

## **December Lesson Ideas**

Literary highlights and extensions for the month of December

#### **December Book Ideas**

Refer to the <u>TeachingBooks Literary Calendar</u> for curricular connections and birthday and holiday celebrations.

Grades	Title	Themes	Possibilities or Choose Your Own
PreK-2	A Sick Day for Amos McGee by Philip C. Stead and Erin E. Stead	Picture Book   Health   Social-Emotional Learning	<ul> <li>Play the <u>Audio Name Pronunciation</u> of illustrator Erin E. Stead.</li> <li>Utilize the viewing activities in the <u>Lesson Plan</u> from Weston Woods — before and after the reading.</li> <li>Read A Sick Day for Amos McGee or play the <u>Video Book Reading</u> excerpt.</li> <li>Click <u>Discover Like Books</u> to find similar titles for Social-Emotional Learning.</li> </ul>
	MAX and Marla by Alexandra Boiger	Picture Book   Sports   Winter	<ul> <li>View the <u>Book Trailer</u> of <i>Max and Marla</i> by Alexandra Boiger.</li> <li>Ask students what questions they have about the story.</li> <li>Play the <u>Complete Video Reading</u> of <i>Max and Marla</i>.</li> <li>Pair this book with <i>Don't Blink</i> by Amy Rosenthal, using the <u>Activity Guide</u> from Indiana Early Literacy Firefly Award.</li> </ul>
1-5	Lunch Lady by Jarrett J. Krosoczka	Chapter Book   Graphic Novel   Humor	<ul> <li>Introduce the Lunch Lady <u>Series Page</u> by choosing a Book Trailer from the Filter Results menu.</li> <li>Choose Book 1 and play the <u>Meet-the-Author Recording</u>. Ask students to write down 3 things they learned.</li> <li>Extend your story hooks by sharing the Series' <u>Activity Sheets</u> from Jarrett J. Krosoczka.</li> <li>Find out more about the Lunch Lady series by watching the Series TED Talk <u>Author Interview</u>. Ask, what can you do for your lunch heroes?</li> </ul>



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1-5	Under the Snow by Melissa Stewart and Constance R. Bergum	Picture Book   Nonfiction   Science	<ul> <li>Read the <u>Author Interview</u>. Play the embedded video to show readers the story's inspiration.</li> <li>Utilize the <u>Lesson Plan</u> from Peachtree for instructional strategies.</li> <li>Practice fluency with the <u>Reader's Theater Script</u> from Peachtree with your students.</li> <li>Visit the <u>Personal Website</u> for Melissa Stewart for more enrichment ideas.</li> </ul>
4-8	Stone Fox by John Reynolds Gardiner	Historical Fiction   Adventure   Dogs	<ul> <li>Play the <u>Book Reading</u> and ask readers where they think this excerpt appears in the book — beginning, middle, or end.</li> <li>Show the <u>Google Preview</u> and read the beginning of Chapter 1.</li> <li>Ask readers to write down what they know about Grandfather from these excerpts.</li> <li>Use the <u>Lesson Plan</u> from Dr. Betty Powers Francis to study the book with your class.</li> </ul>
	<b>Е Deafo</b> by Cece Bell by Cece Bell	Graphic Novels   Disability   Biography	<ul> <li>Begin this lesson with the <u>Meet-the-Author Recording</u>.</li> <li>Read a few pages from the book or use the <u>Google Preview</u>.</li> <li>Utilize the <u>Cultural Representation Reflection</u> to talk about what students have read.</li> <li>Using Cece's illness as inspiration for research — promote your informational tools to learn more about meningitis, hearing aids, or topics your students may suggest.</li> </ul>



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### **December Author Study Ideas**

Jan Brett: <u>Author Study</u>	PreK-2	<ul> <li>Introduce Jan Brett with her <u>Audio Name Pronunciation</u>.</li> <li>Read <i>The Mitten</i> or watch the <u>Complete Video Reading</u>, narrated by the author.</li> <li>Utilize the discussion questions in the <u>Lesson Plan</u> from Reading to Kids.</li> <li>Visit Jan Brett's <u>Personal Website</u> for follow-up activities — masks, coloring sheets, and more.</li> </ul>
	1-5	<ul> <li>Play the <u>Meet-the-Author Recording</u> of <i>Trouble with Trolls</i>. View the illustration on the recording page.</li> <li>Read <u>Trouble with Trolls</u>.</li> <li>Create a <u>Story Map Multi-Leveled Lesson</u> to explore important elements of this fictional story.</li> <li>Visit Jan Brett's <u>Personal Website</u> for follow-up activities — masks, coloring sheets, and more.</li> </ul>
	4-8	<ul> <li>Show the <u>Author Page</u> for Jan Brett. How many of her books have students read?</li> <li>Introduce <i>The Hat</i> by playing the <u>Author Interview</u>.</li> <li>Extend your lesson by performing the <u>Reader's Theater Script</u> of <i>The Hat</i> — masks are optional.</li> <li>Encourage students to use their online resources to learn more about hedgehogs.</li> </ul>