

Le filou de la forêt - Écrit et illustré par Oliver Jeffers

Branches are disappearing off the trees in the forest right under the noses of all the animals. First they accuse each other then they set out to find out the culprit. Surprisingly they do not notice the bear in the background with his ax, then folding paper airplanes and finally dragging a tree past a sign that announces a paper airplane competition. It takes the eyewitness account of the moose to bring the bear to justice in the end. At least all's well that ends well. The bear repents his actions promising to replace the trees he has cut down and the animals decide to help him win the competition. A highly entertaining little mystery with underlying messages about environmental guardianship and cooperation told with tongue firmly planted in cheek.

Reading Comprehension:

- Predicting
- Asking questions

Social Issues:

- Environmental theme

Character Development/Education:

- Integrity
- Ownership
- Social responsibility

C'est quoi, la paix? - Écrit et illustré par Todd Parr

The illustrations done in primary colours and the simple vocabulary will help young readers identify with the children found on each page of this charming book. The author suggests a number of ways we can promote peace amongst each other and with the animals found in Nature around us. This book will be perfect for stimulating discussion on diversity, care for the Earth and how children relate to their peers. It clearly presents situations that demonstrate the theme of respect. The book could also be used for teaching how to write simple sentences following the pattern of "c'est + verb" such as "La paix, c'est partager un repas."

Reading Comprehension:

- Making connections
- Asking questions
- Visualizing

Social Issues:

- Peace

Character Development/Education:

- Respect
- Gratitude
- Responsibility
- Empathy

Moi, je m'aime! – Écrit par Karen Beaumont et illustré par David Catrow

The main character in this story loves herself no matter what. Whether she is in a good mood or bad, scared or happy, slow or fast even having a bad hair day, this girl loves herself. The wacky illustrations and descriptive language make this story a humorous ode to individuality and self-acceptance.

Reading Comprehension:

- Making connections -> text-to-self, text-to-text (with the book **Comme toi**)
- Asking questions

Character Development/Education:

- Empathy
- Kindness

Comme toi! - Écrit et illustré par Geneviève Côté

Rabbit and Pig are best friends. They like each other so much that they try to copy each other's looks from tail to ears in order to look exactly like each other. However, by the time they are done, they realize just how much they like each other just as they are. This is a sweet story of friendship and self-acceptance.

Reading Comprehension:

- Predicting
- Asking questions
- Making connections -> text-to-self, text-to-text (with the book **Moi, je m'aime**)

Character Development/Education:

- Empathy
- Kindness
- Self-acceptance

Mon jardin en hiver - Écrit et illustré par Ruth Brown

This simple story describes in highly evocative language what happens in a boy's garden one winter night. As one thing leads to another, animals alternatively chase and hide from each other. In the morning, all are gone but they have left their mark for the boy to discover. This story would make a great read-aloud.

Reading Comprehension:

- Visualizing
- Predicting
- Sequencing

Social Issues:

- Ecology

Sous la couette - Écrit et illustré par Jean Maubille

Based on *Little Red Riding Hood*, Maubille uses the familiar phrase “My what big...you have” to tell the story of a child playing with her father the wolf hidden under the duvet. Alternately playful and loving, this is a great twist on a familiar fairytale.

Reading Comprehension:

- Predicting
- Making connections -> text-to-text connections to other fairy tales
- Asking questions

Suivons la carte: Initiation à la cartographie – Écrit et illustré par Scot Ritchie

This richly illustrated information book takes you on a journey through the various types of maps that you might encounter. Starting with a detailed description of how to read a map including scale, legend, reference point and compass points, the five main characters take a walk through the neighbourhood across town then out into the countryside looking for their missing cat and dog and pointing out all the features they see as they go. After a brief discussion about the weather, they land on a mysterious island with a treasure map and then onto an amusement park. Next up, the five friends consult a world map and then a map of the universe all in hopes of finding their missing pets. When they finally find the missing pair having a nap in the garden, they finish by explaining how to make a room plan. This book is full of information and could be used over and over again to teach different geographical concepts.

Reading Comprehension:

- Reading non-linear text
- Asking questions

Content Area:

- Social studies

Un et sept – Écrit par Gianni Rodari et illustré par Beatrice Alemagna

Imagine seven boys who all looked different from one another, who lived in different places all over the world and spoke different languages while their fathers did different jobs. Then realize how alike they truly are all being boys of the same age (eight) all “knowing how to read and write and ride a bike without putting their hands on the handlebars...and laughing in the same language.” And know that now that they are men, they cannot fight each other because in the core of their being they are alike and not so very different one from the other. The very simple text in this story belies the strong and powerful message that once men and women see themselves as the same as their brothers and sisters across the world, there will be no more war.

Reading Comprehension:

- Asking questions
- Predicting
- Making connections

Character Development/Education:

- Integrity
- Ownership
- Respect
- Empathy

Les enfants de l'eau! – Écrit par Angèle Delaunois et illustré par Gérard Frischeteau

This hymn to water as the source of life takes the reader on a trip around the world to see the various ways in which water supports and sustains us. From a hydroelectric dam to an oasis in the desert, water is seen for the life-giving powers it has for people of all cultures and creeds. This book is both multicultural and multi-dimensional and the essential message is hidden on every page: Water is life. The soft, warm illustrations and highly descriptive language make this a book that is both a delight to look at and a pleasure to read.

Reading Comprehension:

- Making connections
- Asking questions

Character Development/Education:

- Integrity
- Responsibility
- Empathy
- Respect

Social Issues:

- Environment
- Conservation

Content area:

- Science ->conservation of resources, ecosystems

Je cherche les couleurs dans l'art! – Écrit par Lucy Micklethwait

Written in simple large text, the author uses famous pieces of art to teach the concept of colour.

Reading Comprehension:

- Visual literacy
- Asking questions
- Making connections

Content Area:

- Visual arts
- Mathematics -> geometry

Je cherche les formes dans l'art! – Écrit par Lucy Micklethwait



Written in simple large text, the author uses famous pieces of art to teach the concept of geometric shapes.

Reading Comprehension:

- Visual literacy
- Asking questions
- Making connections

Content Area:

- Visual arts
- Mathematics -> Geometry

Des papas et des mamans - Écrit et illustré par Jeanne Ashbé

Many different mothers and fathers and their different habits and activities are described in this book that celebrates the love of family. From jogging mothers to shopping fathers, the reader learns that mothers and fathers may look different and may not always be with us but they care for us and love us just the same.

Character Development/Education:

- Empathy
- Respect

Social Issues:

- Diversity and awareness

Content area:

- Social studies ->Families

Grrr! - Écrit et illustré par Jean Maubille

This book is full of lively, funny illustrations, with several animal characters being accidentally transformed into looking monsters by a ferocious, yet funny-looking mask. After a few discoveries the reader is treated to a surprise ending. This book will be useful for teaching verbs to describe animal calls and for teaching how to indicate dialogue. It also lends itself to choral reading thanks to its repeating sentence structure. A good book for beginning readers.

Reading Comprehension:

- Visual literacy
- Asking questions
- Reading/Writing connection → dialogue

Content Area:

- Visual arts

Grand - Écrit et illustré par Jez Alborough

This picture book contains very little vocabulary –5 unique words, in fact— and relies on Alborough’s humorous illustrations to tell the story. A young chimpanzee running through the forest looking for his mother compares himself to all the other animals he meets. Naturally, he tries to make himself appear the biggest one around by climbing on the shoulders of the other animals. But, unfortunately, there is always someone bigger than him, even his mother! This book would be useful for teaching the difference between big and small or it could be used for practicing telling a story in your own words.

Reading Comprehension:

- Visual literacy
- Asking questions
- Retelling
- Making connections