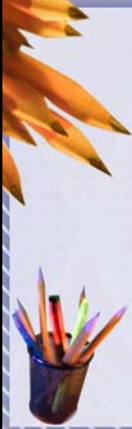



Teaching Reading and Writing With Nonfiction

Presented by Fran Wilson
Madeira Elementary School



Select Quality Nonfiction

- Use Orbis Pictus Award Books
- Use criteria to select other quality nonfiction books for classroom use



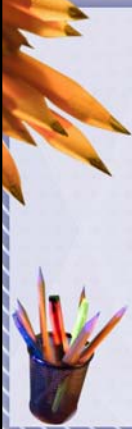
What is the Orbis Pictus Award?

- Established in 1990 by NCTE
- Promotes & recognizes excellence in nonfiction books for K-8 readers
- Award name is from book *Orbis Pictus- The World in Pictures* written in 1657



Criteria for the Award

- Accuracy
- Organization
- Design
- Style



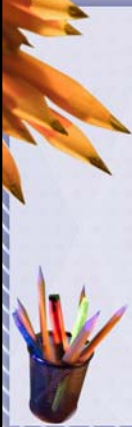
Other Criteria:

- Useful for classroom teaching in grades K-8
- Encourages thinking and further reading
- Models exemplary expository writing & research skills
- Interesting & timely subject matter
- Appeals to wide range of readers



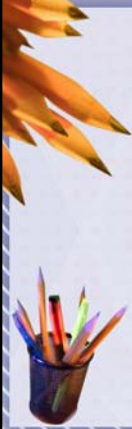
Books Considered for the Award

- Must be published in the U.S. during the previous calendar year
- Any title with central purpose of sharing information is considered (includes biography)
- Excluded are: textbooks, historical fiction, folklore, and poetry




The Secret World of Walter Anderson
by Hester Bass

- Cite examples of how Walter's art was in harmony with nature
- Discuss: Why did Walter keep his painting in the cottage a secret? What can we learn about him by viewing the painting in the room?
- Use as a mentor text for writing to teach: use of adjectives, effective intro & closing for a biography
- View artwork at website and predict what Walter did to capture the image
<http://www.walterandersonmuseum.org>



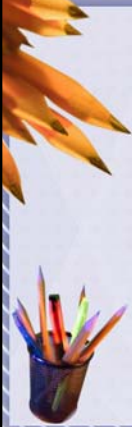
The Frog Scientist
by Pamela S. Turner

- Identify events of Tyrone Haye's life that led him to be a scientist
- Note steps in scientific process
- Debate use of pesticide Atrazine
- Use related lesson plans available
<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/field/explorers/tyrone-hayes.html>



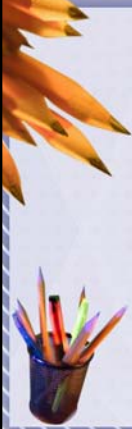
Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream
by Tanya Lee Stone

- Study organization of content with effective use of flash back
- Chart the obstacles for women
- Write letter to Vice President Johnson or Jackie Cochran to express opinion
- Share author's note and discuss writing decisions for the book




How Many Baby Pandas?
By Sandra Markle

- Use to gather facts on pandas
- Discuss future of pandas - what can be done to help?
- Use as mentor text for writing to teach: organization of text, effect of posing questions, insertion of fact boxes, use of font colors & sizes, inclusion of extra back matter



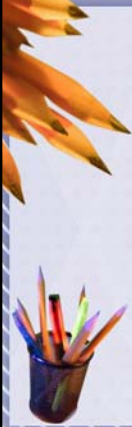
Noah Webster: Weaver of Words
by Pegi Deitz Shea

- Compare Webster's ideas about schools/education to schools then and schools today
- Debate: Would it have been good if Noah had "fixed" the spellings of words?
- Create web of Noah's accomplishments
- Discuss: Is language a living thing? Why was there a need for copyright laws?



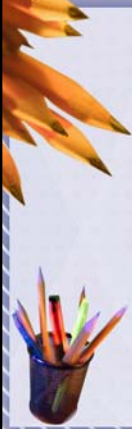
Darwin: With Glimpses into His Private Journal & Letters
by Alice B. McGinty

- Discuss the contribution of the diary excerpts & letters to the text
- Describe Darwin's inner struggle to reveal his theories
- List the steps taken to develop his theories




The Grand Mosque of Paris
by Karen Gray Ruelle & Deborah Durland DeSaix

- Compare/contrast the descriptions and illustrations of Paris with that of the Grand Mosque
- Use the text to describe Si Kaddour Benghabrit's character
- Make a web to highlight the roles of the Kabyle Resistance



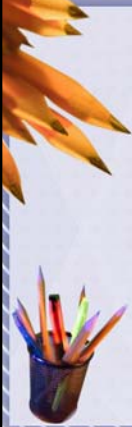
Eleanor, Quiet No More
by Doreen Rapport

- Create list of qualities that define Eleanor's character based on her actions and words
- Identify the events which transform Eleanor through the years
- Infer the themes of the book
- Skill of using and including quotes



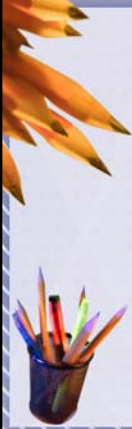
The Boy Who Invented TV: The Story of Philo Farnsworth
by Kathleen Krull

- Create Venn Diagram to compare life then and now
- Make a list of the people who impacted Philo's career & how
- Debate whether it was fair for RCA to disregard Philo's patent
- Debate whether Philo's vision of the impact of TV came true
- Use as mentor text- note how included details keep reader engaged




Life in the Boreal Forest
by Brenda Z. Guiberson

- Note the cause and effect relationships between the plants and animals of this ecosystem
- Skill - use of onomatopoeia in writing
- Use of websites for further research of this ecosystem
- Model extracting facts from story-like text structure & organizing on web



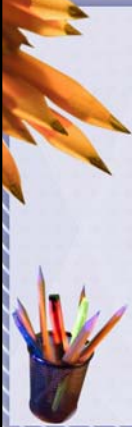
Truce
by Jim Murphy

- Synthesize the info from the book and draw own conclusions: Could war have been avoided? If the soldiers could've decided, would the truce have continued?
- Note contributions of the photos to the overall work



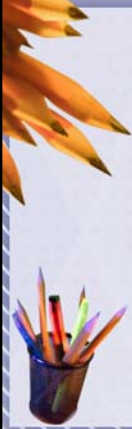
Claudette Colvin: Twice Towards Justice
by Phillip Hoose

- Compare and contrast Claudette with Rosa Parks
- Evaluate the author's choice to include Claudette's interviews
- Use for literature circle or writing circle to discuss many themes of book




One Giant Leap
by Robert Burleigh

- Note style - rich descriptions of sights and actions to tell play by play of the journey
- Use as mentor text for writing to teach: effect of varied sentence lengths and use of fragments, impact of questions posed, purpose of different fonts, discover use of punctuation to create voice



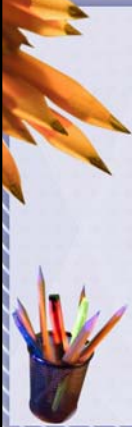
Written in Bone
by Sally M. Walker

- Discuss how the colorful photos and captions of archaeologists at work contribute to the text & reader's understanding
- Identify importance of inclusion of "A Note to the Reader" section in text
- Use single chapter and identify clues discovered and conclusions drawn about past



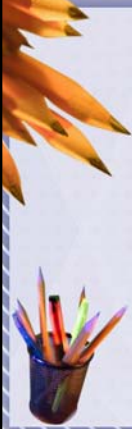
Never Smile At A Monkey
by Steve Jenkins

- Predict contents based on title and cover illustration
- Note how purpose of book revealed in intro
- Promotes strategy of asking questions and reading for answers
- Identify interesting vocabulary used




Alfred Nobel
by Kathy-Jo Wargin

- Use as mentor text for writing -use of action in first line to engage reader
- Identify the major themes of the text
- Rewrite obituary for Nobel that reflects his creation of the Peace Prize



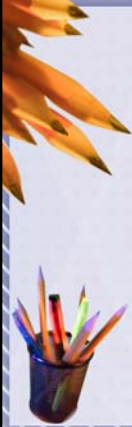
Plant Secrets
by Emily Goodman

- Use as mentor text for writing to discuss writer's craft of use of a repeating line, impact of questions posed, purposes and uses of different sizes & colors of font
- Discuss organization of text
- Note additional info at book end & identify the purpose it serves



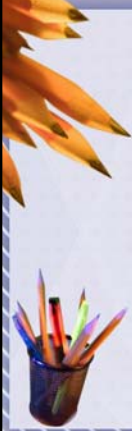
The Story of Snow
by Mark Cassino with Jon Nelson

- Identify the layers of text and their purpose
- Discuss how the diagram and the size comparisons used help the reader understand text
- Note how the photos and end pages complement the text



What Bluebirds Do
by Pamela F. Kirby

- Text inspires readers to identify stories right in own backyard!
- Note contribution of photos to help tell the story
- Discuss purpose of extra info at end of book
- Use of blue end pages & blue frames to match theme of book



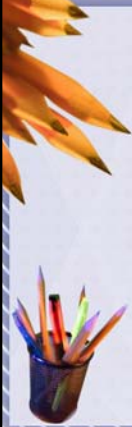
Pele, King of Soccer
by Monica Brown

- Use as mentor text for writing- craft of starting intro sentence with action
- Discuss effective use of flashback to present info in biography
- Note impact use of questions and ellipsis have upon reader
- Contribution of artwork to overall book



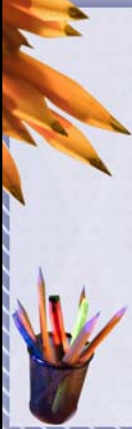
Tiger Pups
by Tom and Allie Harvey

- Identify theme of book
- Study how series of photos are used in combination with text to tell the story
- Choice of placing text upon patterned pages
- Importance of including additional info at bookend




Listen To The Wind
by Greg Mortenson & Susan L. Roth

- Discuss the authors' purpose for writing this book
- Identify point of view of text
- Compare/contrast life and school in Korphe to own lives schools
- Learn about the style of the artwork
- Note the importance of the "Korphe Scrapbook" at book end



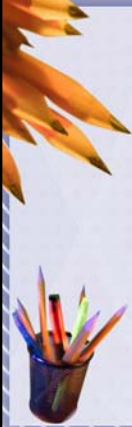
Building On Nature
by Rachel Rodriguez

- Highlight childhood experiences that impact Goudi's art
- Use included websites to study photos of his actual works
- Integrate art and writing - How can you describe Goudi's artwork?
- Use as mentor text for biography writing unit



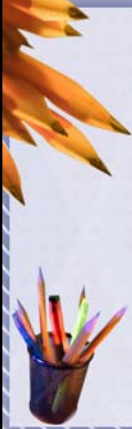
14 Cows For America
by Carmen Agra Deedy

- Identify the main idea of the book
- Discuss the importance of the note included by Kimeli Naiyomah to overall book
- Contribution of pictures to story




Cycle of Rice, Cycle of Life
by Jan Reynolds

- Create graphic organizer to show cause & effect
- Identify and discuss major themes in book: interaction between people & environment, water cycle, working together, impact of new technology on culture



Yellowstone Moran
by Lita Judge

- Use author's note to understand decisions made to write and illustrate the text
- Use text to identify the relevance of Moran's work



Bloody Horned Lizards
by Lisa Haskins Hourin

- Use to teach children about the features of nonfiction - subtitles, labels, fun fact boxes, table of contents, glossary, index
- Use to teach gathering of research facts
