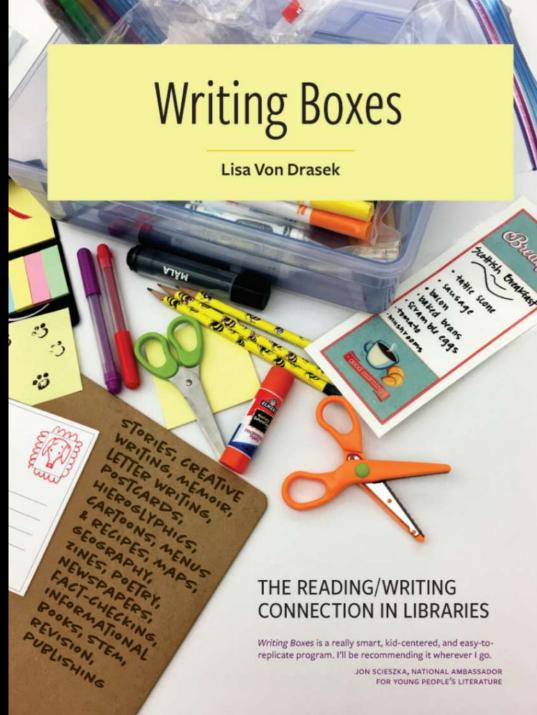
Writing Box Program: The Reading Writing Connection

Lisa Von Drasek, Curator An Infopeople Webinar December 5, 2019



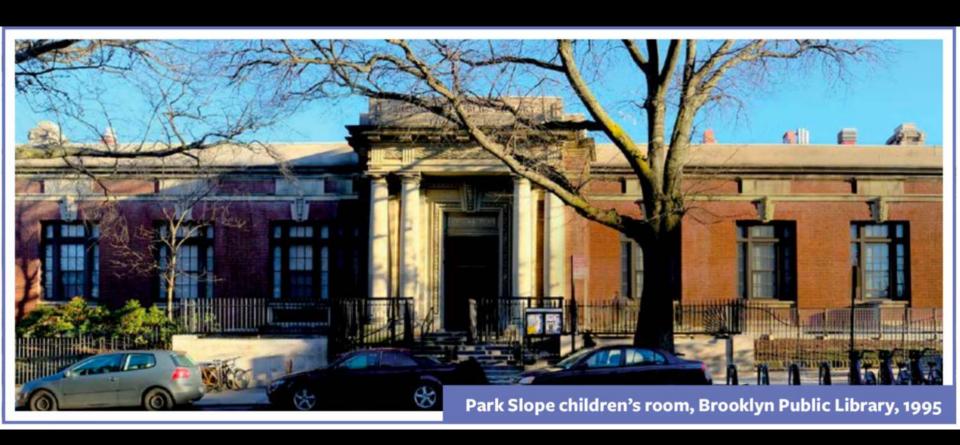


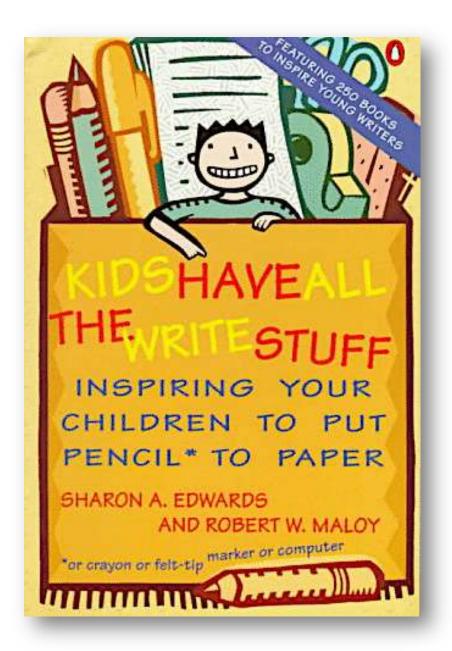


https://www.lib.umn.edu/publishing /writingboxes



How did this begin?





Kids Have All the Write Stuff:
Inspiring Your Children To
Put Pencil
(or Crayons or
Felt-Tip Markers or Computers)
to Paper

by

Sharon A. Edwards

Robert W. Maloy

the converted to the state of t













Note the zipper closure bag with ten markers labeled



The Making of a Crisis

Scramble on Asbestos Is Symptom of Years Of Wider Physical Deterioration in Schools

By JOSH BARBANEL

It was a moment of clarity in the confusion and missteps of the asbestos crisis in New York City public schools.

Schools Chancellor Ramon C. Corti-

News Analysis nes, surrounded by a phalanx of elected officials and construction experts, was at an emergency meeting yesterday with

angry parents in the auditorium of Public School 13 in the East New York section of Brooklyn.

"Don't tell us to calm down," one parent shouted to cheers. "The health of our children is at stake."

And then one official in the front of the room, Meyer S. Frucher, a trustee of the School Construction Authority, felt a drop of water on his head. Then

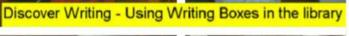
the schools were safe and they were asbestos-free and there was water falling on my head," Mr. Frucher said later. "And most of the damaged asbestos was caused by leaking roofs and windows."

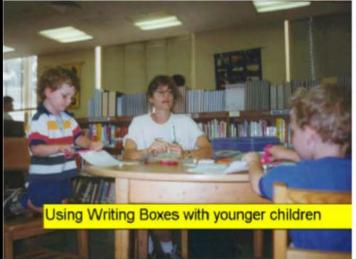
Whatever fraud or incompetence triggered the current asbestos mess, whether there is much of an underlying health risk in asbestos, parents and educators agree that it is only a symptom of a much more serious ailment in the public school system: deferred and nonexistent school maintenance.

For most of the last 50 years, and especially after the 1975 fiscal crisis, New Yorkers have been unable or unwilling to pay the full cost of maintaining the schools; officials say, causing





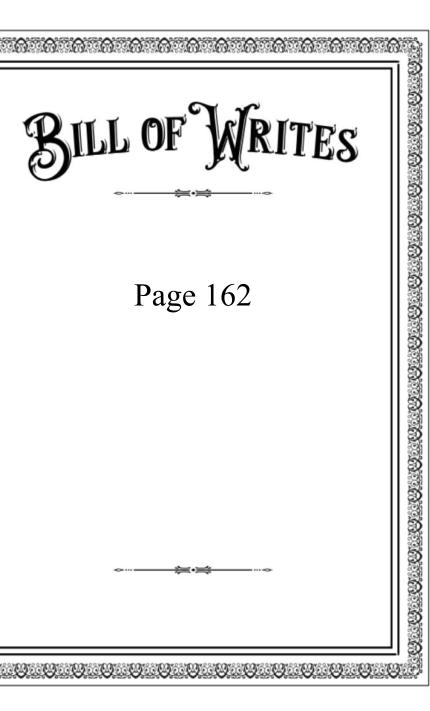












CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY OF

I write to please myself.

I decide how to use the Writing Box.

I choose what to write

and

I know when it is finished.

I am a reader

and

writer

right now.

I have things to say

and

write everyday.

I write when I play

and

play when I write.

I can write about

my experience

and

my imagination.

I spell the way I can

and

learn to spell as I write.

I learn as I write

and

write as I learn.

What is the take-away for the librarian?

- To be able to articulate why writing is an essential part of literacy
- That supporting writing IS a part of our jobs
- That a Writing Box program is an inexpensive easy replicable, easily adaptable program for a range of ages and community members
- That the right-to-read includes the right to create and communicate in a safe, nonjudgmental environment.

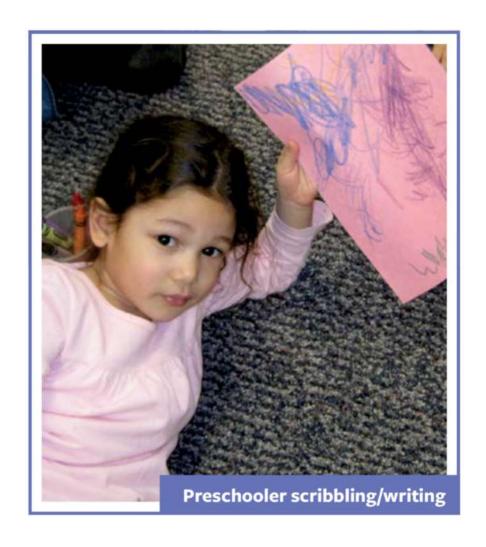
Be able to select and evaluate mentor texts for

- diversity
- age relevance
- as text to inspire thematic independent writing by children, teens, and adults

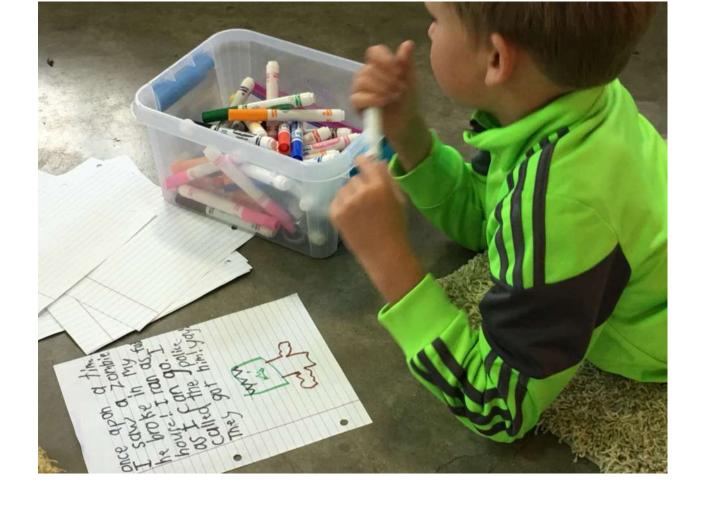
Provide a barrier -free access



Page 32



Be able to understand writing as a facet of literacy



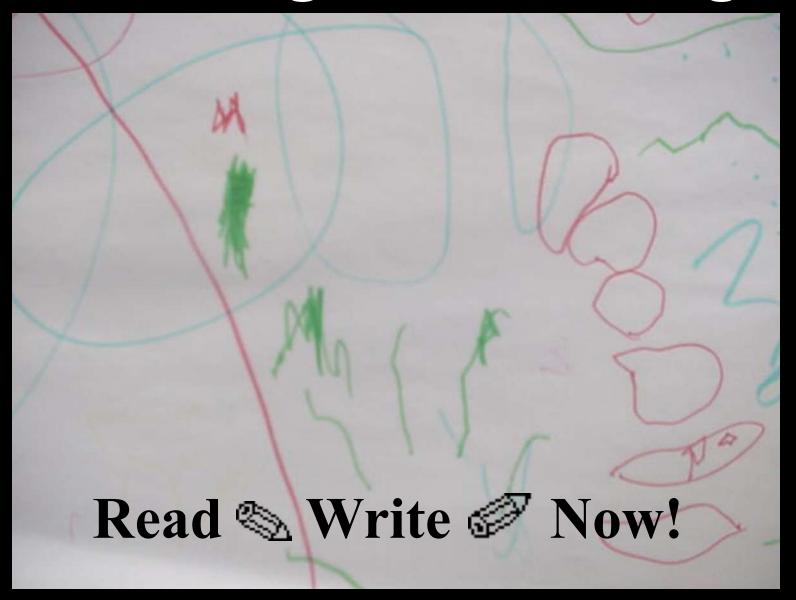
Be able to understand how competency in writing develops in children



Be able to provide and facilitate a safe, non-judgement writing space for children, young adults and their families.

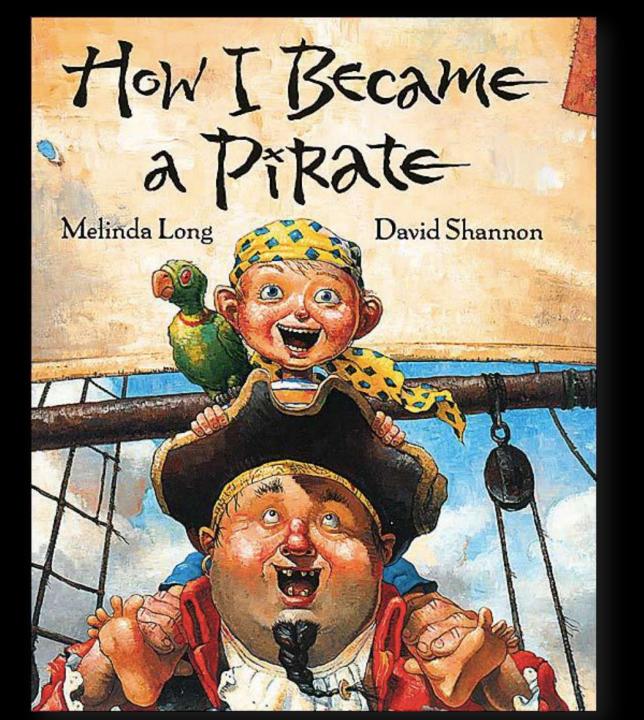
Recognize issues, challenges, and be prepared for them

Writing and Reading

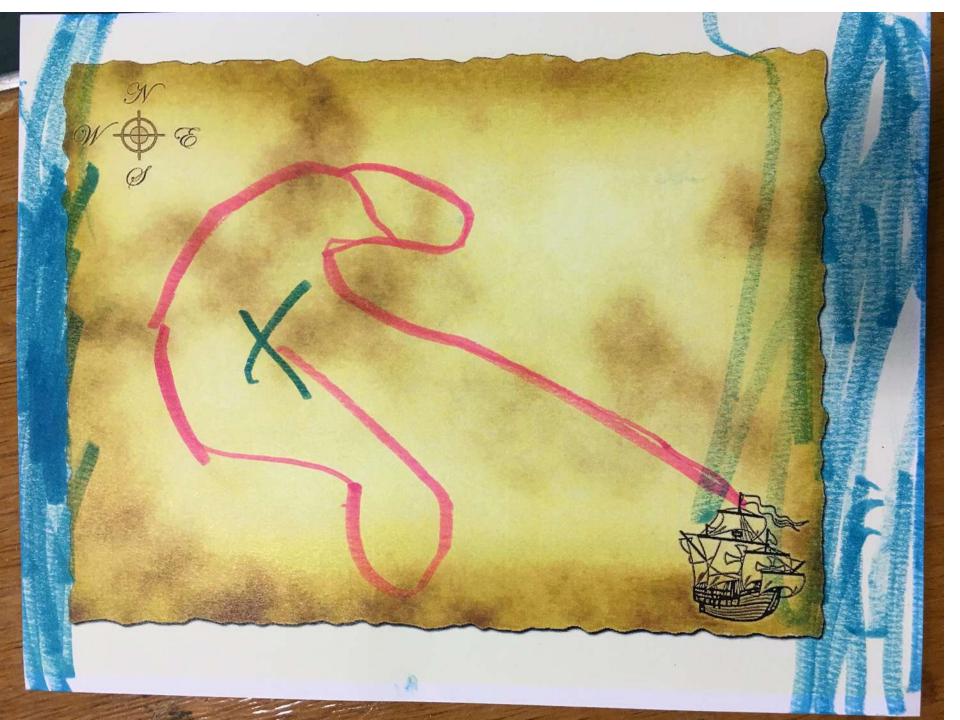






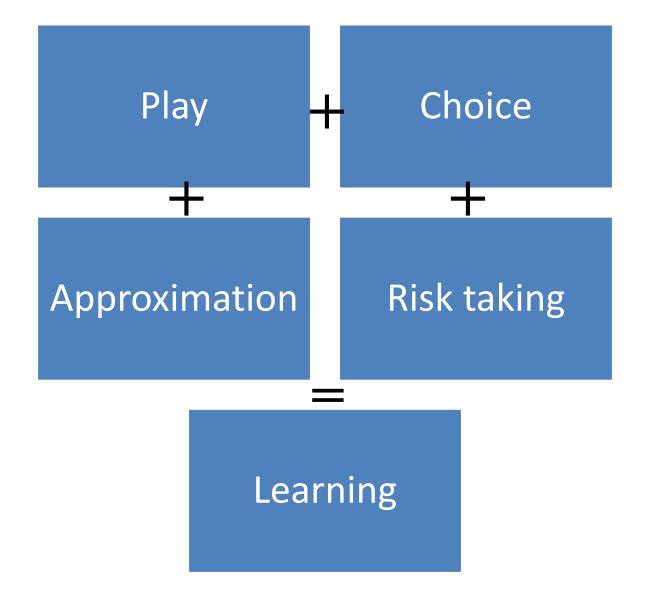








Edwards and Maloy observed parents and their children writing over a four-year period, then developed a formula for successful children's learning:



Play + Choice + Approximation + Risk-Taking = Children's Learning

Play

The Writing Box program supports playful writing.

Writing is not "work." There is no "right way" to write.

Choice

We give parents and children a choice of prompts and materials.

We know that competent writing, like reading, takes practice.

Approximation

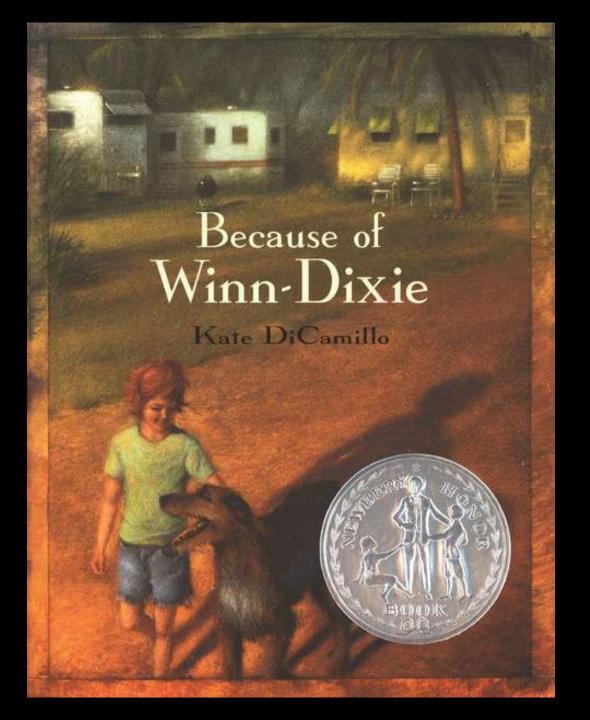
This means accepting good tries at spelling and sentence structure, and even at different ways of communicating meaning, without constantly criticizing or correcting.

Risk-Taking

We ask all participants to take a risk, to be willing to try something new: "I have never made a map before!"

Librarians can model enthusiasm in the face of a fear of failure, and help parents overcome the instinct for perfectionism:

"Let's get the writing down on the page. We can look up how to spell when we revise later."



Kate DiCamillo

FIRST (VARY ROVERT ARAFT)

STATED, MARY 13 1997

VIMSHIJATE JVME 22 1997

TWO ONIONS, FOUR GALRIC BULBS SERENDEPITY AND A DOG NAMED WINN DIXIE my dog's name is winn dixie on account of that is where i found him. he was in the produce department and you know they don't like dogs mixed in with the fruit and vegetables. the produce manager, he was all excited, waving his arms around and chasing winn dixie, screaming, 'that dirty dog. who let that dirty dog in here?"

which was a good question. because they don't normally let dogs in any part of winn dixie. they think they carry germs. but winn dixie was running around and the produce manager was chasing him and winn dixie thought it was a game. his tongue was hanging out and his tail was wagging and every one in a while he would let out a happy bark.

and I happened to come in winn dixie at exactly that minute. It was the same thing my teacher was talking about in school it was serendepity. my daddy had said, "bea, run on up to the winn dixie and get me five onions. and two cloves of garlic." my daddy was fixing to making spaghetti and he likes to spice it up. and i said yes sir. I like to run errands on account of my bike is very, very fast and i'm good at taking instructions and i can remember a long list of things in my head. five onions and two cloves of garlic was a snap for me.

so i got up there to winn dixie and i stopped at the front door to check and see if the super ball vending machine had either money or a superball laying in the bottom of it and it didn't. and then i weighed myself. i weighed fifty-two pounds. i am small for my age. people have been saying that ever since i can remember. but i think i am just fine.

and then i headed on back to the produce department and that is where i set eyes on winn dixie for the very first time. winn dixie was skidding around the corner of all the fruit displays and wagging his tail so hard he was knocking apples and oranges off the display and they were rolling around in the aisles, along with the tomatoes and green peppers that winn dixie was knocking off. and the produce manager was chasing him and hollering at nobody in particular, help me, help me catch this dirty dog, and then winn dixie sat down, just like that, thump, and the produce manager couldn't stop. he tripped right over winn dixie and went flying through the air. It was something to see. I decided right off I had to have that dog. the produce maanger had him cornered and he was hollering and screaming right in winn dixie's face. and winn dixie was just waving his tail and smiling back at the produce manager, he's a real friendly dog, and people were all gathered around looking and pointing, and then all of a sudden, winn dixie was thinking that the game wasn't over and he barked and jumped and tried to put all four of his paws at once on the produce manager and it knocked him down, which is when the produce manager started to cry. it was sad and funny at the same time and winn dixie started licking the man's face and everybody kind of moved on, because it is one thing to see a produce manager get in a fight with a dog and that's the kind of thing it's fun to watch, but it's not any fun at all to watch a produce manager cry.

"this is serendeptly," i thought to myself. if daddy hadn't wanted to make spaghetti and sent me to get him four onions and two cloves of garlic, i wouldn't have never met winn dixe. "all right," the big winn dixie manager started pushing his way through the crowd, saying, "all right, all right, whose dog is this?"

and that was more serendepity, or maybe it was just what my daddy calls my big mouth, but i knew if somebody didn't speak up they would take winn dixie to the pound.

"mine sir." i told him.

the produce manager looked at me like he wanted to kill me a hundred different ways and the

big manager turned on me and said, "what's your name?"
"hea" i told him.

"bea," i told him.

"bea?" he said.
"that's right," i said. "bea buloni."

"and you are how old," he said.

"i'm ten," i told him.

"well," he said, "miss buloni, ten years old is old enough to know that you do not bring dogs into a grocery store."

"yes sir," i told him. "he just got off his leash and i was chasing him and he ended up in here somehow."

TWO ONIONS, FOUR GALRIC BULBS SERENDEPITY AND A DOG NAMED WINN DIXIE my dog's name is winn dixie on account of that is where i found him. he was in the produce department and you know they don't like dogs mixed in with the fruit and vegetables. the produue manager, he was all excited, waving his arms around and chasing winn dixie, screaming, "that dirty dog. who let that dirty dog in here?" which was a good question. because they don't normally let dogs in any part of winn dixie. they think they carry germs. but winn dixie was running around and the produce manager was chasing him and winn dixie thought it was a game. his tongue was hanging out and his tail was wagging and every one in a while he would let out a happy bark. and i happened to come in winn dixie at exactly that minute. it was the same thing my teacher was talking about in school it was serendepity. my daddy had said, "bea, run on up to the winn dixie and get me five onions. and two cloves of garlic." my daddy was fixing to making spaghetti and he likes to spice it up. and i said yes sir. i like to run errands on account of my bike is very, very fast and i'm good at taking instructions and i can remember a long list of things in my head. five onions and two cloves of garlic was a snap for me. en i not un there to winn divia and i stanged at the front door to shock and one if the currer hall

Mentor Text: Because of Winn Dixie, first page, first draft

Suggested writing topics, forms and sources for ideas

Poetry Pen Pals Letter Writing Hieroglyphics Plays Newspapers Mazes Lists

Thank You Notes Recipes **Grocery Lists** Secret Codes Menus **Journals** Word Puzzles Maps

Signs **Stories** Cartoons Bookmaking Poetry Jokes and Riddles Secret Messages

At the Public Library Continuity and Consistency

8 weeks

1 hour a week, formal program

 Writing boxes available at the reference desk for check out for in-library use

Eight reproducible workshops

- 1. Maps
- 2. Cartoons
- 3. Hieroglyphics
- 4. Menus and Recipes
- 5. Newspapers
- 6. Postcards and Letters
- 7. Poetry
- 8. Handmade books

Five Common Elements For A Writing Box Program

1. Books related to the topic- Mentor Texts

2. Creation of sample by the librarian

3. Modeling the action of writing

4. A simple interaction with the children

5. Writing Box materials

What did I forget?

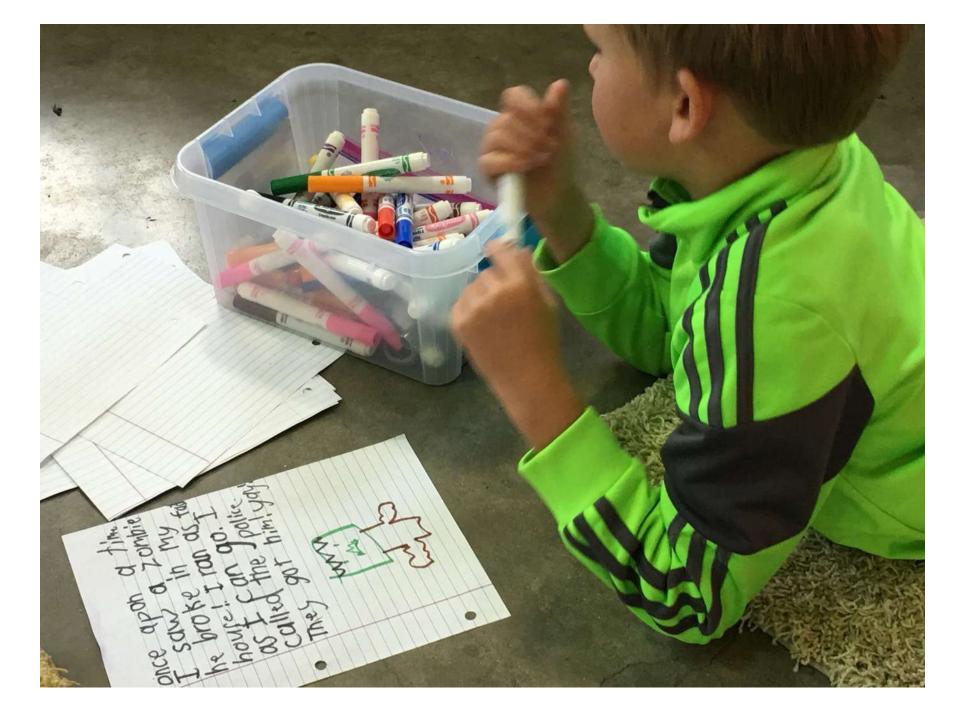






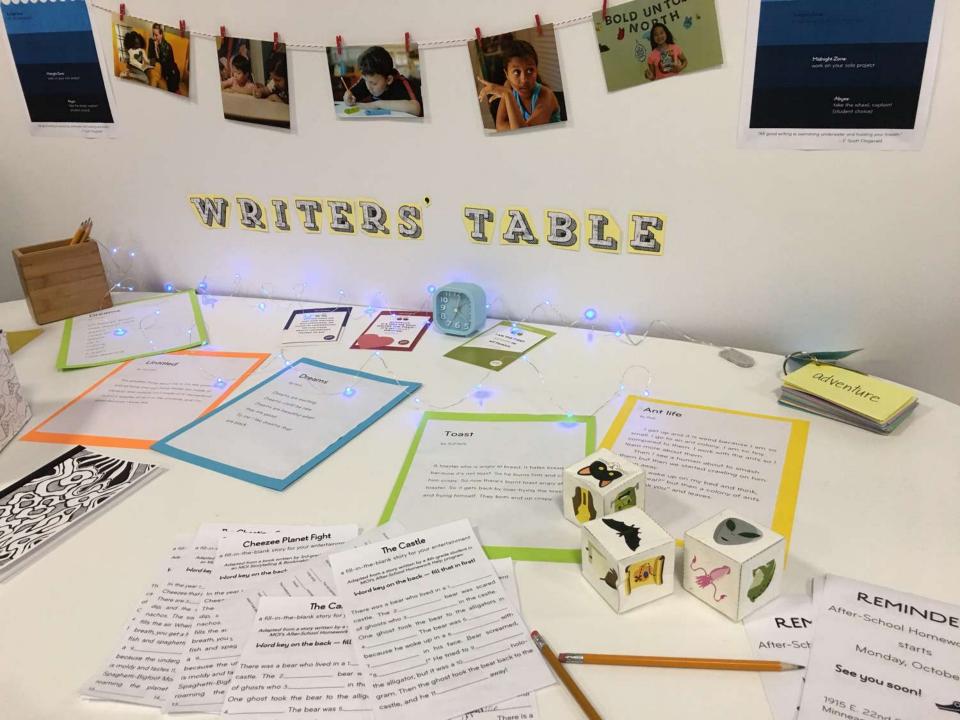












Grown ups **Parents** Care Givers Special Friends Grandparents







Five Common Elements For A Writing Box Program

1. Books related to the topic- Mentor Texts

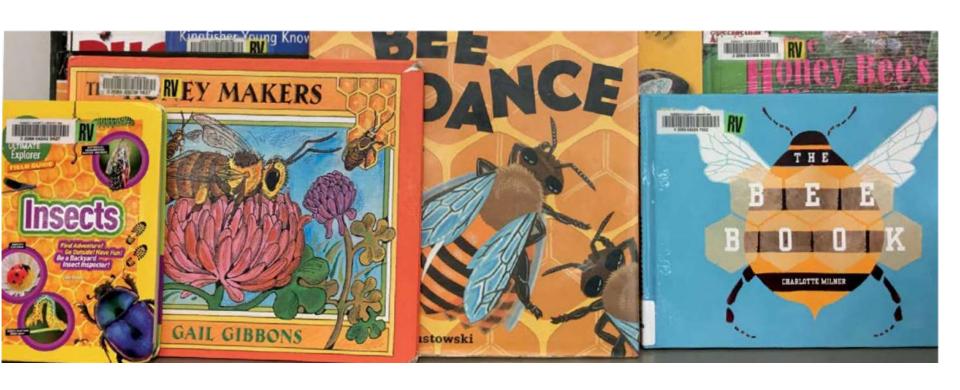
2. Creation of sample by the librarian

3. Modeling the action of writing

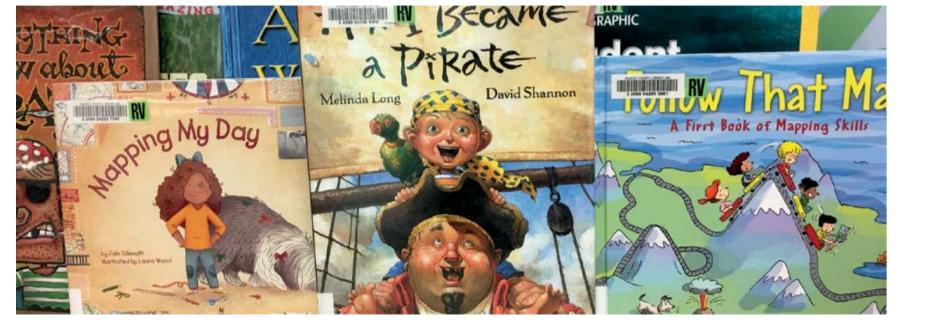
4. A simple interaction with the children

5. Writing Box materials

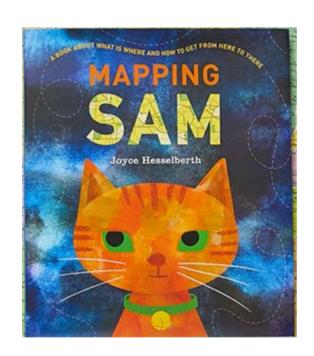
Books Related To The Topic or Mentor Texts

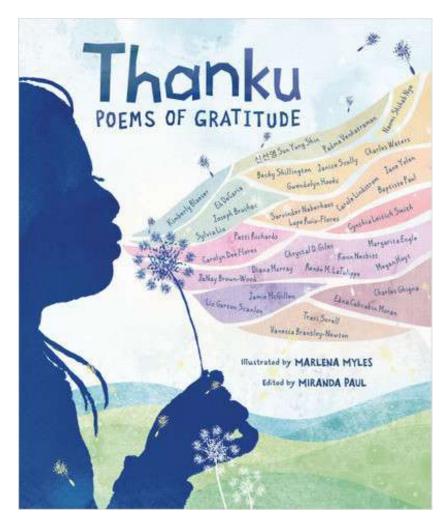


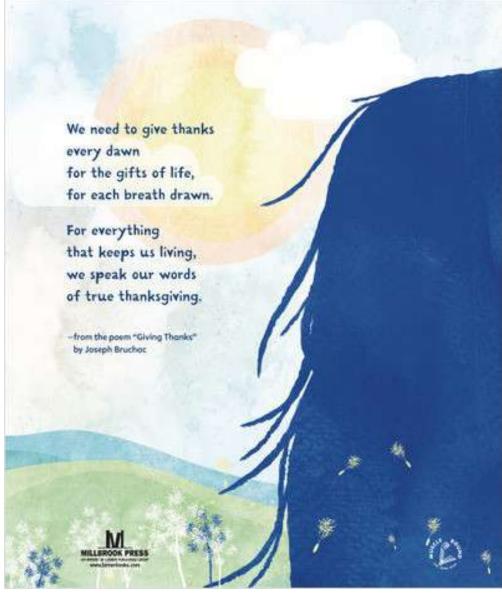
What am I looking for in the books I select for mentor texts?



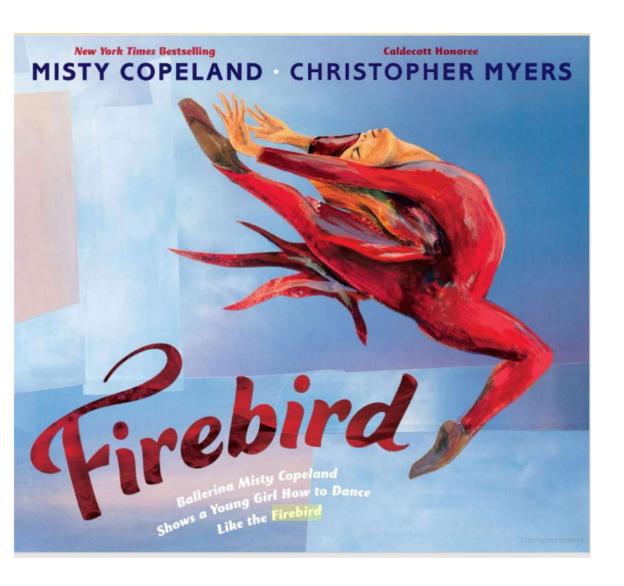
A riveting story, whether fiction or informational





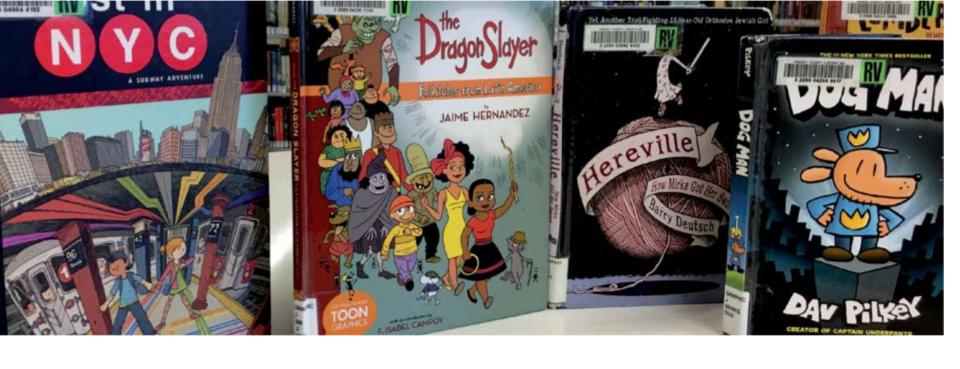


Juicy Language

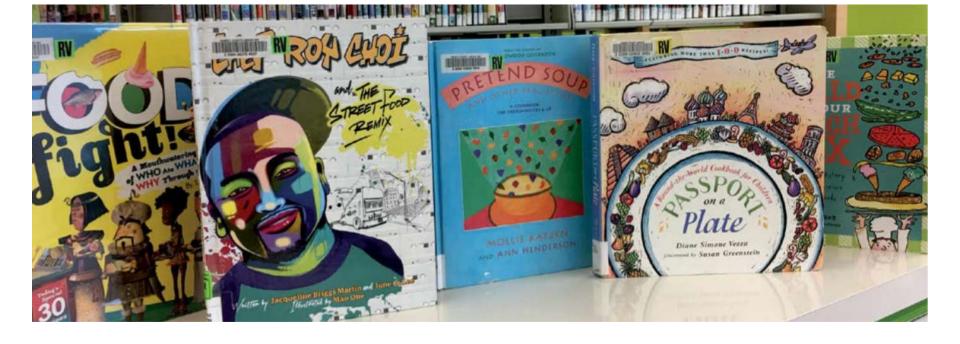


Compelling Art

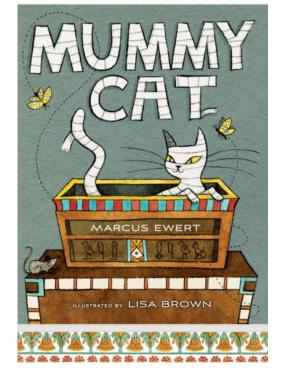
Does the art reflect and illuminate the text?



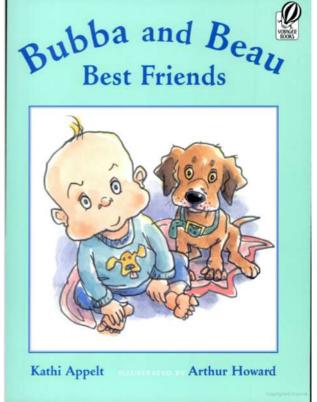
Age relevance: does it engage and inform its intended audience?

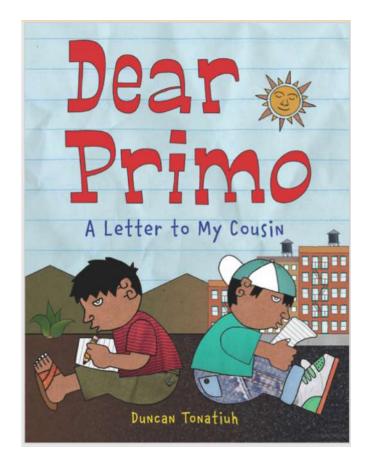


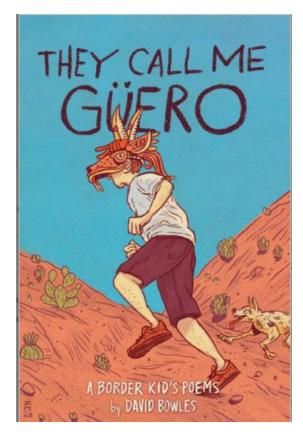
Accuracy reflecting diversity of culture, nationalities, economy, and abilities.



Dramatic page turns: the art of the picture book hinges on compelling page turns.

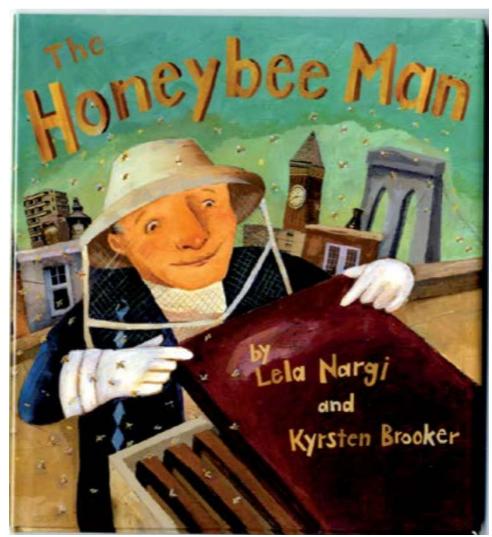






Consistent style
Is it excellent throughout and is the voice consistent?

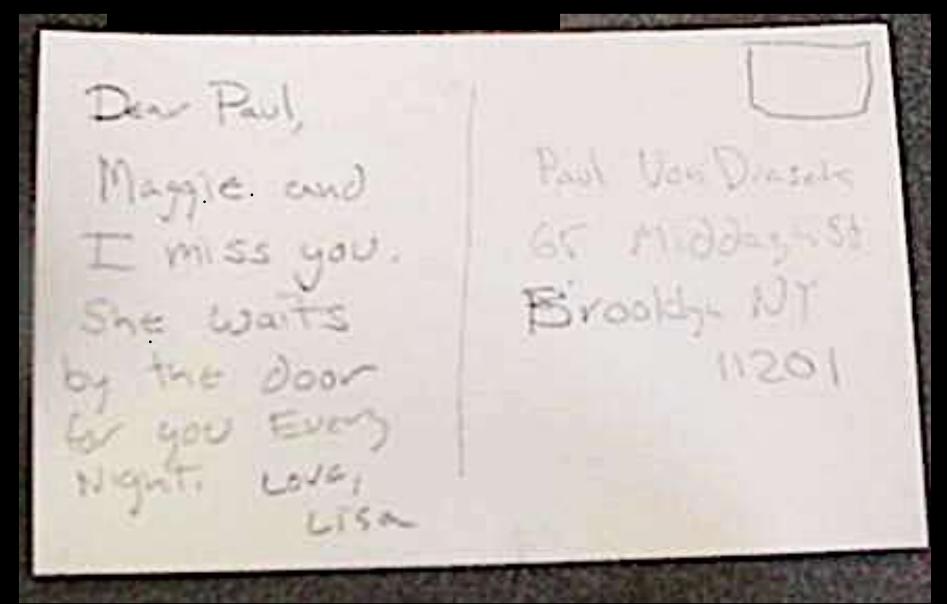
Read-aloud-ability: is it a joy to read aloud?



Looking at the art of the book,

- What media is used? Do watercolor illustrations serve the story? Is the art accomplished or amateur?
- Is this a serious biography?
- Do visual elements add to or distract from the text?
- Is the layout clean and communicative, or is it confusing?
- Are pieces of the pictures lost in the gutter?

Writing sample



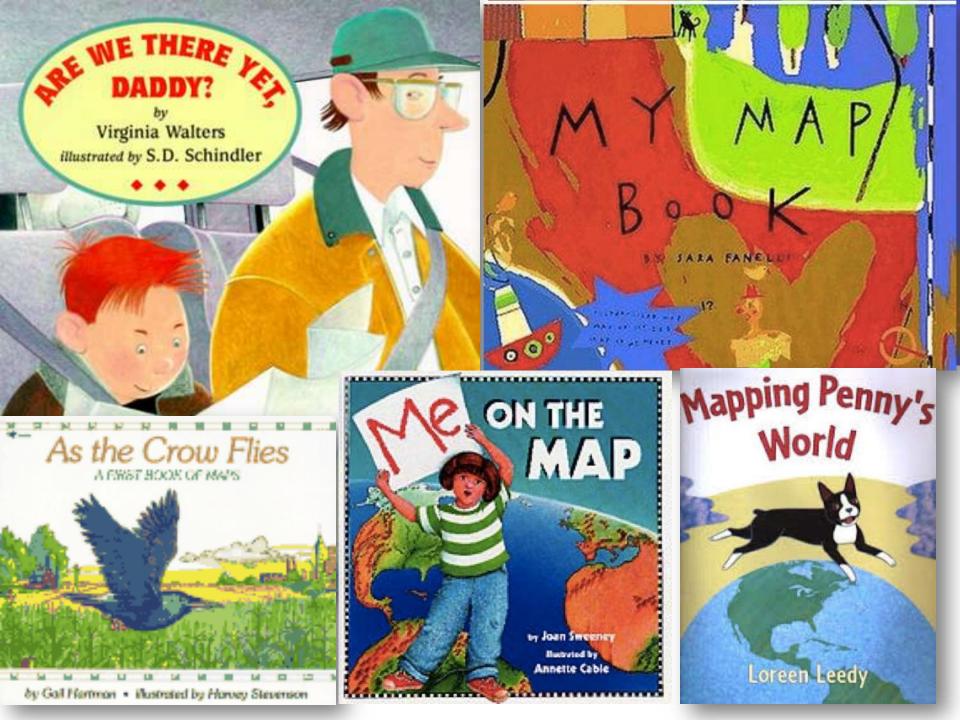
Dear Paul,
Maggie and I
miss you.
She waits by the
door every night.
Love, Lisa



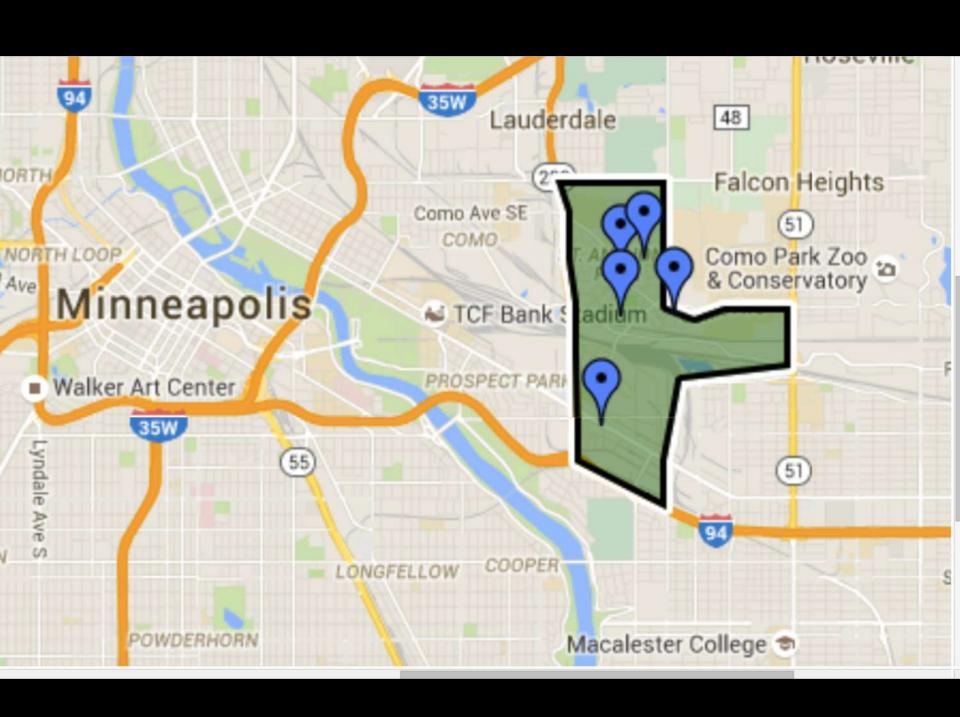
Paul Von Drasek
In a hotel in San Diego
San Diego CA 98765

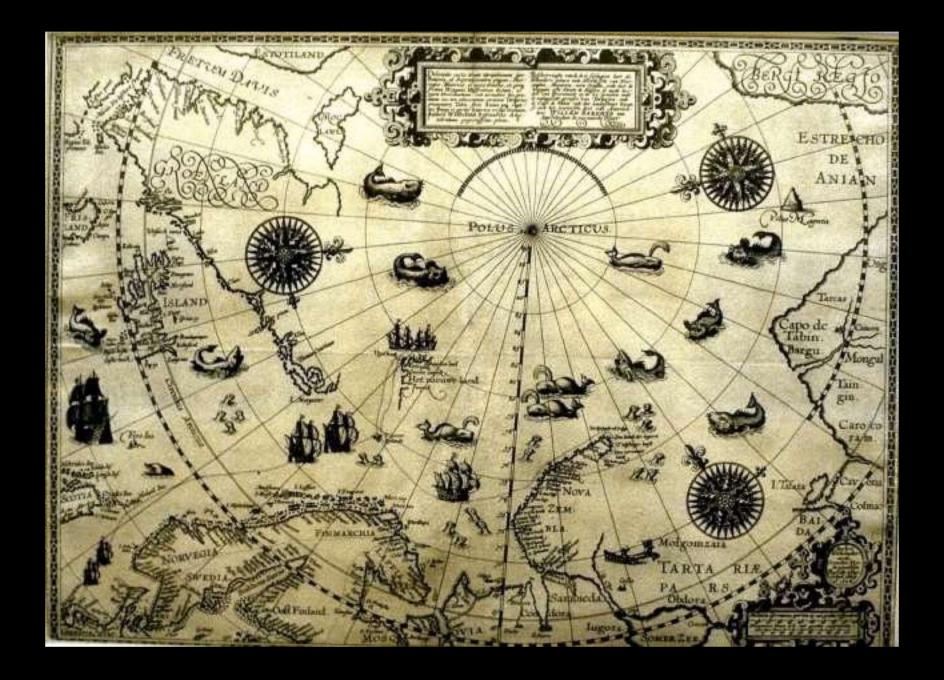
Other Side of Postcard





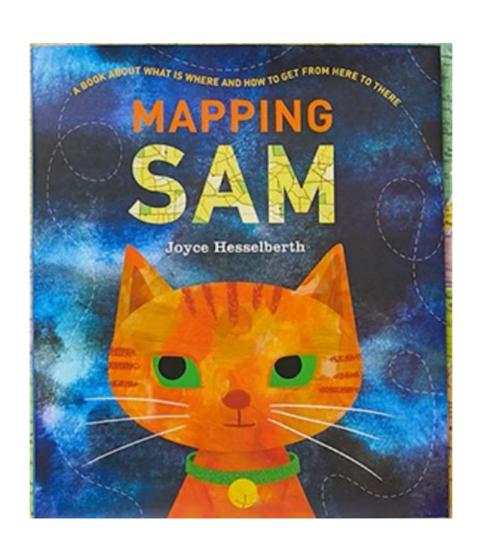


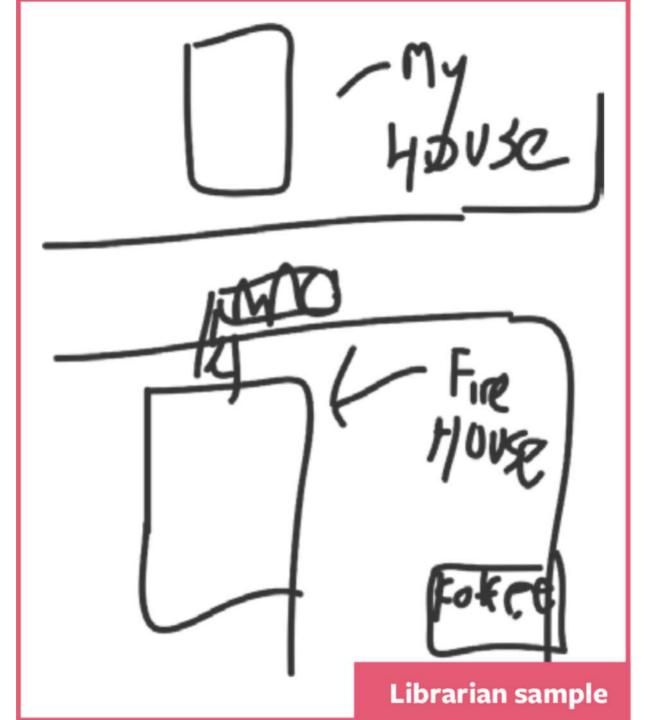






Read Aloud Mapping Sam





Have a short discussion
What is a map?

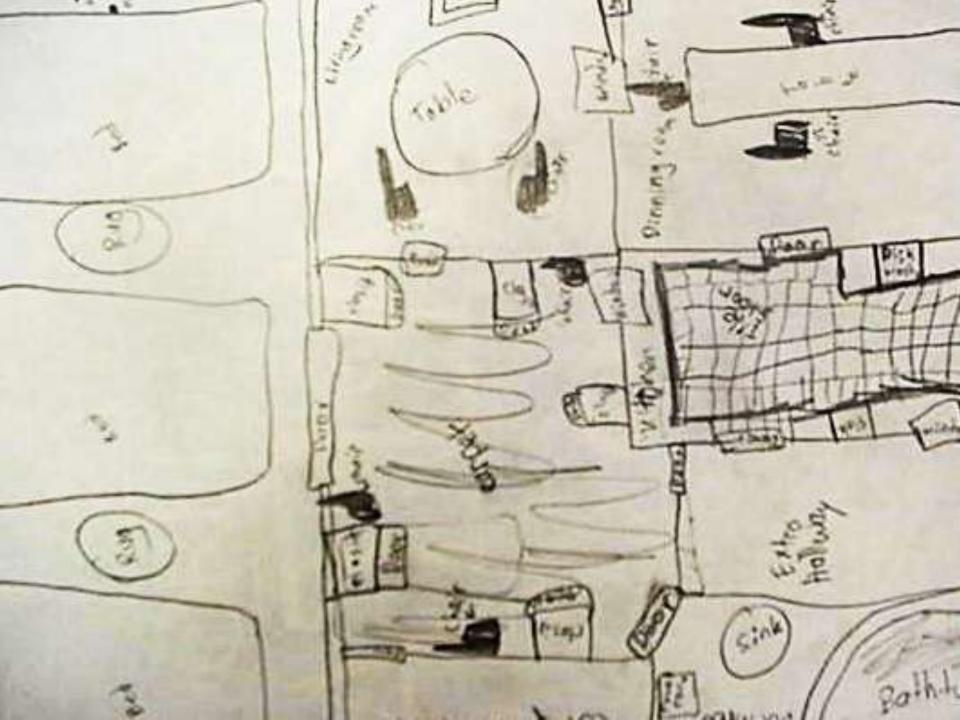
Model the making of a map.
This is very quick, just a few minutes.







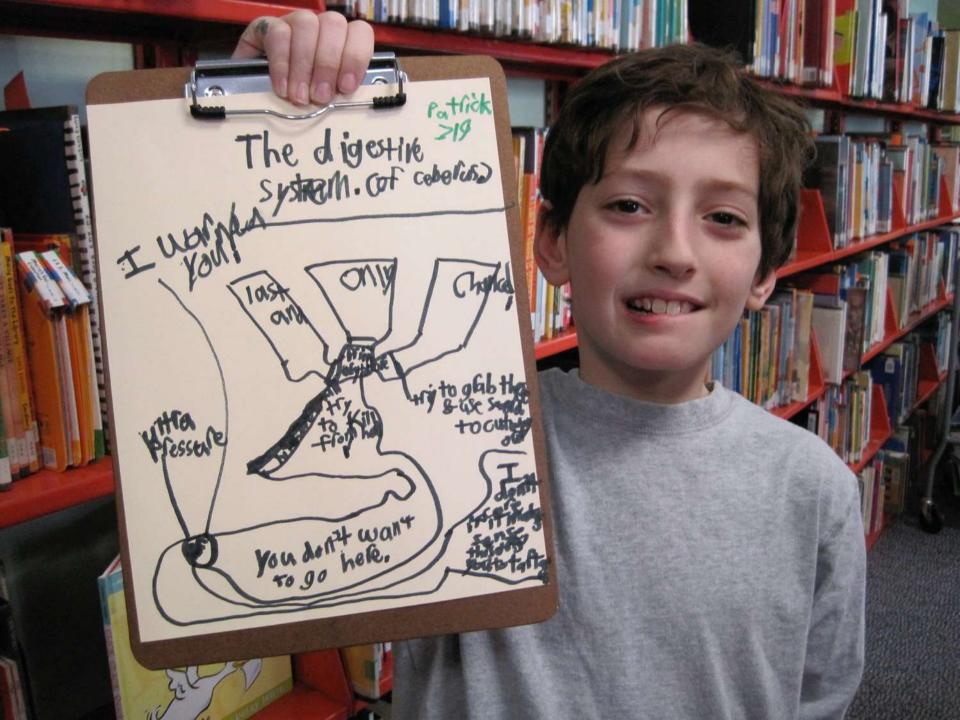


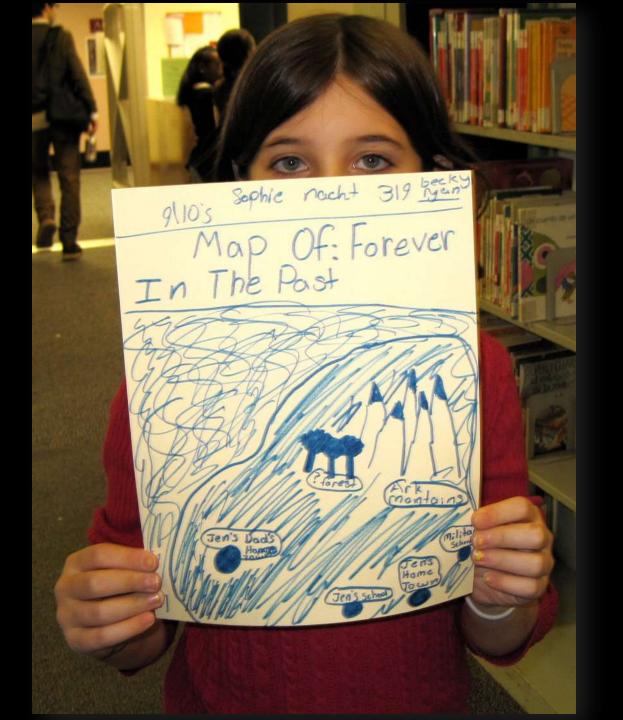




hockey talole trennis





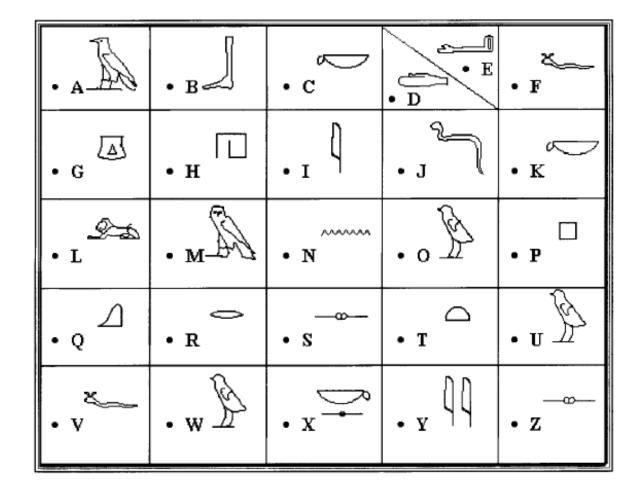


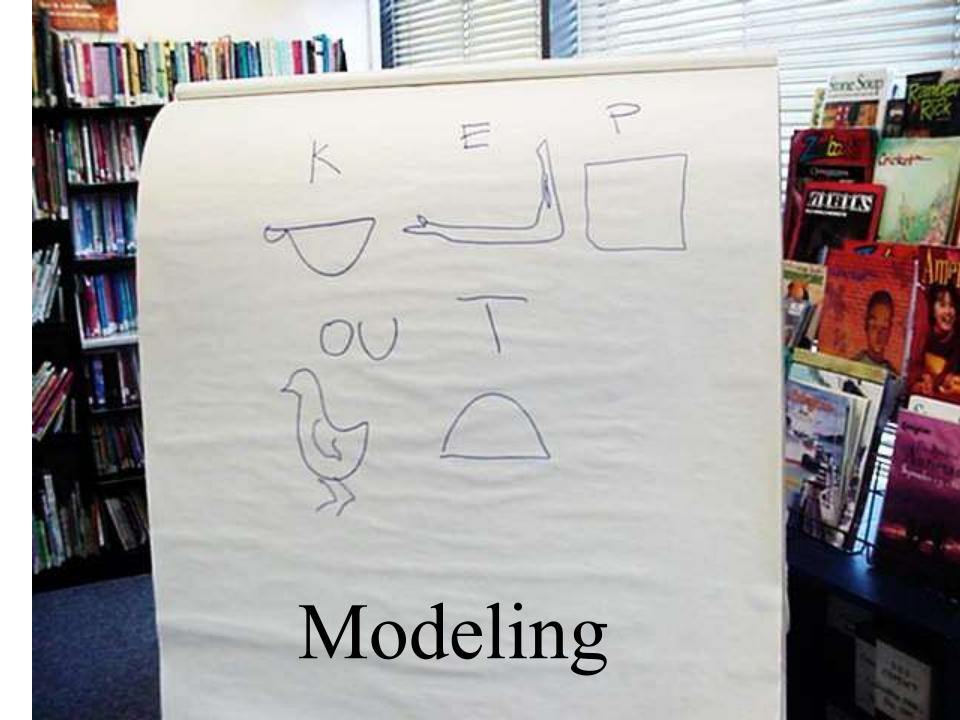
mom Le bedre Roc Bath PRoom

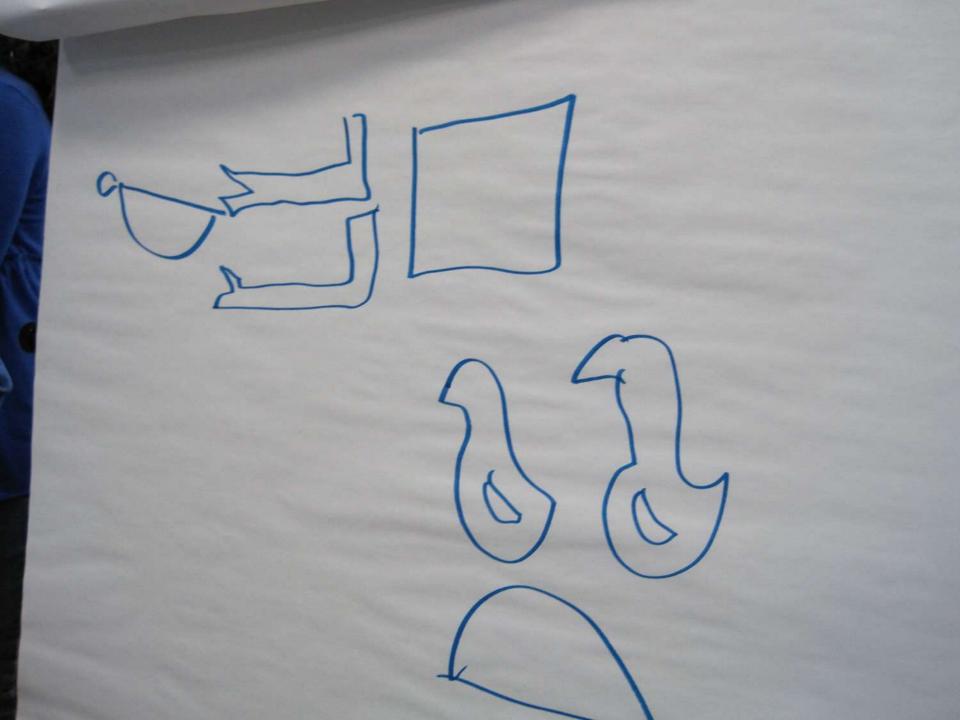


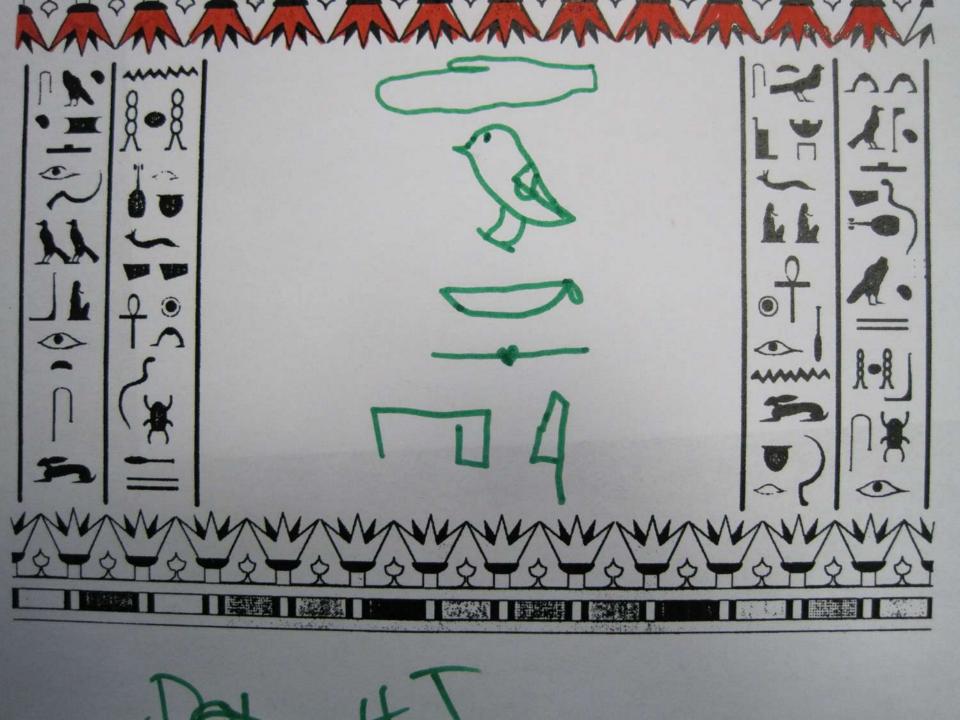


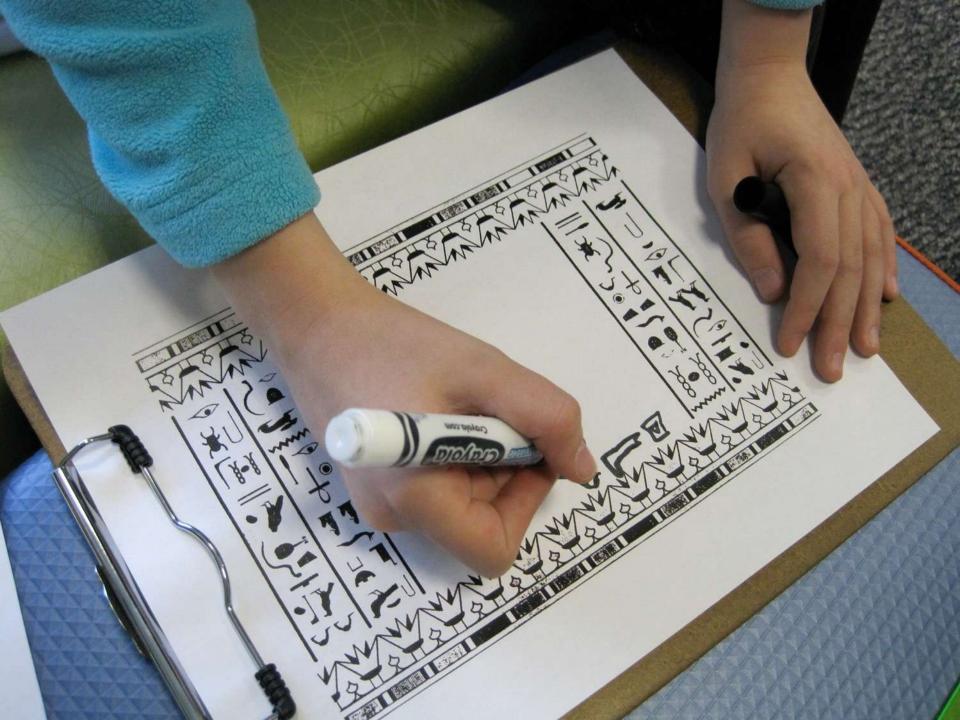
Transformation Key of English Letters to Hieroglyphics from Egypt's Tourism Net, http://www.tourism.egnet/cafe/tor_trn.htm



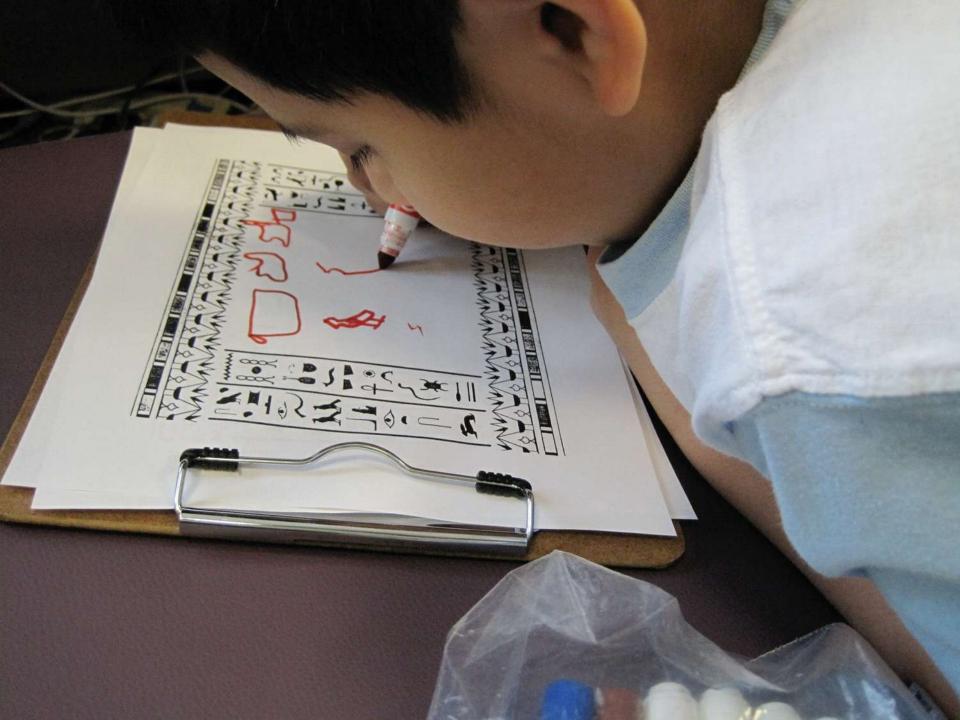




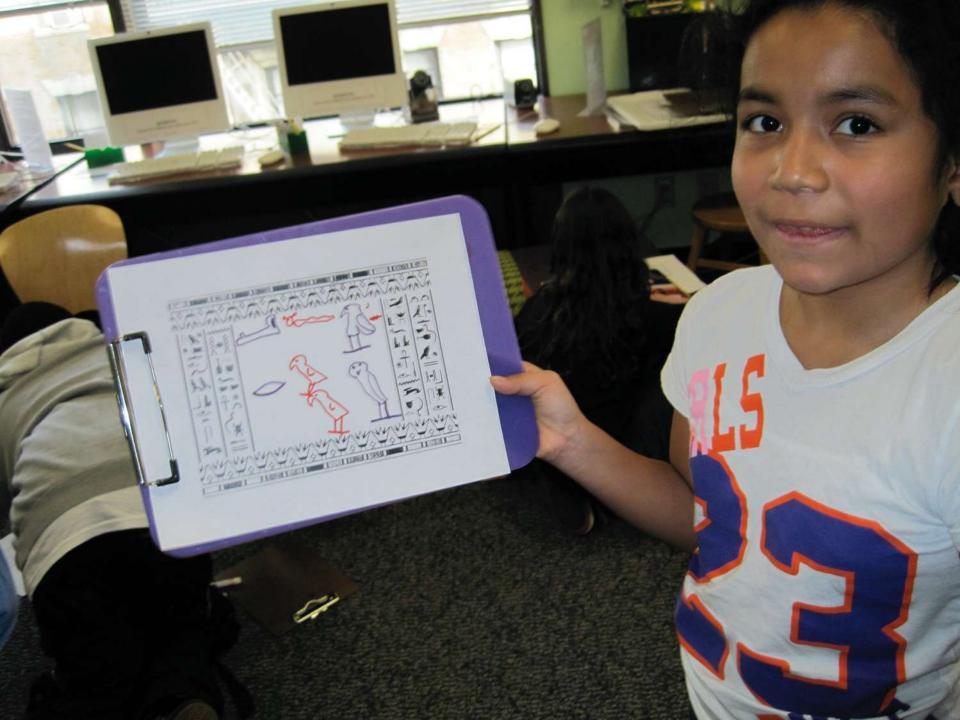


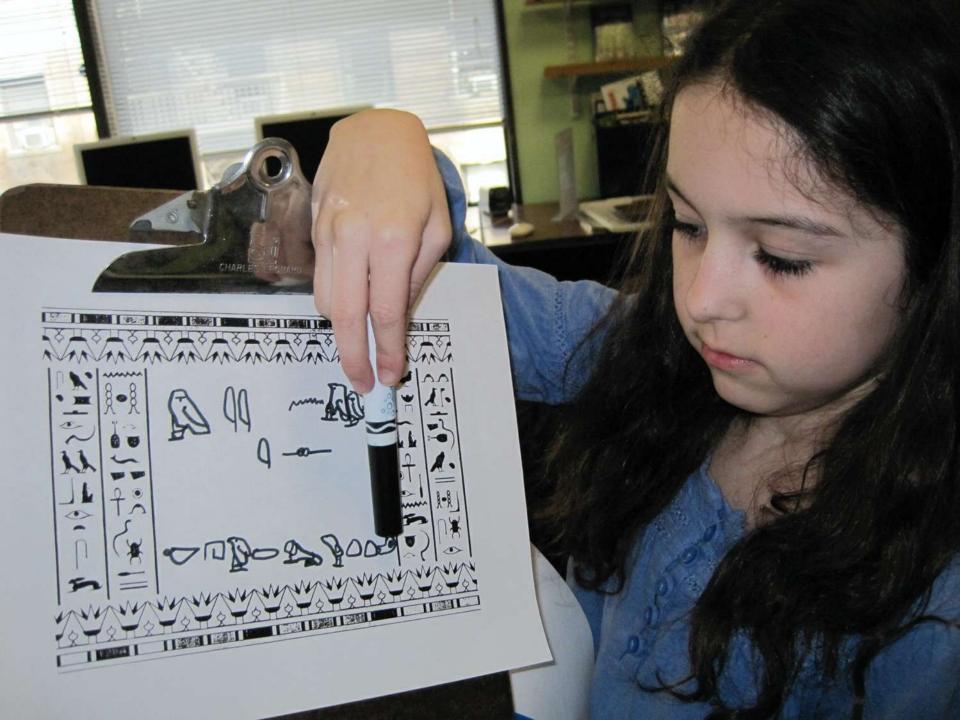




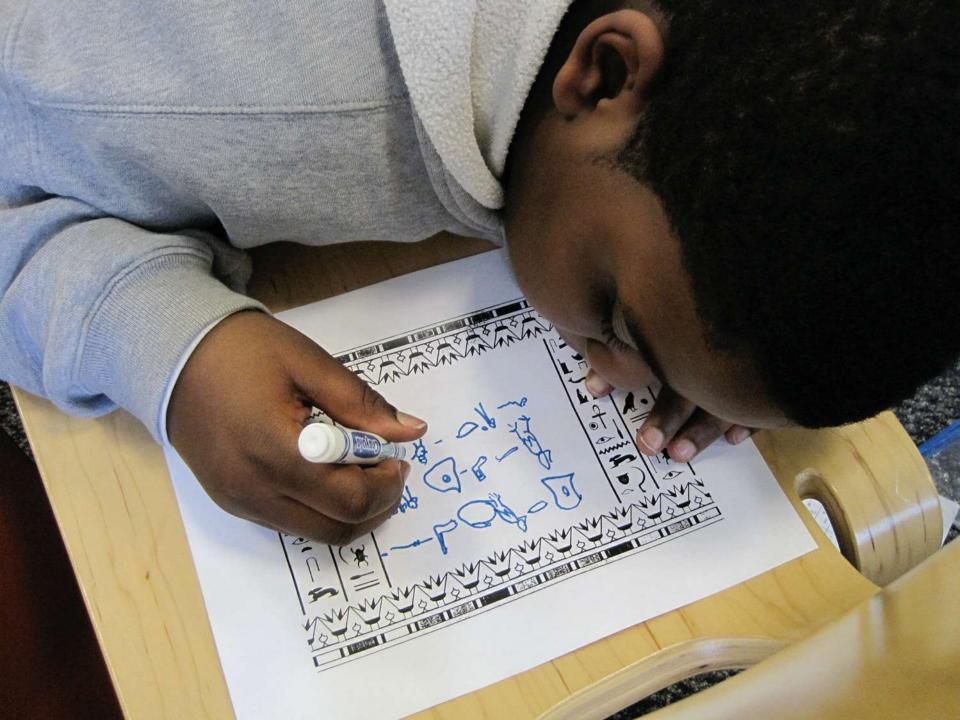


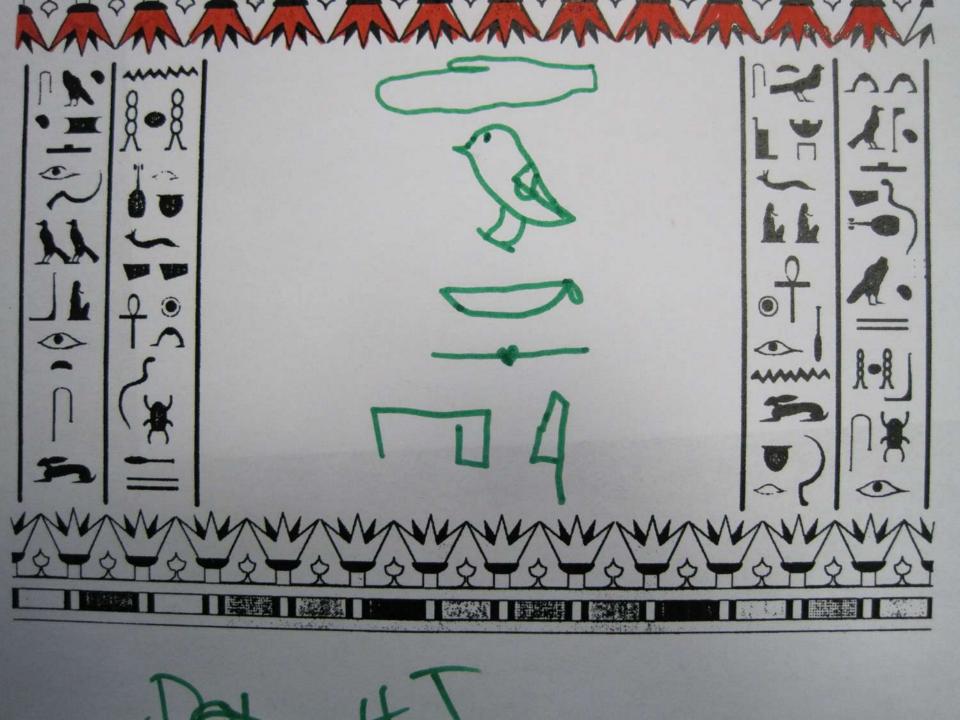


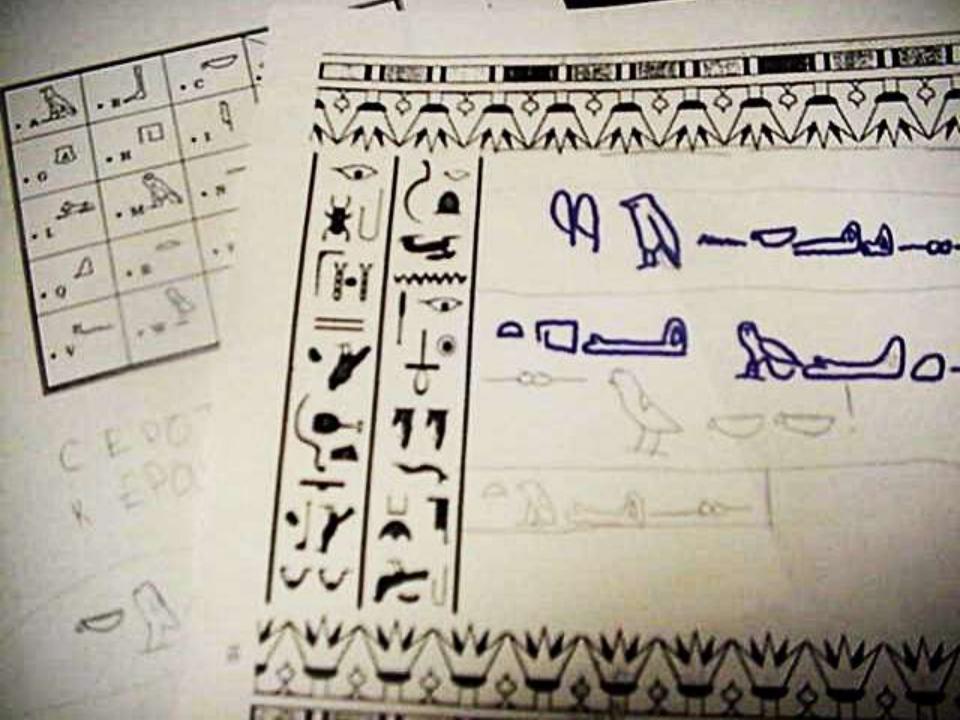






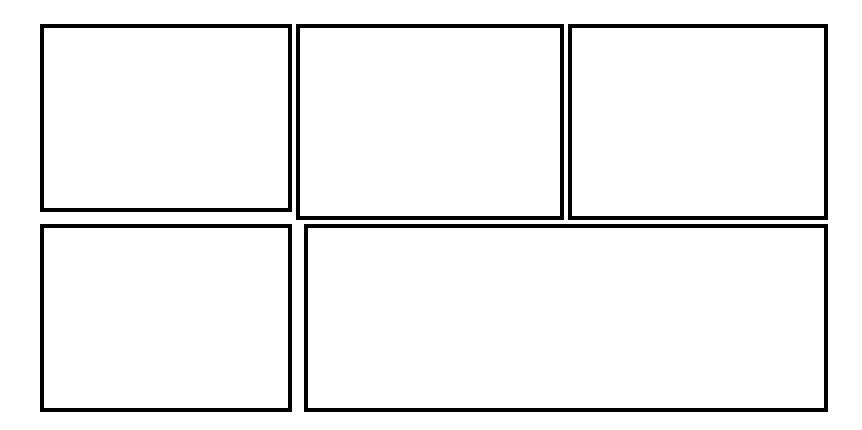




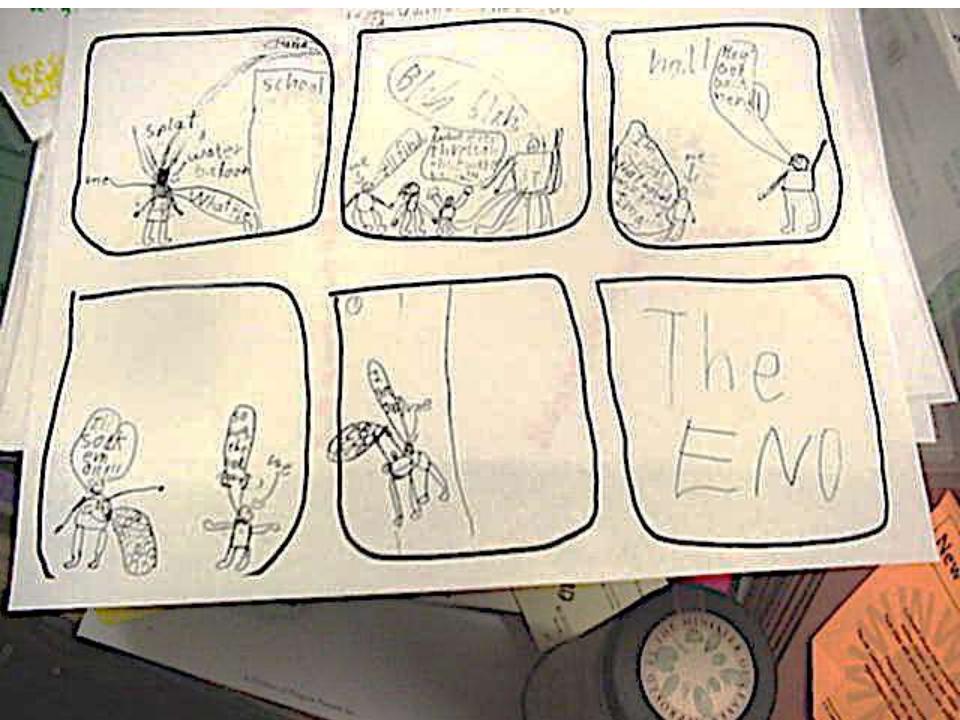




Cartoon Template





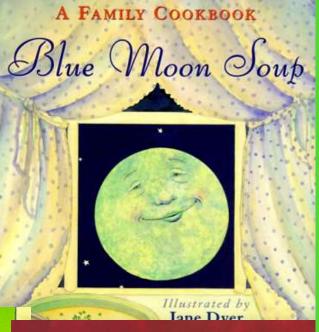


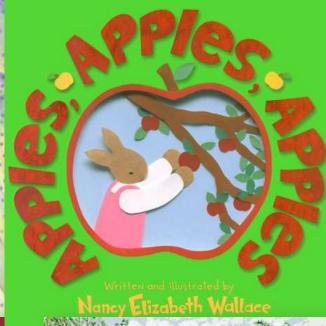
FROM THE AUTHOR OF
Pretend Soup AND Moosewood Cookbook



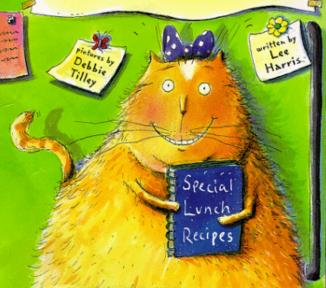
And 64 Other Amazing Recipes for Cooks Ages 8 & Up

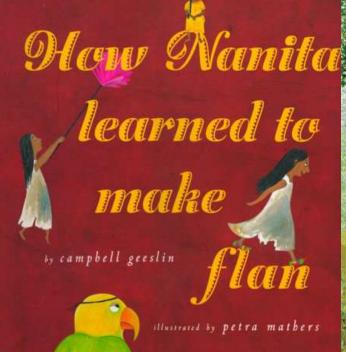


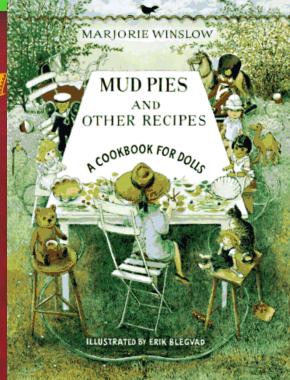


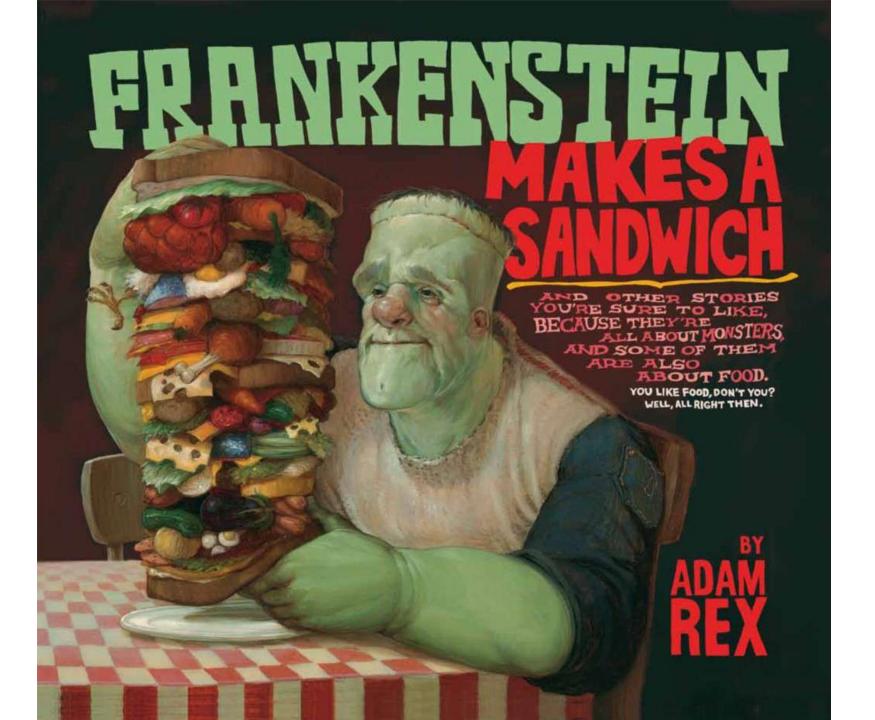


Never Let Your Cat Make Lunch for You

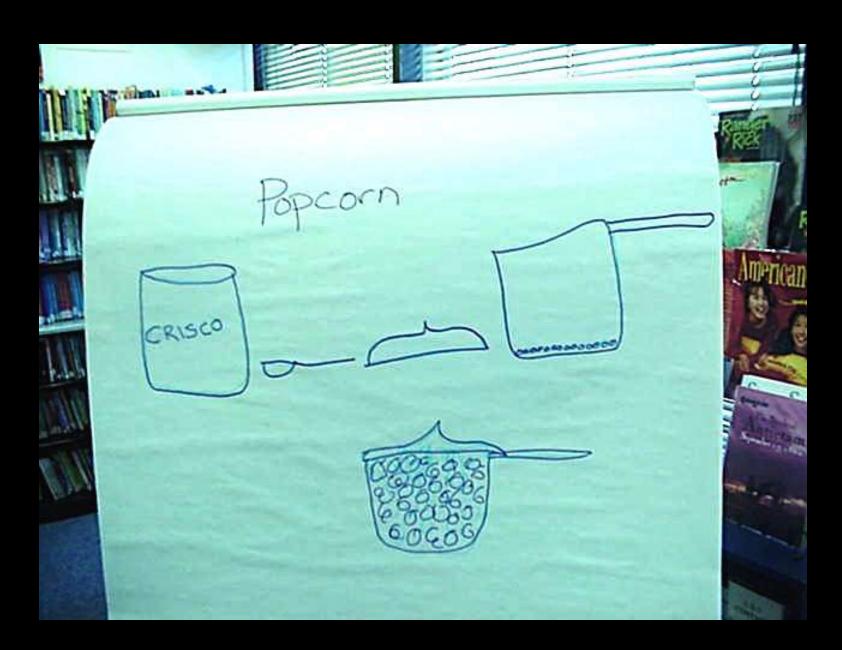




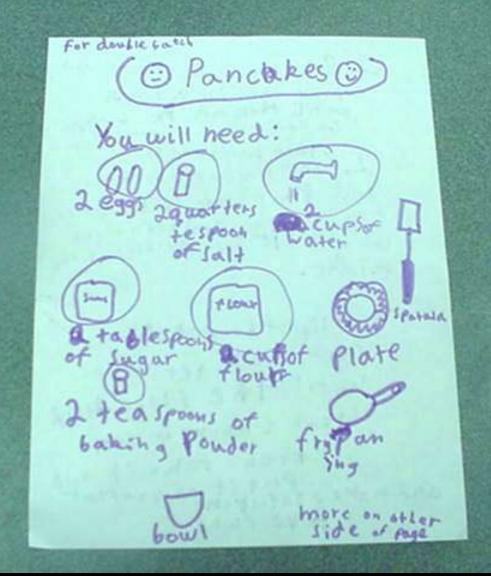












Have cun Recipe For Pasta Things you's need Tarrato sause, Pasta, Bowl with. holes to let water out, Big pot,
Topto poto le t you hold
phot things to be by water to
half way you to the by pot cookie Wait till water boils Wait 20m in utes on so stlar 5) Aut gloves on

Merevinaes

Merevinaes

Merevinaes

Mareila spora

Vannilla extract Meraquines You will need: 4 eggs

Cocoa

Water Stablespeak or cococc. 2 table speaks water

4 eggs

Cocoa

4 eggs I whisk or mixer I whisk or mixer 12 cms Sugar STEERS SUGATE FOWIS 260wls erate eggs into 2 souls Mixwhites 2003 cookie sheets Itable spoon butter al cup measure and and varnilla. add water & varnish seperate eggs into two bowls. Mix amp and add vannilla, add wa buffcup sugar. repill meaning, & vanilla to agg whites. & mix m with sugar. Mix and add the While mixing, add sugar. Gu Lookie sheets. splop batter s. splop movegumes on cookie trays. bake at 350° for 11-15 m s. bake for 15to 15 minutes or until or until cooked on top. EAT! cooked ontop. EAJ?

The Furry News

How to Make a Newspaper



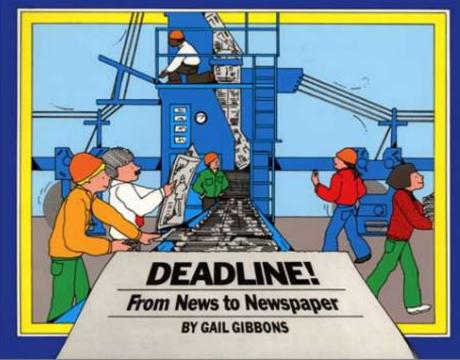
written and illustrated by LOREEN LEEDY



THE YOUNG JOURNALIST'S BOOK

HOW TO WRITE AND PRODUCE YOUR OWN NEWSPAPER





5 P.ORTS * * * * TINAL

Hale defender quits board



'Satan' boy barred from B'klyn school

DAILY NEWS

New York's Houstown Hewbeares

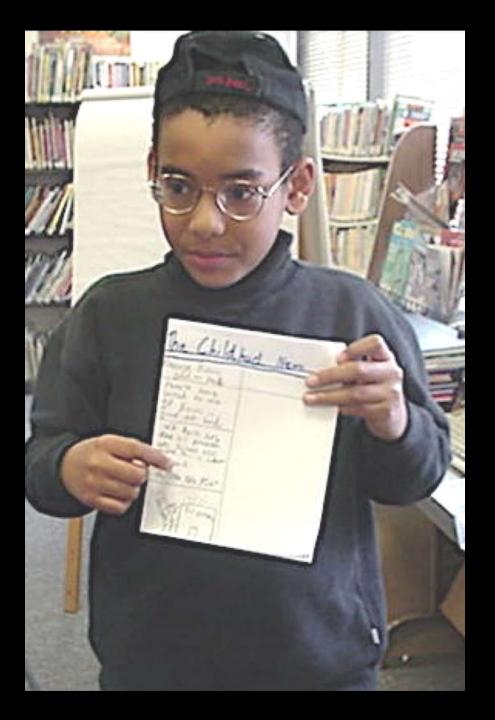
NEW DRUG RAP FOR ROBERT DOWNEY JR.

BUSTED

After mag about the other more of LA yeatherfor

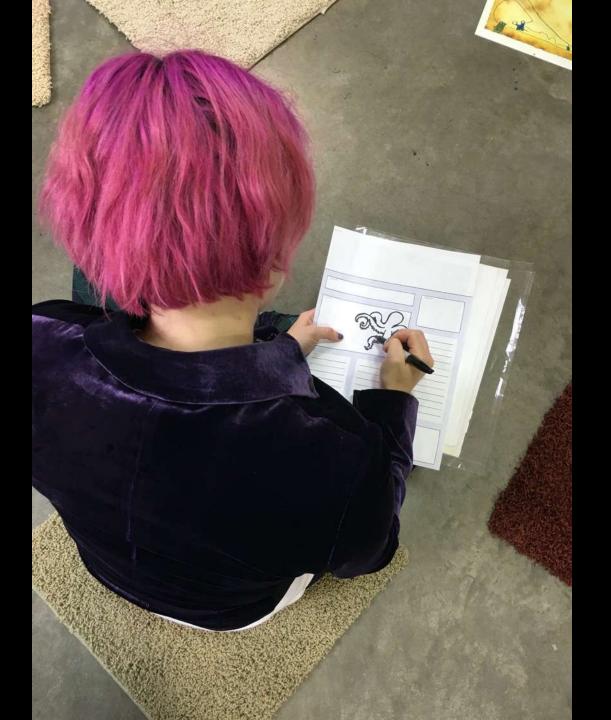
Actor fired from 'Ally McBeal,' checks into rehab





Newspapers

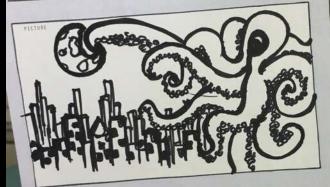
Kid News 2001 Ar Joey's 9/10 gettherest of the year I hey were so good they get the restof the year of they did late Dorg Home Work then the teachers is ecrean Bush has done nothing since he has been president Just has done nothing Since priesident. He made USA Worker Next USK



THE MINNESOTA MIRROR ser 13th 2018

TARKEN AND BEHOLD HIM!

LOST GOD PLSES UP FROM SUNIEN CITY



The unknowble homself has usen from the filmy depths to garge himself upon air night sky, cracking the Herr like crab's legs and socking ant the glummering marray, cashing the shells aside.

STATES HAVE ALL BEEN DEVOUCED; THE MOON IS DISSAY-EARING BITE BY BITE; DARKNESS

Charlesse Tremont of weston, and, was the first to notice the missing constellations. "I talk to casscopia every might, you know, and sustdenly , last saturday, she was gone " says the concerned wheen.

president lange west proposes creating authoral Stars in his Shape eccently elected president of the united states, Konge " yeery" west, former



Accessibility

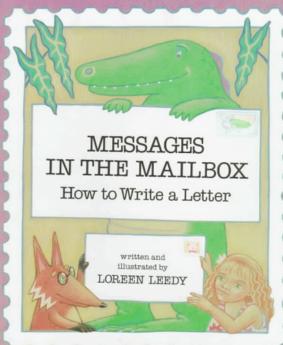


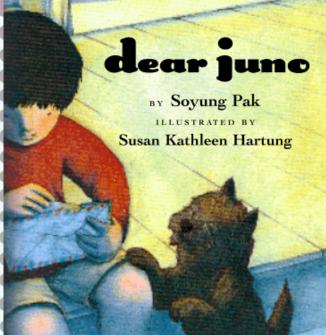


Collaborating: Writing Is Noisy Business



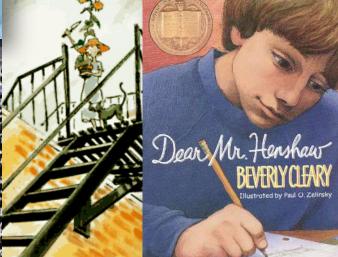












EZRA JACK KEATS

LETTER TO AMY

Gardener

Sarah Stewart

Pictures by David Small

AROUND THE WORLD Who's Been Here?

P.S. Longer Letter Later







arrett George

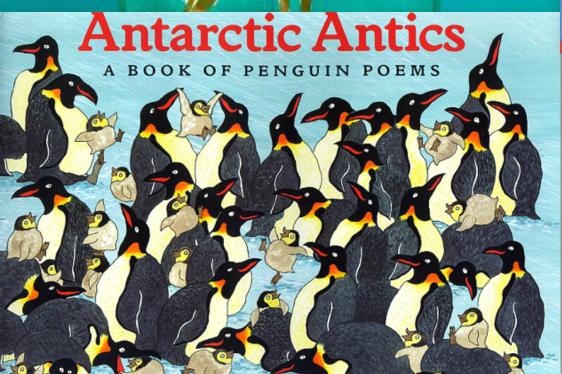
Postcards

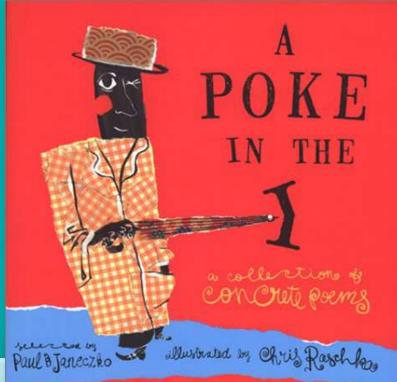




mammalabilia



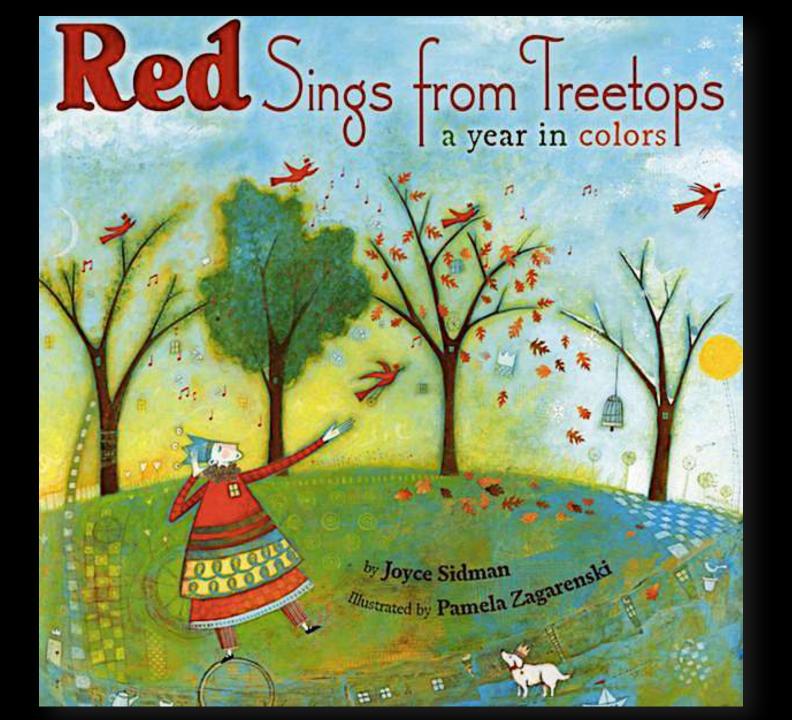


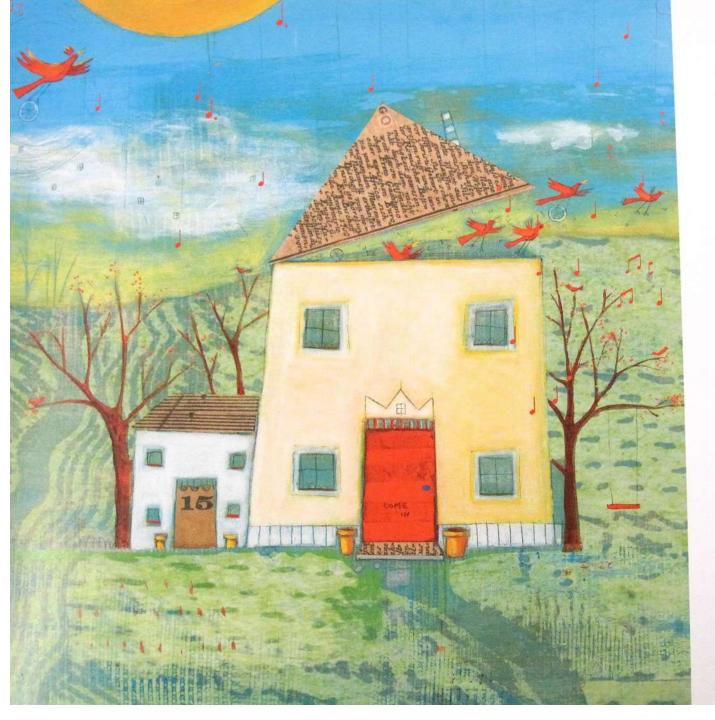




Little Dog Poems

by Kristine O'Connell George Illustrated by June Otani





SPRING

In SPRING, **Red** sings
from treetops:
cheer-cheer-cheer,
each note dropping
like a cherry
into my ear.

Red turns
the maples feathery,
sprouts in rhubarb spears;
Red squirms on the road
after rain.















Blue twinkles
in thesagisht Prancing danceing in the water blue in thory 61chein + h. Water beaming every where





Sharing











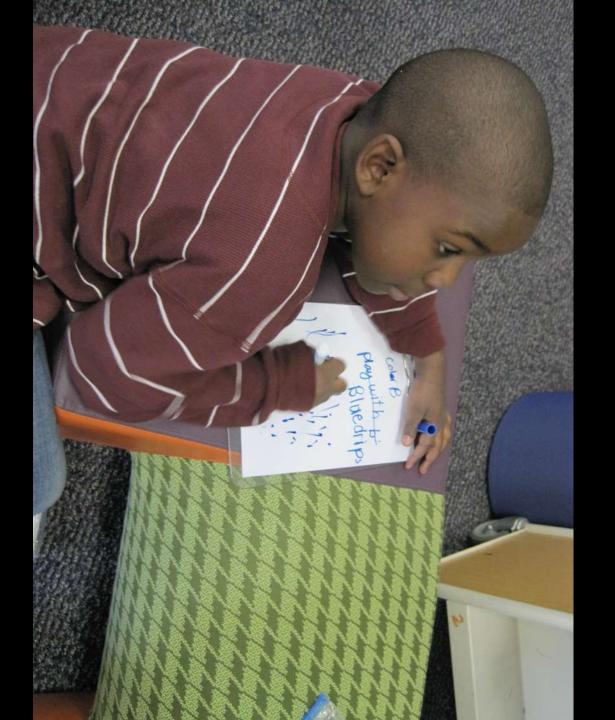








Respecting Privacy



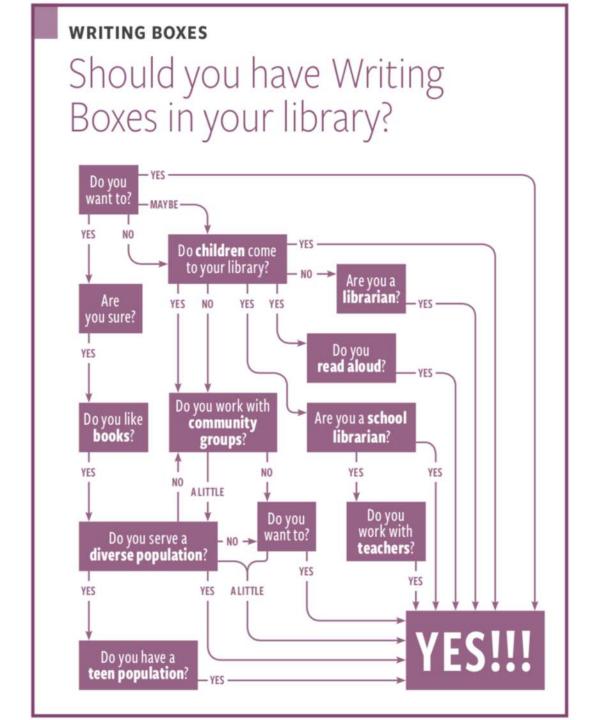


Getting the Buy-in

Page 160

Inexpensive
Supports Literacy
Multigenerational
Replicable

Fun!



Stuff that comes up

- Privacy
- Spelling
- Blocks-inspiration
- Writer/editor
- Parents
- Standing back, not commenting-describing-can you tell me about your writing? What do you want to say?
- Perfectionism

They who make no mistakes make nothing

The most significant outcome of a Writing Box program is a cohort of participants who gain confidence and competency in their writing.

Evaluating Outcomes

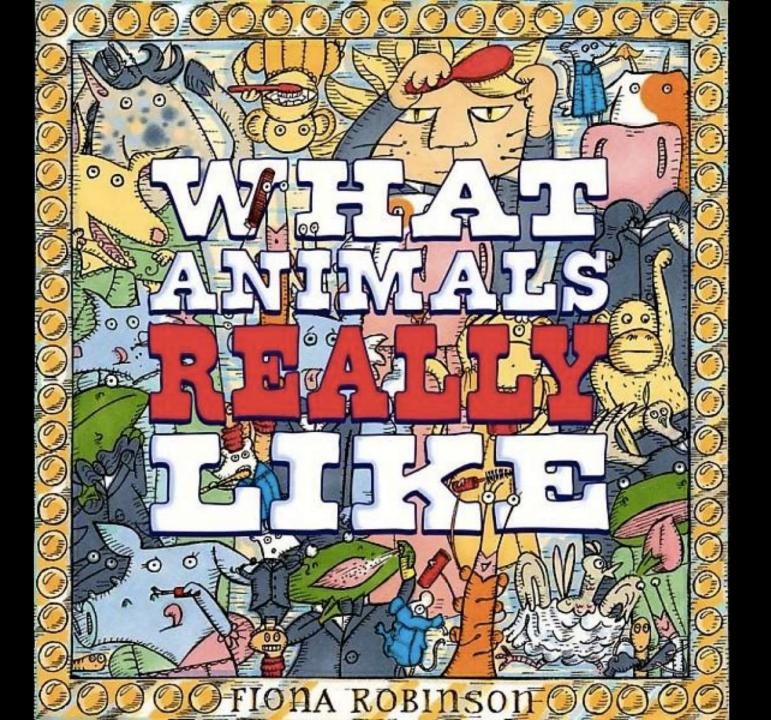
- Are the children and young adults engaged in the work?
- Are they excited about their writing, about sharing it, and about their peers' work?
- Is attendance steady or growing?
- Are participants engaged?Do they write?
- Are their adults writing?

Do they seem excited to be there, or are their adults making them attend?

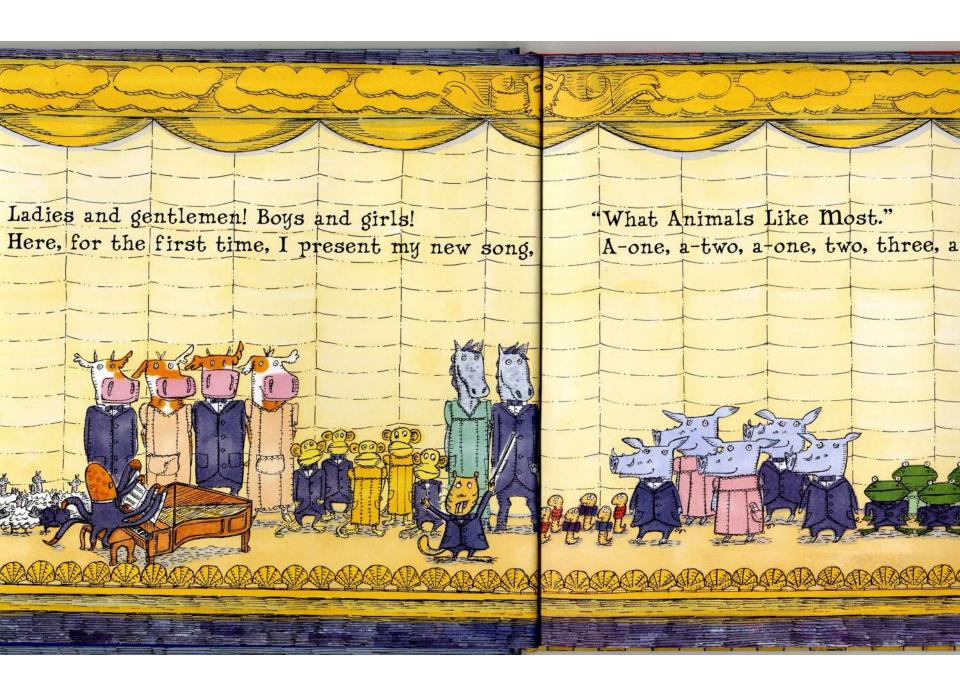
Is the topic open enough to engage writers of different skill levels and ages?

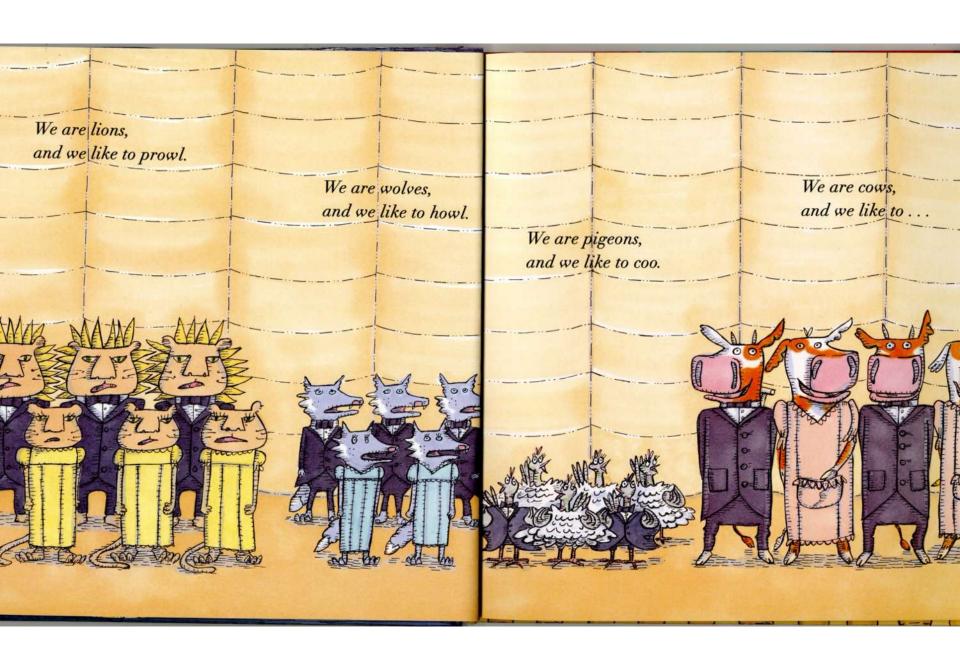
outcomes

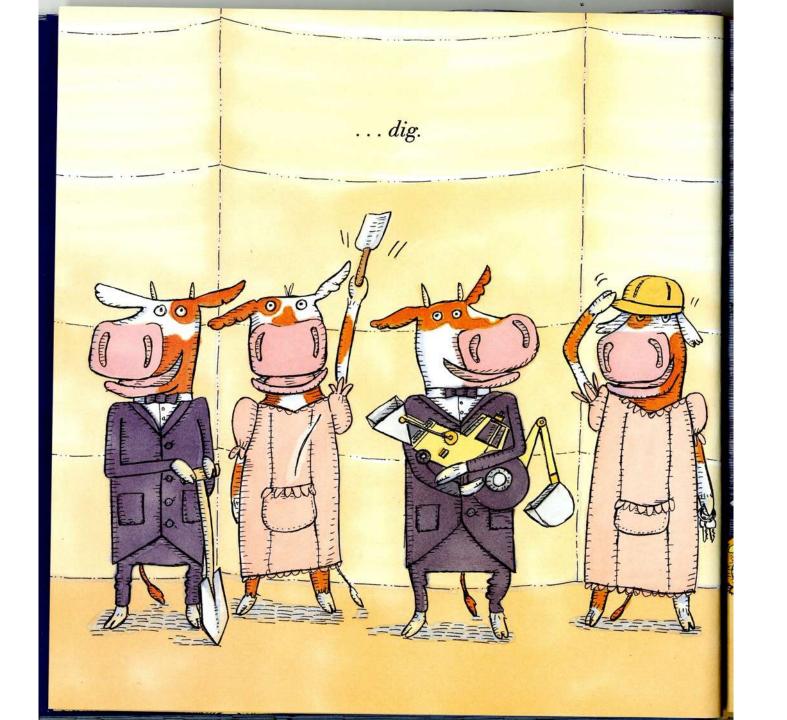
- Are participants borrowing titles on display, and titles that tie in with a session's project?
- When materials are available at the reference desk, are writers requesting and using them?
- Have we had requests for an expansion of the program?
- Have community groups like the Girl Scouts of America asked to participate?

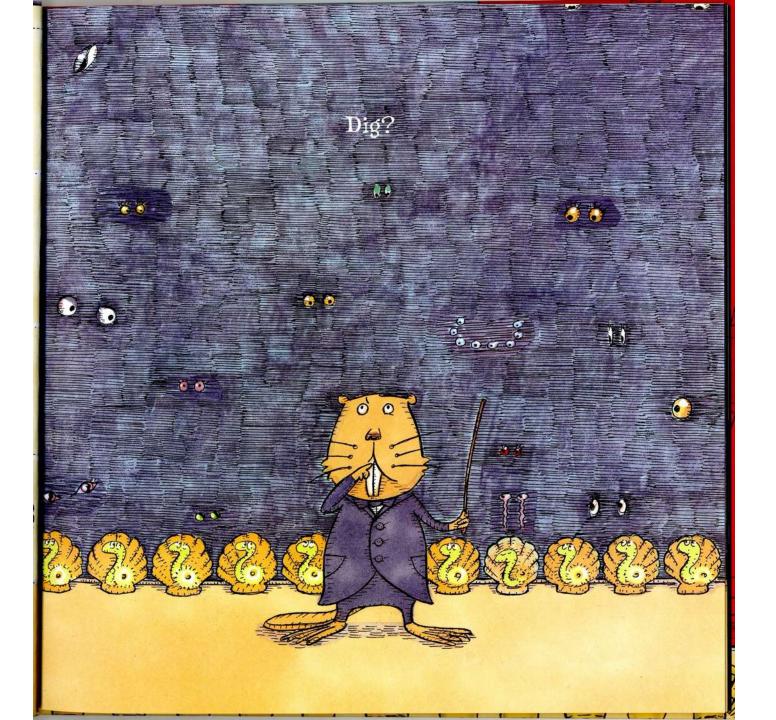


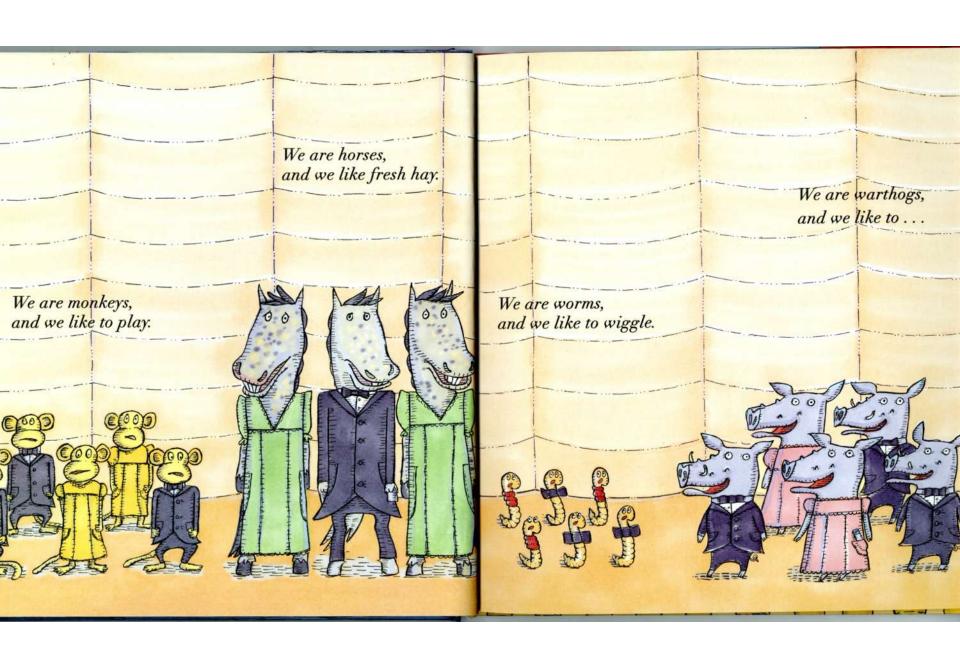


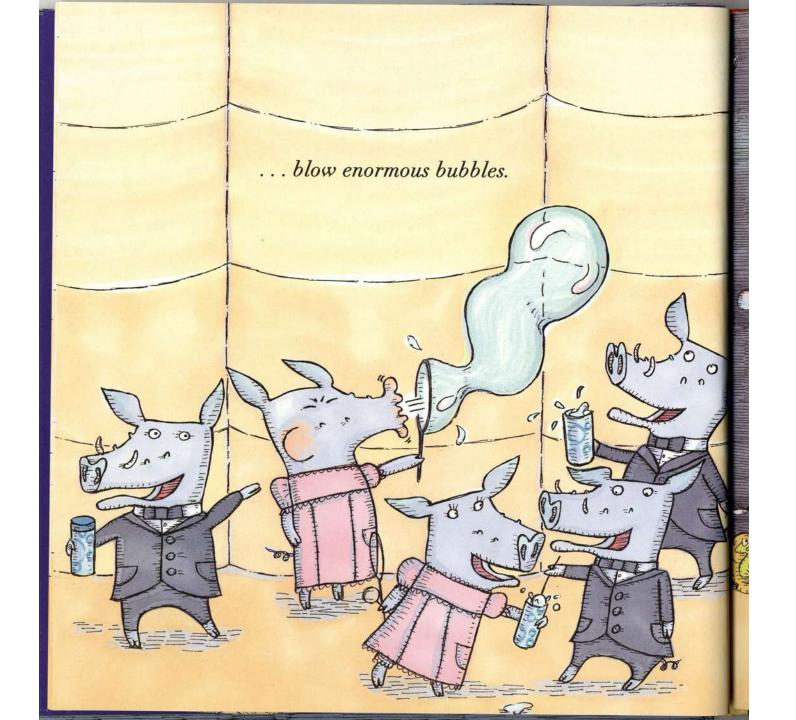


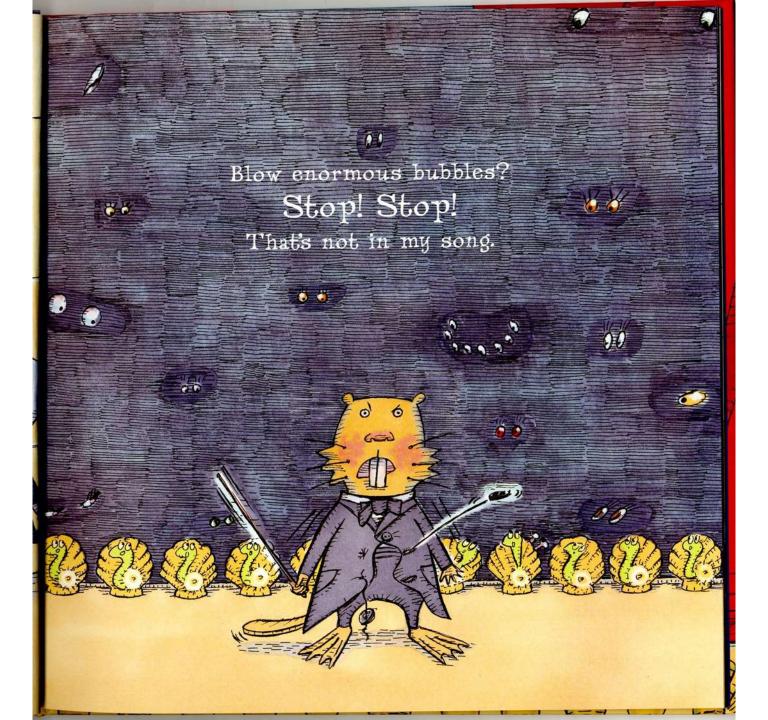


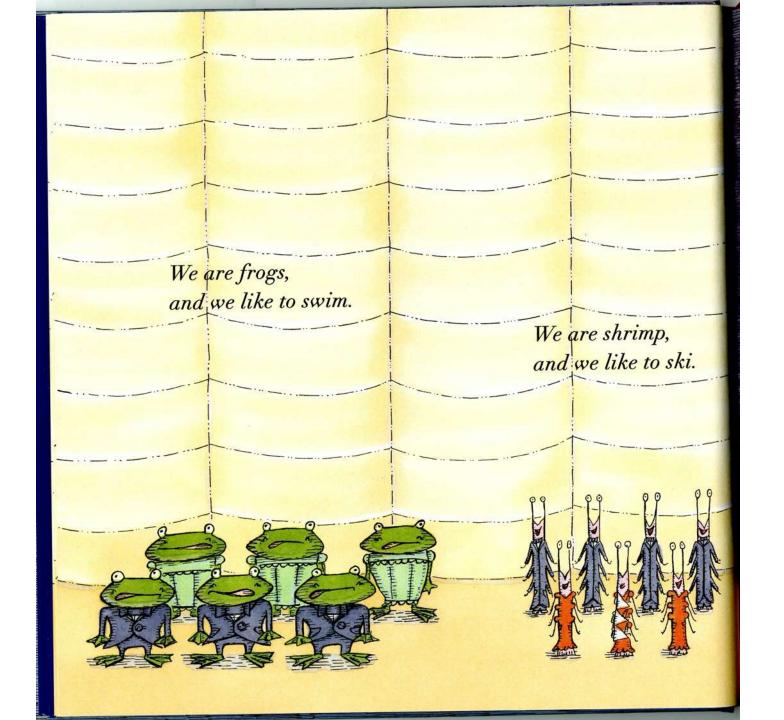


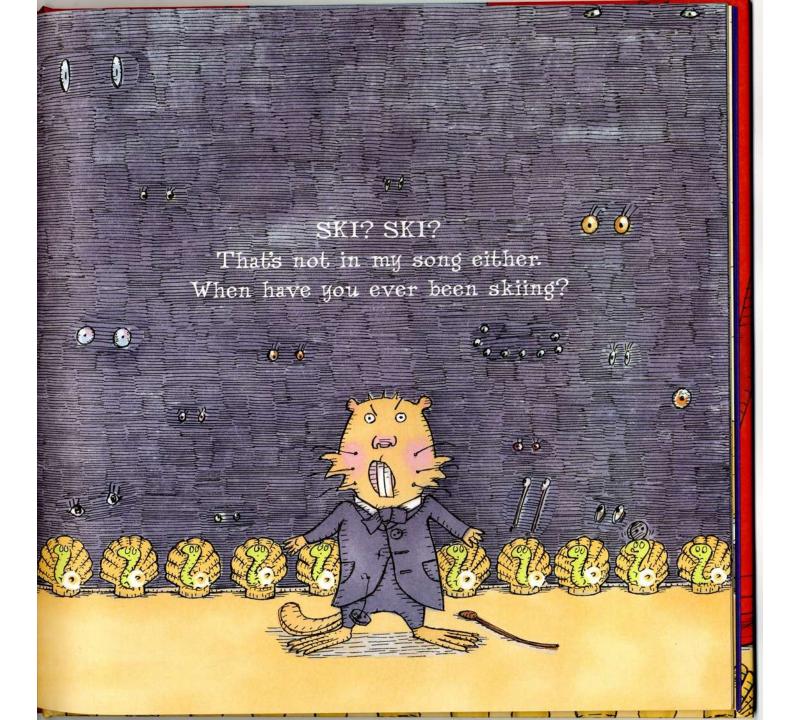




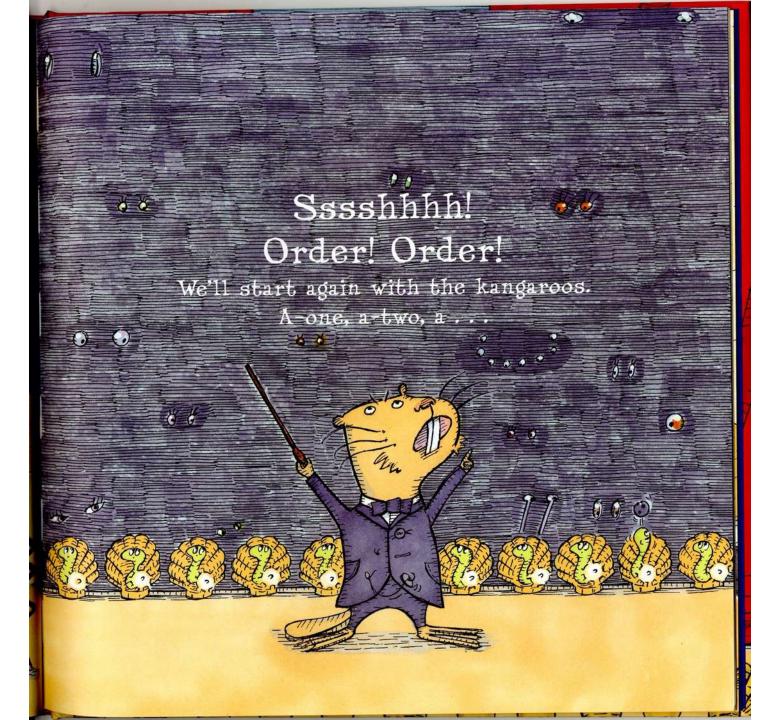




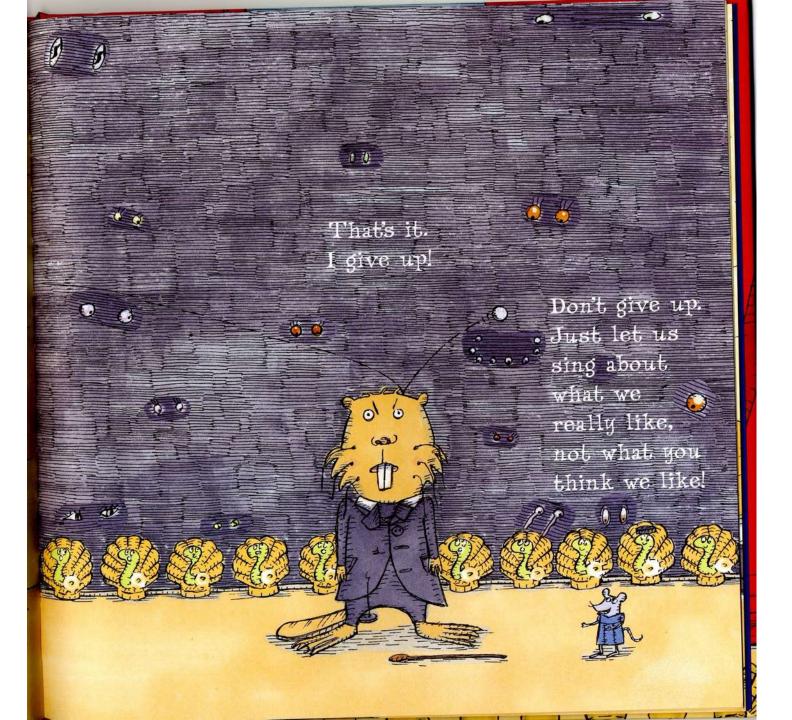










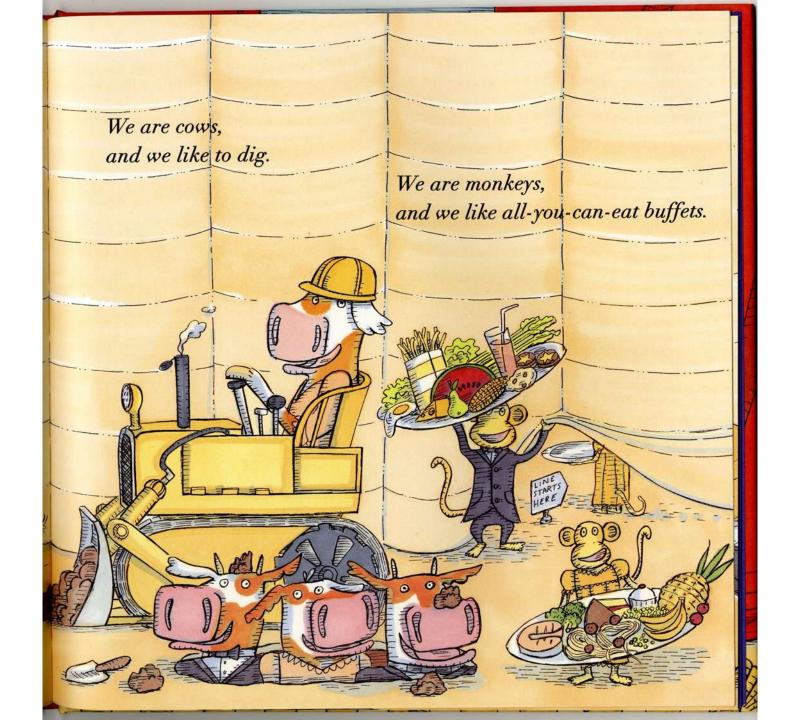


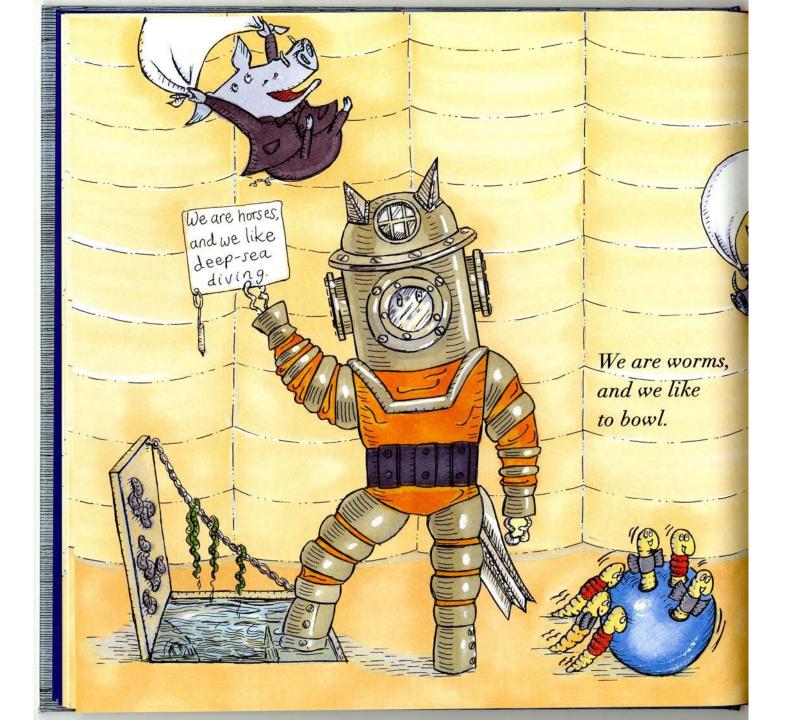
Hmmm. Well, what do you think, ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls?
It will probably sound very silly.
And it won't rhyme, you know.
Are you sure you want to hear what the animals really like?
Oh! OK then. From the top. A-one, a-two, a-one, two, three, and . . .

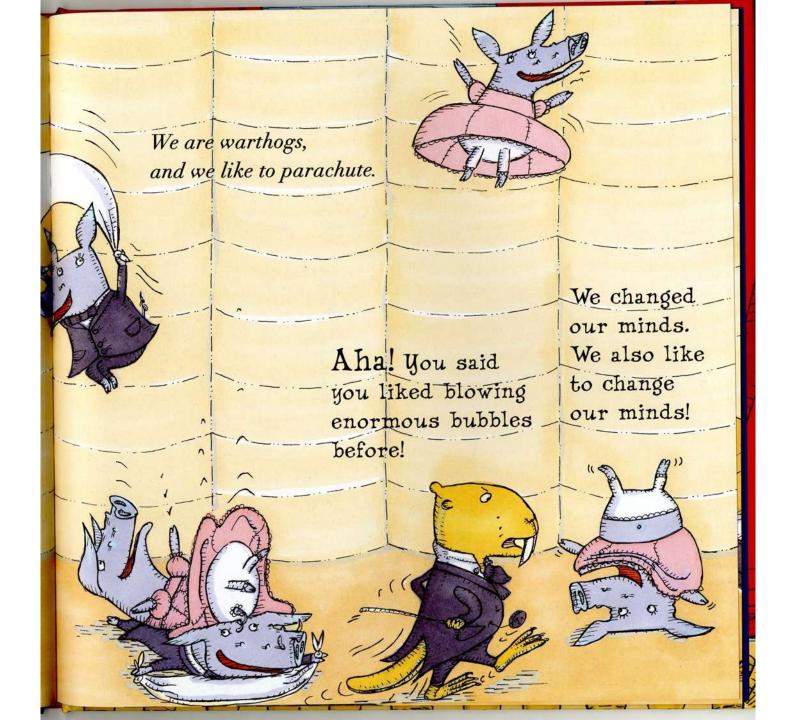


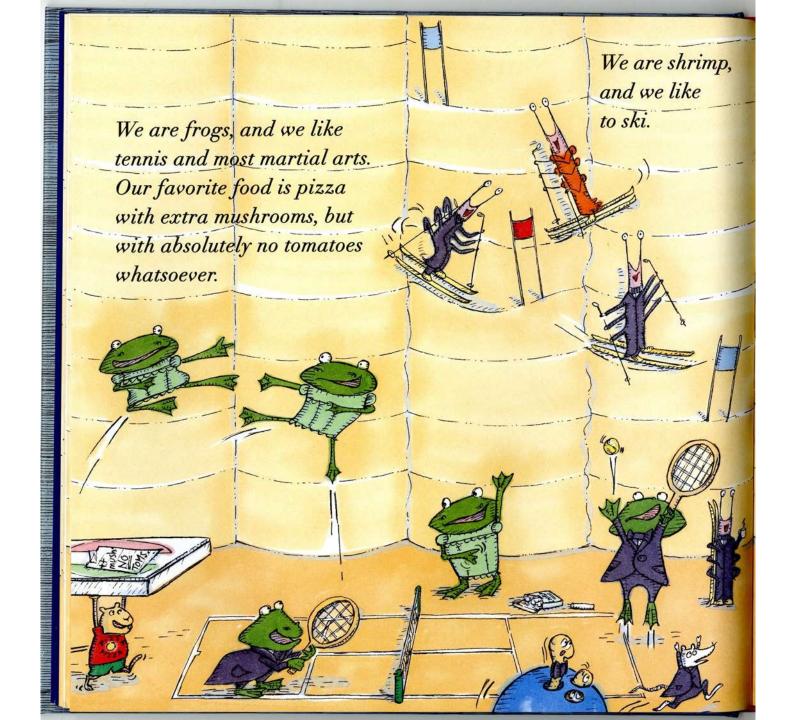


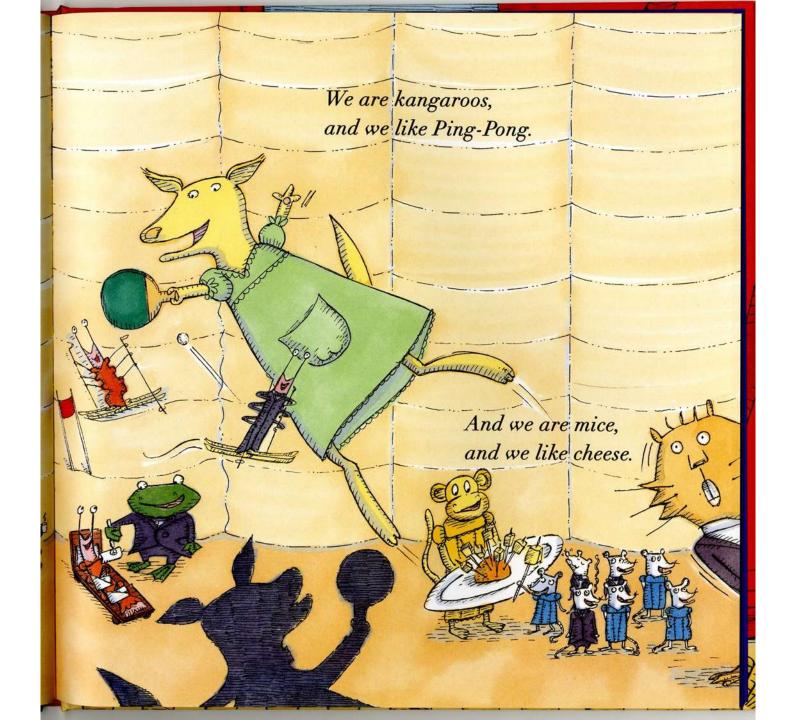












Fold heavy stock in half

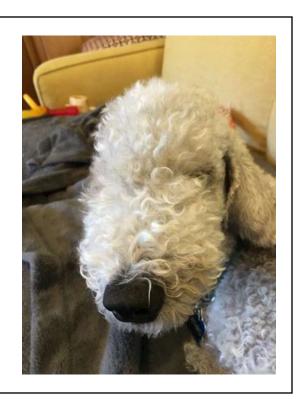
What people think I like best or am like from my outsides

Reading books, libraries, teaching...



What I really like best underneath.

Dogs,
Dogs,
Dogs,
Dogs,
Puppies







Writing Box Program: The Reading Writing Connection

Lisa Von Drasek, Curator

lvondras@umn.edu

