A 21-ITEM BIBLIOGRAPHY ON "EDUCATING THE IMAGINATION THROUGH CHILDREN'S LITERATURE" IS APPENDED. (LH)
Literature and Creative Expression

by

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Use of Literature

Literature can be used in many ways to encourage oral and written expression. In some cases a book such as *A Cat Story in Pictures* (New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1963) may only be used to stimulate imaginative thinking. In other instances, a folk tale or fairy tale such as *The Dumplings and Demons* by Claris Stamm (Illustrated by Kazue Mizumura, New York: Viking) may be used as substance for an original shadowgraph play or as a basis for creating further episodes. Many stories or poems about color can stimulate visual and aural color imagery. Pupils can use these books to develop colorful phrases, clauses, and sentences or as a basis for original color poems expressed in couplets, quatrains, or free verse. Some literary volumes such as ones by Natalia Belting or Richard Lewis offer imaginative images and a sense of wonder about natural phenomena in the universe. A few books offer structural patterns to assist the teacher with either Oriental forms of poetry or more formalized patterns such as the limerick or the sonnet.

Some of the finest examples of oral and written compositions appear as part of the ongoing classroom experiences in social studies, science, or literature. This article will include some references to literature and technique books which are helpful in encouraging composition writing. The first list contains books on poetry forms.

Books on Forms of Poetry


Numerous references are available in the field of creative dramatics. A few of these which are quite helpful follow.
**Creative Dramatics and Puppetry**

Association of Childhood International. *Creative Dramatics.*
3615 Wisconsin Avenue, Northwest, Washington, 16, D.C.

Beresford, Margaret. *How to Make Puppets and Teach Puppetry*


New York: E. P. Dutton, 1967. Includes short history of puppets, puppets for plays, handkerchief, paper bag, fruit box, ball, jiffy cloth and spoon and paper plate puppets, as well as many suggestions on things to do with puppets.


Scott, Louise Binder, Marion E. May, and Mildred S. Shaw.
*Puppets for all Grades.* Instructor Handbook Series.

**Masks and Mask Making**

Masks may be used for decorative purposes or to correlate with social studies and literature units being taught in the classroom. Also masks are a means of raising the self-concept of the child who can project himself into the figure of an animal or hero by using masks. **Masks are also a means of interpreting hero tales, folk tales, and legends.** Some masks may be worn over the head and shoulders. Others, are worn on the face. A few masks are held in front of the child by using sticks. Some references on masks and mask making are:


Riley, Olive L. *Masks and Magic*. New York: Studio Publications and Thomas Y. Crowell Co., 1955. Discusses primitive masks and includes beautiful photographic reproductions of masks of such tribes as the Kwakiuth Indians and ones such as the House Mask from the Sepic-River of New Guinea.


**Masks**

Some helpful movies about masks are:

- *The Loon's Necklace*. Film No. 423, Encyclopaedia Britannica Film.
- *Buna African Masks*. Encyclopaedia Britannica.

**Oriental Forms of Poetry**

During recent years numerous volumes of Haiku verse have been made available to Americans in English translation. Many of these volumes offer an aesthetic experience. Two basic sources of Oriental verse patterns are the Peter Pauper Press of Mount Vernon, New York and the Charles Tuttle Company of Rutland, Vermont and Tokyo, Japan.
Some references on Haiku verse are:


Lewis, Richard. **In a Spring Garden**. Pictures by Ezra Jack Keats, New York: Dial, 1965. Illustrations offer a sense of beauty to the child and an appreciation of the universality of poetry. The Weston Woods Company in Connecticut have developed **In a Spring Garden** as a film strip and sound recording.


**Tanka Verse**

Some examples of the Oriental form of tanka verse in English appear in books including other forms of Oriental verse. A few sources are:


Other books on Oriental Verse Patterns:


Creating Color Imagery

Much poetry and many books offer color imagery which encourage writers to create original similes and metaphors or to compose paragraphs with more vital phrases and clauses. The poem "Velvet Shoes" by Elinor Wylie offers images of white and silver in words describing snow, lace, silk, wool, cow's milk and the breast of a gull. In addition to color images, this poem depicts different textural objects things which the listener can touch such as white lace, the slippery silky feel of cloth or the soft feathery breast of a bird. "What Is Pink?" by Christina Rossetti and "Silver" by Walter de la Mare are also poems focusing upon color.

In recent years certain authors have been focusing attention upon color through books which have an underlining theme of various colors. Some helpful books are:


In this little book for young boys and girls pupils listen to narration which talks about several things which are red such as a brick wall, the tip of a tongue, the truck in a firehouse "But red is never, no never, a mouse." Then children listen to several green things such as an emerald, a frog, the eyes of a kitten, cabbage and peas, "But green is never, no never, a lion." There is an anticipatory quality to these little lines which can encourage rhythms then children can use their imaginations to guess what another object is such as "But orange is never, no never, a ___.__." 

Other color Books to be used as Motivators:

Leonni, Leo. Tico and the Golden Wings. New York: Pantheon, 1964. Although this story is one of a wishing bird and little Tico who had no wings much of the story involves beautiful colors and changes that are wrought with color.

Provensen, Alice and Martin. What Is a Color? New York: Golden Press, 1967. This book has simple little descriptions of color in which rebus pictures are used in lines describing an object. For instance a page describes dandelions which are not fuzzy and lemons and yellow bananas. Then a question leads into a single page or a double spread picture of four yellow lions and thirty six baby chicks.


Perhaps no other book yet written has made young Americans so color conscious as Hailstones and Halibut Bones. The jingling rhymes and descriptions of colorful objects have fostered many imitators. Children have created similes or metaphors about color and dictated them to teachers who have printed them on large color charts. Some classes have color days in which certain colors are emphasized. "Color centers become the focus of a beauty corner. One student teacher read "What Is Purple?" from Hailstones and Halibut Bones. A gorgeous purple-hued chiffon scarf, a bunch of imitation purple grapes, and a ceramic purple cow with the poem by Gellett Burgess made the center quite beautiful. In one area where poor children had little to share with classmates, a snow-white cotton decorated tree illustrated "What is White?" In one first grade class "What Is Gold?" was illustrated with a real jar of honey with sunshine shining through it. Black was demonstrated through the uses of black silhouettes of city buildings and old fashioned licorice sticks were cut up into little chunks. Children chewed licorice and then had the fun of sticking out tongues at one another to see blackness of tongue. Hailstones and Halibut Bones by Sterling also recreates the same mood. (movie) Children's poems or prose paragraphs about color seem to be of two types. One form of poem or paragraph catalogues or enumerates many things which are of a particular color. Another type of poem expresses a mood such as the feelings one has as a mermaid when one goes into turquoise blue ocean caves with star fish and algae-clustered together.
Tone Poems of Color

Rainbow-hued ranges of mood and character are portrayed in Tone Poems of Color conducted by Frank Sinatra (Capitol records W 735). Norman Sickel, a writer on Sinatra radio shows created color lyrics and Sinatra selected eight popular composers to create Tone Poems of Color to depict the poet's words. These are such ones as "Purple, the Scheuer" by Billy May; "Yellow, the Laughter" by Jeff Alexander; "Brown, the Earthbound" by Jeff Alexander; "Orange, the Gay Deceiver" by Nelson Riddle; "White, the Young in Heart" by Victor Young; "Gold, the Greedy" by Nelson Riddle; "Gray the Gaunt" by Alec Wilder; "Red the Violent" by Andre Previn; "Silver the Patrician" by Elmer Bernstein; "Green, the Lover" by Gordon Jenkins; "Blue the Dreamer" by Alec Wilder and "Black the Bottomless" by Victor Young.

Uses of the Recording

This recording can be used in many ways. One teacher told pupils the title of a band which was being played and pupils jotted down impressions. These were reorganized into colorful phrases and later into original poems. After some of these experiences, pupils listened to music, wrote impressions and guessed the color which was being portrayed. Some children experimented in reciting their original color poems with the color music for this poem in the background.

Wishing As An Imaginative Theme

Wishing is an effective theme for encouraging imaginative thinking. One student teacher told the high spots of the story about Aladdin. Then pupils rubbed a copper watering can three times and thought about three wishes. Each child whispered his wishes to the teacher, returned to his table and drew pictures of three wishes. Later, each child showed his picture and talked about his wishes. The poem, "I Keep Three Wishes Ready" by Annette Wynne is good to accompany this lesson.

Other books encouraging the wishing theme are:


Tico and the Golden Wings depicts a strange bird, the wishing bird, which grants Tico wishes which are for a pair of golden wings. This is a beautiful story for a flannelgraph depiction of events as golden feathers are added and then given away unselfishly one by one. Also, pupils can experience some creative playmaking in which a wishing bird arrives and let's pupils have their wishes.
Developing Imaginative Thinking


This book for young children is designed to foster imaginative thinking. Questions are asked such as "What do you see on your farm?" Pupils are asked to close their eyes and questions are given to encourage thinking about animals, plants, and buildings on the farm. Also, children close their eyes and imagine seashore scenes.

Language Sparkler Ideas

Many books encourage children to write more fluently by expanding vocabularies and thinking about word forms and meanings.

Three books by Mary O'Neill are quite helpful in motivating writing and expanding vocabularies.


(3) O'Neill, Mary. *People I'd Like to Keep*. Illustrated by Paul Goldone. New York: Doubleday, 1964. (This offers poems about people in an urban culture such as "Darling Doctor de Plunkett," "The Milk Man's Little Boy," "The Woman With the Walk" and others are included. Children can read or listen to these poems and offer character sketches of city persons. Also, similar poems can be created which are in the experience of a child.)

Language Facility

Three books by Eve Merriam show children much fluency in use of words:


These three books are filled with ideas which encourage young writers to think about synonyms, homonyms, and peculiar qualities of words in our English language.

Two books by David McCord encourage children to become novice poets. The poetry is fresh and childlike in its approach.


*Take Sky* has many interesting lines, but the section "Write Me A Verse" has some clever lines by Professor Swigly Brown encouraging persons to write couplets, quatrains, limericks, triolets. With the professor's help young pupils can be encouraged to create original poems of this type.

World Literature and World Poetry

Natalia Belting has written several little volumes which encourage readers and listeners to think about the glories and wonders of the universe. Some of these are:

Belting, Natalia M. *The Sun Is a Golden Earring.* Illustrated by Bernarda Bryson. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1962. This has little excerpts about the heavens taken from India, Soloman Islands, Hawaiian Islands, Siberia, Society Islands and other parts of the world where man has listened to thunder, seen the lightning, and gazed at the moon.


Belting, Natalia. *The Earth Is On a Fish's Back.* Legends of the constellations which provide a background for *The Stars Are Silver Reindeer.*

Belting, Natalia. *Calendar Moon.* Illustrated by Bernarda Bryson. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1964. Includes strange names which primitive man has given to the months of the year such as "earthpot moon" by the Khasis of India, and the "sleepy moon" of March designated by the Chinese.

The rhythmical quality of this author's poetic lines offer aural imagery to pupils and encourage them to write with more alliterative lines.

ranging from the Gabon Pygmie of Africa singing about the moon to the Yuma of North America singing about the owl hooting to the morning star. Aboriginal tribes of Australia, Teton Sioux of North America, and Bushman of Africa have created numerous chants and rhythmical tunes which add to the aural imagery of both the young child and adult.

Picture Stories


As an adult or child flips along these pictures, a young boy or girl can relate the story of the cat and kittens. The book is colorfully illustrated and encourages story telling.

A Few Recordings to be used in Composition Writing.

Aural Imagery

A few albums and recordings stimulate aural imagery so pupils can think more imaginatively in relation to music. Some of these are:

- **A Study in Aural Imagery**. Selections to stimulate creative thinking. Audio Education Incorporated ABC 12.


(Others are available in the same series.)

Art Appreciation


Folk Tales and Fairy Tales

Numerous recordings of folk and fairy tales are available which give examples of a particular genre and type of story. Three examples follow although many other selections could be used.

Price, Christine, Told by. *Japanese Folk and Fairy Tales*. CMS 528. Includes traditional folk and fairy tales such as "Momotaro, Son of the Peach," "The Miraculous Teakettle" and "Urashima" (C.M.S. Records 14 Warren Street, New York, New York 10007).
This same company has recorded the following:

CMS 501 American Indian Stories for Children, Vol. II
CMS 502 The Seventh Princess and Other Fairy Tales
CMS 504 English Folk and Fairy Tales for the Joseph Jacobs Collection
CMS 505 Perez and Martina - a classical Puerto Rican folk tales
CMS 507 Norse Folk and Fairy Tales
CMS 508 Asian Folk and Fairy Tales
CMS 514 Folk and Fairy Tales of the Near East
CMS Russian Folk and Fairy Tales


Caedmon Records

Others include:

Just So Stories and Other Kipling Tales TC 1038.
More Just So Stories TC 1038

Tales of Hans Christian Andersen - TC 1073 - Read by Michael Redgrave.

The Little Match Girl and Other Andersen Fairy Tales - TC 1117 Read by Boris Karloff.

The Ugly Duckling and Other Tales - TC 1109. - Read by Boris Karloff.

Grimm's Fairy Tales - TC 1062 - Read by Joseph Schildkraut

Oscar Wilde Fairy Tales TC 1044

Humorous Records

Walter Brennan and Brandon de Wilde. Stories of Mark Twain. Caedmon TC 1027. Includes "The Jumping Frog of Calaveras County"

Huckleberry Finn - 2 Episodes
Jim Baker's Bluejay Yarn (From A Tramp Abroad)

Stoo Hample The Silly Record - Columbia HL 9536. This recording includes silly songs, stories, poems and devices to encourage humorous oral and written compositions.
Mood Music

Much mood music is indicated in other lists of recordings. Two helpful ones are: Vivaldi: The Seasons, OP. 8. LC 3216. Epic recordings. This includes Concertos on Spring, Summer, Autumn, and Winter. Another one is Hi-Fi Hits in Popular Classics - Westminster X:N 18886.

Khachaturian "Sabre Dance"
Rimsky-Korsakov "The Flight of the Bumble Bee"
Ravel "Bolero"
Enesco Rumanian Rhapsody, No. 1
Rossini, "William Tell Overture"

Music and Volumes

Two records are available both in book form and in recordings which are quite helpful in motivating written compositions and art work.


Follow the Sunset with Charity Bailey and Narrated by Robert Emmett. Folkways Record FP 706A. Book by Herman and Schneider Follow the Sunset, Record on lullabies around the world.

Books on Creative Writing


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