

1994 Washington Children's Choice Nominated Books and Activities

Circo Bimago -
Mexico -
Mexican
Tale -

BORREGUITA AND THE COYOTE by Verna Aardema illus. by Petra Mathers

This Mexican tale tells of a small ewe lamb named Borreguita who time and again saves its own life by outwitting a hungry coyote. The story is full of humor and the illustrations, by a Northwest artist, are a great addition to the book.

Activities:

* In the beginning of the book there is a glossary that lists a few Spanish words that are found in the story. Go over the words and ask the students if they know other words in Spanish.

Other Books by the Author:

Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears
Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain
Traveling to Tondo



Supplemental Reading:

Pedro and the Padre by Verna Aardema
Song of the Chirimia by Jane Anne Volkmer

Cats -

CHARLIE ANDERSON by Barbara Abercrombie illus. by Mark Graham

One cold night a gray cat walks out of the woods to Sarah and Elizabeth's house. The girls name him Charlie. Charlie comes every night to sleep on Elizabeth's bed, but disappears every morning after drinking a bowl of milk. It's not until a storm keeps him away that Sarah and Elizabeth discover a secret about Charlie; something they have in common with him.

Activities:

* Encourage children to share their experiences of pets who have wandered off to be found again.

* Have children design a "LOST" poster describing Charlie.

Other Books by the Author:

Supplemental Reading:

Six-Dinner Sid by I. Moore
Oscar, Cat About Town by James Herriot
The Christmas Kitten by James Herriot

Cat
of
the
book

MUCKY MOOSE by Jonathan Allen

Mucky was the muckiest, smelliest moose that ever lived. All the other animals were smart enough to keep their distance from Mucky, but not one huge, hungry wolf. The wolf tries time and again to have Mucky for dinner but each time Mucky's odor proves more powerful than the wolf. Students will delight in these illustrations done by the artist of "The Great White Man-Eating Shark".

Activities:

- * Have the students write stories of their own that give new ways that the wolf can approach Mucky.
- * How gross can Mucky be??? Give each student a picture of a "plain" Mucky to decorate

Other Books by the Author:

My Cat and a Bad Case of Animal Nonsense
The Great White Man-Eating Shark (illus.)

Supplemental Reading:

- * *If You Give a Moose a Muffin* by Laura Numeroff
- * *A Moose for Jessica* by Pat Wakefield

CHANGES by Anthony Browne

A boy imagines, (via Browne's surreal illustrations), changes around him as he thinks about what his father said, "things are going to change around here."

Activities:

- * Play the memory game. Tell the students to pay close attention to changes in the pictures as you read the story. Close the book and have students list as many changes as they can remember. Discuss the changes they observed.
- * Have students draw ordinary objects around the library or classroom, making changes as they imagine them.

Other Books by the Author:

Bear Hunt
Gorilla
I Like Books
Piggybook
Willy the Wimp
Willy the Champ

Supplemental Reading:

I Want a Brother Or a Sister by Astrid Lindren
A Chocolate Moose for Dinner by Fred Gwynne



FLY AWAY HOME by Eve Bunting illus. by Ronald Himler

A homeless boy living in an airport, moving from terminal to terminal with his dad, hopes that someday his life will be the way it was before his mom died. A thoughtful, poignant book that will be sure to prompt emotion and discussion.

Activities:

- * Brainstorm a list of social issues. Have students bring in related articles. Discussion leads to awareness.
- * Have a canned food, clothing, or toy drive. Research Second Harvest and other agencies involved in gathering and distributing food and clothing.

Other Books by the Author:

Ghost's Hour, Spook's Hour
How Many Days to America?
The Mother's Day Mice
X *St. Patrick's Day in the Morning*
The Wall



Supplemental Reading:

A Rose For Abby by Donna Guthrie
The Leaves in October by Karen Ackerman
December Stillness by Mary Downing Hahn
Uncle Willie and the Soup Kitchen by Dyanne Disalvo-Ryan
Tight Times by Trina Schart Hyman

FLIGHT by Robert Burleigh illus. by Mike Wimmer

Biographies
3/4/45
Barely clearing electrical wires due to the weight of 5000 lbs of fuel, Charles Lindberg commences his historic flight of 1927. Dramatic full-page illustrations capture hours of tension in the cockpit and the exultation of the landing.

Activities:

- X * Plot Lindbergs route on a world map.
- * Create a chart showing various types of transport between Paris and New York. Have students research, Concord, jet, steamship and sailing ship crossing times, comparing them to Lindbergs crossing time.

Other Books by the Author:

A Man Named Thoreau

Supplemental Reading:

- X *The Glorious Flight* by Alice and Martin Provensen
- X *Clear the Cow Pasture; I'm Coming in For a Landing* by Robert Quackenbush

THAT'S GOOD! THAT'S BAD! by Margery Cuyler illus. by David Catrow

A little boy's series of adventures flow one into another. Each adventure culminates in a spirited exclamation - "Oh, that's bad. No, that's good!" (or vice versa).

Activities:

- * Play a round of Good News! Bad News! (oral activity)
- * Create a positive-negative picture using black and white construction paper.
- * Brainstorm a list of opposites. Share books about opposites.

Other Books by the Author:

Fat Santa
Freckles and Willie
Shadow's Baby
Sir William And The Pumpkin Monster
Weird Wolf

Supplemental Reading:

Beginning To Learn About Opposites by Richard Allington
Rookie Reader - Spiders And Webs by Carolyn Lunn
Look Up, Look Down And Push-Pull-Empty-Full by Tana Hoban

UNDER THE SEA FROM A TO Z by Anne Doubilet photos by: David Doubilet

Exquisite photographs and an informational paragraph accompany each letter of the alphabet, dedicated to a creature of the sea.

Activities:

- * Pinpoint the habitat of each animal on a world map
- * Create real or fictitious soft-sculpture fish. Design, paint, and cut-out the two sides. Staple and stuff the fish with paper.

Other Books by the Author:

Supplemental Reading:

Ocean Parade by Patricia MacCarthy
Swimmy by Leo Lionni

CACTUS HOTEL by Brenda Guiberson illus. by Megan Lloyd

Guiberson provides the analogy of a hotel to explain the importance of the Saguaro cactus to numerous desert dwellers. Charming watercolor illustrations by Megan Lloyd and a story-like quality to the text make this non-fiction book fun and factual.

Activities:

* After having the students draw a picture of a Saguaro, have them list or draw all of the animal that inhabit it.

Other Books by the Author:

Spoonbill Swamp
Lobster Boat
Salmon Story
Turtle People
Instant Soup

Supplemental Reading:

Desert Giant, the World of the Saguaro Cactus by Barbara Bash
Roxeboxen by Alice McLerran
The Hidden Life Of the Desert by Thomas Wetwandt

CHRYSANTHEMUM by Kevin Henkes

Chrysanthemum knew she had the perfect name until she went to school and wilted beneath the teasing of classmates. Music teacher, Mrs. Delphinium Twinkle comes to the rescue when she announces that her new baby will be named Chrysanthemum. Soon all the girls are adopting flower names.

Activities:

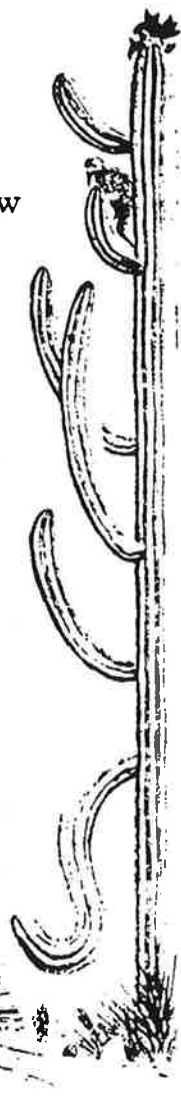
* Brainstorm as many other "flower" names as possible
* Paint a butcher paper mural of flowers that double as names
* Have children research their own names - their derivation, meaning, etc.

Other Books by the Author:

Chesters Way
Jessica
Julius, The Baby Of The World
Sheila Rae The Brave
Shhhh

Supplemental Reading:

The Adventures Of Ali Baba Bernstein by Johanna Hurwitz
Tikki Tikki Tembo
But Names Will Never Hurt Me by Bernard Waber
Turtle Knows Your Name by Ashley Bryan



Multi-cultural
African-
American
stories

AMAZING GRACE by Mary Hoffman illus. by Caroline Binch

Grace comes alive in this picture book with wonderfully expressive illustrations and personality galore. With the encouragement of a loving family, Grace overcomes the negative comments her friends make when she seeks the role of Peter Pan in their class play. After auditions her classmates all agree that "Amazing Grace" will be the best Peter Pan of all. A warm and touching multi-ethnic story.

Activities:

- * Share the original Peter Pan by James Barrie.
- * Using creative dramatics format, allow students to act out parts of Peter Pan, Wendy, etc.
- * Have students name the stories suggested by Grace's various characterizations.

Other Books by the Author:

My Grandma Has Black Hair

Supplemental Reading:

- The Talent Show* by Nancy Carlson
- On Stage Back Stage* by Caryn Huberman and JoAnne Wetzel
- The Almost Awful Play* by Patricia Giff



DEAR MR. BLUEBERRY by Simon James

"Dear Mr. Blueberry, I love whales very much and I think I saw one in my pond today." So begins the correspondence between Emily and her teacher. A lot of fiction interspersed with a little fact will make this charming picture book a nice addition to whale units.

Activities:

- * Working in pairs, have students research three simple facts about an animal.
- * Using the research, have partner A write a letter to partner B asking questions that partner B can answer, again in letter form.
- * Have the children paper-sculpt a whale and draw a pond to put it in.

Other Books by the Author:

Sally And The Limpet

Supplemental Reading:

- All I See* by Cynthia Rylant
- Davy's Dream* by Paul Owen Lewis
- Frog And Toad Are Friends* by Arnold Lobel
- The Jolly Postman* by Janet and Allan Ahlberg



HORACE by Holly Keller

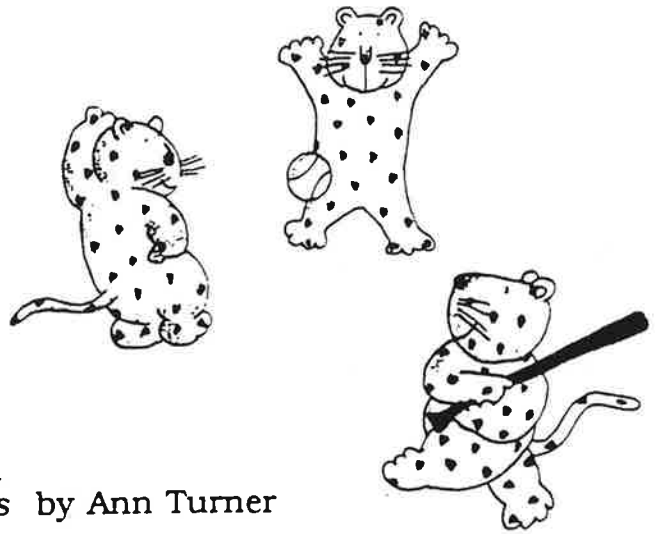
Every night at tuck in time, Horace falls asleep right before the part where his adoptive mother tells him, "We chose you when you were a tiny baby because you had lost your first family and needed a new one. We liked your spots, and we wanted you to be our child." It takes running away for Horace to realize that being part of a family depends on how you feel and not how you look.

Activities:

- * Invite children, adults and families who are involved with adoption.
- * Discuss terms: birth parents, biological parents, adopted parents, family
- * Contact the Washington State Adoption Council: P.O. Box 15190 Seattle, WA 98115-0190 (206) 524-6020 for more information.

Other Books by the Author:

- A Bear For Christmas*
- Cromwell's Glasses*
- Geraldine's Big snow*
- Ten Sleepy Sheep*
- What Alvin Wanted*
- Will It Rain?*



Supplemental Reading:

- Adoption Is For Always* by Linda Girard
- Being Adopted* by Maxine Rosenberg
- Mario's Big Question* by Carolyn Nystrom
- Through Moon And Stars And Night Skies* by Ann Turner
- Tuck Triumphant* by Theodore Taylor

LITTLE TRICKER THE SQUIRREL MEETS BIG DOUBLE THE BEAR

by Ken Kesey illus. by Barry Moser

Told in wonderful, mouth-watering style, Little Tricker the squirrel sets out to bamboozle Big double the bear. What Little Tricker lacks in size, he makes up for in bravery and brains as he leads big Double in a wild game of Follow the Leader.

Activities:

- * Create a play version of the story using stage make-up or paper plate masks.

Other Books by the Author:

Ken Kesey has written several books for adults.

Supplemental Reading:

Tales of Uncle Remus: the Adventures of Brer Rabbit retold by Julius Lester

SIX-DINNER SID by Inga Moore

Sid, the cat, obviously has an eating disorder. He lives with six different families on Aristotle street in order to get six dinners each day. Fortunately for Sid, the people on Aristotle street don't talk to one another. But how long can Sid maintain his six differen lives?

Activities:

- * Make a mural of the street Sid lives on.
- * Design new houses for Sid

Other Books by the Author:

Supplemental Reading:

It's Your Turn, Roger by Susanna Gretz
Grandma, Felix, and Mustapha Biscuit by Victor Ambrus
Amelia's Nine Lives by Lorna Balian

DOODLE FLUTE by Daniel Pinkwater

Kevin Spoon has everything. Mason Mintz has a doodleflute. Kevin Spoon has everything-but a doodleflute. Two boys, one doodleflute-how to solve the dilemma? Some things just can't be bought-like friendship.

Activities:

- * Have students create Doodleflutes or other real or imagined instruments.
- * Have the students make a friendship book as an individual or class project.

Other Books by the Author:

Fat Men From Space
Hoboken Chicken Emergency
Aunt Lulu
I Was A Second Grade Werewolf
Phantom Of The Lunch Wagon
Rogers Umbrella

Supplemental Reading:

Pinky And Rex by James Howe
Because Of Lozo Brown by Larry King
Georgia Music by Helen Griffith
Loop The Loop by Barbara Dugan
Katharine's Doll by Elizabeth Winethrop



TAR BEACH by Faith Ringgold

The year is 1939. The place - Harlem. For young African-American Cassie Louise Lightfoot, the roof of her building, her tar beach, is the stepping off point for dreams and dreamers. Based on a story quilt by artist turned author, Faith Ringgold.

Activities:

- + * Create a class quilt depicting the classroom as a community or neighborhood.
- + * Have the students make paper quilts based on their families and heritage.

Other Books by the Author:

Aunt Harriet's Underground Railroad In The Sky

Beach Stories -

Supplemental Reading:

The Josefin Story Quilt by Eleanor Coerr
City! New York by Shirley Climo
Abuela by Arthur Dorros



THE DOG WHO HAD KITTENS by Polly Robertus illus. by Janet Stevens

Baxter the Basset Hound finds himself ignored, even ostracized when the family cat, Eloise, has kittens. When she leaves her kittens alone one day, Baxter's chance to meet them finally comes. What results is doggone heartwarming.

Activities:

- * Research different breeds of dogs and decide what "people" jobs they might be good at.
- * Discuss the qualities Baxter displayed which made him a good babysitter.

Other Books by the Author:

This is the authors first book.

Supplemental Reading:

Thomas' s Sitter by Jean Richardson
Shy Charles by Rosemary Wells
Mr. and Mrs. Pig's Evening Out by Mary Rayner
Jerome The Babysitter by Eileen Christelow

Good Dog, Carl



TREE OF CRANES by Allen Say

A Japanese mother introduces her young son to Christmas, bringing him a pine tree and decorating it with paper cranes and candles. She tells him of her childhood in America and of the holiday she celebrated at this time of year. Say's text and watercolor illustrations combine to make a gracefully beautiful book for Christmas or any time of the year.

Activities:

- X * Explore the Christmas celebrations and traditions from different parts of the world.
- X * Have the children share some of their family traditions during this time of year.
- X * Fold origami decorations for the classroom.

Other Books by the Author:

The Bicycle Man
El Chino
Lost Lake
A River Dream

Crane Books-
S_____ and the Cranes-
Crane Song-

Supplemental Reading:

Christmas Around The World by Emily Kelley
Happy Christmas, Gemma by Sarah Hayes

MAX'S DRAGON SHIRT by Rosemary Wells

Ruby takes Max to the store with just enough money to buy him some new pants. Max doesn't want pants - he wants a dragon shirt. When Ruby's attention is diverted to fashion, Max's department store adventures begin - and end - with hilarious results.

Activities:

- X * Share other Max stories. Have students create new Max stories and bind them as a book.
- X * Have each child design their own dragon shirt. Make the shirt life size.
- X * Have a favorite shirt day in the classroom.

Other Books by the Author:

Fritz And The Mess Fairy
First Tomato
Forest Of Dreams
Morris's Disappearing Bag
Shy Charles
Max's Chocolate Chicken
Numerous other "Max" books

Supplemental Reading:

Department Store by Gail Gibbons
Thomas' s Snowsuit by Robert Munsch
Julius, The Baby Of The World by Kevin Henkes

