Albert Whitman Curriculum Connections Spring 2015

# Around the World- A Colorful Atlas for Kids- GRL T

* Genre: Narrative informational text/ Reference, atlas
* Strong picture support and text features; headings, maps, diagrams, captions, side text, index
* Main idea and details; Continents & countries around the world including map skills, geography, weather, climate, traditions, culture, population, wildlife

# Baby Party- GRL C

* Emergent reader, strong picture support
* Vocabulary acquisition; repetitive text
* Language skills: Grammar; singular and plural nouns, common verbs
* Math skill; common 2D shapes

# The Big Cowhuna- GRL O

* Genre: Animal fantasy adventure series. Third person narrative. Mischievous male main character. Humorous account
* Language: strong figurative language; pun, personification, New Vocabulary; using context clues
* Story Elements: **setting;** tropical island, **characters;** cows, boy, **plot;** problem, climax, resolution
* Illustrations enhance meaning and tone
* Compare and contrast setting, plot and characters from books in a series

# Biggie- GRL Z+

* Genre: realist fiction, first person point of view; male main character
* Story Elements: character development; How Biggie acts, thinks and feels. What does the main character learn in the course of the story? Conflict: man vs self, man vs man, man vs society
* Literary devices: Imagery; descriptive language that appeals to the senses, tone and mood
* Themes: coming of age, high school, obesity, self-esteem, personal triumph

# The Black Crow Conspiracy- GRL W

* Literary genre: Mystery fiction trilogy; fantasy, detective, horror.
* Story elements: Setting; historical/Europe.
* Literary elements: Irony; verbal, dramatic, structural. Tone; scary.
* Descriptive language; visualization

# The Curious Cat Spy Club- GRL T

* Genre: fiction adventure mystery. Point of view-First person narrative, female main character
* Style/tone: fast paced, witty
* Literary elements: plot and character development, problem and solution
* Themes: unlikely friendships, animal rescue

# Disappear Home- GRL Z+

* Genre: Realistic fiction, Point of view; third person narrative, female main character
* Story elements: analyze author’s choices regarding text structure; how it contributes to meaning, and impact of author’s choice in developing setting, order of action and character development, Conflict: man vs man, man vs self, man vs fate, man vs society
* Imagery: figurative and descriptive language enhances mood, tone and story elements
* Themes: (mature) mental illness, family, survival, cult activity, coming of age

# Down from the Mountain- GRL Z+

* Teen (historical) fiction, first person narrative, suspense
* Strong themes of religion, cult, and polygamy reflected through character behavior and elements of plot, realistically represented
* Literary elements: Conflicts; man vs man, man vs self, man vs nature, man vs society
* Author’s purpose, historical background, further research and investigation

# Gordon Parks- How the Photographer Captured black and White America- GRL O

* Genre: Third person narrative, biography of Gordon Parks. Style; poetic, prose, factual back matter with primary sources (photographs)
* Story Elements: Plot and Character development; changes from beginning to end of story
* Characterization: Strengths & accomplishments: Renaissance man; photographer, writer/poet, composer, cinematographer, and humanitarian
* Themes: determination, overcoming racial barriers, racism, segregation

# How to Spy on a Shark- GRL J

* Science: an introduction to marine biology, Mako sharks; behaviors, habitat, characteristics
* Text Style: rhythm and rhyme, strong picture support
* Language: nouns, verbs
* Text Structure: sequence of events

# I Will Fight Monsters for You- GRL M

* Genre: Third person narrative, fiction, strong picture support
* Literary elements: Parallel plot, problem/solution, characters point of view
* Figurative language: personification
* Theme: learning to fight your fear

# Is it Passover Yet? – GRL K

* Genre: Poetry; Rhythm and rhyme
* Social Studies: holidays, culture and tradition- Passover
* Main idea and details; who, what, where, when, why
* Vocabulary acquisition: Repeated lines, figurative language; simile

# Janine- GRL K

* Genre: realistic fiction, third person narrative, multiple points of view
* Literary Elements: Characterization, problem and solution
* Language: Quotation marks, end punctuation, rhythm and rhyme, repeated lines
* Themes: bullying, being your own person, proud to be me

# Lost in Bermooda- GRL O

* Genre: Animal fantasy adventure. Fiction narrative, third person. Mischievous Male main character. Point of views; animals and humans. Humorous account
* Language: strong figurative language; pun, personification, New Vocabulary; using context clues
* Story Elements: **setting;** tropical island, **characters;** cows, boy, **plot;** problem, climax, resolution
* Illustrations enhance meaning and tone

# Lulu and the Hamster in the Night- GRL N

* Narrative fiction series, third person point of view (girl main character), animal adventure
* Literary elements: Character and plot development, problem & solution
* Illustrations enhance meaning, realistically represent characters
* Humorous tone, figurative language; metaphor, personification

# Meditation is an Open Sky- GRL O

* Genre: non-fiction narrative, Point of view of the narrator, “how- to”
* Vocabulary: figurative language; metaphor, simile.
* Descriptive language/ text; visualization, using 5 senses
* Themes: healthy mind and body, coping strategies, feelings

# The Original Cowgirl- GRL N

* Genre: Biography of Lucille Mulhall, narrative
* Literary Elements: differences in point of view, characterization, setting, plot
* Literary devices: Dialect, figurative language; metaphor, simile, alliteration, onomatopoeia,
* Text features: time line, picture support
* Themes: Equality for women, determination

# Painless- GRL Z+

* Teen realistic fiction, Point of view; first person narrative
* Themes; dealing with illness and mortality, survival, love, coming of age, forgiveness
* Literary Elements: Characterization; beliefs, thoughts, feelings, hopes, dreams, motivations, fears, strengths, weaknesses, virtues, talents. Conflict; man vs fate, man vs man, man vs nature, man vs self
* Figurative language, descriptive language; imagery

# Party Croc!- GRL K

* Genre: Tale from Africa, multicultural, “re-told”
* Story elements: setting, characterization, plot (sequence of events), illustrations enhance meaning and tone
* Language: humorous, days of the week, repetitive text
* Lesson: Never make a promise you can’t keep

# Sam and Charlie (and Sam too) at Camp!- GRL L

* Genre: Early chapter book, realistic fiction series, third person narrative. Themes of friendship, family, camp
* Story elements: compare and contrast characterization, plot development, and setting of books in a series
* Strong picture support- illustrations enhance meaning and tone
* Style/structure: chapters in sequence of events
* Language: strong use of figurative language; idiom. Compound words

# Show Me Happy- GRL D

* Genre: Narrative non-fiction, Emergent reader
* Story elements: familiar characters/ situations, predictable text
* Strong Picture support/photographs
* Language: verbs, prepositions, opposites, sight word vocabulary
* Theme; human expression and non-verbal communication

# The Sock Thief- GRL K

* Genre: Narrative fiction, based on a true story, multicultural, informational back matter
* Language: New bilingual vocabulary, Portuguese/English glossary, repetitive text
* Story Elements: setting; Brazil, characterization; male main character, plot development; Problem and solution,
* Comprehension strategies: predicting outcomes

# Sun Above and Blooms Below A Springtime of Opposites- GRL J

* Genre: Poetry; rhythm and rhyme
* Science: Seasons, on the farm
* Strong picture support: illustrations enhance setting
* Vocabulary- bold text; opposites/antonyms

# Uncle Eli’s Wedding- GRL –K

* Genre: Realistic Fiction, multicultural; Jewish wedding rituals and customs
* Language: new vocabulary; glossary of words and phrases heard at a Jewish wedding ceremony, using context clues. Words and phrases supply rhythm and meaning; rhyme
* Characterization: male main character, differences in point of view, feelings
* Themes: family, Jewish wedding, soccer, cultural diversity

# Fall 2014

# The Boxcar Children Guide to Adventure- GRL Q

* Genre: Hybrid text- Non-fiction; “How-To” series guide; survival skills, recipes, games. Projects, cracking codes/ fiction; connections to Box Car stories from the point of view of the children.
* Literary elements: characterization, plot development, text to text connections
* Text structure, author’s purpose
* Strong text features: Table of contents, headings, bold print, diagrams, illustrations, captions, glossary

# The Hero in You- GRL S

* Genre: Biography told in verse; rhythm and rhyme
* Author’s background: Authenticity of the author, research author’s background
* Author’s purpose/message: What does it mean to be a hero? How Ellis Paul uses reasons and evidence to support points in text, main idea and details. Text to world connections; history
* Text features: quotes, facts, headings, bold print, illustrations, factual back matter
* Theme: Be a hero, try, aim high and fly!

# Milo is Not a Dog Today- GRL J

* Genre: fiction animal fantasy
* Strong picture support enhances meaning and tone; describes characters, setting and events
* Story elements: sequence of events, changes from the beginning to the end of the story, problem and solution
* Language skills: new vocabulary, verbs; shades of meaning, adjectives and nouns
* Themes: creative imagination, animal characteristics, acceptance, friendship