

OUTREACH & GRADESCHOOLERS

The More We Get Together: A Storytime Share

- What do I do when EVERY teacher wants a different topic for a storytime?

- This room has no story area! What do I do?

- So, the teacher/classroom monitor/adult-in-charge-who-isn't-me just left. Help!

- Wow, classrooms are way different than storytime in the library. How do I handle this crazy crowd/environment?

- HELP! The kids won't get off of me! I appreciate the love, but jeeze!

- I have one or two kids that are throwing off the whole class. How do I handle them appropriately?

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• I have a group with a special needs student in a traditional classroom. How can I give proper attention/service to both the single child and the entire class?

• How am I supposed to connect with the parents/caregivers when I don't see them? How can I make sure my message/materials get home with the kids?

Wait!!! I have more questions! (use this space for more notes)

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TAYLOR'S FAVORITE BOOKS FOR KINDERGARTEN - 2ND GRADE

The Book with No Pictures, by B. J. Novak

- Absolutely hilarious (and truly without any pictures).
- Excellent opportunity to talk about typography, expression, storytelling, etc.
- Adults (when they are present for this story) like that the book is by a popular actor.

Interrupting Chicken, by David Ezra Stein

- Perfect opportunity to tie in with traditional fairy tales/fables.
- Give your voicing abilities a workout.
- Topics for discussion include narrative skills, cause and effect, sequencing, plot, and manners.
- Kids find it a riot, when they are old enough to get the jokes and tie-ins.

A Perfectly Messed-Up Story, by Patrick McDonnell

- Genius way to talk about book handling and library material respect.
- Lough-out-loud funny.
- Provides solid opportunities to read the plot through the illustrations (visual thinking strategies).

Bear's Big Bottom, by Steve Smallman

- Okay so it's a little light on content, but this is a great icebreaker! Use books like this (or any other undergarment, bottom, or posterior-related tome to get your audience laughing and make an instant connection)

Flora & the Penguin (or Flora & the Flamingo), by Molly Idle

- These wordless picture books are perfect for talking about emotions, relationships, illustrations, the Caldecott medal, learning to use art/visual vocabulary, and reading plot through pictures.
- Leave a good chunk of time in your storytime if you plan to use this title or a title like it. The kids get really into analyzing the pictures and trying to figure out the expressions on the character's faces. The penguin, especially, has complex emotions.

Exclamation Mark!, by Amy Krouse Rosenthal

- Seriously, take this to an English class. This is one of those picture books we love but kids don't understand until they have a basic grasp on grammar. Then, let the puns fly!
- Great opportunity for tie-in activities. Get some of that lovely story paper (you know, picture on top, lines for writing on the bottom) and have them create their own stories like Exclamation Mark!

Poetry Compilations, Tongue Twisters, and Riddles

- So I'm cheating here by not listing a specific book, but these are the perfect transition tools for big-kid storytimes. Plus, having a group of twenty kids trying to "saw Esau and he saw me..." is mighty funny for you.

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...SO. MANY. BOOKS. (FAVORITE OUTREACH TITLES)

Dinosaur Kisses, David Ezra Stein

- Great for young ones, interactive

Once Upon an Alphabet, Oliver Jeffers

- Just use pieces of this book to highlight a letter, story type, etc.

The Day the Crayons Quit, Drew Daywalt

- I have often cut out all but three or four colors to use this with preschoolers

Jazz Baby, Lisa Wheeler

- Have the kids clap a beat as you read in your best "jazz radio" voice

Oliver and the Aligator, Paul Schmid

- Great for younger kids, interactive, soft illustrations, "first day/new experience jitters" storyline

Chick, Ed Verde

- Pop up book, super simple, great for infant to preschool outreach. Lots of laughs when chick poops!

Pete the Cat and His Magic Sunglasses, Kimberly & James Dean

- Have the kids say "allllRIGHT!" with you each time. Use your deep, bluesy voice for a great effect

Again!, Emily Gravett

- Narrative skills, here we come. Also, hilarious.

I Want My Hat Back, Jon Klassen

- Predictive skills, narrative skills, and dark humor. Great for older kids.

That Is Not a Good Idea, Mo Willems

- If the kids can't read, then have them say "That is not a good idea!" each time the page comes up. If the kids can read, have them read those pages with you.

Great twist at the end.

This Book Just Ate My Dog!, Richard Byrne

- A book about a book that isn't cheesy as can be. Cute, short, effective.

Big Bug, Henry Cole

- Very short, great illustrations, ideal for small ones

Frooodle, Antoinette Portis

- Get those words flowing!

The Hueys In It Wasn't Me, Oliver Jeffers

- I use this one to talk about manners, feelings, etc. if the class is having a rough day.

Mr. Tiger Goes Wild, Peter Brown

- Just a really great title. Use this one to talk about illustration, art, and individuality.

Children Make Terrible Pets, Peter Brown

- Use to talk about feelings, freedom, pets, and for a great laugh. (Don't forget to break out your "cheerleader" voice for Ms. Bear!)

The Watermelon Seed, Greg Pizzoli

- Super funny, but also deceptively educational

Puddle Pug, Kim Norman

- Brought to you by the letter P, friendship, and sharing.

Pardon Me, Daniel Miyares

- Manners, cause and effect, dark humor.

Moo!, David LaRochelle

- Oh the things you can do with this book! Narrative skills! Vocabulary! Emotions! Love. Love. Love it.

Ah Ha!, Jeff Mack

- Another deceptively simple book to demonstrate plot through just a word or two. Nice, clear illustrations.

Thingy Things (series), Chris Rashka

- Lapsit/Baby storytime genius

Revoltng Rhymes, Roald Dahl

- Books like these are why I always like a poetry book in my bag. Great for short stories, laughs, and lots of grade school friendly critical thinking.

Where the Sidewalk Ends (et. Al.), Shel Silverstein

- A standard for a reason.

Orangutan Tongs, Jon Agee

- So fabulous for icebreaker and transitional activities. The only downside: sometimes the kids don't want to do anything else but this!

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TAYLOR'S FAVORITE SONGS+ FOR KINDERGARTEN - 2ND GRADE

On Top of Spaghetti

Hermie the Worm (Hermie the Family Pet)

Baby Shark

Save My Underwear [(God Save my Underwear, adapted)]

John Jacob Jingleheimschmidt

Form the Orange (Go Bananas!)

Baby Bumblebee [adapted, plus puppets]

The Song That Never Ends...

A Sailor Went to Sea

Princess Pat

Ram Sam Sam

When I Was One (I Went to Sea)

Miss Mary Mack

BINGO [with many, many variations]

Sticky Sticky Bubblegum

Down Down Baby (Roller Coaster) [usually adapted]

Found a Peanut [usually adapted]

Down by the Banks of the Hanky Panky

Rattlin' Bog [with visual]

Aiken Drum [with visual]

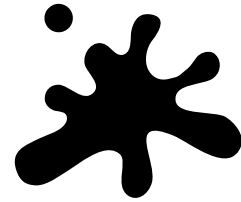
Other Helpful Things:

YOGA! Gets those kids to breathe, clam down, and get ready for the next story.

Instructional Games (Do as I do, Red Light Green Light, etc.)

Storytelling! Who says ya gotta' read books all the time?

What do you use? Idea? Share!



PLEASE SAVE MY UNDERWEAR,
MY ONLY PAIR.
STAND BESIDE THEM,
AND GUIDE THEM,
THROUGH THE RIPS AND THE HOLES
AND THE TEARS.
THROUGH THE WASHER,
AND THE DRYER,
THROUGH THE CLOTHESLINE,
IN THE AIR!
PLEASE SAVE MY UNDERWEAR,
MY ONLY PAIR!

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Aiken Drum

(FIRST REFRAIN)

THERE WAS A MAN LIVED IN THE MOON
IN THE MOON
IN THE MOON
THERE WAS A MAN LIVED IN THE MOON
AND HIS NAME WAS AIKEN DRUMM

(SECOND REFRAIN)

AND HE PLAYED UPON A LADLE
A LADLE
A LADLE
HE PLAYED UPON A LADLE
AND HIS NAME WAS AIKEN DRUM

(VERSES)

AND HIS HAIR WAS MADE OF (PICK FOOD)
OF (FOOD)
OF (FOOD)
OF (FOOOD)
HIS HAIR WAS MADE OF (FOOD)
AND HIS NAME WAS AIKEN DRUM

***I WILL REPEAT THE SECOND REFRAIN
AFTER EACH VERSE AND SOMETIMES
THROW IN THE FIRST REFRAIN FOR A
LONGER REFRAIN IF THE KIDS SEEM TO
NEED IT. USE A DRY ERASE OR
CHALKBOARD TO ILLUSTRATE YOUR "AIKEN
DRUM" AS YOU GO. ALTERNATIVELY, BRING
A PRE-MADE FELT BOARD AND HAVE THE
KIDS GUESS THE FOOD FROM WHICH YOU
ARE CREATING AIKEN DRUM.***

Rattlin Bog

(H)O(H) RO(W), THE RATTLIN' BOG,
THE BOG DOWN IN THE VALLEY-O,
H)O(H) RO(W), THE RATTLIN' BOG,
THE BOG DOWN IN THE VALLEY-O.

NOW IN THE BOG THERE WAS A TREE,
A RARE TREE, A RATTLIN' TREE;
THE TREE IN THE BOG,
AND THE BOG DOWN IN THE VALLEY-O.

(CHORUS)

AND ON THAT TREE THERE WAS A BRANCH,
A RARE BRANCH, A RATTLIN' BRANCH,
THE BRANCH ON THE TREE,
AND THE TREE IN THE BOG,
AND THE BOG DOWN IN THE VALLEY-O.

(CHORUS)

THE VERSES CONTINUE:

NOW ON THAT TREE THERE WAS A BRANCH...
NOW ON THAT BRANCH THERE WAS A TWIG...
NOW ON THAT TWIG THERE WAS A LEAF...
NOW ON THAT LEAF THERE WAS A NEST...
NOW IN THAT NEST THERE WAS AN EGG...
NOW IN THAT EGG THERE WAS A BIRD...
NOW ON THAT BIRD THERE WAS A WING...
NOW ON THAT WING THERE WAS A FEATHER...
NOW ON THAT FEATHER THERE WAS A FLEA...
NOW ON THAT FLEA THERE WAS A LEG...
NOW ON THAT LEG THERE WAS A BOOT...
NOW ON THAT BOOT THERE WAS A LACE...

ALTERNATIVE: HAVE THE KIDS MAKE UP THEIR OWN
VERSES INSTEAD OF USING THE PRE-MADE ONES. HIGHLY
RECOMMENDED TO HAVE A CHALK OR DRY ERASE BOARD!