

"Reading Takes You Places"

Library theme 2010-2011



"Each time we read a good piece of literature, we are changed by the experience: we see the world in a new way. For these reasons, literature can be a powerful vehicle for understanding cultures and experiences different from our own." (Bieger)

In storytime and library skills this year, we will be focusing on multicultural literature and diversity. We will read literature from different countries and regions, focusing on learning about culture, social studies and geography. Whenever possible, we will bring in a guest speaker who has visited or lived in the country/region we are studying to share his/her personal experiences, photos, souvenirs, etc.

<i>Month</i>	<i>Country/region</i>	<i>Books (*read aloud to all students)</i>	<i>Guest speakers</i>
Oct.	Ethiopia	<p><i>* Trouble</i> by Jane Kurtz</p> <p><i>The Best Beekeeper of Lalibela</i> by Cristina Kessler</p> <p><i>Tsion's Life</i> by Stacy Bellward</p> <p><i>Water Hole Waiting</i> by Jane & Chris Kurtz</p>	Amy Brownlee -- Ethiopia
Nov.	Kenya	<p><i>Planting the Trees of Kenya</i> by Claire Nivola</p> <p><i>* Wangari's Trees of Peace</i> by Jeanette Winter</p>	Seth Svaty -- Kenya
Dec.	Other African nations	<p><i>Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain</i> by Verna Aardema (on the Reading Rainbow Video it's narrated by James Earl Jones—awesome!)</p> <p><i>We all Go on Safari: a Counting Journey Through Tanzania</i> by Laurie Krebs</p> <p><i>* The Three Little Dassies</i> by Jan Brett</p>	Jennifer Underwood -- Uganda

		<i>Home of the Brave</i> by Katherine Applegate	
Jan.	Kansas - it's her 150 th birthday!! Focus on agriculture.	* <i>One Kansas Farmer</i> by Devin Scillian	Local farmers/ ranchers & Beekeeper
Feb.	Asia - China & Japan	* <i>Tikki Tikki Tembo</i> by Arlene Mosel <i>I Love You Like Crazy Cakes</i> by Rose Lewis <i>Dear Polar Bear</i> by Barry Ablett	Jennifer Underwood-Japan; Larry Brownlee- Japan; Kim Brashear-Japan; Cheryl DeWerff- China; Whitney Roach-China
Mar.	Asia - Pakistan & Nepal	* <i>Listen to the Wind</i> by Greg Mortenson <i>Three Cups of Tea</i> by Greg Mortenson (6 th -grade reading class)	Larry Brownlee— Nepal, Mt. Everest trek
Apr.	Europe	* <i>Wherever You Are</i> by Mem Fox <i>One Thousand Tracings</i> by Lita Judge (grades 1-4) (This was excellent!) <i>Madlenka</i> by Peter Sis (K-1) <i>Olivia Goes to Venice</i> by Ian Falconer (K-1) <i>The Flag with 56 Stars</i> by Susan Goldman Rubin (older kids)	German foreign exchange students: Isabel, Litzi, Aaron
May	Mexico / Central & South America	* <i>Somewhere in the World Right Now</i> by Stacey Schuett <i>Manana Iguana</i> by Ann Whitford Paul <i>Adios, Oscar</i> by Peter Elwell	Lillian Zimmerman - Mexico, Travis Tesone - Peru

Source of introductory quote: Bieger, E. M. 1996. Promoting multicultural education through a literature-based approach. *The Reading Teacher* 49(4): 308-12.

