Suggested Mentor Texts for Teaching the Common Core Reading Standards for Literature

**Mentor Texts for Questioning (Ch. 2)**
Fly Away Home by Eve Bunting
An Angel for Solomon Singer by Cynthia Rylant
The Stranger by Chris Van Allsburg
Baseball Saved Us by Ken Mochizuki
Charlie Anderson by Barbara Abercrombie
The Van Gogh Café by Cynthia Rylant
Weslandia by Paul Fleischman
The Name Jar by Yangsook Choi
Everybody Needs a Rock by Byrd Baylor

**Mentor Texts for Predicting (Ch. 2)**
Aunt Harriet’s Underground Railroad by Faith Ringgold
Cinder Edna by Ellen Jackson
Class Clown by Robert Munsch
Good Night Moon by Margaret Wise Brown
The Island of Skog by Steven Kellogg
Grandfather Twilight by Ralph Fletcher
The Sign Painter by Allen Say
Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, Very Bad Day by Judith Viorst
City Green by Dyanne DiSalvo-Ryan
Duck for President by Doreen Cronin
Fly Away Home by Eve Bunting
Zeke Pippin by William Steig
Dory Story by Jerry Pallotta
Never Ever Shout in the Zoo by Karma Wilson
Stephanie’s Ponytail by Robert Munsch

**Mentor Texts for Teaching Poetry (Ch. 2)**
Gathering the Sun by Alma Ada
Touch the Poem by Arnold Adoff
Laughing Tomatoes by Francisco Alarcon
Nathaniel Talking by Eloise Greenfield
Honey, I Love by Eloise Greenfield
Falling Down the Page by Georgia Heard
Creatures of the Earth, Sea and Sky by Georgia Heard
The Dream Keeper by Langston Hughes
Once I Ate a Pie by Patricia MacLachlan
Sky Scrape/City Scrape by Jane Yolen
** Any books by Jack Prelutsky and Shel Silverstein
Wordless Mentor Texts (Ch. 2)

Deep in the Forest by Brinton Turkle
10 Minutes till Bedtime by Peggy Rathmann
Looking Down by Steve Jenkins
Carl’s Summer Vacation by Alexandra Day
Tuesday by David Wiesner
Chicken and Cat by Sara Varon
Do You Want to Be My Friend by Eric Carle
The Snowman by Raymond Briggs
Anno’s Counting Book by Mitsumasa Anno
Zoom and Re-zoom by Istvan Banyai

Mentor Texts for Thematic Conflict (Ch. 3)

Character vs. Character
The Ugly Duckling by Hans Christian Anderson
Fiona’s Lunch by Teresa Bateman
Silly Chicken by Rukhsana Khan
The Hundred Penny Box by Sharon Mathis

Character vs. Nature
The Great Kapok Tree by Lynn Cherry
Brave Irene by William Steig
The Wump World by Bill Peet
The Legend of Bluebonnet by Tomie DePaola

Character vs. Society
Old Henry by Joan Blos
The Island of the Skog by Steven Kellogg
Wings by Christopher Myers
Have a Good Day Café by Francis and Ginger Park

Character vs. Self
Sam, Bangs, and Moonshine by Evaline Ness
Ira Sleeps Over by Bernard Waber
Thunder Cake by Patricia Polacco
The Dog Who Cried Wolf by Keiko Kasza

Recommended Authors for Teaching Character Analysis (Ch. 4)

Beverly Cleary
Sharon Creech
Roald Dahl
Paula Danziger
Patricia Polacco
Katherine Paterson
Gary Paulsen
J.K. Rowling
E.B. White
Cynthia Rylant
Eve Bunting
Picture Books with Well-Developed Characters (Ch. 4)

*Ella Sarah Gets Dressed* by Margaret Chodos-Irvine
*Today I Feel Silly and Other Moods that Make My Day* by Jamie Lee Curtis
*Stella, Fairy of the Forest* by Marie-Louise Gay
*Chrysanthemum* by Kevin Henkes
*Amazing Grace* by Mary Hoffman
*Tough Charley* by Kay Verla
*Gooney Bird Greene* by Lois Lowry
*Martha Walks the Dog* by Susan Meddaugh
*Thunder Rose* by Jerdine Nolen
*Coming on Home Soon* by Jacqueline Woodson
*One Green Apple* by Eve Bunting
*Pink and Say* by Patricia Polacco
*Knots on a Counting Rope* by Bill Martin

Chapter Books with Well-Developed Characters (Ch. 4)

*Amber was Brave, Essie was Smart* by Vera B. Williams
*Best Christmas Pageant Ever* by Barbara Robinson
*Flush* by Carl Hiaasen
*While No One Was Watching* by Jane Leslie Conly
*My Name is Maria Isabel* by Alma Flor Ada
*Amber Brown is Not a Crayon* by Paula Danzinger
*Amber Brown Goes Fourth* by Paula Danzinger
*Lavender* by Karen Hesse
*Rats!* by Paul Zindel
*Wings* by Christopher Meyers
*Story of Ruby Bridges* by Robert Coles
*Almost Starring Skinny Bones* by Barbara Parks
*The Stories Julian Tells* by Ann Cameron

Mentor Texts for Teaching Cause and Effect (Ch. 4)

*Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs* by Judi Barrett
*A House for a Hermit Crab* by Eric Carle
*Who Wakes Rooster?* by Clare Hodgson Meeker
*The Giving Tree* by Shel Silverstein
*How I Became a Pirate* by Melinda Long
*The Stray Dog* by Marc Simont
*Twilight Comes Twice* by Ralph Fletcher
*Miss Nelson is Missing* by Harry Allard
*That’s Good! That’s Bad!* by Margery Cuyler
*Shortcut* by Donald Crews
**Mentor Texts for Teaching Sensory Images (Ch. 5)**

*The Popcorn Book* by Tomie DePaola  
*The Listening Walk* by Paul Showers  
*The Ghost-Eye Tree* by Bill Martin Jr.  
*Knots on a Counting Rope* by Bill Martin  
*Twilight Comes Twice* by Ralph Fletcher  
*A Day on the Prairie* by Illinois third grade students of Kildeer Countryside Elementary School in Long Grove  
*Night Noises* by Mem Fox  
*Night in the Country* by Cynthia Rylant  
*Hello Ocean* by Pam Munoz Ryan  
*Miss Rumphius* by Barbara Cooney  
*Soft and Smooth, Rough and Bumpy: A Book About Touch* by Dana Meachen Rau  
*Yum! A Book About Taste* by Dana Meachen Rau  
*Night Sounds, Morning Colors* by Rosemary Wells

**Tall Tales by Steven Kellogg for Teaching Hyperbole (Ch. 5)**  
*Paul Bunyan*  
*Pecos Bill*  
*Babe and the Blue Ox*  
*Johnny Appleseed*

**Additional Mentor Texts for Teaching Hyperbole (Ch. 5)**  
*Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs* by Judi Barrett  
*Dust Devil* by Anne Isaacs (tall tale)  
*Swamp Angel* by Anne Isaacs  
*Hyperbole and a Half* by Allie Brosh  
*Thunder Rose* by Jerdine Nolen (tall tale)  
*Big Jabe* by Jerdine Nolen (tall tale)  
*Fin Throws a Fit* by David Elliott  
*Could be Worse!* by James Stevenson  
*A Million Fish ... More or Less* by Patricia McKissack  
*John Henry* by Julius Lester (tall tale)  
*Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* by Judith Viorst  
*Piggie Pie* by Margie Palatini

**Mentor Texts with Alliteration Examples (Ch. 5)**  
*The Absolutely Awful Alphabet* by Mordicai Gerstein  
*Some Smug Slug* by Pamela Duncan Edwards  
*A My Name is ALICE* by Jane Bayer  
*Princess Pigtoria and the Pea* by Pamela Duncan Edwards  
*Bootsie Barker Bites* by Barbara Botner

**Most poetry written by Shel Silverstein or Jack Prelutsky**
Mentor Texts to Help Teach Assonance (Ch. 5)

BIG Chickens by Leslie Helakoski
Beetle Bop by Denise Fleming
Superhero ABC by Bob McLeod
Duck in the Truck by Jez Alborough
Tumble Bumble by Felicia Bond
Chicka Chicka 123 by Bill Martin Jr.
All You Need for a Snowman by Alice Schertle

Books with Powerful Illustrations (for Teaching Tone and Mood) (Ch. 5)

Rumpelstiltskin by Paul O. Zelinsky
Grandfather Twilight by Barbara Helen Burger
The Twelve Days of Christmas by Jan Brett
Zen Shorts by Jin J. Muth
Cinderella by K.Y. Craft
The Rainbabies by Laura Krauss Melmed
Owl Babies by Martin Waddell
King Bridgood’s in the Bath by Audrey Wood
The Lion and the Mouse by Jerry Pinkney

Strong Verbs Mentor Texts (Ch. 5)

Railroad John and the Red Rock Run by Tony Crunk
The Everglades by Jean Craighead George
Twilight Comes Twice by Ralph Fletcher
Stellaluna by Janell Cannon
Old Black Fly by Jim Aylesworth

Recommended Mentor Texts for Elements of Prose (Ch. 6)

We Planted a Tree by Diane Muldrow
The Longest Night by Marion Diane Bauer
Owl Moon by Jane Yolen
The Ghost-Eye Tree by Bill Martin Jr.

Mentor Texts for First Person (Ch. 6)

Once Upon a Cool Motorcycle Dude by Kevin O’Malley
Help Me Mr. Mutt: Expert Answers for Dogs with People Problems by Janet Stevens and Susan Stevens Crummel
Diary of a Worm by Doreen Cronin
With Love, Little Red Hen by Alma Flor Ada
Birdhouse for Rent by Harriet Ziefert
My Big Dog by Janet Stevens and Susan Stevens Crummel
Crocodile by Fred Marcellino
A Hey, Little Ant by Phillip and Hannah Hoose
Somebody and the Three Blairs by Marilyn Tolhurst
The True Story of the Three Little Pigs by Jon Scieszka

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