

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