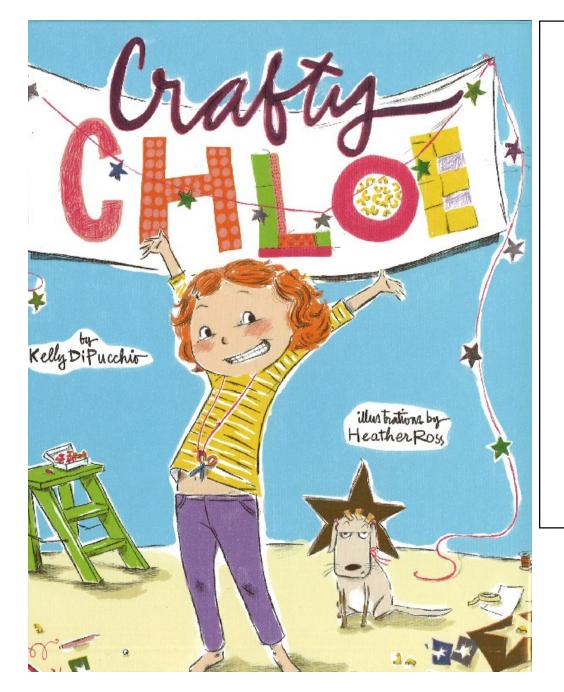


## Playful literature-based activities... because playing is thinking and thinking is learning!

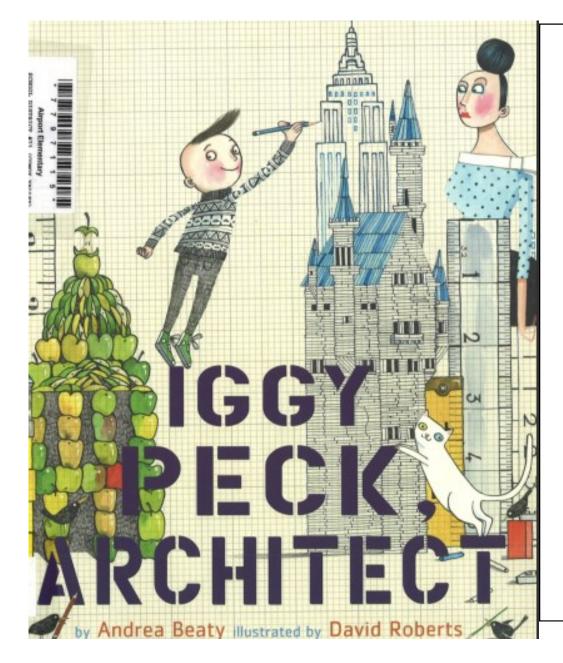
Carol Walters S.D. #71



## Bring on the craft supplies!

After reading this book, engage students in some open-ended craft making.

Afterwards, they can do some writing to describe what they've built. They'll be so happy to share ideas about their craft project, they'll barely know they're writing!

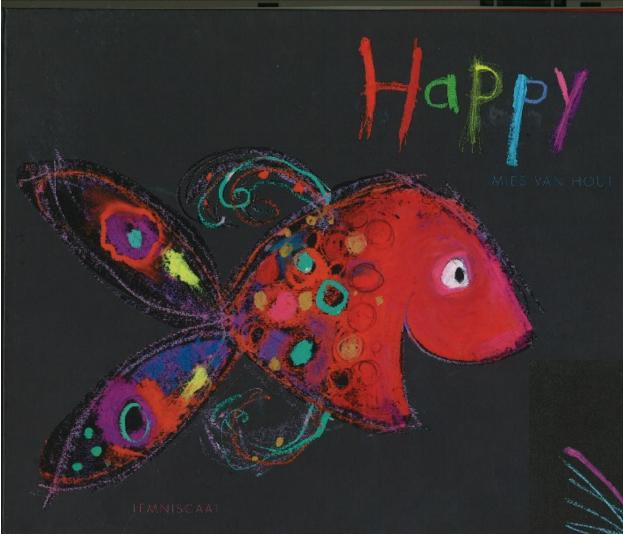


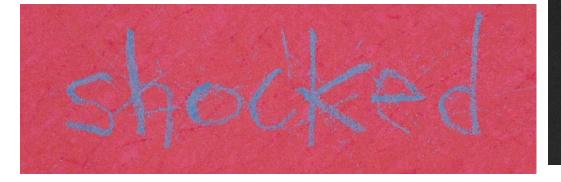
## Create future architects!

Gather up boxes, straws, coin tubes, Dixie cups and lots of duct tape to hold structures together! Then let kids build!

Their creative talents will grow; not to mention the problem solving that they experience as they build their architectural masterpieces!

Afterwards, students write about their structures and reflect upon future designs.

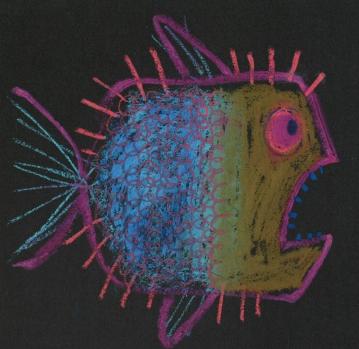




Use chalk pastels on black paper.

Draw a fish that shows a way you feel sometimes.

Write about a time you felt this way.

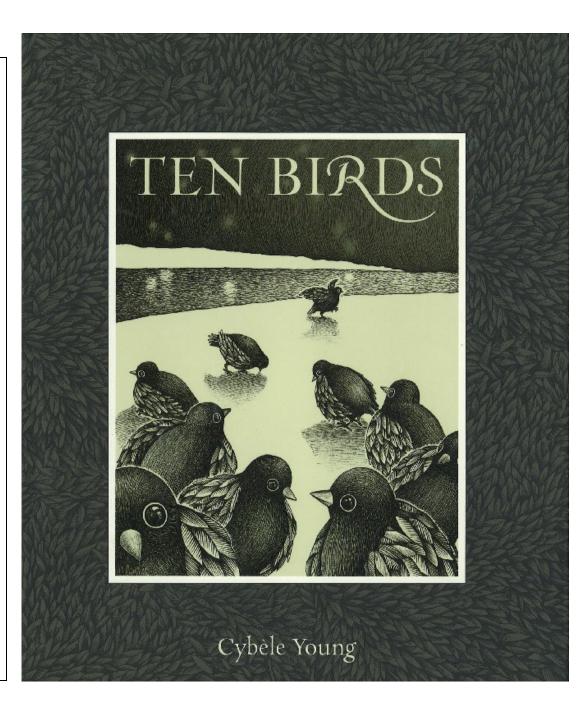


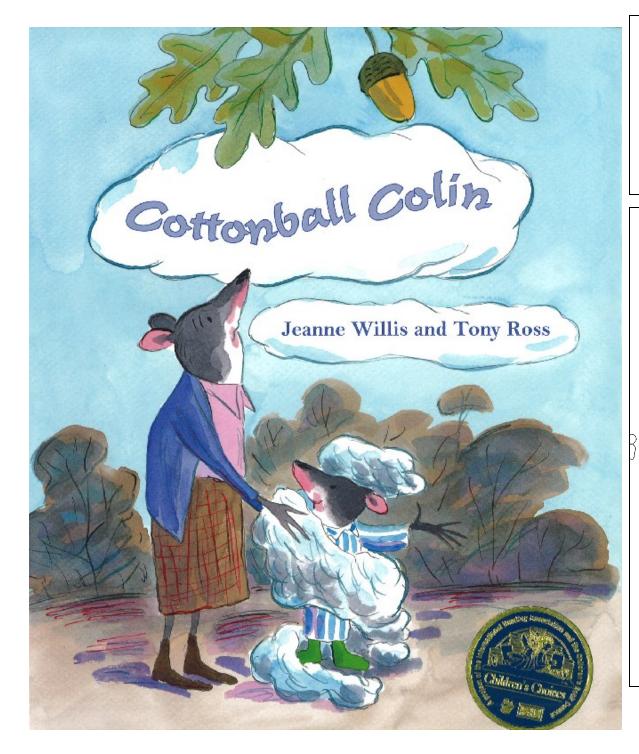
## Gather junk!

In groups, build a contraption to get a bird to the other side of the river.

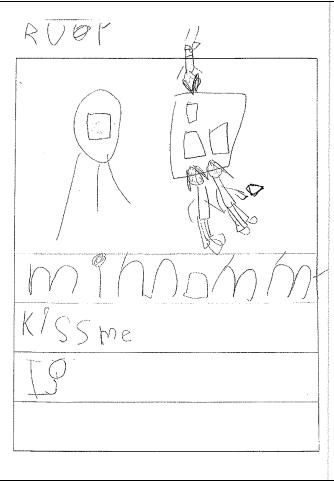
Collect "ing" words as the group works:

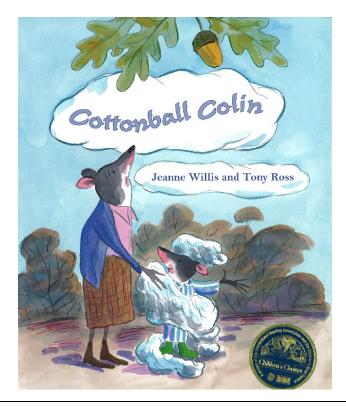
- measuring
- planning
- stretching
- building
- taping
- gluing
- fixing
- problem solving
- arguing
- imagining! • •



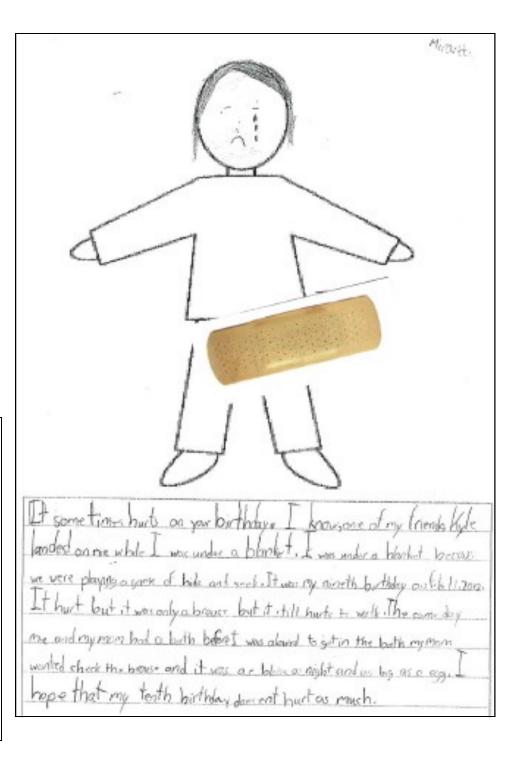


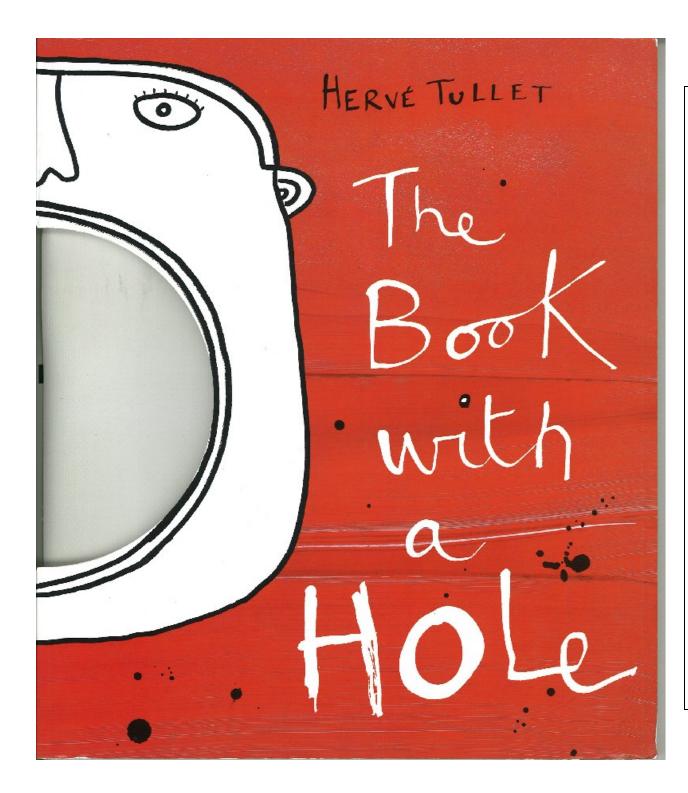
Read this cute story, then have students write an "owie" story. Everyone will have an adventure to share!





It sometimes hurts on your birthday. I know. One of my friends Kyle landed on me while I was under a blanket. I was under a blanket because we were playing a game of hide and seek. It was my ninth birthday on Feb. 11, 2012. It hurt but it was only a bruise, but it still hurts to walk. The same day me and my mom had a bath before I was allowed to get in the bath, my mom wanted to check the bruise and it was as black as night and as big as an egg. I hope that my tenth birthday doesn't hurt as much!



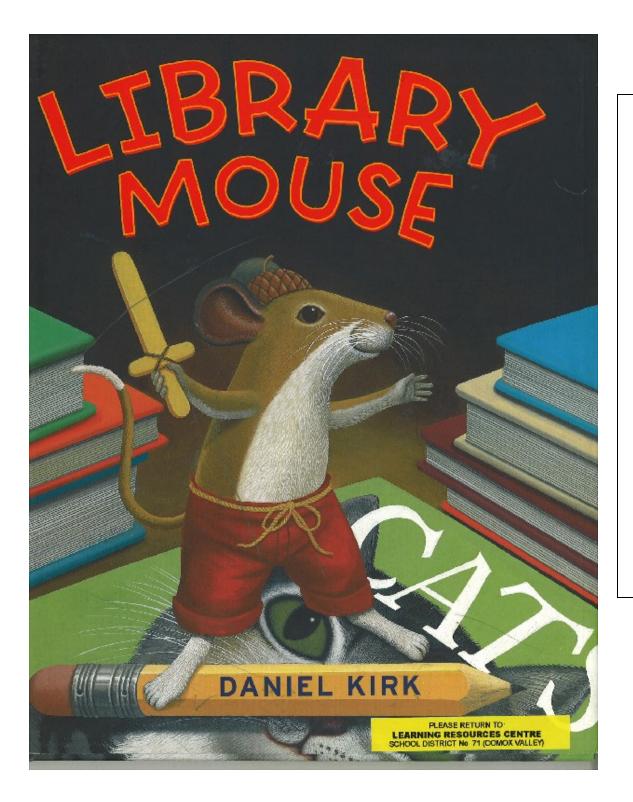


Yes, this book has a hole in its middle.

Take some pages to the copy machine and make openended drawing sheets for your students.

It will capture their creative juices!

What did you make? Write about your creation.



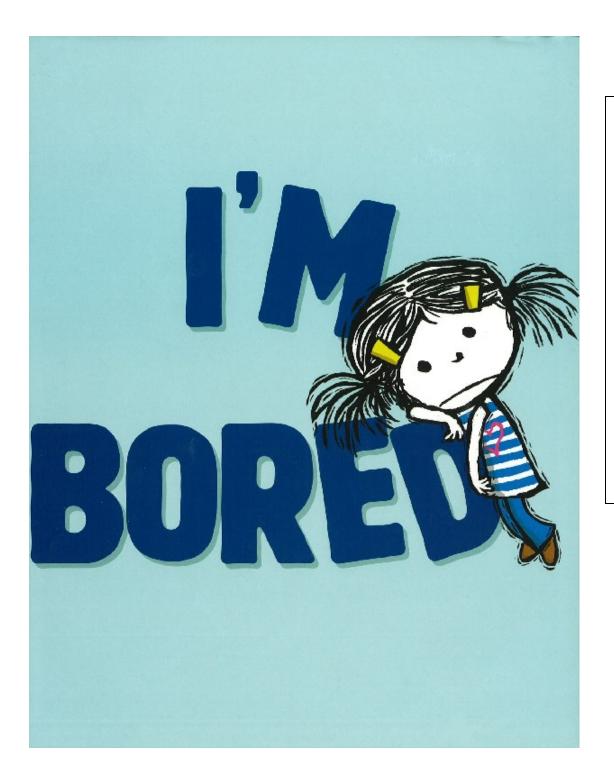
Go outside and build a house for a mouse.

Make a mouse out of plasticene.

Take it outside to its house and play, play, play!

Write about all the things mouse did in its house.

Describe the lovely house you built.

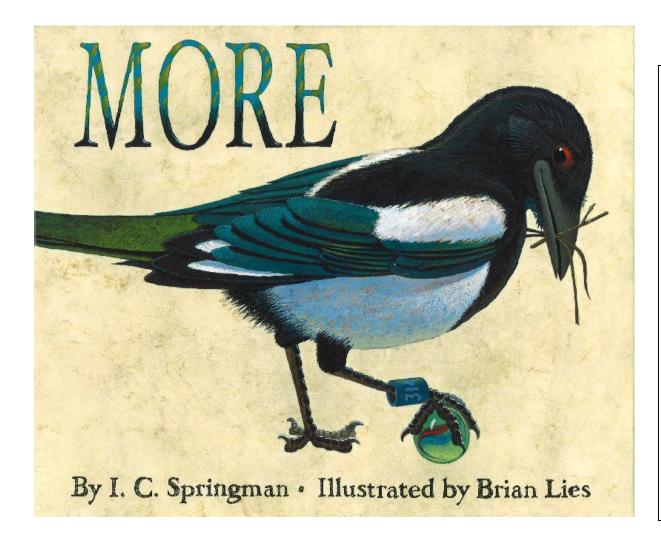


What can a kid do with a potatoe?

Kids aren't boring! They do ...

Create a class book filled with lots of examples of things that kids do when they play.

Add lots of details!

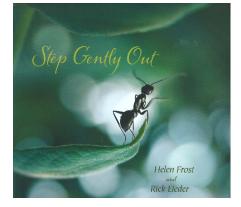


How do birds build their nests.

How do they know how to do this? Does someone teach them?

What materials do they use?

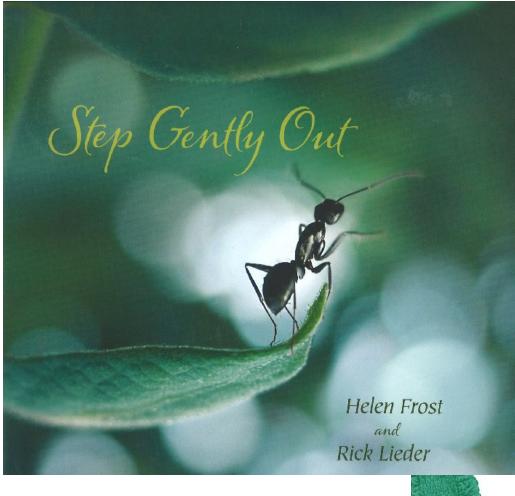
Can we build bird's nests using objects we find outside?





Use these three books as a little trio to encourage careful observation and lots of inquisitive questioning!

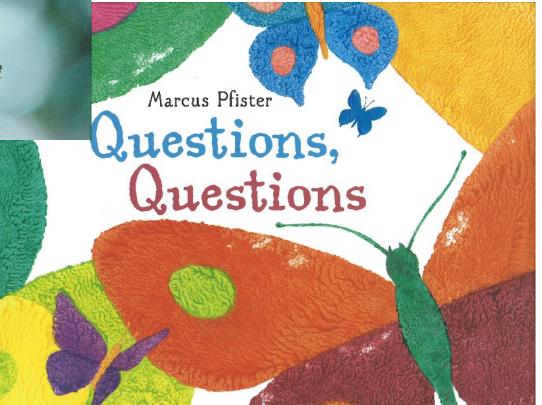
It's a winning combination!

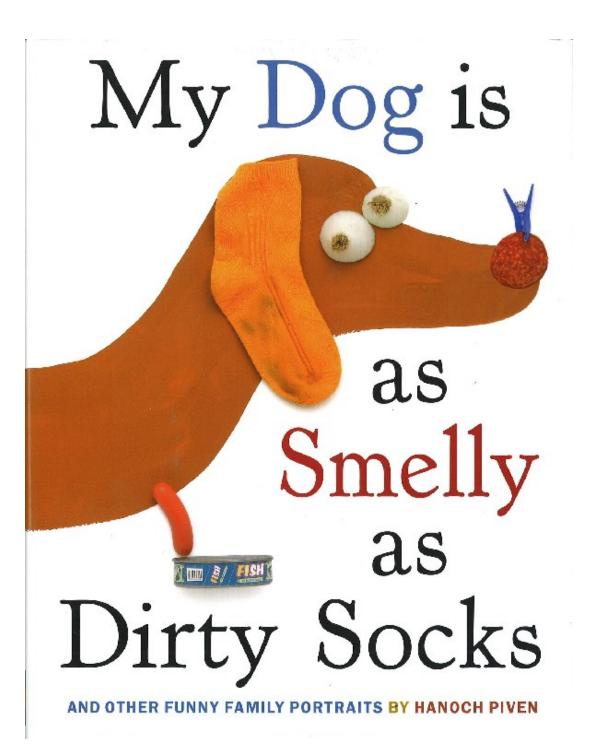


Go outside. Observe closely.

Ask questions. Be curious.

These books will slow life's pace down so that we take the time to look and question the things around us.



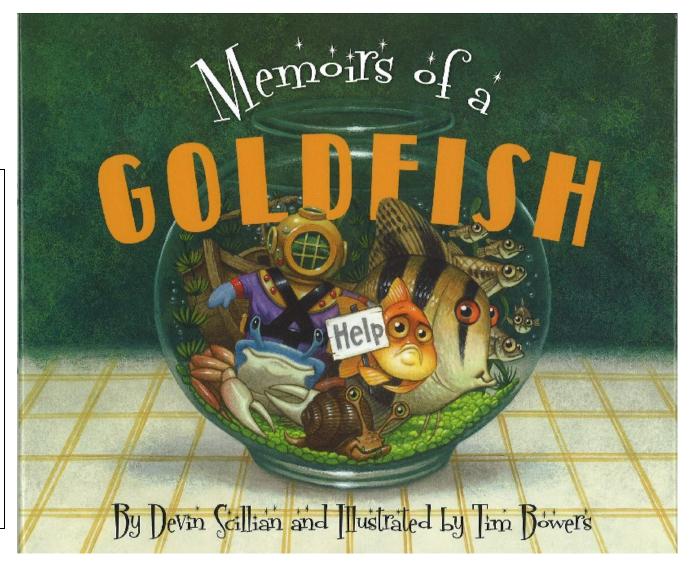


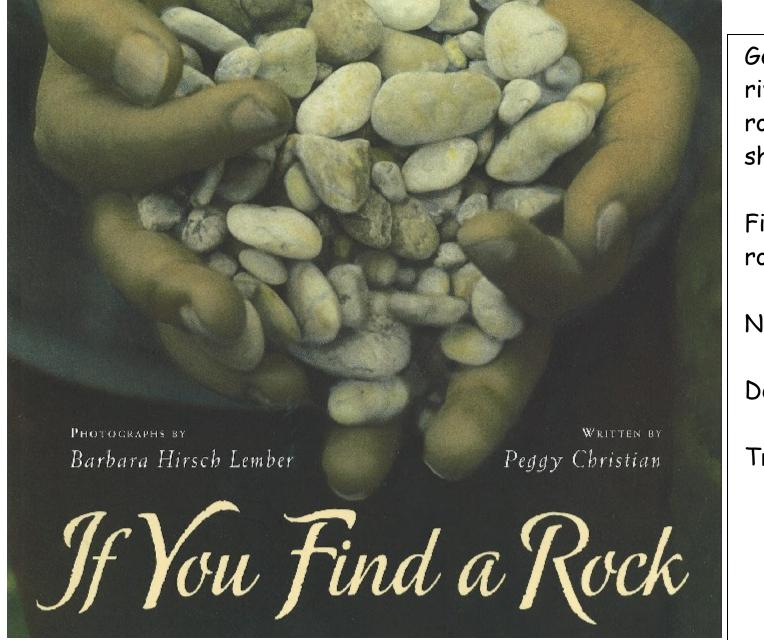
Filled with similes, this book offers a perfect way to introduce a bit of poetic language.

Students will create family collages using materials that remind them of personality traits. Next, have students write similes about themselves or the members of their family.

At times, I am as flexible as silly putty! Other times, I'm as stubborn as a tightly sealed jam jar! Retell this charming story using a collection of objects.

Retelling is a great way for our children to begin to determine importance, and distinguish main ideas from details.





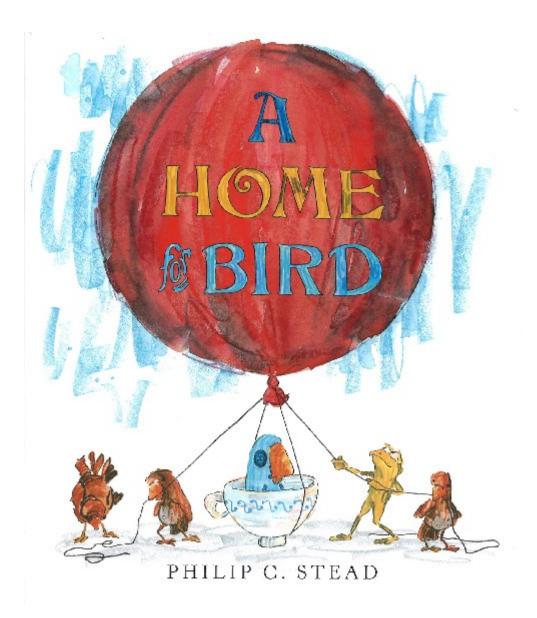
Go outside to a river bank or rocky beach shore.

Find a special rock.

Name it.

Describe it.

Treasure it.



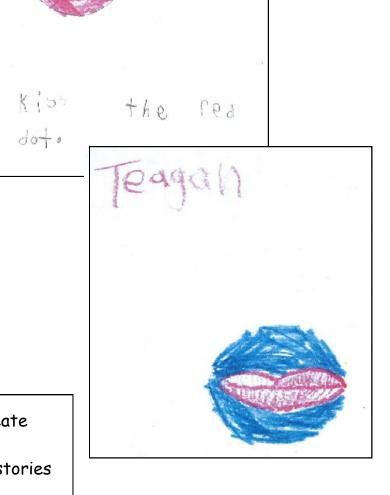
Build a bird house with craft items or objects found outdoors.

Have students describe their bird house with lots of details.

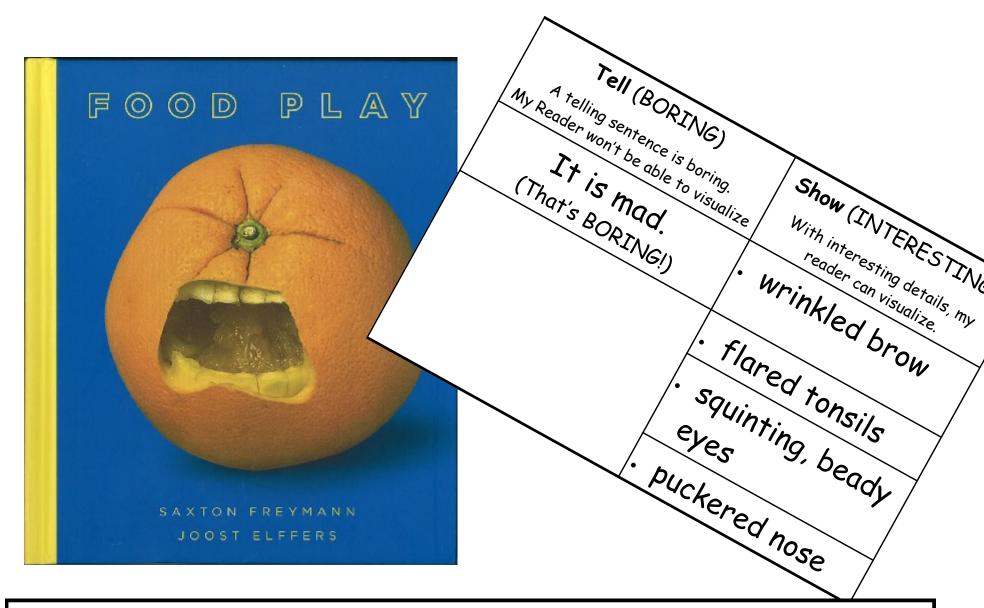
Can students match each piece of writing with the correct bird house?

PRESS	
HERE	
Herve' Tullet	

Oh my gosh, I love this book! With two pages per student, each child will create their own before and after page which will result in a fabulous class book. Team big buddies with little buddies to create a thick volume! I have heard stories about kids making Press Here books at home during play dates!



Leaden



Kids LOVE this book. So capture all that enthusiasm by offering an assortment of fruits and veggies in which students can create sculptural masterpieces. Present students with some inspiring accessories such as googlie eyes, pipe-cleaners, twigs, and string. Sturdy nails make great carving tools too. Grab your camera! There will be lots of happy faces to capture as they make their creations come to life!