrs. Molly never worried about food even on their birthday occasions. But one day Paul was so excited if he got his wish food come true, that the pot tumbled and smashed and crashed on the floor. Fortunately they found 4 porridge pots on the floor instead of broken pieces of the pots. And they enjoyed more variety of food.



**Characters:** Mrs. Molly, four children

**Genre:** fiction, fantasy

**Themes:** family, helping others

**Literary Qualities:** The book used bigger words and colorful pictures that would make any child interested to read it. It also teaches a good lesson to kids on how to be kind and helpful to others.

**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Grades 2 through 4 and the reading level is 2nd grade.

**Personal Response:** I like its magical story and this is great for early fiction book readers like the 2nd grade students.

**Instructional Uses:** Second grade Language Arts teacher can use this as a sample of fiction book in the fantasy genre.

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*25]* Reed, Gary, and Will Meugniot*. Pandora.* Edina, Minn: Magic Wagon, 2008. Print.



**Description:** It’s the Greek Mythology story of Pandora, who opened the forbidden box. Zeus, the greatest god in Greek mythology locked all the evilness, pain and hurt inside that box and gave it to her and Epimetheus so others won’t find it.

**Characters:** Pandora, Zeus, Epimetheus

**Genre:** graphic novel

**Themes:** Do what you are told to do!

**Literary Qualities:** It’s like a comic book and all the pictures are very colorful. The texts are simple yet any young reader can really follow and be excited about the story. There are also pictures of Greek gods in the first page that maybe interesting for kids to find and read after they read this part of the myth series.

**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Grades 3 through 9 and the reading level is 3rd grade.

**Personal Response:** This was the first graphic novel I purchased in 2008. Kids love it because of the illustrations and the story of Greek Mythology.

**Instructional Uses:** Students will analyze text features to facilitate the understanding of mythology. Students will assume the roles of book editors and will compile collections of myths from cultures they are studying in Social Studies. The student editors will write introductions to their collections explaining how text features have been used to facilitate understanding the content of the myths.

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*26]* Clay, Kathryn. *Ballet Dancing.* Mankato, Minn: Capstone Press, 2010. Print.

**Description**: The Dance, Dance, Dance series supports national physical education standards and the national standards for learning and teaching dance in the arts. This book describes and illustrates ballet. The images support early readers in understanding the text. The repetition of words and phrases helps early readers learn new words. This book also introduces early readers to subject-specific vocabulary words, which are defined in the Glossary section. Early readers may need assistance to read some words and to use the Table of contents, Glossary, Read More, Internet Sites, and Index sections of the book.



**Characters:** little girls dancing ballet

**Genre:** non-fiction, concept book

**Themes:** ballet dancing

**Literary Qualities:** It has real photographs of children dancing ballet, glossary and other websites for further reading. The simple steps on how to dance ballet are easy to do for little girls.

**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Grades 1st through 4 and the reading level is 2nd grade.

**Personal Response:** I purchased this book for my library because little girls are always asking me about books on dancing, especially ballet. I can say this book is really a good one because of the simple steps that are easy to follow.

**Instructional Uses:** PE teacher can use this book for a topic on dancing. Pre-K to Kindergarten can use this for studying the initial sound of ballet or dancing.

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*27]*



**Description**: It’s a cute story about 2 “Secret Service” local doggies, Scratch and Sniff who helped their master, Police Office Penny Penrose to solve the furniture store robbery. It’s a detective story and makes it more interesting to read the next chapters.

**Characters:** Scratch and Sniff

**Genre:** fiction, mystery

**Themes:** detective, helping others, predicting

**Literary Qualities:** It has table of contents for the 5 chapters, black and white pictures on each page, and suggested books for the series at the end of the page. The texts are written in big font size for the early readers. It uses simple words also for easy vocabulary.

**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Grades 2 through 9 and the reading level is 2nd grade.

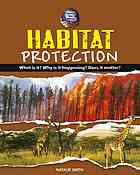
**Personal Response:** This story is cute and readers who love dogs will appreciate reading the story.

**Instructional Uses:** Explain to the students that choosing books about familiar characters helps the reader predict because they already know something about the characters and setting, so they just have to concentrate on the new story problem and events that lead to the resolution of the problem.

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*28]* Smith, Natalie. *Habitat Protection.* New York: Marshall Cavendish Benchmark, 2009. Print

**Description**: The book talks about the different factors that could affect the change of our planet’s habitats like the climate change, pollution, over-fishing, destroying the coral reefs, and deforestation. It also teaches readers on how to help protect habitats like recycling and saving energy.



**Characters:** n/a

**Genre:** non-fiction

**Themes:** protecting the environment

**Literary Qualities:** The pictures are really interesting for readers because they cover the whole page. There are also maps and notes on every page to explain how the picture is related to the topic. There are also trivia questions on each page.

**Age/Grade levels:** The interest level is from Grades 5 through 9 and the reading level is 6th grade.

**Personal Response:** I like the photographs and I used this book for my 6th grade class in Science, on the topic of environmental changes.

**Instructional Uses:** In Environmental Science, students will recognize and describe how environmental change in one part of the world can have consequences for other parts of the world.