

Literacy Across the Curriculum: A Bookaneer's Approach

Melinda Long

www.melindalong.com

melindalongbooks@gmail.com

Why literacy across the Curriculum?

- Literacy is vital to every subject and every aspect of life.
- You can't teach it all in reading class.
- Even pirates need to be able to read.

Art Smart Educator's Guide

https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/e53c04_287c3d4e98684b1c9b10e7b4816a1b01.pdf

Or click the link on the home page of the website.

Pirate Ideas

Related Arts

Visual Art <http://www.craftjr.com/pirate-crafts-for-kids/>

- Research and design your own Jolly Roger or pirate ship
- Paper Bag Pirate Puppet
- Cardboard pirate fort

Music

- research and sing sea chanteys or write your own.
- "Pieces of Eight" song
https://simplesongs.blogspot.com/head_shoulders_knees_and_/2007/09/pirate-songs.html?cid=6a00d834516a9f69e200e54ee137448833#comment-6a00d834516a9f69e200e54ee137448833

P.E.

- Learn to dance a pirate jig!
- Pirate ship...warm up activities...kids pretend to be on a pirate ship.

Internet Literacy ***caution--review these prior to using them in class.

- Talk Like a Pirate Day...Sept. 19
www.talklikeapirate.com
- National Geographic's Pirate Pages
<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/search?q=pirates&location=srp&type=manual>

Social Studies

- Map Making—this also lends itself nicely to learning about scale in math.
- Research real pirates and compare their lives and habits to those of the stereotypes.
<http://www.thewayofthepirates.com/> ***
<https://www.wired.com/2008/09/pirates-a-reali/> ***
- Learn about pirate hangouts in your area—Charleston, the outer banks of NC, Savannah, GA, etc.

Science <https://www.teachearlyyears.com/learning-and-development/view/pirate-investigations>

- Make wave jars <https://makeandtakes.com/surfs-up>

- Study the science of winds and ships.
- Ocean life and its importance to pirates
- What is scurvy?
- Why did pirates wear eyepatches? (Mythbusters episode)
<https://mythresults.com/episode71>

Math <https://www.chesapeakepirates.com/pirate-math-activities/>

- Math Treasure hunt
- Money Pitt
- Pirate Word Problems

Language Arts

<https://noveleffect.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/How-I-Became-a-Pirate-Activities.pdf>

- Plot mapping/setting, conflict, climax
- Journal entries for real or imagined pirates.
- Reading about real pirates
- Mimic Writing—How I Became an Egyptian
 - Day 1—Talk about picture books. Listen to HOW I BECAME A PIRATE—Homework-List the five facts you want to use in your story.
 - Day 2—Talk about elements of a good story. (Plot Map)
 - Day 3-4—Work on writing the story, begin “dummy book”
 - Child is doing some kind of activity in some place when he or she meets some Egyptians.
 - Child decides to go off with Egyptians in order to become an Egyptian.
 - Child learns about Egyptian life, habits, food, religions, etc. (This is where your five facts will come in.)
 - Some **conflict** (problem) occurs, child discovers something about being an Egyptian that he/she doesn’t like and decides to go home.
 - He/she solves the conflict and returns home.
 - Day 5-6—Complete dummy book and edit story.
 - Remember to make your story entertaining and perhaps humorous or exciting.
 - You may even use bold print **repetition** like the pirates if you wish.
 - Some of your story should be fictional, but you must include **five facts and five illustrations**.
 - Illustrations should be colorful.
 - Make it neat and get your spelling, grammar, punctuation etc. right.
 - Day 7-8—Place final copy on paper with illustrations.
 - Day 9-10—Finish book and binding with decorative cover.
 - A dedication page at the beginning or end of your book. “For my brother, Mark, with whom I spent many hours in pretend adventures; for Gail, who loves him; and especially for Samuel Jess, the newest pirate in the family—M.L.”
 - An author biography on the last page or the back cover. “Melinda Long is a teacher as well as a picture book author. HOW I BECAME A PIRATE evolved from a girlhood spent burying treasure in her backyard and an adulthood devoted to teaching literature. These days Melinda speaks pirate fluently (all teachers say ‘Aargh!’ once in a while) and insists that bedtime stories (the scarier, the better!) are a must for pirates

and landlubbers alike. Melinda lives with her family in Greenville, South Carolina—not far from two former pirate hangouts.”

- extra illustrations.
- more than five facts
- an Egyptian fact sheet or glossary at the end

Things to remember about writing a picture book.

Repetition

Humor

Onomatopoeia

Alliteration

Good mental images that allow for interesting illustrations.

Most are 32 pages but some are shorter or longer.

The length of your book will depend on you.

Peer Editing Checklist

Read your partner’s book.

Use the checklist below.

Use only constructive (helpful) criticism.

Make one or two suggestions to improve the story.

BE RESPECTFUL OF YOUR PARTNER’S WORK.