



The Booklist Project



Focus: Themed Wordless Picture Book List

Family

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Spring, 2013

Mariana Galle

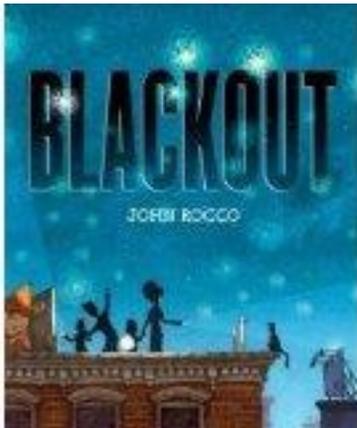
TESL 507

Professor Cloud

April 2, 2013

Wordless Picture Books Project for Adult ELLs
Theme - Family

1. Rocco, J. (2011). Blackout. New York, NY. Disney. Hyperion Books. [ISBN 978-1-4231-2190-9]



Caldecott Medal Winner Book 2012

This book is about a young boy or girl whose family is much like all “normal” families in that they are “too busy” to play a game with him/her... it takes place in the city during a hot summer night. Faced with a power outage the family is forced to change their routine. It’s hot so they go up to the rooftop and marvel at the stars (a simple yet beautiful activity). Other families are on the rooftops and the streets down below as well. The family is able to enjoy being together. The power comes back at the end but the boy turns off the lights and the family chooses to go back to playing together... they choose to not go back to “normal”.

This is about a family that finds pleasure in simply spending time together! Family taking time for bonding... taking time out of their busy lives to discover the value of family time. ELLs can definitely relate to this value. ELLs may or may not be able to relate to the video gaming, computer usage, and dependency on the phone as much as our culture is dictated by this technology. This is a chance for them to share what

it was like in their native countries and how they spent family time. Maybe they all shared in the meal preparation, played games, etc.

Format: Print (Hardcover)

RI Adult ESL Proficiency Level: Low Intermediate

Lesson Plans/Activities

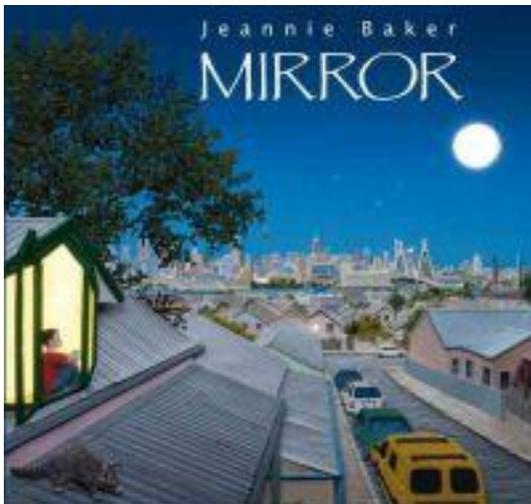
New vocabulary: words or phrases that describe activities, such as cooking, meal preparation, playing games, biking, eating ice cream, etc.

Resources: www.roccoart.com/blackout

Meet-the-Author Book Reading

http://www.teachingbooks.net/book_reading.cgi?id=7265&a=1
www.disneyhyperionbooks.com/books/blackout-1423121902

2. Baker, J. (2010). *Mirror*. MA. Candlewick Press. [ISBN 13: 9780763648480]
[ISBN 10: 0763648485]



The story is about two boys growing up in two different parts of the world; one in Sydney, Australia and the other in Morocco. The book has a left and a right section with pages that tell each of the stories. It is a creatively composed wordless picture book that serves to show parallels along with contrasts between the lives of two distinctly different boys and their families. There are plenty of differences to be seen, but it is the parallels, the connections, that make this book so interesting and an invaluable learning tool. ELLs can relate to this story by comparing and

contrasting the differences between the culture of their native country and that of the United States.

Teaching about how in the world people/families are so different, yet so alike in many ways. Whether the boys are waking up with their families and having breakfast together or going to the market with family the reader can compare side by side, page by page, the two boys and families in two completely different cultures and environments. ELLs would love this book of contrasts because they can share their own feelings of knowing two completely different cultures, having lived in two different places in the world as these two boys do.

Languages: Arabic/English

Available Formats: Print (Hardcover)

RI Adult ESL Proficiency Level: High Intermediate/Advanced

Involves critical thinking (higher-level) and expanded vocabulary

Resources:

www.trevorcairney.blogspot.com/2010/09/author-focus-jeannie-baker.html

Lesson Plan: Critical Literacy available at:

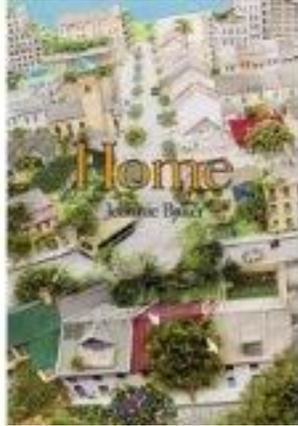
<http://classroombookshelf.blogspot.com/2010/11/mirror.html>

Families sit at the heart of the two stories in *Mirror*. Study the representations of each family. Who is in each? What are their daily roles and responsibilities in the family? How are those depictions in line with conventional representations of families? Who else can make up a family unit, and how might the stories go if told from their perspectives? Reconstruct the stories in *Mirror* around their experiences.

Lesson Plan: Using a graphic organizer (such as a Venn diagram or a T-Chart) to compare and contrast, the teacher does a whole class instruction that requires student participation. Students are asked to volunteer examples of differences and similarities between life in their native country and in the U.S. More than one graphic organizer can be created in order to cover the different countries ELLs in class come from.

Another lesson plan can be a discussion of feelings about living in a different culture. Students can write or take mental notes (differentiated instruction) about their feelings after discussing them with a partner (cooperative learning) and share them with the class.

3. Baker, J. (2004). Home. China. Greenwillow Books. [ISBN 0-06-623935-4]



Horn Book Fanfare Awards Book

In this beautifully illustrated wordless picture book the reader follows a girl (named Tracy making it more personal) throughout years of her life as she grows up, depicting illustrations of her family and the family that she eventually has. Years pass as the view from the girls' room reveals different scenes, which depict college, dating, marriage, and childbirth. The views reveal how the community in which her family lives is changing for the better. The family expands as the reader reads on. Parenthood and grandparenthood are universal themes in this book. ELLs can relate to the different stages in life with special life experiences and events, along with changes in family composition.

Format: Print (Hardcover)

RI Adult ESL Proficiency Level: Low Intermediate

Lesson Plan/ Activities

<http://www.lessonplanet.com/teachers/lesson-plan-home-byjeannie-baker>
www.weebly.com

<http://www.socstrpr.org/files/Vol%203/Issue%202%20-%20Summer,%202008/Notable%20Books/3.2.13.pdf>

Other Resources Available:

www.harperchildrens.com/authors/15615/Jeannie-Baker/index.aspx
<http://www.harpercollinschildrens.com/books/Home-Jeannie-Baker/?isbn13=9780066239354&tctid=100>

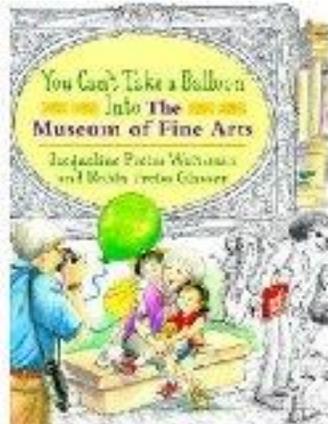
Author Study:

www.jeanniebaker.com

Horn Book Fanfare Award Recipient:

<http://www.hbook.com/2004/11/choosing-books/recommended-books/horn-book-fanfare-2004/> or <http://www.hbook.com/?s=jeannie+baker+home>

4. Weitzman, J. & Glasser, P. (2002). You can't take a balloon into The Museum of Fine Arts. New York, NY: Dial Books for Young Readers. [0-8037-2570-1]



The story is about a grandparent/child relationship. The grandfather stays with the grandchildren throughout the adventures in the plot while the grandmother ends up going off on her own adventure! The illustrations show the special bond between grandparents and grandchildren and how they can have fun with them... the playful mode of elderly relatives and how they interact with their grandchildren. ELLs would like the book because they can relate to relationships between grandparents and grandchildren. They may not be able to relate to the activities taking place in this story but can compare and contrast to those that take place where they are from and how grandparents and grandchildren interact.

Format: Print (Hardcover, Paperback)

RI Adult ESL Proficiency Level: Low Intermediate/High intermediate

Lesson Plan/ Activities

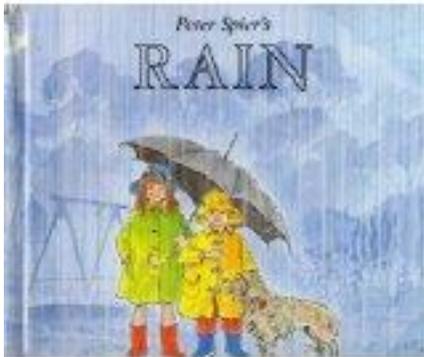
Activity: Compare and contrast cross-culturally relationship between grandparent and child. Personal experiences can be shared. What types of activities did you do with your grandparents growing up?

Resources: www.publishersweekly.com/978-0-8037-2570-6

Author Interview:

http://www.californiareaders.com/interviews/glasser_robin_preiss.php

5. Spier, P. (1982) Rain. New York, NY. Doubleday. [ISBN 0-385-15484-4].



A Picture Yearling Book

This is a story about two siblings, an older sister with her brother who take off in the rain for plenty of joyous adventures as they discover interesting things together... until finally they arrive back home to the safety of the rest of their family and shelter. The two siblings have fun exploring and are enjoying each other's company. The mother had helped them get rain gear on before heading outside into the rain and is there for them when they return. Adult ELLs can relate to sibling relationships and may find both similarities and differences from their relationships from their childhood. If a student grew up without siblings the student can be asked to create an image in their mind of a sibling, what they might be like them to be and what they might do together. They could also have a close cousin that would be like a brother or sister to them and reflect upon their relationship.

Format: Print (Hardcover, Paperback), Reading Rainbow Book
RI Adult ESL Proficiency Level: Low Intermediate

Reflections: ELLs reading this book may find differences in attire (rain gear worn by characters in book) from their native country's attire. This can open up to a discussion of Comparison and Contrast: What would you wear in the rain?

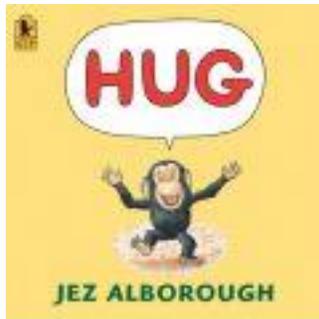
Lesson Plan/ Activities can be found at:

<http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/bookwizard/books-by/peter-spier>
www.hubbardscupboard.org/rain.html

About the Author (video):

http://www.randomhousekids.com/videos/cnr5u7t9f_c-peter-spier-author-video#.UXSu7JW0Lww

6. Alborough, J. (2000). Hug. MA. Candlewick Press. [ISBN 978-0-7636-1576-5]



Hug is a wordless picture story about a monkey lost in the jungle that is looking for a hug from anyone. Everyone he encounters is confused. The first animal he meets, an elephant, takes him on his back to places to find what he is looking for. He encounters all different species of animals and each reaction is the same, one of confusion and helplessness. He is finally in such despair that he breaks down crying only to hear his mother calling out to him. This is when not only hugs between mother and child happen, but hugs between all the jungle animals. We are all different, but we all can relate to family, we all share this connection. ELL readers can relate to the universality of this book and how love and caring that one finds from family is so important.

Format: Print (Hardcover, Paperback, Board Book)

RI Adult ESL Proficiency Level: High Beginning /Low Intermediate

Lesson Plans/Activities:

Students can discuss feelings: love, despair, helplessness, joy, etc.

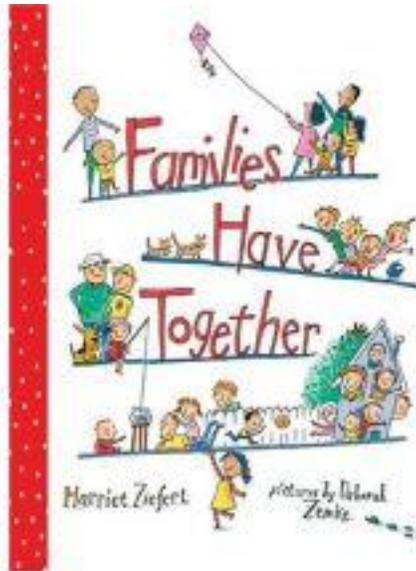
Resources:

Articles/Book Reviews/About the Author:

<http://www.candlewick.com/cat.asp?browse=Title&mode=book&isbn=0763615765&pix=n>

Video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zM6cEwe1f5s>

7). Ziefert, H. (2005). Families Have Together. Maplewood, NJ. Blue Apple Books. [ISBN 1-59354-071-X]



This “almost wordless” book is about the good times and bad times in family life and what families do together. There are rhyming words in this book, but not many words per page and it is predominantly comprised of illustrations. This makes it more of a picture wordless book in that the reader can tell the story by the use of pictures alone and is not dependent on the words (which are positioned next to each picture). This book is universally appealing. ELLs can relate to the challenges of family life. The text is humorous and pokes fun at the ups and downs of family life, which cross-culturally can be similar or different in activities, but parallel in experiences such as scolding your child versus having fun with your child.

Format: Print (Hardcover)

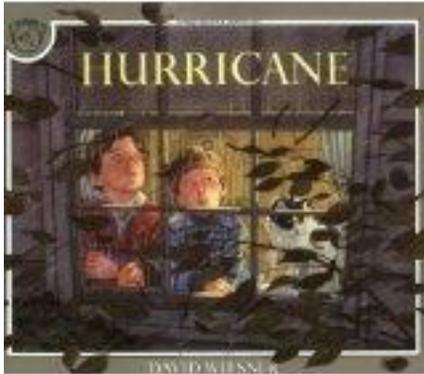
RI Adult ESL Proficiency Level: Low Intermediate

Activities/Lesson Plan

This book affords a great opportunity to talk about how families are different as well as discuss their typical daily activities.

About the Author: www.answers.com/topic/harriet-ziefert

8). Weisner, D. Hurricane. (1990). New York, NY. Clarion Books (a Houghton Mifflin Company imprint). [0-395-54382-7]



Caldecott Honor Recipient author David Weisner

Select pages in this book with amazing illustrations depict two brothers and family experiences throughout a hurricane. They feel safe in their home with their family. The brothers (and friends), David and George, spend time together playing with airplanes in bedroom, passing the time away distracting them from the raging storm outside. They do venture outside after the storm passes. The illustrations tell great stories: the scene with the family around the fireplace eating dinner: warmth, security, the bond between the brothers... ELLs can relate to family support and sibling relationships.

Format: Print (Hardcover, Paperback), Audible Audio Edition (Unabridged)
RI Adult ESL Proficiency Level: Low Intermediate/High Advanced

Lesson Plans/Activities

Activities: Whole class reading and shared readings can be done by blocking out the words and creating an adapted version of the story. This is not a wordless book, but can be “made” into one by using large post-its to hide the words. The illustrations are so large in this good-sized book that it is a very useful tool for ELLs. It can “act” or serve as a wordless picture book despite having words in it. By clipping pages together the reader skips over the pages in the book that are not pertinent to the theme being addressed (the part of the story when the brothers venture outside and enter into a voyage of their imagination).

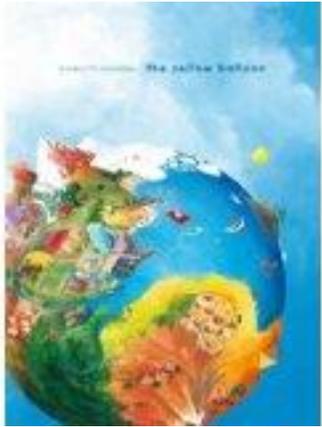
Resources for Lesson Plans:

<http://www.lessonplanet.com/teachers/lesson-plan-hurricane>

Author Resources:

http://www.teachingbooks.net/tb.cgi?go=1&searchbox_level=0.33&keyword_type1=title&boolean=AND&keywords1=hurricane

9). Dematons, C. (2003). The Yellow Balloon. Asheville, NC. Netherlands. Front Street & Lemniscaat. [ISBN 1-93245-01-2].



In this book that follows a yellow balloon around the world, the reader is transported to different parts of the world where there are different people/families past and present, natural and supernatural. Time changes when reading even within the same page even natural becomes supernatural. Readers can search for different families from various backgrounds/cultures/homes/environments/areas of the world, etc.

Format: Print (Hardcover)

RI Adult ESL Proficiency Level: High Intermediate

Lesson Plan/Activities

Activity: Look for families within the illustrations and be able to describe them. Where do they live? What kind of home do they live in? What kind of environment do they live in? What are they doing?

Classroom Discussion – Compare and Contrast: Students can discuss differences and similarities between families they see in the illustrations.

Discussion of what families like to do together... activities such as skiing, visiting the museum, going to the beach, the (outdoor) market, sitting around a campfire, etc.

Student activity: to draw a picture of a family doing an activity from their native country or from here in the U.S., with discussion to follow.

Resources:

www.googleittrips.com/GoogleLit/K-5/Entries/2008/1/12_The_Yellow_Balloon_by_Charlotte_Dematons.

REACH. INSPIRE. CONNECT.



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A Project of the
M.Ed. In TESL Program,



Feinstein School of Education and Human Development
Rhode Island College

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