

Ideas for 2006 Monarch Award Books

Aero and Officer Mike

- Questions: Why is the dog named Aero? Why do they use German Shepherds? What can dogs do that people can not? What kind of training do police dogs need?
- Guests: police officer, police dog
- Research: Working dogs, famous dogs, rescue dogs
- Careers: interview police officer about his job
- Writing: Write/email police, dog
- Compare: *Biscuit*, *Dear Mrs. Larue*, etc
- Retell: Point of view of dog

Biscuit's New Trick

- Speaker: pet care, pet training
- Reading: read the book as a group, other Biscuit books and find favorite
- Art: draw Biscuit or pets
- Bring: stuffed dogs, have a pet parade
- Treats: puppy chow
- Skills: Hunt for "dog bones" in room/library
- Sing: How Much is that Doggy in the Window?
- Compare: *Dear Mrs. Larue*, *Aero and Officer Mike*, *Bow Wow Meow Meow*
- Writing: create your own Biscuit book

Actual Size

- Research: animals in the book in other books, encyclopedia or books, check the Guinness Book of World Records
- Hands on: choose animal and make the whole animal "actual" size, make an animal "collage", add animals to the book or make a different book of actual shape or actual color
- Math: measure and graph animal sizes
- Web: Virtual trip to zoo
- Compare: *If You Hopped Like a Frog* and other animal fact books

Book! Book! Book!

- Research: Farm animals
- Sing: *Farmer in the Dell*
- Questions: Why are the animals sad? What books do you think the animals would like to read? What else could the animals have done to entertain themselves? What if the animals had gone to a different building?
- Language: alliteration, onomatopoeia
- Humor/Writing: Find other animal jokes. See if you can turn one into a story?
- Spelling: animal sounds
- Skills: Find other books in catalog on the different animals, books, libraries, jokes
- Drama: Turn the book into Readers' theater

Bear Snores On

- Research: Bears, hibernation, caves
- Questions: Who else could be in the cave? What other animals hibernate?
- Compare: Fact and fiction books on bears
- Sing/read: Teddy bear picnic
- Bring teddy bears, other animals in the story
- Hands on: Make stew/ Stone Soup. Build a cave
- Treats: Gummy bears

Bow Wow Meow Meow

- Writing: write your own animal poems
- Language: explore different poetry forms
- Compare: other Florian books, other poetry
- Research: types of dogs and cats
- Art: make your own illustrations for poems on computer or by hand
- Technology: Create a slide show of animal poems and drawings
- Drama: Do choral readings with poems

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Breakout at the Bug Lab

- Math: Graph favorite bugs, use life size plastic bugs – sort by color, size, body type
- Research: hissing, cockroach, characteristics of insects, edible bugs “McInsecta”
- Hands on: Make a bug cage, collect insects
- Borrow bug collection
- Treat: make edible bugs
- Technology: make an insect web in Kidspiration
- Sing: *La Cucaracha*
- Compare: *Insects Are My Life*
- Name famous bugs: Anansi, Inspector Hopper, Jiminy Cricket, Antz, A Bug’s Life
- Language: think of idioms with insects – ants in your pants

Get Well, Good Knight

- Questions: What are some remedies for colds or flu? What makes you feel better? What can you do to stay healthy? Who else could the knight have asked for help?
- Stories about knights
- Compare: *Good Night, Good Knight*, other books about knights, dragons, medieval
- Language: discuss homonyms, create a reader’s theater

Dear Mrs. LaRue: Letters from Obedience School

- Point of view: 2 points of view in the story
Respond to dog’s letters as Mrs. Larue
- Questions: What do dogs learn at obedience school?
- Guests: dog trainer show dog training, vet talk about pet care, pet groomer
- Writing: create a newspaper articles about things dogs do, write a letter from your dog to you.
What would the dog like, want, complain about?
- Storytelling: naughty things your dog did

Gooney Bird Greene

- Dress up like Gooney
- Questions: What do you like and not like about Gooney? What is appropriate behavior in school?
- Language: Tell absolutely true stories, discuss multiple meanings of words
- Compare: *Mallory on the Move*, *My Name is Yoon*, other school stories
- Create an alternate name using parents’ initials
- Research: gooney bird

Diary of a Worm

- Treats: Dirt cake, Gummy worms
- Research: worms
- Language: Interview with a worm
- Writing: Add more diary pages, make a new diary of a _____
- Compare: *Toil in the Soil*, *Deep Down Underground*, other nonfiction
- Hands on: Make bookworms, make PlayDoh worms
- Art: Draw a worm house underground

Mallory on the Move

- Questions: Have you ever moved? What happened to your friends? Brothers and sisters? Have you ever made a promise and broke it? How can you keep in touch if you move? If you had a wishing pond, what would you want?
- Compare: *My Name is Yoon*, *Gooney Bird Greene*, other realistic fiction
- Mapping: measure distances to other homes

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Miss Smith's Incredible Storybook

- Compare: *Page Master*, *Never Ending Story*, *Simon's Book*, *Beware of the Storybook Wolves*, *Edward and the Pirates*
- Questions: What characters would you not want to come to life? What character would you want to meet? How would you seat these characters at dinner? How can a reader make a book come to life?
- Writing: make your own "come to life" tale

Snowmen at Night

- Art: Draw snowmen with different faces, clothing, etc. Draw a picture that has hidden pictures in it.
- Treats: Make edible snowmen, snowman soup
- Writing: What does a _____ do at night?
- Compare: *The Black Snowman*, *Snowy Day*, *Stranger in the Woods*
- Talk about imagination
- Questions: What else can you build with snow? Do with snow?

My Lucky Day

- Compare: *The Amazing Bone*, *Wolf's Chicken Ste*, other stories with a twist
- Questions: Who is smarter, the pig or the fox? What was your luckiest day? What other animals would like to eat a pig? How would you like to be pampered?
- Pork products
- Research: nonfiction about pigs and foxes

Suki's Kimono

- Guest: real kimono, Other ethnic clothing Japanese dance, Chop sticks
- Research: Japan and map of Japan
- Art: make fish kites
- Compare: *One Hundred days of Cool*, *Ira Sleeps Over*,
- Questions: Why are Grandmas special? What presents have you gotten from grandma? What is "cool"? What is "weird?" How are Suki's sisters like your sisters/brothers?

My Name is Yoon

- Do Korean writing
- Questions: If you could change your name what would it be? What would it be like to move to a foreign country? What could you do to help a new student feel welcome? Why did Yoon refuse to say her name? Compare Yoon's teacher to your teacher
- Compare: *Suki's Kimono*, other cultures
- Research: Korea, find a map of Korea
- Guests: Someone who can write Korean or make Korean food

Waiting for Wings

- Art: make butterflies-coffee filters, tissue paper, etc., Create, and color a butterfly, give it a name, Make tissue paper flowers with butterflies on them.
- Research: Life cycle of butterfly, make a timeline or drawing, what attracts butterflies
- Question: What would you do if you had wings? What are other things that fly? What are some things you have to wait for? What "wings" are you waiting for?
- Hands on: Plant a butterfly garden at school or put seeds in small cups and take home when sprouted
- Writing: Diary of a butterfly

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When Marian Sang

- Music: Listen to a CD of her music
- Questions: What evidence of racism and prejudice do you see in the book? What is opera?
- Research: Marian, other famous musicians, Eleanor Roosevelt
- Compare: Amelia and Eleanor, new one coming illustrated by Selznick, all three have connection to Eleanor Roosevelt
- Writing: Make a program for a performance

You Read to Me, I'll Read to You

- Language: Do partner reading, videotape
- Questions: Who first read to you? Why is reading important? Do you like partner reading?
- Compare: second *You Read to Me* book, *Joyful noise*, other poems or stories, divide up the words to make a partner reading
- Drama: make costumes or masks for poems

Twos and threes—Using multiple Monarch books

Dog Stories

Questions: What is alike and different about these books? Which is your favorite? Which are fiction/nonfiction?

- Biscuit
- Dear Mrs. Larue
- Aero and Officer Mike
- Bow Wow Meow Meow

Animal Stories

Graph which books have which animals. Which are fiction/nonfiction? Which is your favorite story?

Favorite art? Why?

- Bear Snores On
- My Lucky Day
- Book! Book! Book!
- Actual Size
- Diary of a Worm

- Waiting for Wings
- Breakout at the Bug Lab

Point of View

- My Lucky Day, fox and pig
- Diary of a Worm, worm and human
- Dear Mrs. Larue, dog and owner

Moving What is alike and different about these books?

- Mallory on the Move
- Gooney Bird Greene
- My Name is Yoon

Fantasies What is fantasy? Which is the most unbelievable?

- Get Well, Good Knight
- Snowmen at Night
- Mrs. Smith's Storybook

Have a Monarch party

- Put characters on children's backs, they ask others questions to guess the character who is on their back
- Give kids a "secret" character. Make a sheet with clues for the characters on it. Kids ask questions until they get signatures of all.
- Play bingo with the titles and authors
- Have a bookmark or sheet of paper kids sign, check, put a sticker when they have read a Monarch book
- Have a book bee with the books
- Make bibliography of other titles by authors
- Design a new cover for a book
- Do acrostic poem with the word Monarch

For questions or more information...

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www.islma.org/grants_awards.htm#Monarch