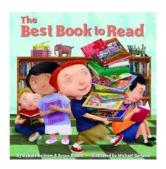
The Best Book to Read

Written by Debbie Bertram & Susan Bloom...Illustrated by Michael Garland



Description:

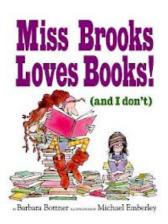
In this story, a class takes a trip to the local library to find books they want to read. The librarian shares her willingness to help find a good fit book while sharing some of the many options of books a library offers.

Connections:

This book will be a springboard to discuss the many types of books available to read. The librarian in the story shares books on outer space, castles and dragons, bugs, recipes, dinosaurs, dog training and magic. Young children may not have had much experience in selecting books of interest independently. Without overwhelming them, we want to give children a sense of the many possibilities of topics for reading. It would be appropriate to read this book right before the first trip to the school library. Also, there are two other books in this series, The Best Place to Read and The Best Time to Read.

Miss Brooks Loves Books! (and I don't)

Written by Barbara Bottner...Illustrated by Michael Emberley



Description:

Miss Brooks, the librarian, not only loves books but also dresses up like book characters to build excitement for reading. Young Missy does not like books or does she understand Miss Brooks. Through Miss Brooks' perseverance, Missy finally finds a "good-fit" book that changes everything.

Connections:

Missy states, "I'll never love a book the way you do." "Don't be so sure," says Miss Brooks. Use this book to help introduce book shopping to students. Discuss that sometimes is can take a while to find that just right book. Often you have to look and look before you discover one that's a "good-fit." After reading, have students "turn and talk" about the kind of books that interest them. Make lists of favorites genres and books within the class. Of course, it's always exciting when the teacher dresses up like book characters.

The Library Book

Written by Tom Chapin & Michael Mark...Illustrated by Chuck Groenink



Description:

What can you do on a rainy day? Go to the library and spend some time with a variety of characters from your favorite books.

Connections:

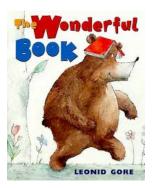
This is a fun story that is actually a song. You can find several versions to listen to on Youtube.

The little girl in this story demonstrates finding a "good-fit" book as she continues to search until she uncovers the perfect one.

Many traditional characters make an appearance in the story, Winnie the Pooh, Madeline, Pinocchio, to name a few. After finishing the book, ask the children what book characters they would like to meet?

The Wonderful Book

Written and Illustrated by Leonid Gore



Description:

Various animals find a book in the forest and use it in different ways...a house, a hat, a table, and more. A little boy grabs the book and begins to read as all the animals gather around. Everyone agrees...it is a wonderful book.

Connections:

The charming story lends itself well to discuss why books are important. The animals each found a way for the book to be a "good-fit" but it had nothing to do with reading. Ask the children to explain what books mean to them. How do they know when they find a "good-fit" book? What happens when a book is not a "good-fit?" When the discussion winds down, it's time to think creatively. Tell the children you have a list of animals. Their job is to think of what that animal would do with a book, just like in the story. How would animals make a book a "good-fit" for them?

Here's a list to jump start the discussion:

Spiders

Squirrels,

Turtle

Bird

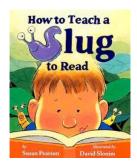
Shark

Dog

Ask the children if they can think of any others.

How to Teach a Slug to Read

Written by Susan Pearson...Illustrated by Davie Slonim



Description:

Ten steps are humorously outlined to help slugs (and children) learn to read.

Connections:

The children will be tickled as you read this story. They will enjoy hearing slug nursery rhymes. "Mary had a little slug, His skin was smooth as silk..." They will laugh at the familiar books covers represented such as, "The Snail in the Hat" or "The Pokey Little Slug."

After reading the story, go back to item two and read it again

Item 2: "Next, find a really good book. This is very important or your slug will lose interest. The best books will have some slugs in them."

Share with the students that you want them to have reading suitcases filled with books they are excited to read. This would be a perfect time to give a tour of the various book boxes scattered around the room. As you introduce each box, have children raise their hands if this sounds like a topic they are interested in.