

February Lesson Ideas

Literary highlights and extensions for the month of February

February 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	Thank You, Omu! by Oge Mora *Also available in Spanish	Picture Book Realistic African American	 Before beginning the lesson, listen to the Meet-the-Author Recording to build your own background knowledge. Sing, "If You're Thankful and You Know It" from Jumpstart's Activity Guide. Read Thank You, Omu! or use the Complete Book Reading from Jumpstart. Grades 1-2: Watch the Author Interview from Little Brown School & Library. Grades PK-K: Use Jumpstart's Story Guide to talk, write, or draw about being thankful.
	Somebody Loves You, Mr. Hatch by Judith Stuller Hannant, Eileen Spinelli, and Paul Yalowitz	Picture Book Valentine's Day Social Emotional Learning	 Play the Complete Book Reading of Somebody Loves You, Mr. Hatch. Utilize the Lesson Plan from Storyline Online to talk about how Mr. Hatch changed during the story. Guide students to make a list of ways they can practice acts of kindness—extra points for doing them. Visit Eileen Spinelli's personal website and watch her reading Love You Always.
1-5	Summertime Sleepers by Melissa Stewart and Sarah S.Brannen	Nonfiction Animals Science	 Plan your lesson using the <u>discussion guide</u> from Charlesbridge. Watch the <u>book trailer</u> to introduce the story. Practice fluency while presenting the <u>reader's theater script</u>. Listen to the <u>Meet-the-Author Recording</u> to learn how the author performs research.



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Grades	Title	Themes	Possibilities or Choose Your Own
1-5	TAR BEACH by Faith Ringgold	Picture Book African American Social Themes	 Celebrate the Coretta Scott King Book Awards with the Complete Book Reading of Tar Beach. Play the Audio Name Pronunciation of Faith Ringgold. Use the Teacher Guide from Reading Rainbow to talk about the places they would go or what they would give to Cassie. Follow the Teaching Ideas from the International Literacy Association to take students on a virtual field trip to the Guggenheim.
4-8	Amal Unbound by Aisha Saeed	Realistic Fiction South Asian Social Issues	 Introduce the author by playing her <u>Audio Name Pronunciation</u>. Then show the <u>Book Trailer</u> to introduce her book, <i>Amal Unbound</i>. Play the <u>Audiobook Excerpt</u>. Create a <u>Cultural Representation Reflection</u> to allow students to compare and contrast their lives with Amal's. Continue reading with the Google Preview, through Chapter 5, then listen to the <u>Meet-the-Author Recording</u> to discover the author's purpose.
	Condor Comeback by Sy Montgomery and Tianne Strombeck	Nonfiction Science Series	 Introduce Sy Montgomery by showing her Meet-the-Author Movie. Show the Google Preview of her 2020 book, Condor Comeback. Allow students to read the first 8 pages. Open the Scientists in the Field page (linked under the book title) to show students that there are many books in this series. Invite readers to choose a title from the series to learn more about that subject and report back to the class about what they learned.



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February Author Study Ideas

Grace Lin: Author Study	PreK-2	 Introduce the author, Grace Lin, by playing the <u>Audio Name Pronunciation</u>. Play the <u>Complete Video Reading</u> of <i>Circle! Sphere!</i> by Grace Lin. Use the <u>Activity Guide</u> from Charlesbridge to play the shape game with your readers. From the "books" section of the author page, select "Browse books by Grace Lin" and use the filters to the left to locate other PreK-2 titles by Grace Lin that your listeners may enjoy.
	1-5	 Introduce the author, Grace Lin, by playing the <u>Audio Name Pronunciation</u> from the author's page. Play the <u>Book Trailer</u> to introduce the book, <i>Not Exactly the Same</i>, a Ling and Ting beginning reader title from the series of the same name. Play the <u>Video Book Reading</u> and talk about how Ling and Ting are no longer the same. You might also refer to the <u>Educator's Guide</u> from Little, Brown and Company. Listen to the <u>Meet-the-Author Recording</u> to find out why Lin wrote a book about twins.
	4-8	 Introduce the author, Grace Lin, by playing the <u>Audio Name Pronunciation</u> from the author's page. Show the <u>Book Trailer</u> of <u>Where the Mountain Meets the Moon</u>, then play the <u>Video Book Reading</u> narrated by Grace Lin. Allow students to listen to the <u>Meet-the-Author Recording</u> to learn why Lin wrote this book. From the top portion of the book page, show them how to browse more titles with the same Cultural Area by clicking on the "Asian/Pacific American" button.