



Curriculum
Library
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Save the Date!!

November 9th
(Advisement Day)

Workshop
Series
@ the
CL



Inside This Issue:

Find it @ the CL	I
CL Workshop Series	I
Rambling on with Risch	I
Author Profile	2
A-Rod's Advice	2
Lowdown with Lenaghan	2
Keepin' it Real with Racitano	2

The DL on the CL

Find It @ the CL: Wordless Picture Books

In this year's Caldecott winning book *The Lion & the Mouse* [JUV 398.2 P6557L 2009], Jerry Pinkney tells the well-known Aesop fable entirely through illustration. This book would be great to use with pre-readers who could use the picture clues to "read" the story, but also with older children who could write their own words to accompany the pictures. The CL currently owns 40 wordless picture books. To find them, do a subject search for "stories without words." Other examples of wordless picture books are: *The Snowman* by Raymond Briggs [EAS Bri] – a snowman comes to life and takes a little boy on a journey above a snowy landscape.

Home by Jeannie Baker [EAS Bak] – a neighborhood changes over one girl's lifetime, from deterioration to renewal. *Time Flies* by Eric Rohmann [EAS Roh] – a bird flying around a museum dinosaur exhibit is transported back to the time of the living dinosaurs.

If you are interested in learning more about using wordless picture books to promote literacy, then come to the CL Workshop "The Amazing World of Wordless Picture Books" on November 9 (Advisement Day). You can sign up at the Curriculum Library.

By: Mary Lindner

The Workshop Series

Happy November! This month in the CL is our Workshop Series which will be held on Advisement Day, November 9th. This year we have a variety of workshops including: new kits of the CL, chapter books, connecting ELA to Math, wordless picture books and primary source documents. I would like to highlight our Focus Group. We want to know what you think of the Curriculum Library! What needs improvement? What really works? Please join me to discuss the CL at 11 a.m. on Advisement Day. It is greatly appreciated.

By: Marisa Gitto

Rambling on with Risch

November is such a popular month to teach about Thanksgiving, Elections and Veteran's Day. However, I bet many of you did not know that November is National Adoption Awareness Month. With that in mind, this is a fantastic opportunity to use our resources in the Curriculum Library to educate your students on adoption.

At the CL, we have a few books that focus on adoption. Some of my favorites include, *Adoption is for Always* by Linda Walvoord Girard which

focuses on a young girl who has negative feelings regarding her adoption. In order to make her feel more comfortable, her adoptive family makes her adoption day a family holiday for all to celebrate. Another picture book on adoption is *How I was adopted: Samantha's story* by Joanne Cole. In this book, a young girl tells her story on how she became a member of her adoptive family. Lastly, the informative book *It's Time to Let You Know* by Beth Riedler is written from a parent's

perspective that has given their child up for adoption. Using children's artwork as illustrations, this book shares the reawakening of natural feelings of love from both a parent and an adoptive child.

Since the topic of Adoption Awareness often goes overlooked, make it a point to share this with your students! You can find many useful books on this topic in the Curriculum Library.

-By: Amber Risch

Lowdown with Lenaghan

Hi Everyone! I am sure most of you are feeling the aftermath of the midterm crunch, but there is good news. On Sunday, November 7th at 2 a.m. we get to “fall back” and gain a whole hour! Besides getting an extra hour of zzz’s, the change to daylight savings time allows us to use less energy in lighting our homes by taking advantage of the longer and later daylight hours.

Daylight savings originated during WWI in order to save energy for war production by taking advantage of the later hours of daylight. During WWII, the federal government required all states to observe the time change, later passing the Uniform-Time

Act, which standardized the length of daylight savings time in states that chose to observe it.

If you are wondering how you can apply daylight savings to a lesson in your classroom here are some suggestions: make a connection to science and saving energy, use calendar math to count down the days until daylight savings, ask your students to write about what they will do with their extra hour, and make a connection to WWI and WWII to the benefits of daylight savings. Regardless of how you use daylight savings in your lesson plans, I am sure most of you will be looking forward to the well deserved “extra hour” that we will acquire. Enjoy!
-By: Erin Lenaghan

Keepin’ it Real with Racitano

Gobble, gobble CSD majors! Looking for a great Thanksgiving book to tie in a sound or language concept? Give these a consideration...*Gobble!* The Complete Book of Thanksgiving Words by Lynda Graham-Barber offers a variety of vocabulary words focusing on the Thanksgiving holiday; *More Snacks!* A Thanksgiving Play by Joan Holub is a fantastic resource for blends and plosives/stops; *Turk and Run!* by Lisa Wheeler is a read which can be modified to specifically focus on the “r” sound; *Thanksgiving is for Giving Thanks* by Margaret Sutherland is an excellent choice for teaching concepts, specifically what it

means to be “thankful;” *10 Fat Turkeys* by Tony Johnston is perfect for practicing counting and offers a repetitive phrase to assist with recall skills; *Over the River* by Derek Anderson is a sing-along tale which also uses a repetitive phrase to complete the story, as well as offers ample “r” and “th” practice; finally, *My First Thanksgiving* by Tomie DePaola is an easy read to explain why and how Americans celebrate Thanksgiving. The options are endless in the Curriculum Library. Trot in today to get your thoughts cookin.’
-By: Emily Racitano

A-Rod’s Advice: Celebrate National Children’s Book Week!

Did you know that there is a week in November specifically to celebrate children’s books?! Every year the third week in November is dedicated to children’s books and it’s a national event sponsored by the Children’s Book Council. How can you celebrate this most important week in your classroom? Anyway YOU want! Some suggestions from this teacher and children’s book lover are to dedicate extra time to read-alouds, read many different books by beloved authors of your students (this might change each year!), and have a party at the end of the week celebrating their favorite

authors, books, and them as writers! You can also be sure to showcase different genres to students and be sure to read to them YOUR favorite children’s books (Mine would include *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* and *Clementine!*) To find other suggestions, check out www.cbcbooks.org. While the Children’s Book Council only has one week specifically dedicated to celebrate children’s books, you can celebrate them all year long with these suggestions, and some ideas of your own!

-By: Amanda Rodriguez

Author Profile: David Baldacci

For something new and different, check out *Freddy and the French Fries: Fries Alive* and the sequel, *Freddy and the French Fries: The Mystery of Silas Finklebean* by David Baldacci. If the author’s name sounds familiar, it is. Baldacci is the author of numerous best-selling suspense novels for adults.

The Freddy books are modern fantasies for elementary readers. They feature science geek Freddy T. Funkhouser and his odd but likeable family. The Funkhouser family owns a healthy fast-food joint, The Burger Castle. They are pitted

against their culinary rivals, the Spanker family, who own a restaurant called Patty Cakes. Patty Cakes is fancier and serves food that is a whole lot less healthy. The Funkhousers just can’t understand why customers keep opting for fattening, greasy beef burgers over eggplant hotdogs and tofu burgers.

Freddy is determined to use his brain-power to save the family business. His antics will keep readers entertained and laughing! The adventurous tone and the cartoon-like illustrations make this book especially appealing to boys.

-By: Roseann Marlett

