Albert Whitman Curriculum Connections Fall 2015

# Are You Still There?—Z+

* Young adult thriller/drama, unique format—author’s style; first person narrative and “stranger manifesto”/ journal
* Analyze author’s choices concerning how to structure a text, order events within it and manipulate time create such effects as mystery, tension, or surprise.
* Literary elements: Plot structure; exposition, complication, crisis, climax, and resolution

# Burn Girl—Z+

* Genre: young adult realistic fiction, thriller
* Point of view; first person narrative, 16-year-old female main character
* Determine two or more themes or central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to produce a complex account; provide an objective summary of the text.
* Compare and contrast books with similar themes and genre (Suggested pairing: Has to be Love/ Burn Girl) Themes; physical and emotional scars, survival, drug abuse, loss, hope, right vs wrong, friendship, coming of age
* Themes: school violence, coming of age, love, family, crisis intervention, teen/high school issues

# The Color Thief- GRL O

* Literary Genre: Realistic fiction, guidance, dealing with depression of a family member
* Author’s purpose/distinguish point of view from that of the narrator making text to self-connections
* Vocabulary acquisition: distinguish the literal and non-literal meanings of words and phrases in the text
* Comprehension strategy: changes from beginning to end of the story

# Curious Cat Spy Club- the Mystery of the Zorse’s Mask—GRL T

* Middle grade animal mystery series
* Literary elements: Setting, plot and character development; Describe characters in a story including their traits, motivations, and feelings and explain how their actions contribute to the sequence of events
* Interpret figurative language including; simile, metaphor, hyperbole
* Compare and contrast stories in the same genre/series on their approaches to similar themes and topics.

# Dia De Los Muertos—GRL M

* Historical fiction; informational back matter and Spanish/English glossary
* Text style: Rhythm and rhyme, Illustrations enhance meaning and tone
* Multicultural: New Spanish language/ vocabulary
* Theme: Day of the Dead, holidays, traditions

# From Apple Trees to Cider Please! —GRL K

* Literary Genre: Realistic fiction, first person narrative, rhythm and rhyme
* Story elements: setting, and plot development; sequence of events
* Science: life science, seasons; The process of making apple cider, fall
* Detailed illustrations enhance meaning; signs

# Has to be Love—Z+

* Literary Genre: Young Adult, realistic fiction
* Literary Elements: conflict; man vs man, man vs fate, man vs self, man vs nature, man vs society
* Setting: Alaska, point of view/voice: 17-year-old female main character
* Themes: loss, tragedy, physical and emotional scars, coming of age, love, follow your dreams, making life decisions

# A Homemade Together Christmas—GRL K

* Literary Genre: animal fantasy
* Literary elements: setting, plot and character development, problem and solution; how characters in a story respond to major events and challenges
* Comprehension strategies: making inferences, predicting outcomes
* Theme: true importance of celebrating Christmas, family

# Is it Hanukah Yet?—GRL K

* Literary Genre: lyrical text
* Themes: winter, Hanukah, holidays
* Comprehension strategies: sequence of events, main idea and details
* Describe how words and phrases supply rhythm and meaning in a story. Language: repeated lines

# J.P. and the Giant Octopus—GRL H

* Identify words and phrases that suggest feelings and appeal to the senses. (Strong, brave, afraid, creepy, cried, sorry)
* Compare and contrast the adventures of characters in stories (Mood-O-Meter series)
* Back matter: Note to Parents and Teachers/ discussion guide
* Speaking and Listening skills: Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about Grade 1 topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups. Build on others' talk in conversations by responding to the comments of others through multiple exchanges.

# J.P. and the Polka- Dotted Aliens—GRL H

* Identify words and phrases that suggest feelings and appeal to the senses. (Playful, silly, fun, mad, scream, attack, funny, laugh, better)
* Compare and contrast the adventures of characters in stories (Mood-O-Meter series)
* Back matter: Note to Parents and Teachers/ discussion guide
* Speaking and listening skills: Participate in collaborative conversations with diverse partners about Grade 1 topics and texts with peers and adults in small and larger groups. Build on others' talk in conversations by responding to the comments of others through multiple exchanges.

# Madame Martine Breaks the Rules—GRL L

* Compare and contrast the setting, plot and character development of books in a series
* Language Skills: new French vocabulary, using context and picture clues
* Acknowledge differences in the points of view of characters, including by speaking in a different voice for each character when reading dialogue aloud. (Madame Martine, Louis)
* Curriculum connections: multicultural; Paris, France, art appreciation.

# My Rotten Friend—GRL K

* Point of view: first person narrative
* Story elements: setting, plot; changes from beginning to end of the story and character development
* Language: Rhythm and rhyme, regular beats
* Themes: friendship, zombies

# Night on Fire—Z

* Literary Genre: historical fiction; true events of the Freedom Riders, Point of view; 13 year old girl. Compare and contrast a fictional portrayal of a character and a historical account of the same period in time
* Literary elements: Plot, setting; Anniston, Alabama and character development, figurative language; metaphor, irony, hyperbole
* Author’s purpose: Author’s Note, analyze how the author develops and contrasts the point of view of different characters in the story
* Themes: segregation, freedom, bravery

# The Night the Lights Went Out on Christmas—GRL N

* Determine the central message, lesson, or moral and explain how it is conveyed through key details in the story
* Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in a text, distinguishing literal from nonliteral language. figurative language; simile
* Explain how specific aspects of a text's illustrations contribute to what is conveyed by the words in a story including: mood, and emphasizing aspects of characters and the setting
* Themes: tradition, competition, true joy of Christmas

# A Pirate’s Mother Goose—GRL M

* Compare and contrast two or more versions of the same story/Nursery Rhymes by different authors
* Demonstrate an understanding of word relationships and nuances in word meaning
* Comprehension strategy; main idea and details
* Themes; nursery rhymes/traditional rhymes, pirates

# Rudy’s Windy Christmas—GRL M

* Literary elements: figurative language; alliteration, repeated lines
* Story Elements: Setting, plot; problem and solution
* Language: Rhythm and rhyme
* Illustrations enhance meaning and tone; humorous

# Sleeping Beauty—GRL M

* Traditional literature: fairytale
* Compare and contrast two or more versions of the same story written by different authors
* Interpret figurative language and nuances in word meaning
* Compare formal and informal uses of English

# The Three Little Pigs Count to 100—GRL J

* Math concepts: counting to 100, 3D shapes, simple fractions
* Retell stories, including key details, and demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson
* Use illustrations and details in a story to describe its characters, setting, or events
* Describe characters, settings, and major events in a story, using key details
* Compare and contrast the adventures and experiences of characters in different versions of traditional stories.

# Trick Arrr Treat—GRL L

* Use information gained from the illustrations and words to demonstrate understanding of its characters, setting, or plot
* Describe how words and phrases; regular beats, alliteration, rhymes and repeated lines supply rhythm and meaning in the story
* Language: Demonstrate understanding of word relationships and nuances in word meanings.
* Themes: Halloween, pirates

# Yoga for Kids—GRL N

* Author’s purpose/distinguish their own point of view from that of the narrator
* Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of the text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers
* Explain how specific aspects of the text's illustrations contribute to what is conveyed by the words in a story
* Text structure: refer to parts of stories when speaking about a text
* Comprehension strategy: main idea and details