



Books That Spark an Idea

BOOKS TO GET THE WORKSHOP STARTED

Arthur Writes a Story by Marc Brown

-Writing my own story

Ahmed's Secret by Florence Perry Heide and Judity Heide

-What I want to learn this year

Night Driving by John Coy

-What I did over the summer

Hooway for Wodney Wat by Helen Lester

-An embarrassing time

The Little Engine That Could by Watty Piper

-Something you did that you didn't think you could do

Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No-Good, Very Bad Day by Judith Viorst

-A bad day

Chrysanthemum by Kevin Henkes

-Don't like your name (or other attribute)

Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse by Kevin Henkes

-Note writing

The Art Lesson by Tomi de Paola

-Perseverance

The Wednesday Surprise by Eve Bunting

-Learning to read (transgenerational)

David Goes to School by David Shannon

-Going to school

Ira Sleeps Over by Bernard Waber

-Going to a sleep-over

The Runaway Bunny by Margaret Wise Brown

-Running away from home.

Lon Po Po by Ed Young

-“Home alone” or left somewhere

Olivia by Ian Falconer

-Writing about yourself (attributes)

Liza Lou and the Yeller Belly Swamp by Mercer Mayer

-Something you and/or a friend did.

Oliver Button is a Sissy by Tomi de Paola

-Being teased or bullied

BOOKS THAT HAVE STRONG LEADS

On My Honor by Marion Dane Bauer
To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee
My Dog Skip by Willie Morris
My Antonia by Willa Cather
Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate Di Camillo
The Giver by Lois Lowry
Fireflies by Julie Brinkloe
The Boys on the Tracks by Mara Leveritt
Three Days On a River in a Red Canoe by Vera B. Williams
The Relatives Came by Cynthia Rylant
Grand Canyon by Wendell Minor
The Bat Poet by Randall Jerrell
The Widow's Broom by Chris Van Allsburg
Tar Beach by Faith Ringold

BOOKS THAT HELP WITH BEGINNING, MIDDLE, AND ENDING

The True Story of the Three Little Pigs by Jon Scieszka
Heckety Peg by Audrey Wood
Lon Po Po retold and illustrated by Ed Young
Billy Beg and His Bull retold by Ellin Greene
The Bravest Ever Bear by Allan Ahlberg and Paul Howard
-Elaboration
Pumpkin Heads by Wendell Minor
-Elaboration in the middle (expository text)
Time Flies by Eric Rohmann
-Wordless
The Gray Lady and the Strawberry Snatcher by Molly Bang
-Wordless
Tuesday by David Weisner
-Almost wordless
Good Dog, Carl by Alexandra Day
-All Carl the dog books are wordless
The Mightiest Heart by Lynn Cullen
The Village of Round and Square Houses by Ann Grifalconi
There's a Nightmare in My Closet by Mercer Mayer
**Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark* retold by Alvin Schwartz
**Scary Stories 3: More Tales to Chill Your Bones* retold by Alvin Schwartz
**Five Funny Frights* by Judith Stamps

*Be careful with these-censorship issues.

MEMORIES AND MEMOIRS

Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak

Compiled by Vicki Altland, Conway School District, and Cynthia Higgins, Bryant School District. (2002).

-Mischief
No, David by David Shannon
-Mischief
Tell Me Again About the Night I Was Born by Jamie Lee Curtis
When I Was Little by Jamie Lee Curtis
Wilfred Gordon MacDonald Partridge by Mem Fox
-Memories
Koala Lou by Mem Fox
-A time you wanted something very badly
Possum Magic by Mem Fox
-Something you wanted and it turned out not what you expected
Silver Packages by Cynthia Rylant
-A special Christmas memory
A Christmas Memory by Truman Capote
When I Go Camping With Grandma by Marian Dane Bauer
-Grandparents
The Raft by Jim LaMarche
One April Morning by Nancy Lamb and the Children of Oklahoma City
-Dealing with difficult issues
Now One Foot, Now the Other by Tomie de Paola
Looking Back by Lois Lowry
-Author's memoir
Firetalking by Patricia Polacco
-Author's memoir
Up North at the Cabin by Martha Wilson Chall
The Bear That Heard Crying by Natalie Kinsey-Warnock and Helen Kinsey
-A family story
Zachary's Ball by Matt Tavares
-A special time
The Days Before Now by Margaret Wise Brown adapted by Joan Blos
-Author's memoir
Thunder Cake by Patricia Polacco
-A time you were scared
Walking the Log by Bessie Nickens
-Something you like to do
Christmas in the Country by Cynthia Rylant
-Christmas memories

BOOKS THAT HELP WITH SETTING

Charlotte's Web by E.B. White
-Using the five senses to describe the fair
Heartland by Diane Siebert
-Exposition and poetry
When I Was Young in the Mountains by Cynthia Rylant
-Where they live and love
Owl Moon by Jane Yolen
Home: A Journey Through America edited and illustrated by Thomas Locker
Compiled by Vicki Altland, Conway School District, and Cynthia Higgins, Bryant School District. (2002).

-From *My Antonia*
Homeplace by Crescent Dragonwagon
-Imagination/setting
The Seashore Book by Charlotte Zolotow

BOOKS THAT LEND THEMSELVES TO EXPOSITORY WRITING

PERSUASIVE:

A Home for Spooky by Gloria Rand
-Abandoning animals and pets
'Twas the Night Before Thanksgiving by Dav Pilkey
-Don't eat turkey
The Polar Express by Chris Van Allsburg
-Is there a Santa?
Yes, Virginia, There is a Santa Claus retold by Cyndy Szekeres
-Is there a Santa?

DESCRIPTION:

Squirrels by Brian Wildsmith
Red Leaf, Yellow Leaf by Lois Ehlert
Have You Seen Trees by JoAnne Oppenheim
Waiting for Wings by Lois Ehlert

LISTS:

Tommy at the Grocery Store by Bill Grossman
Ira Sleeps Over by Bernard Waber

LETTERS/NOTES:

The Jolly Postman by Janet and Allan Ahlberg
Dear Peter Rabbit by Alma Flora Ada
Yours Truly, Goldilocks by Leslie Tyron

DIARY ENTRIES:

Past and Present by Alison Adams
Out of the Dust by Karen Hesse
Zlata's Diary by Zlata Filipovic
A Gathering of Days by Joan Blou

RECIPES

The Seven Silly Eaters by Mary Ann Hoberman
Pumpkin Soup by Helen Cooper

POETRY

Hailstones and Halibut Bones by Mary O'Neil
The Aliens Have Landed by Kenn Nesbitt

NONFICTION NARRATIVE

Sarah Morton's Day by Kate Waters
-Would you want to be a Pilgrim girl?

Compiled by Vicki Altland, Conway School District, and Cynthia Higgins, Bryant School District. (2002).

Samuel Eaton's Day by Kate Waters
-Would you want to be a Pilgrim boy?
Everybody Needs a Rock by Byrd Baylor
-Collections