



Literature Fair 2012

Reading the Word: *Reading the World*

SESSION: *Graphic Novels in the Classroom*

PRESENTER: *Beth Cormier*

Recommended for Early Elementary (K-2)

Owly (Series). Runton, Andy. Nearly wordless stories of a kind yet lonely owl. Explores themes related to friendship and helping others. Also a great confidence builder for struggling readers. **F Run**

Benny and Penny in the Big No-No (Series). Hayes, Geoffrey. A young brother and sister know it is wrong to sneak into their new neighbour's yard, but they wonder who it can be and their imaginations run wild. **F Hay**

Bumperboy and the Loud Loud Mountain. Huey, Debbie. Humour and a suspenseful adventure that will keep children in grades 2-4 and even older engaged. Bumperboy's mission to save a lonely, talking mountain includes a nod to Seuss' Lorax with creatures who protect the trees. **F Hue**

Binky the Space Cat. Spires, Ashley. Binky orders a space manual and builds a rocket ship out of household items, then sets off to protect the world from space aliens. Fun adventure and charming illustrations. **F Spi**

Robot Dreams. Varon, Sarah. Wordless graphic novel following the adventures of a boy and his robot. **F Var**

Recommended for Grades 3-5

Amelia Rules! The Whole World's Crazy. Gownley, Jimmy (2 v.). A friendship story featuring a girl who has moved to a new town with her recently divorced mother. Focuses on the hilarious mishaps with her new band of quirky, local friends and explores the subject of divorce sensitively. **F Gow**

Spiral Bound: Top Secret Summer. Renier, Aaron. A cast of endearing young animals busy themselves with individual projects over the summer, shadowed by the town's dark secret about the monster in the lake. **F Ren.**

To Dance: A Ballerina's Graphic Novel. Siegel, Siena Cherson. Siegel's memoir tells the story of her first fascination with ballet to her experiences with the New York Ballet. **708.2 Sie**

Jellaby (multi-volume). Soo, Kean. A young misfit discovers an adorable dragon-like creature and becomes friends. When she stands up to bullies they gain one more friend, and begin a journey to return the creature home. Strong themes around bullying and loss of a parent. **F Soo**

Bone: Out From Boneville. Smith, Jeff (Series: Bone). The Bone Cousins leave their home in search of adventure. A humorous, warm fantasy sprinkled with suspense and mystery. Captivating story. **F Smi**

Tower of Treasure. Chantler, Scott (Series: The Three Thieves). An orphaned acrobat joins two troupe-mates in a plot to steal the Queen's jewels...and find her missing brother. Engaging action and characterization. **F Cha**

Wild Ride: A Graphic Guide Adventure (Series: Graphic Guide Adventure) O'Donnell, Liam. Part adventure story, part survival manual. Two kids are on a small plane in B.C. when it crashes. They use their survival know-how to deal with many situations and are also immersed in a conflict with the logging company. **F ODo**

Recommended for Grades 6-8

BabyMouse (Series). Holm, Jennifer L. & Matthew Holm. A small Klutzy mouse imagines herself in exciting situations as she navigates "Frenemies" and other pitfalls of tween life. Popular and fun. **F Hol**

Anne Frank: The Anne Frank House Authorized Biography. Jacobson, Sid and Ernie Colon. *The historical context of Anne's confinement and the events leading up to and after her death are portrayed beautifully in this well-research and engaging account.* **In Process**

The Storm in the Barn. Phelan, Matt. The dust bowl setting comes alive in this richly visual story set in 1930's Kansas. A young boy discovers that the shadowy figure lurking in the barn is really the rain. **F Phe**

Meanwhile: Pick Any Path. 3,856 Story Possibilities. Shiga, Jason. A graphic "Choose your Own Adventure" with colourful tubes and bubbles that lead to different outcomes. Readers will spend hours. **In Process**

Rapunzel's Revenge. Hale, Shannon and Dean Hale. The classic "Damsel in Distress" tale reinvented. Rapunzel escapes confinement, tricks her handsome rescuer, and discovers a wild west world of outlaws and dust outside the castle walls. Highly engaging example of a fractured fairy tale. **F Hal**

Anya's Ghost. Brosgol, Vera. A Russian-immigrant teen is desperate to fit in at her new boarding school. She befriends a ghost but soon realizes her new friend's motives are sinister and frightening. Spooky and gripping with themes of self-acceptance. **In Process**

Recommended for Gr. 9-12

******Make sure to preview before using in the classroom or lending to students******
The subject material may not be suitable for the context in which you teach.

The Arrival. Shaun Tan. A Wordless telling of an immigrant's first experiences in a new world. Captures the complexity of the experience with emotional depth and prompts avid discussions about imagery. **F Tan**

The Eternal Smile: Three Stories. Yan, Gene Luen & Derek Kirk Kim. Three distinct stories explore themes of fantasy and how we use it to escape the drudgery of our everyday lives. Fascinating art stylized to match the setting and theme. Rich opportunity for discussion with its hidden layers and use of satire. **F Lue**

I Kill Giants. Kelly, Joe and J.M Ken Namura. Combines fabulous renditions of imagined monsters and battles with the emotional depth of a misfit whose real battles are slowly illuminated. **In Process**

Castle Waiting. Medley, Linda. Set in Sleeping Beauty's Castle after she wakes up and runs off with her Prince, leaving three loyal subjects who turn the Castle into something of a refuge for those in need. **F Med**

- Maus.** Spiegelman, Art. Must-read graphic biography (Pulitzer Prize winner). The author illustrates the story of his father, a Holocaust survivor. **940.5318 Spi.**
- Persepolis.** Multi-volume. Recounts the author's life in Tehran during the Ayatollah's revolution. Simple graphics and engaging narrative (graphic memoir). **955.054 Sat**
- Stitches.** David Small. Award-winning children's illustrator tells the story of his horrific childhood in a dysfunctional family, and the surgery that left his vocal cords maimed. A survival story. **818.6 Sma**
- American Born Chinese.** Yang, Gene Luen. 3 engaging stories featuring Chinese-American characters whose experiences connect in a surprising way. Opens cultural discussion and explores themes related to racism, shame and friendship. Winner of the prestigious Printz award for young adult Literature. **F Lue**

Support for Teachers

- Adventures in Graphica: Using Comics and Graphic Novels to Teach Comprehension 2-6.** Thompson, T. **372.41 Tho**
- Making Comics: Storytelling Secrets of Comics, Manga and Graphic Novels.** McCloud, Scott. **PN 6710 M3325 2006**
- Reading Comics and What they Mean.** Wolk, Douglas. **PN 6725 W65 2007**
- Using graphic novels with children and teens : a guide for teachers and librarians.** Scholastic. **741.5 Usi**

Other Curriculum-Related Graphic Novels

- Hyena in Petticoats: The Story of Suffragette Nellie McClung.** Dawson, Willow **305.42 Daw**
- Trickster,** Dembicki Matt. First Nations tricker tales. **398.2089 Tri**
- Code Talkers.** Wollison, Mary Anne. (Navajo Code Talkers,)WW II. **428.6 Wol**
- Romeo & Juliet, Hamlet & Others.** Sparknotes adaptations. **822.33**
- Lone Hawk: the Story of Air Ace Billy Bishop: A Graphic Novel.** Lang, John **940.44941 Lan**
- The Wall: Growing up Behind the Iron Curtain.** Sis, Peter **943.704 Sis**
- Pyongyang: A Journey in North Korea.** Delisle, Guy (10-12)I. **951.93 Del**
- Louis Riel: A Comic Strip Biography.** Brown, Chester. Gr. 8 S.S., WW II. **971.05 Bro**
- Stories of Our People: Metis Graphic Anthology.** Fleury, Norman. **In Process.**
- Sugar Falls: A Residential School Story.** (10-12) Based on the true Story of a First Nations Elder and the horrors she experienced and witnessed. **F. Rob.**
- Stone. (7 Generations series v. 1)** Robertson, David. Gr. 10-12, mature content. Important series exploring the impact of colonization on First Nations People. **F Rob.**