



Literacy Adventures

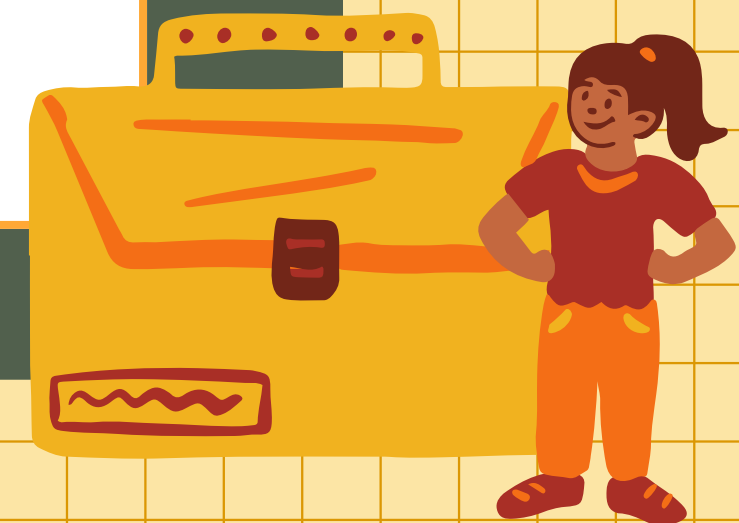
with Books about Gardening,
Nature, and Agriculture



Chris Wyant



As you come in, introduce yourself to the person next to you and *tell them a story about a memorable favorite food from your childhood.*





Illinois AITC

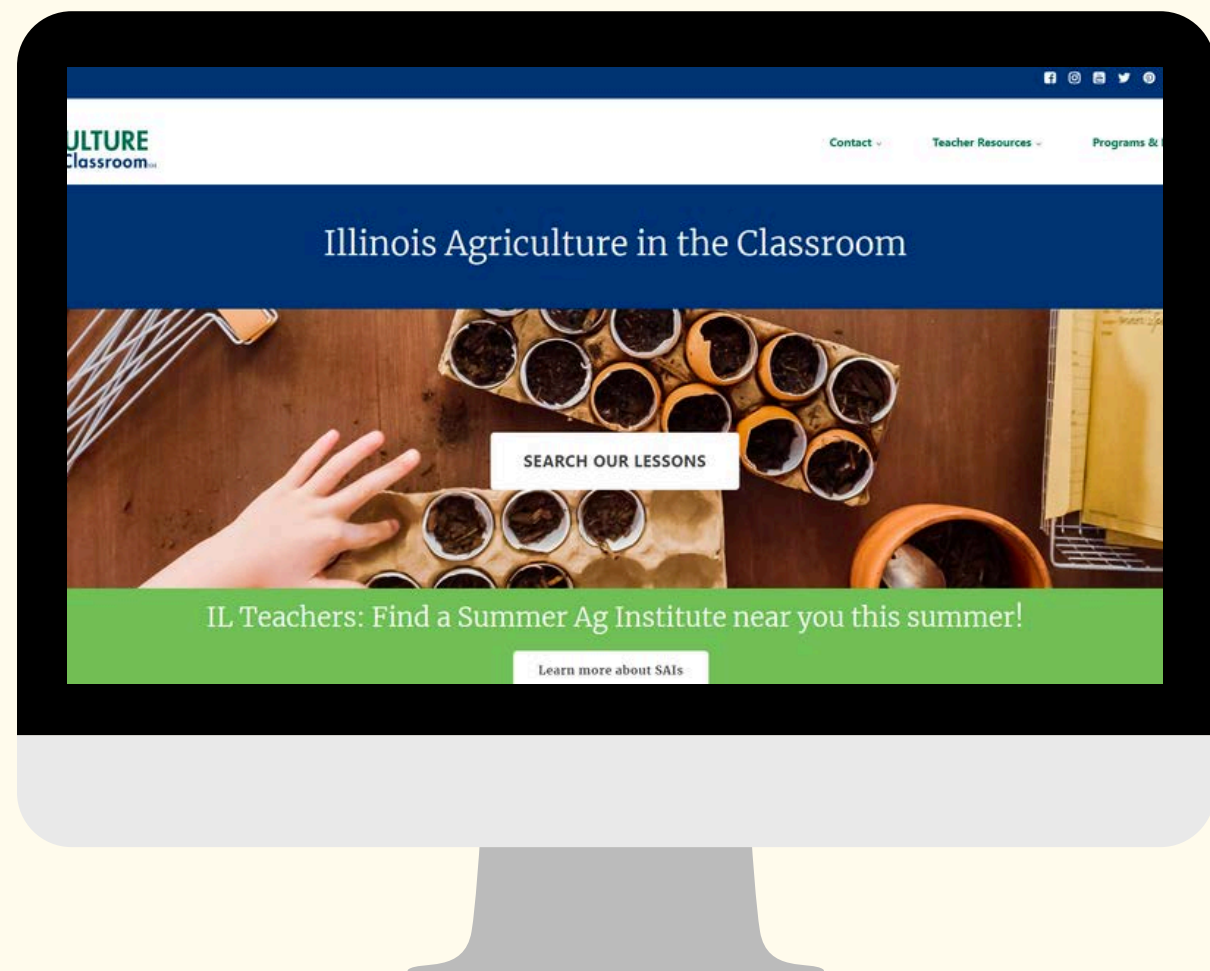
Lessons + Ag Mags +
Presentations + Resources



90 County-Level Coordinators

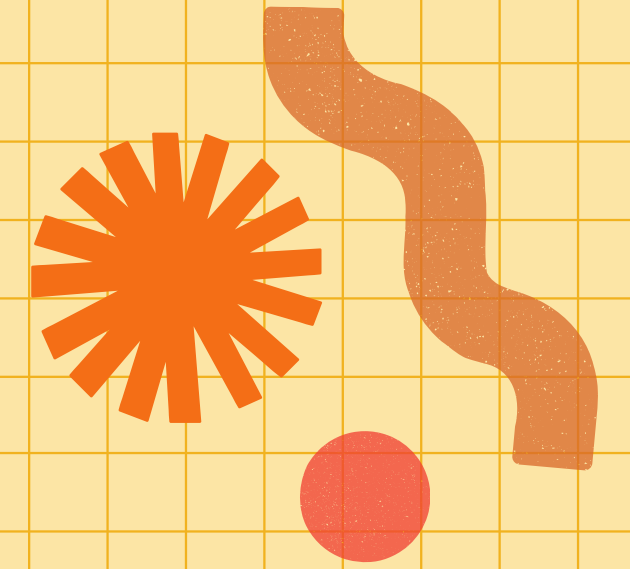


600,000+ Illinois Students





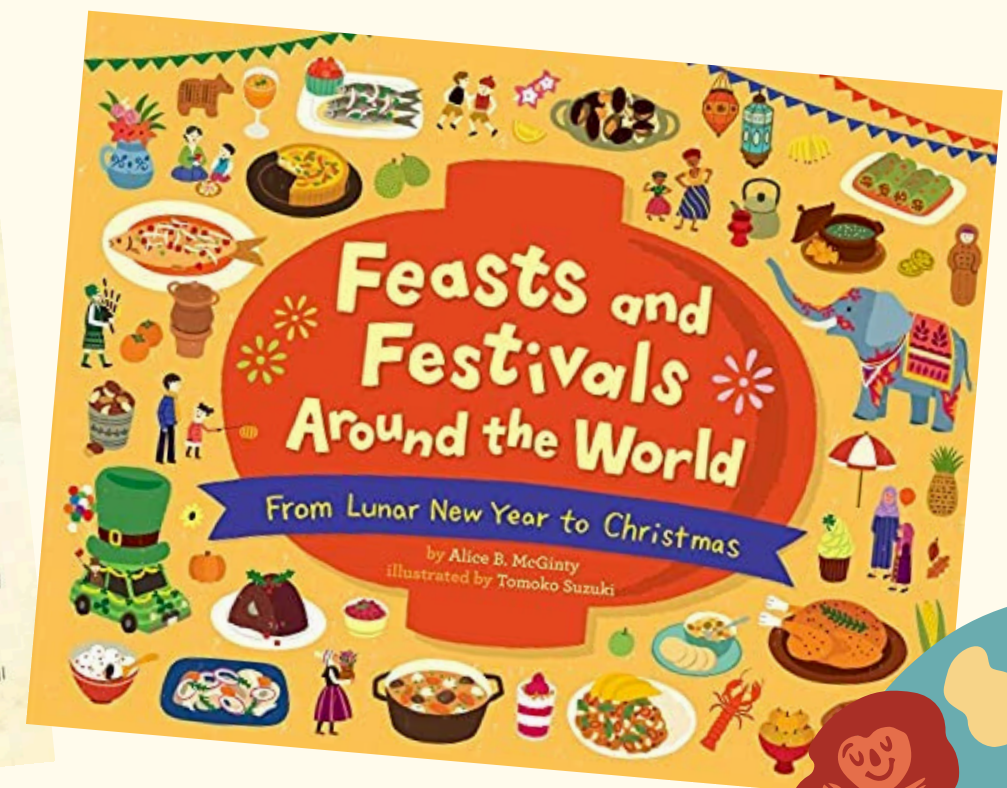
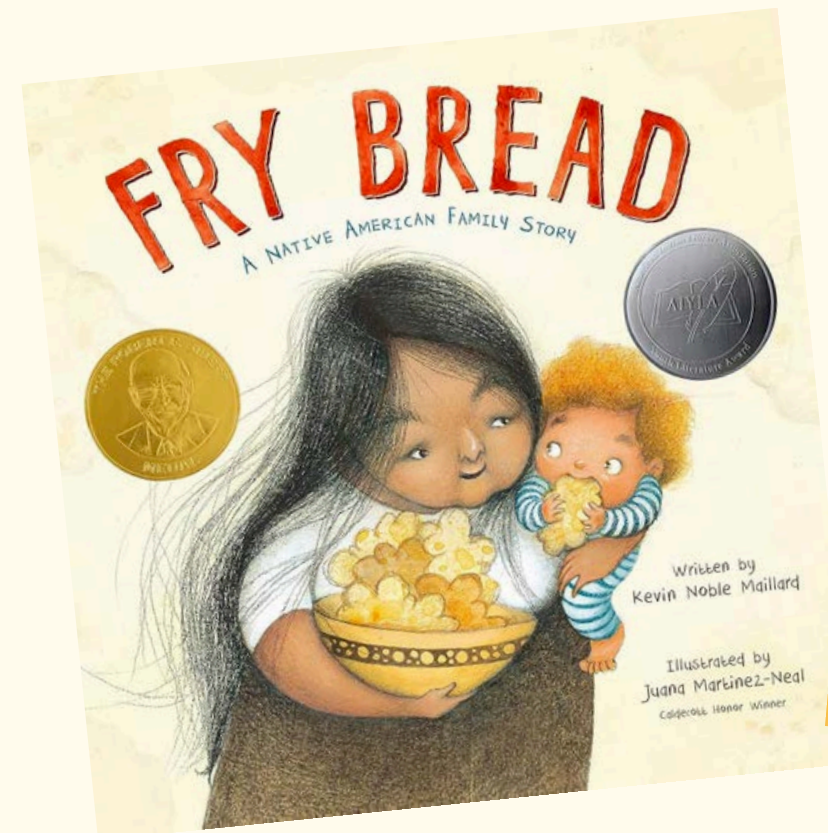
My Childhood Tasted Like...



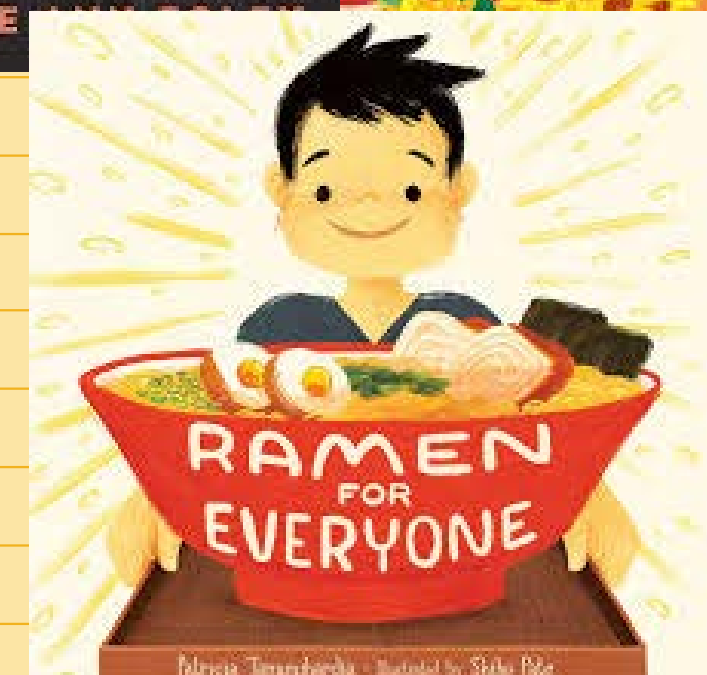
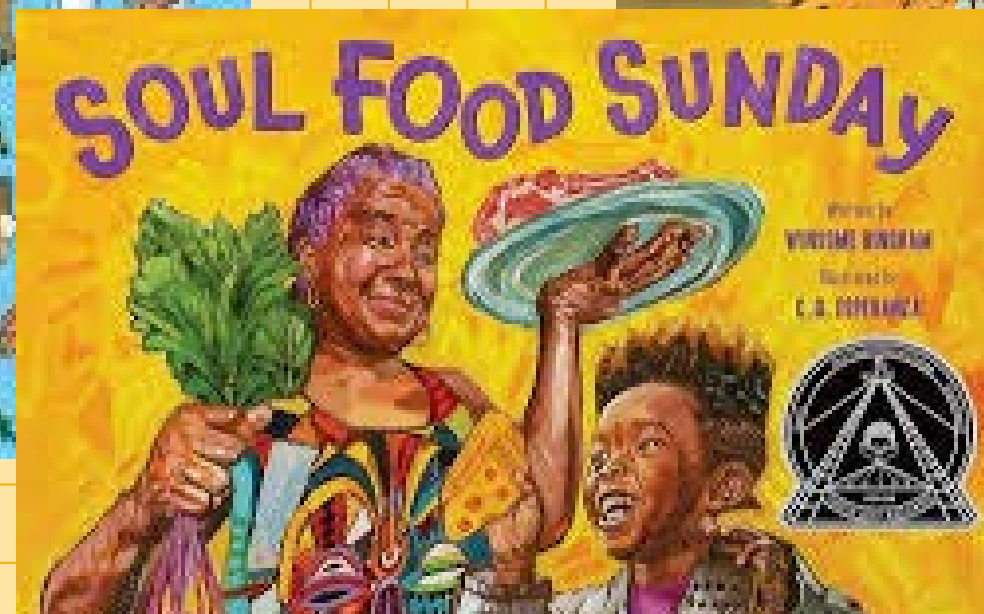
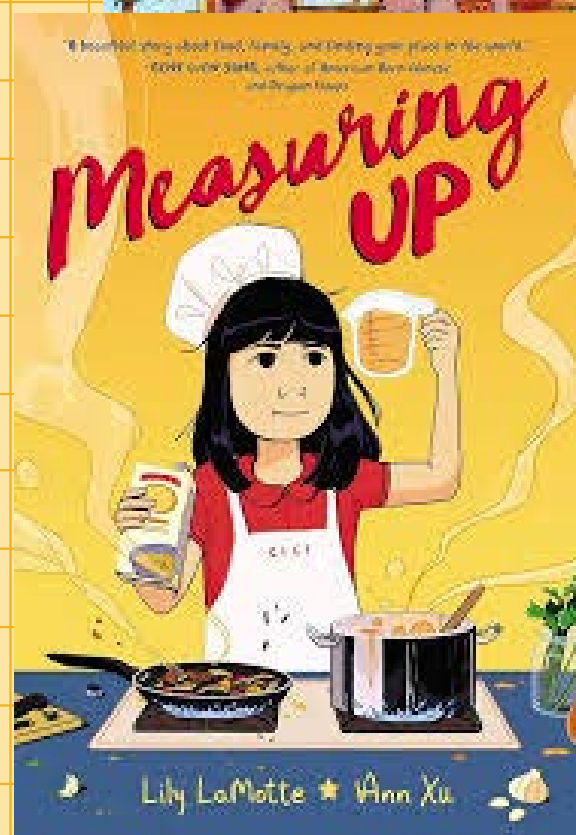
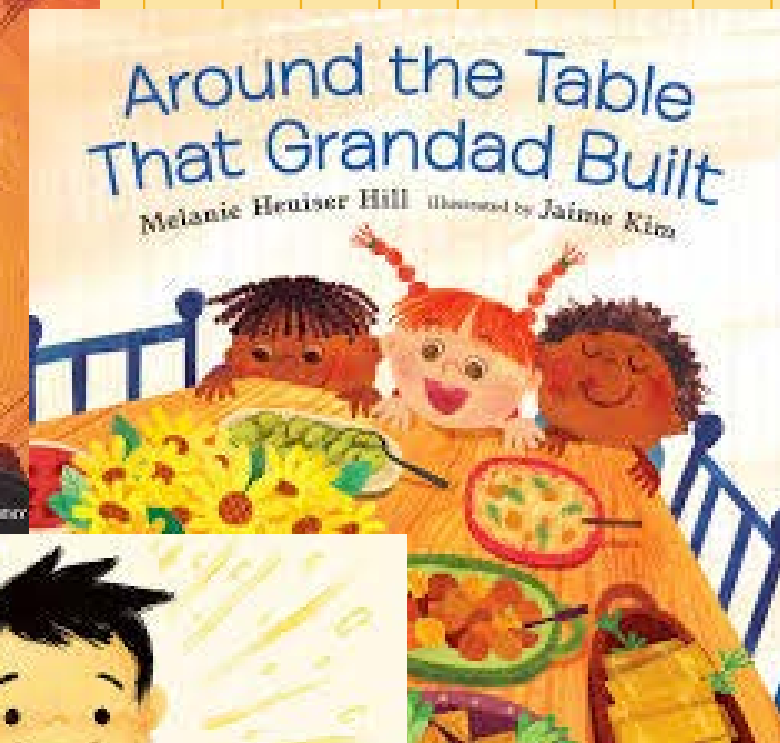
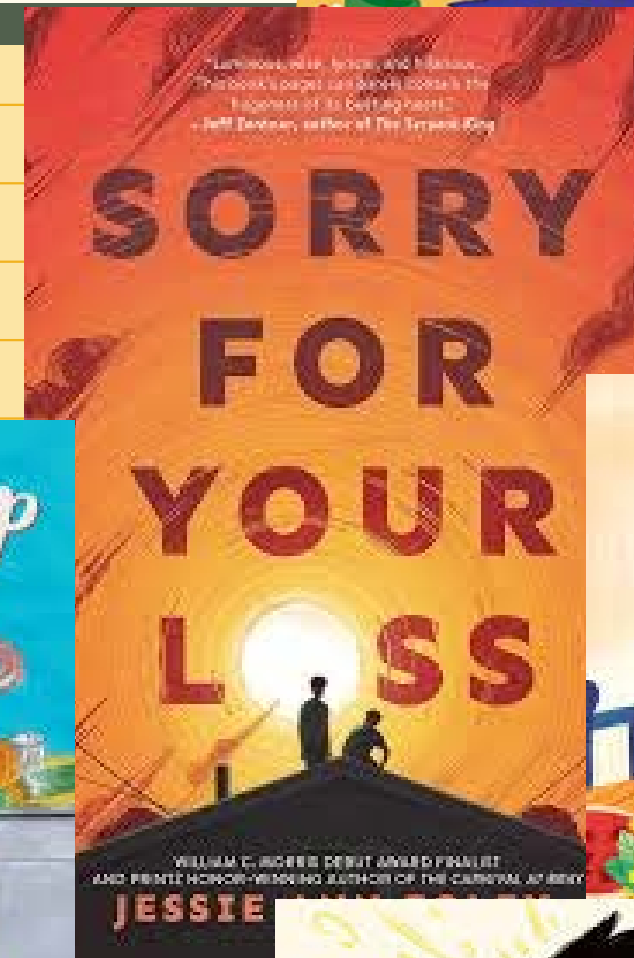
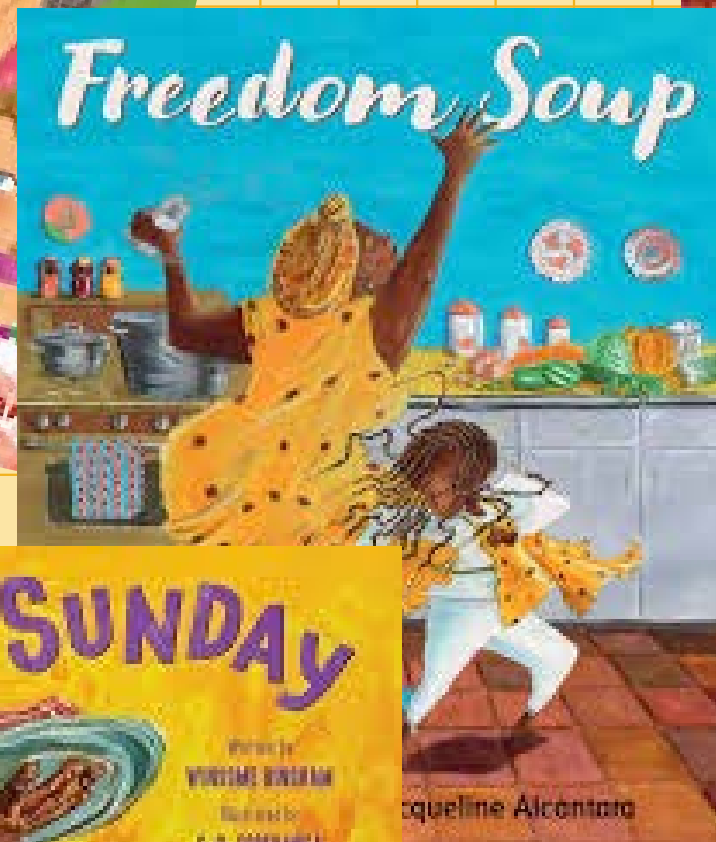
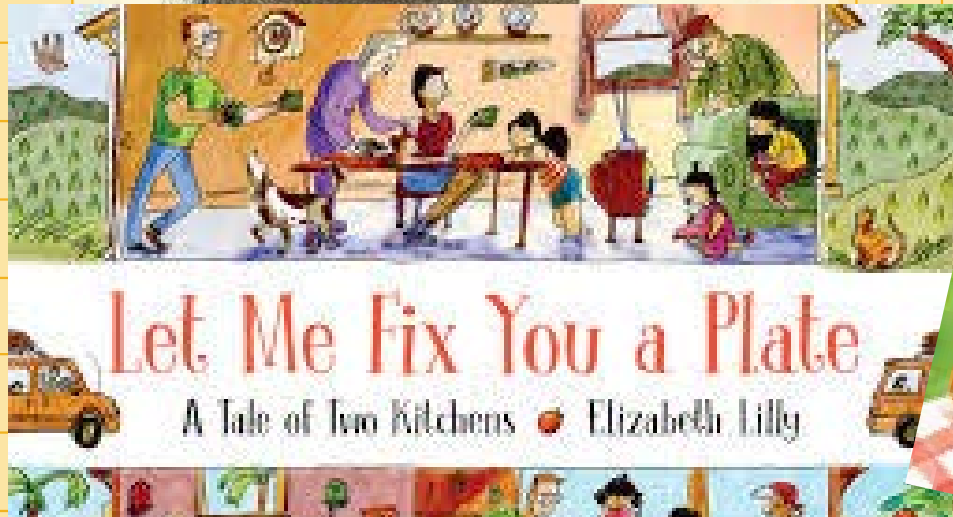
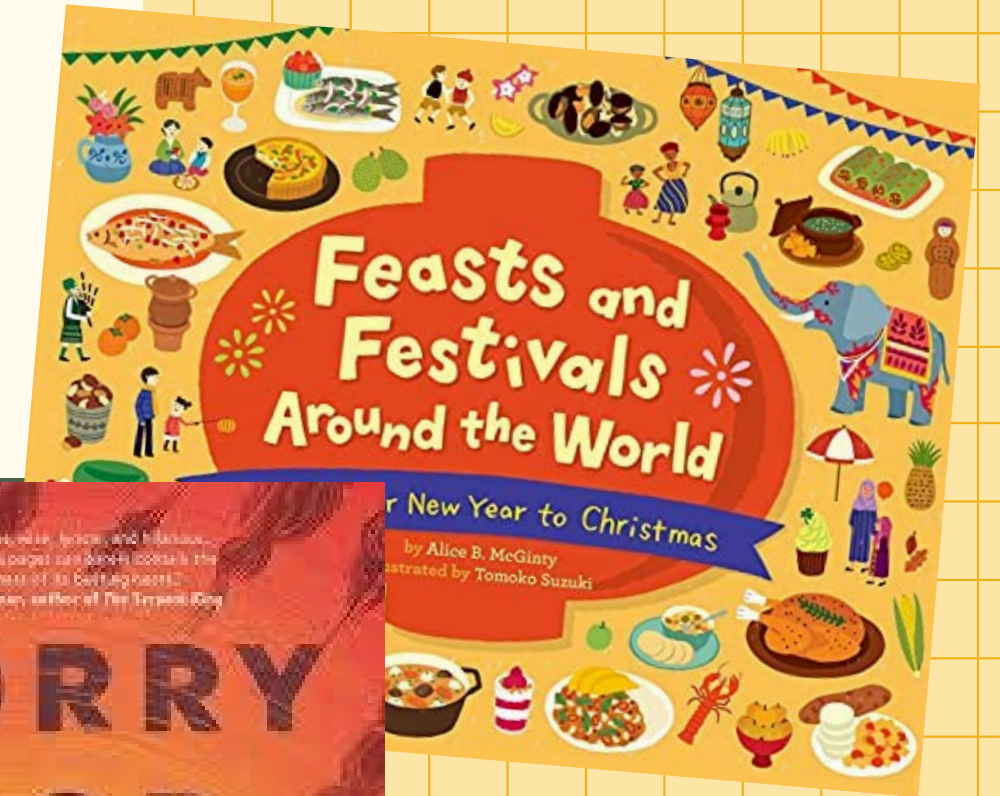
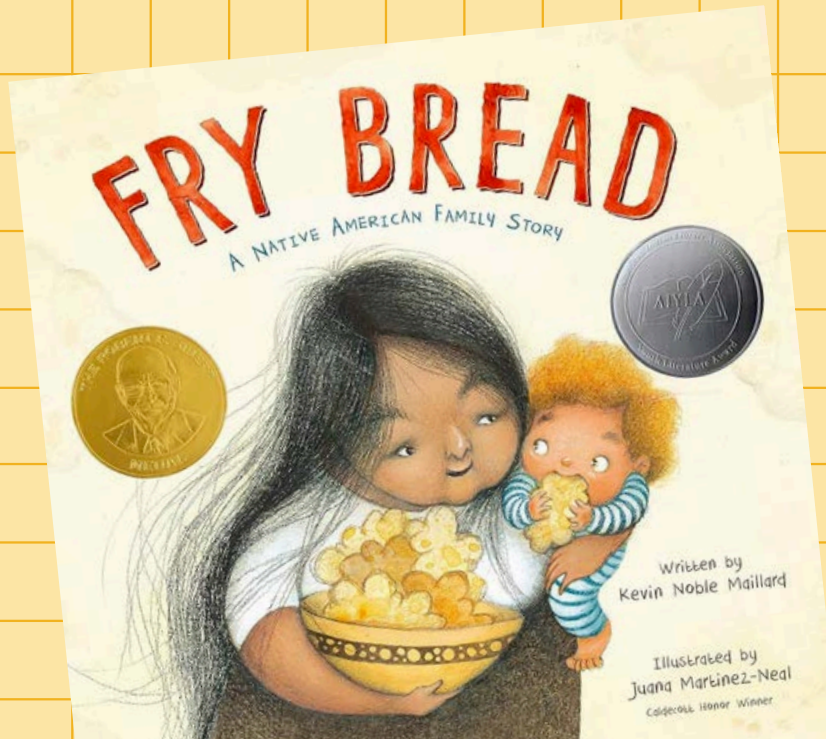
Children's Books: Fiction

Students brainstorm a list of foods from their childhood, choose one and write about the memories surrounding it before sharing with the class.

Try it with:

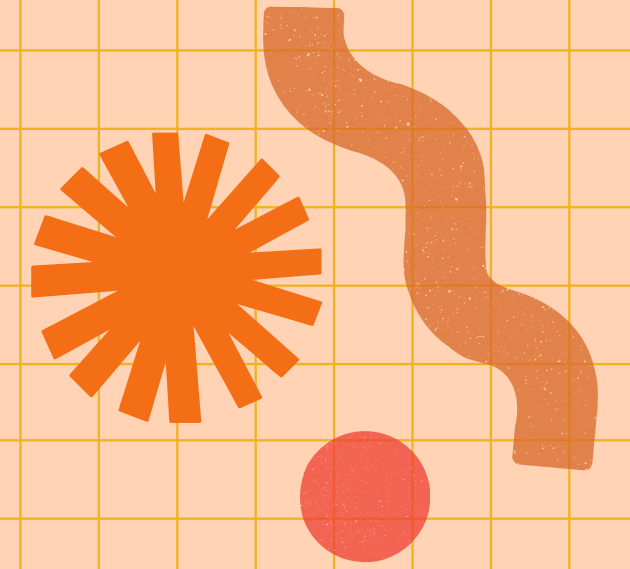


Food & Ag Book Recommendations





Ode to a Vegetable

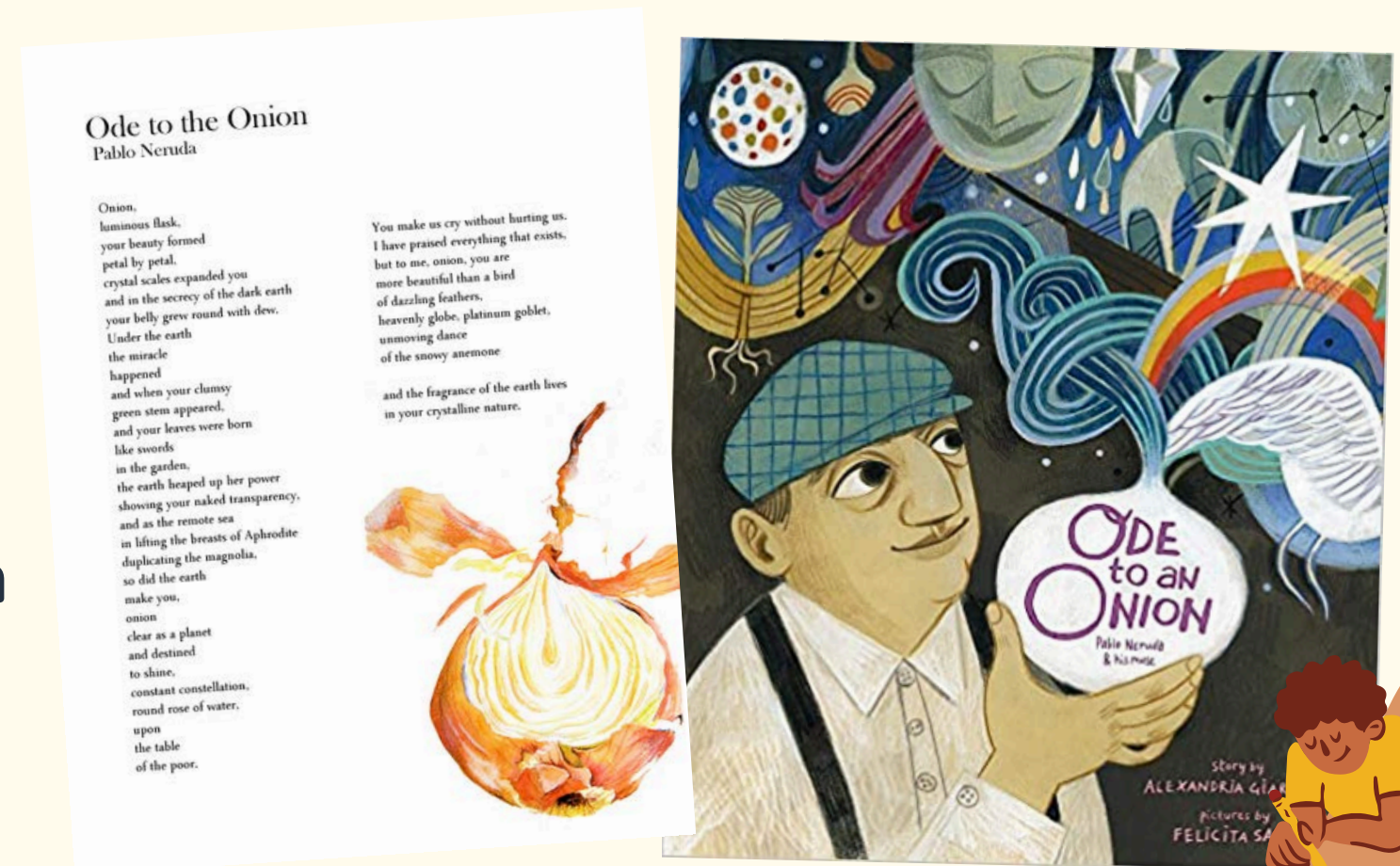


Children's Books:
Fiction

Children's Books:
Creative Nonfiction

Students learn about Chilean poet Pablo Neruda and his "odes" to various foods, then write poetry about their favorite vegetables.

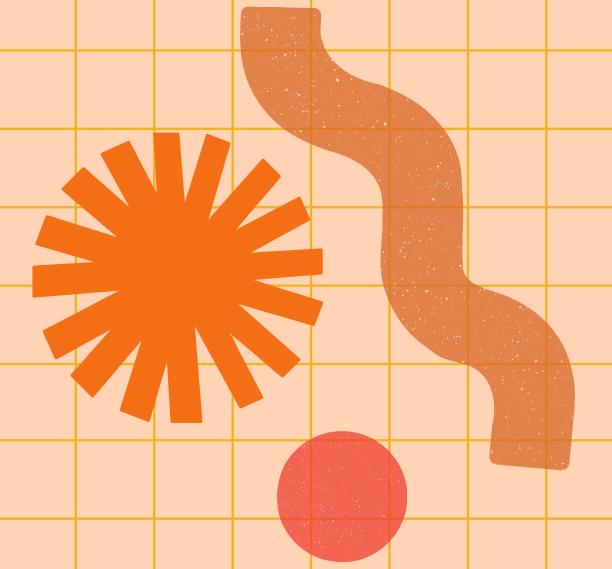
Try it with:





Ode to a Vegetable

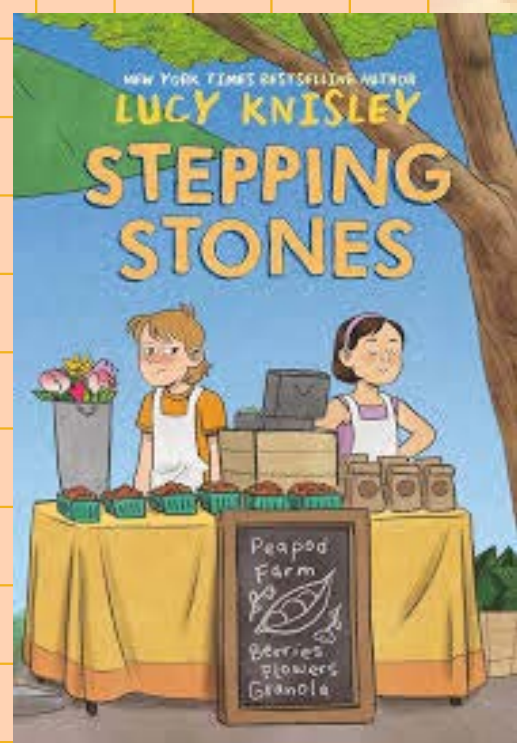
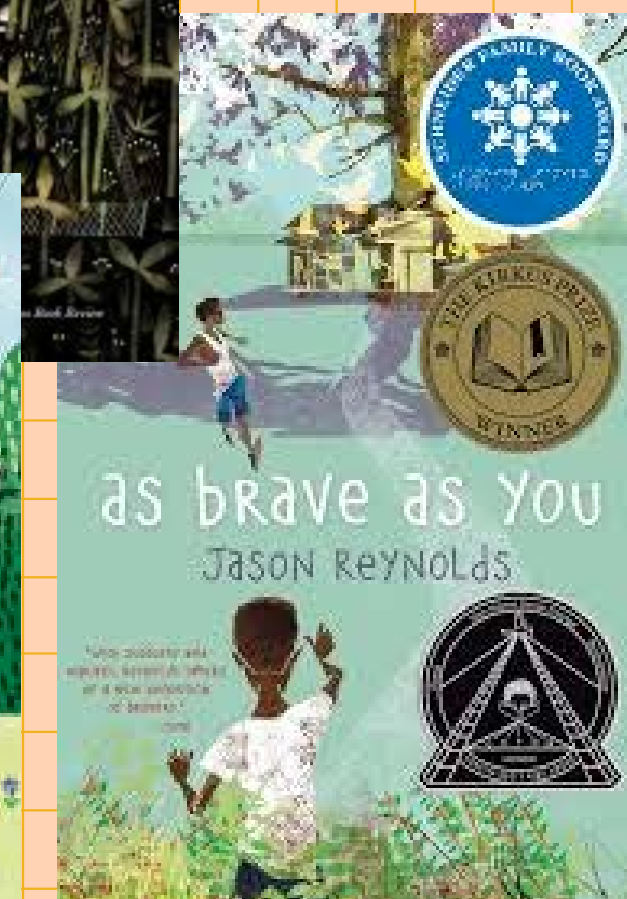
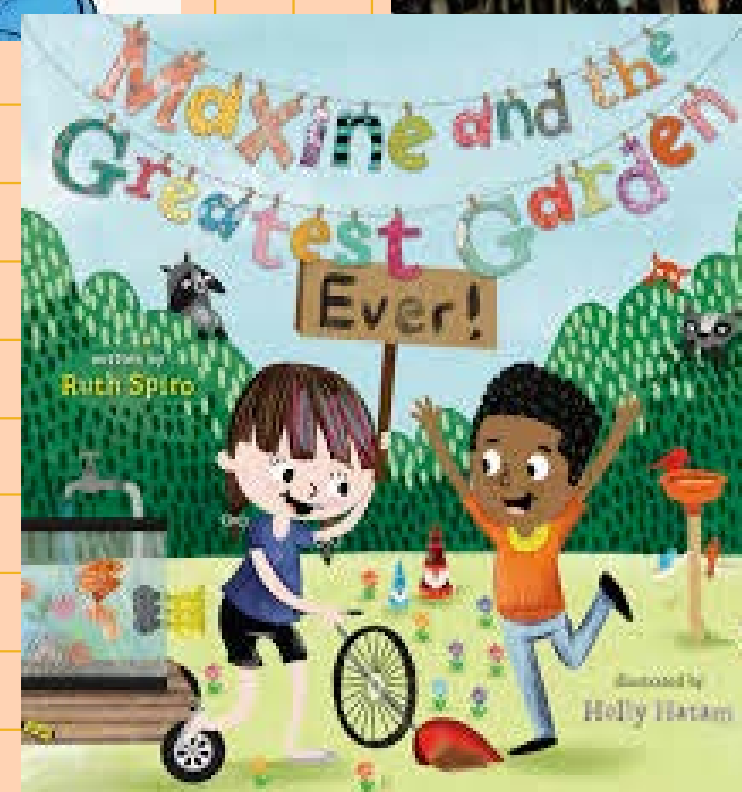
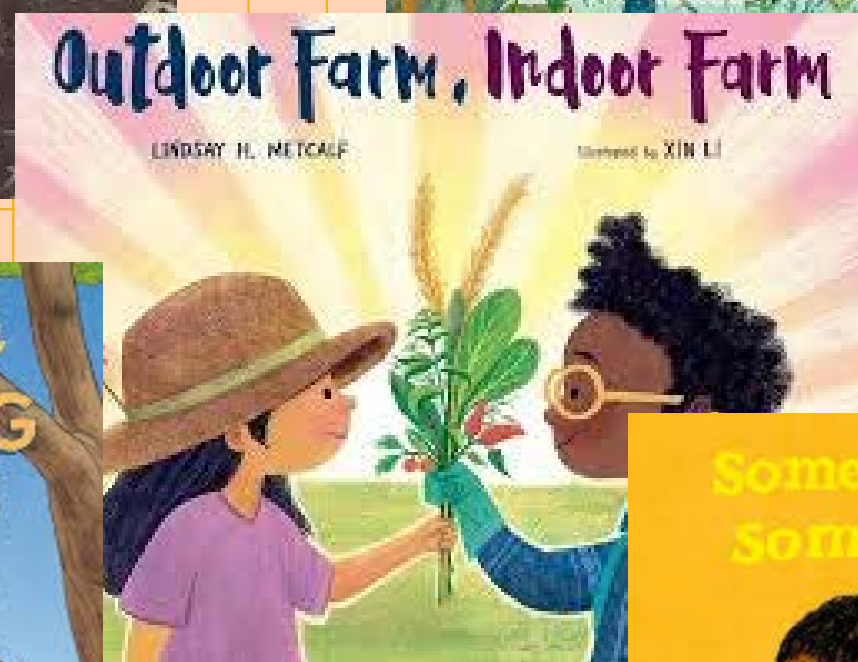
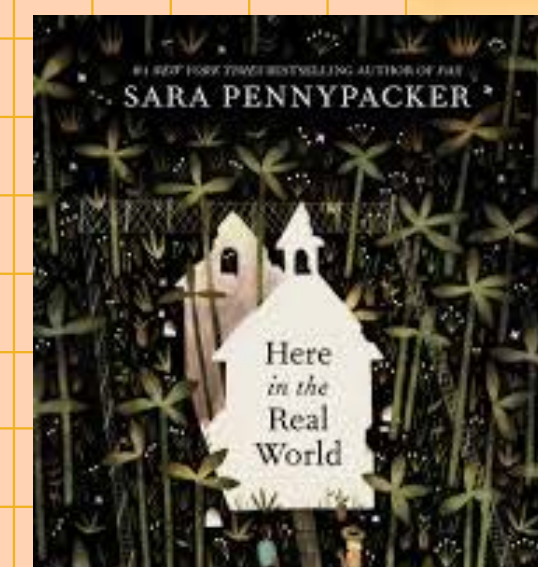
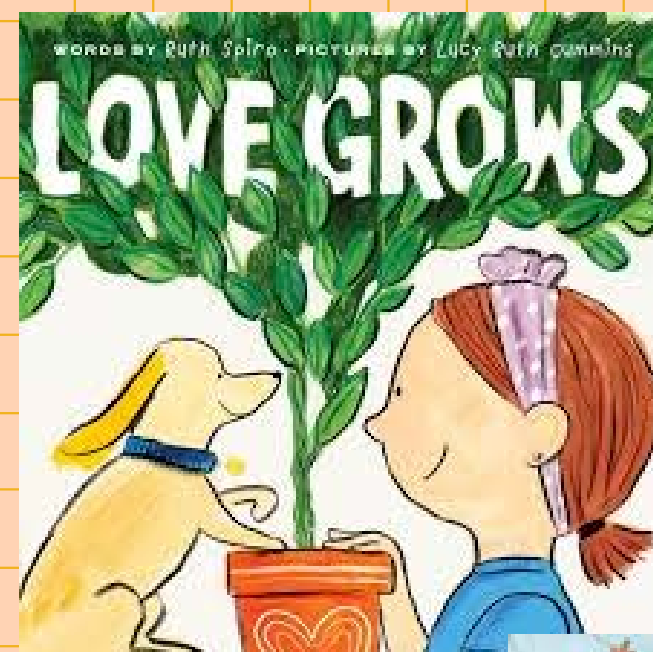
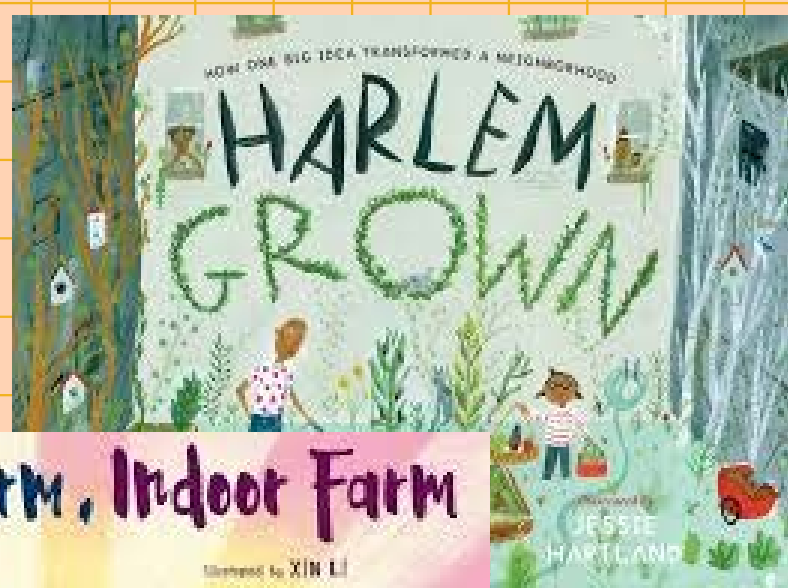
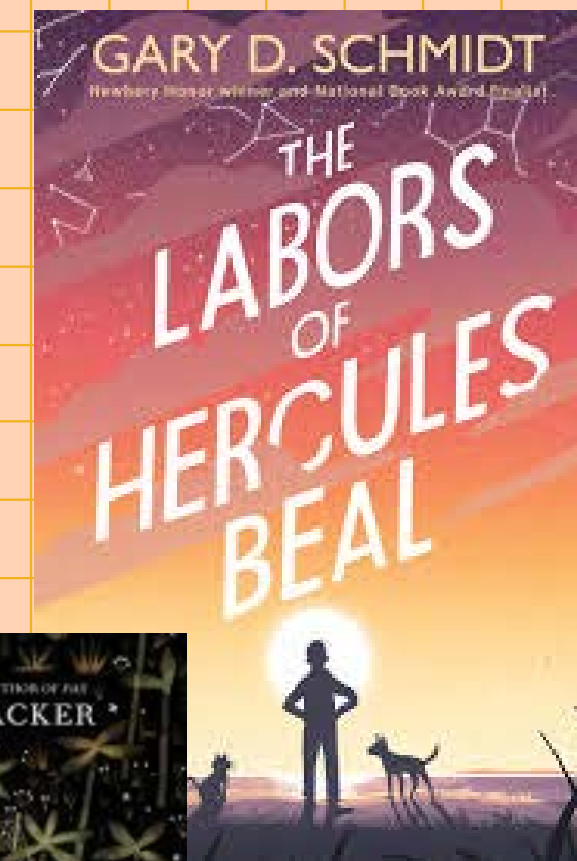
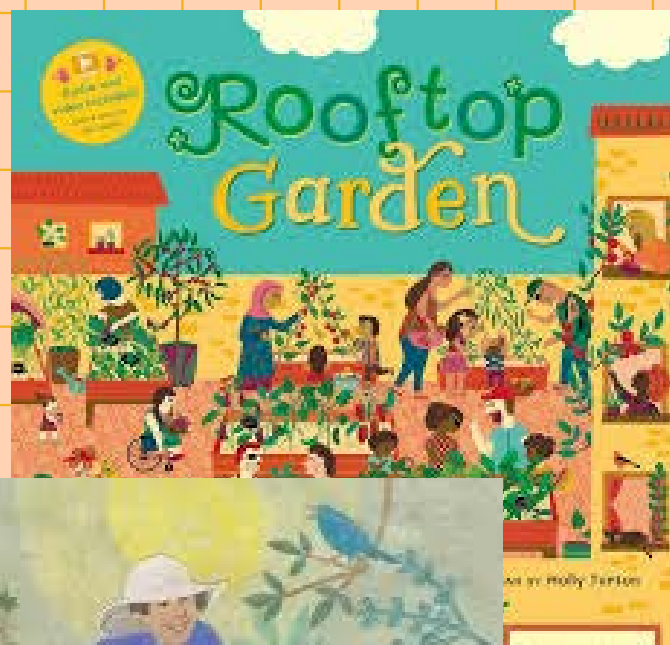
Example: Haiku



First fruit of the year
Laying on a bed of straw
Seeds on the outside

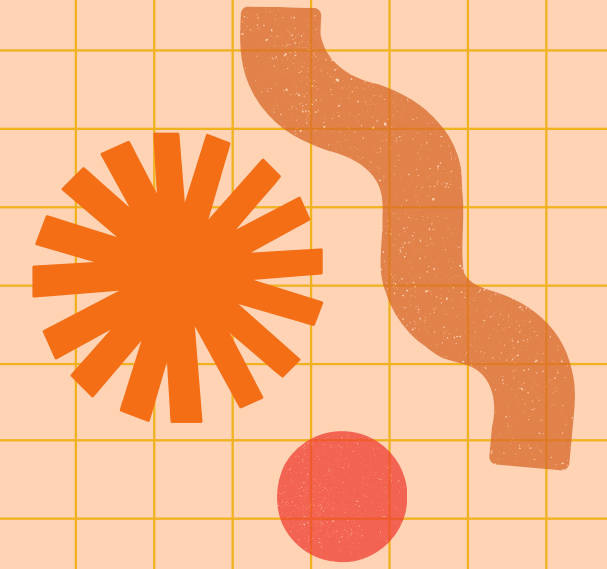


Gardening Book Recommendations





Gardening Lessons

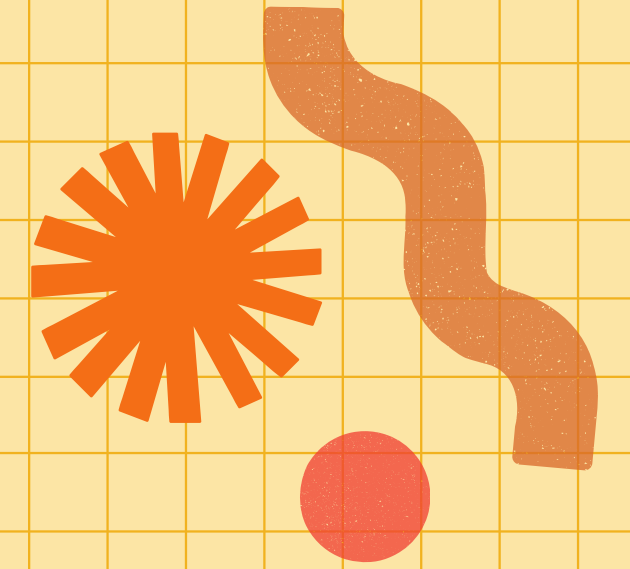


- DIY Farmers Market Booth
- Desktop Vermicomposting
- Houseplant Homes
- Ins and outs
- Plant Parts Logic Puzzle
- Beanie Baby





Collaborative Annotation



Children's Books:
Fiction

Children's Books:
Creative Nonfiction

Traditional
Nonfiction Texts

Try it with:

Students gather around one large-print copy of an engaging text and use different colored markers to annotate the text and comment on each others' written thoughts in a "silent discussion."

New facility in Decatur makes animal feed ingredients from insects

By Jim Meadows · Apr 22, 2024



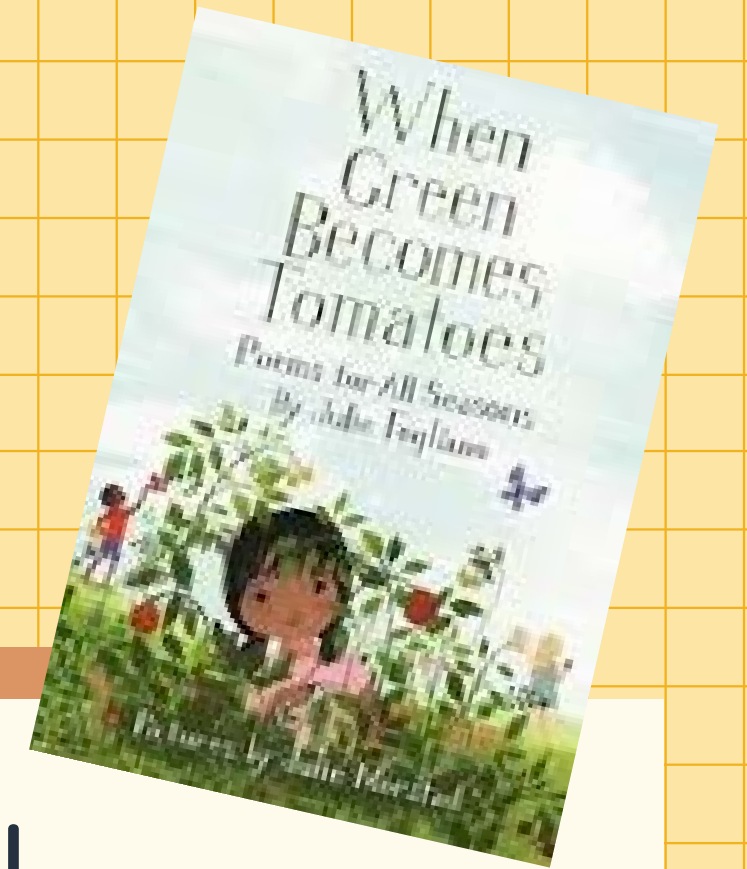
Black soldier fly larvae wriggle in a tray, where they are being raised to make meal and oil for animal feed, at InnovaFeed's new North American Insect

NOTHING GOLD CAN STAY
BY ROBERT FROST

Nature's first green is gold,
Her hardest hue to hold.
Her early leaf's a flower;
But only so an hour.
Then leaf subsides to leaf.
So Eden sank to grief,
So dawn goes down to day.
Nothing gold can stay.



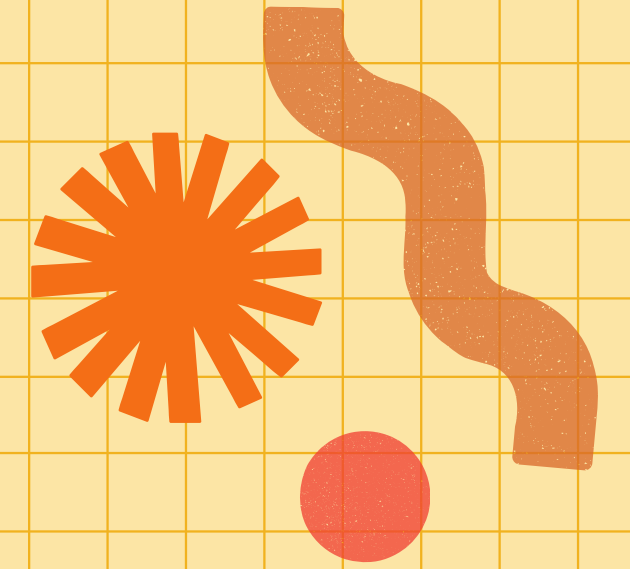
Collaborative Annotation



1. In small groups, gather around one large sticky note on the wall.
2. *Silently*, read through the passage on the note.
3. Using your marker, write down your thoughts in the empty space.
 - a. Responses might include: questions, connections, reactions, realizations, etc.
4. As your groupmates add their thoughts, respond to them on the paper.
5. Continue to engage in this *silent*, written “discussion” until time is called.



6-Word Memoir



Children's Books:
Creative Nonfiction

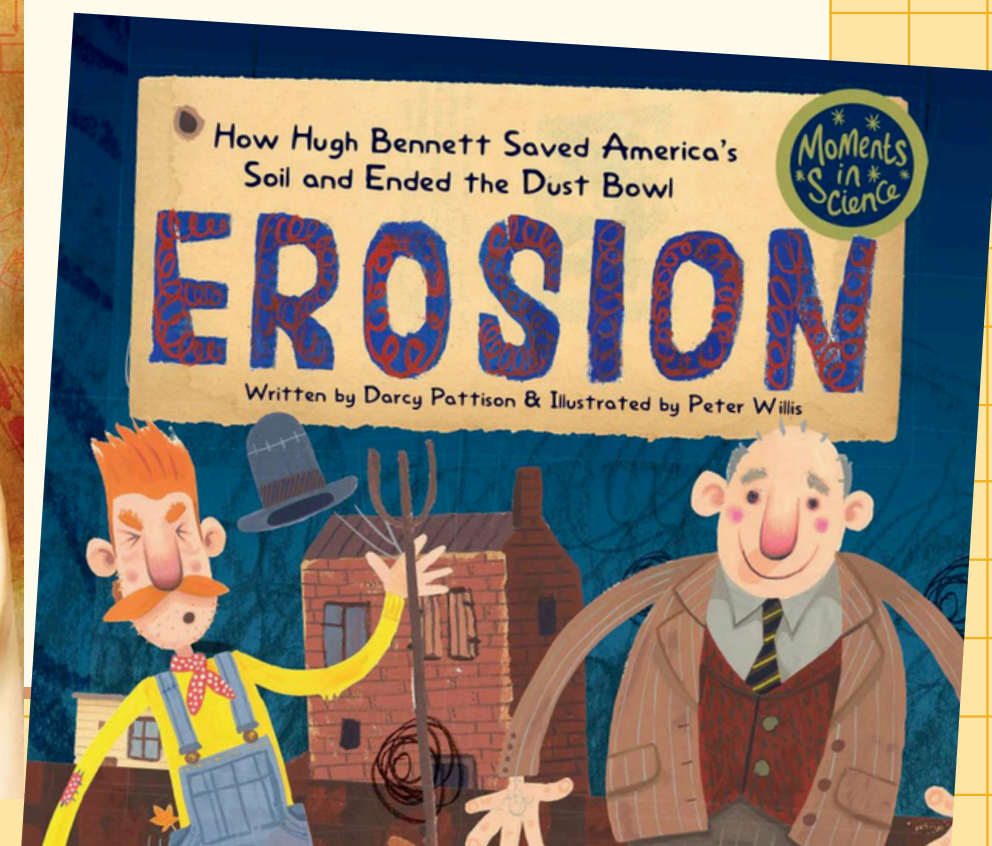
Children's Books:
Fiction

Traditional
Nonfiction Texts

Images & Videos

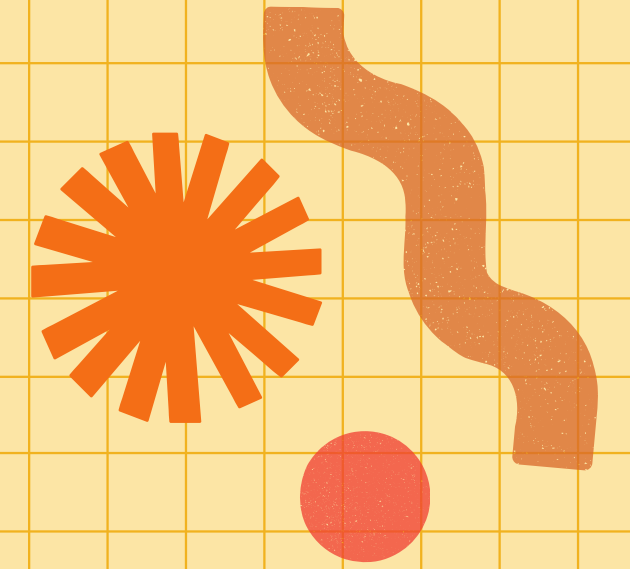
Students summarize the life of a person or character (real or fictional) in just six words.

Try it with:



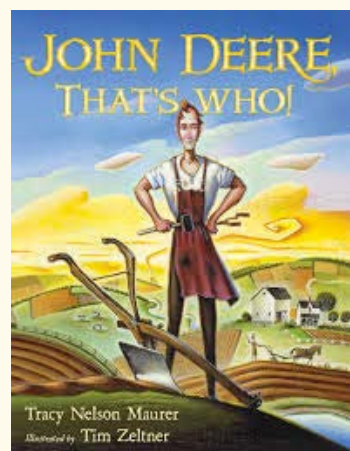


6-Word Memoir Examples



**Perfect world?
Everyone has a garden.**

John Deere:
**Bent some metal.
Changed the world.**



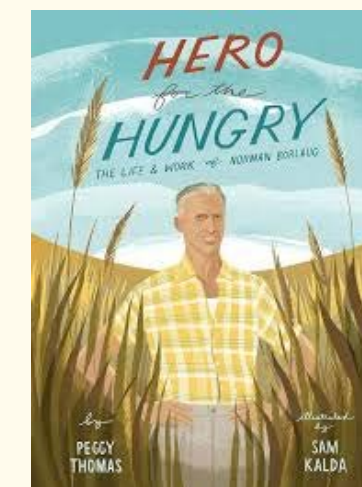
**Vegetables are great;
bacon is too.**

Frida Caplan:
**Bought weird fruit.
People ate it.**

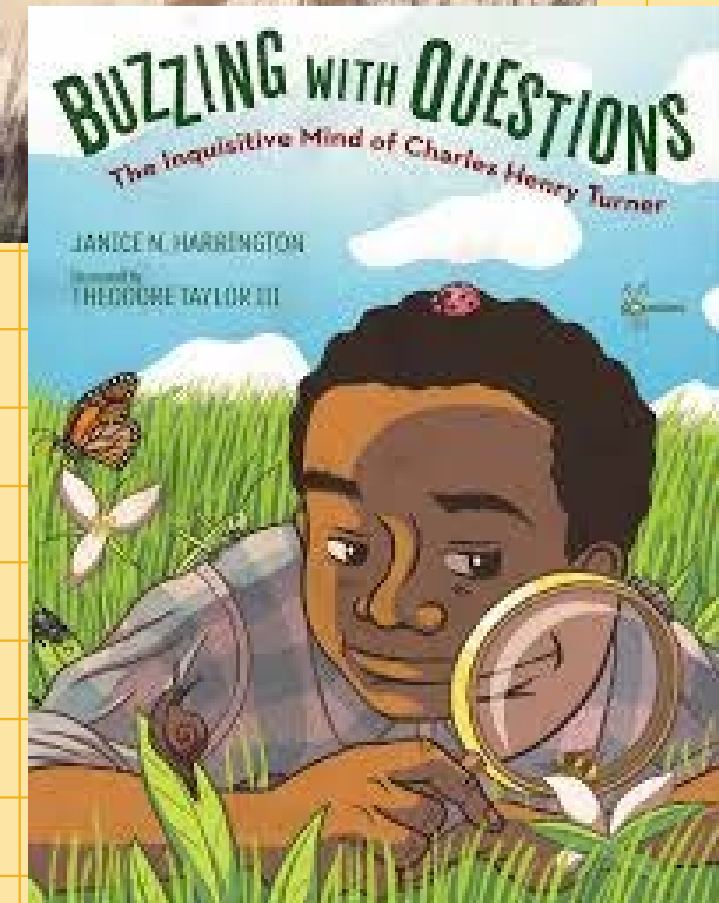
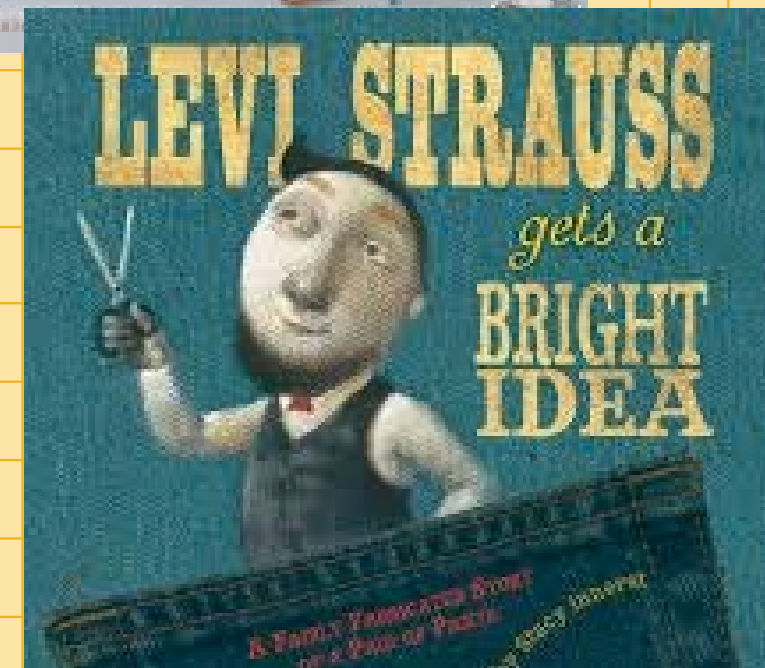
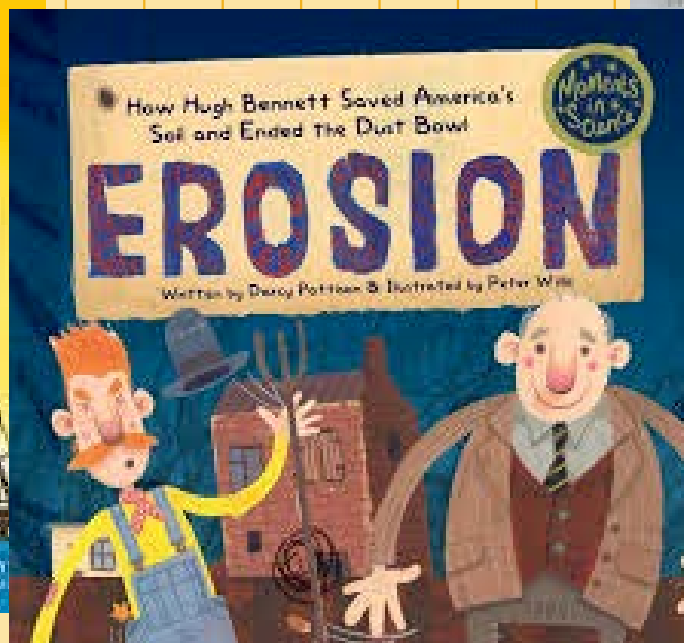
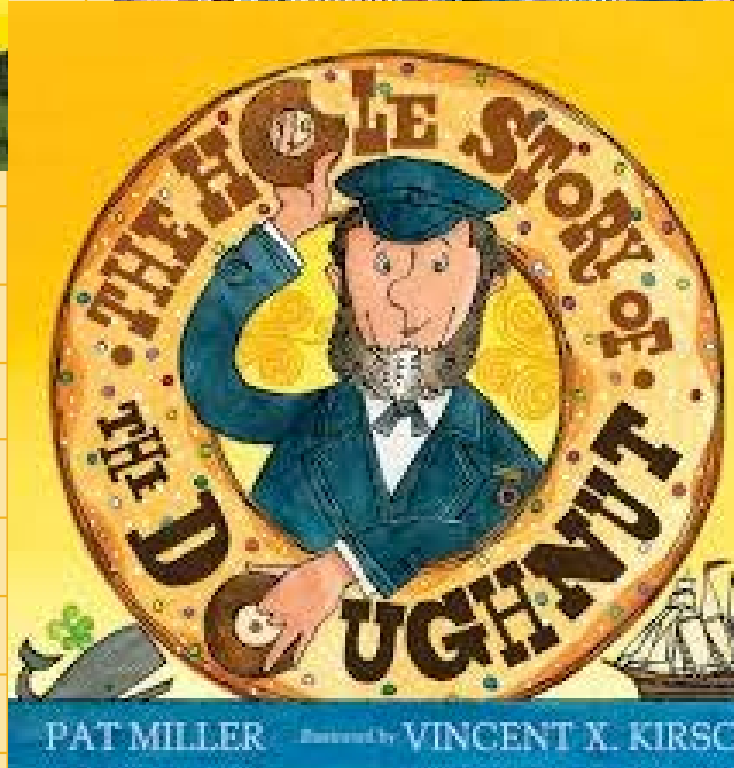
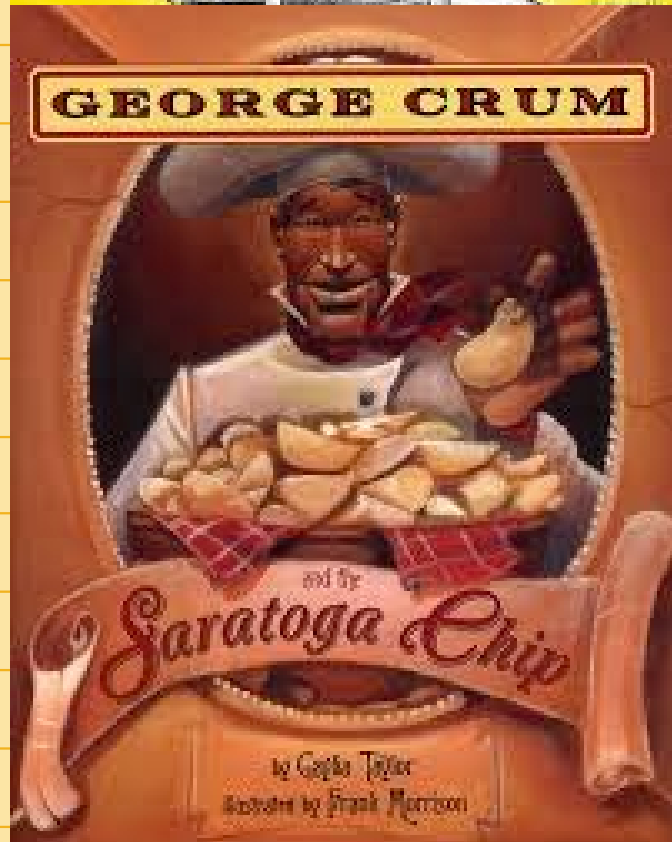
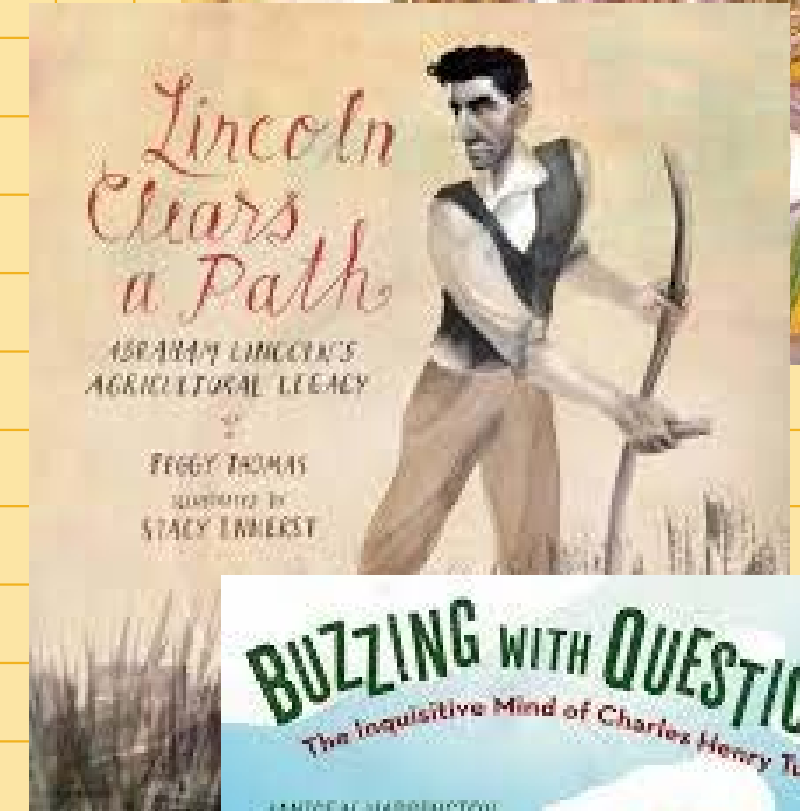
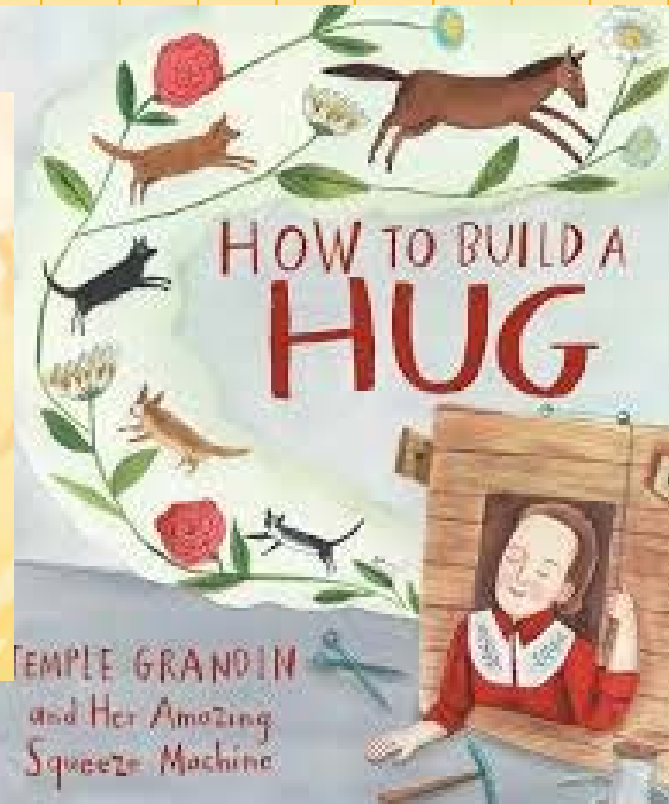
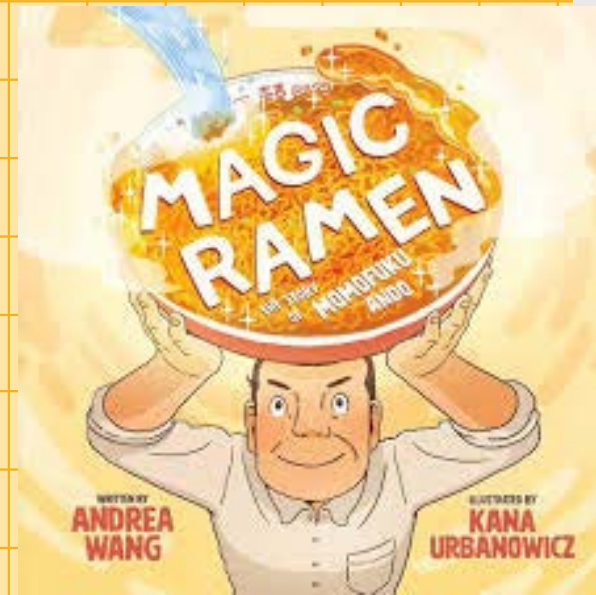
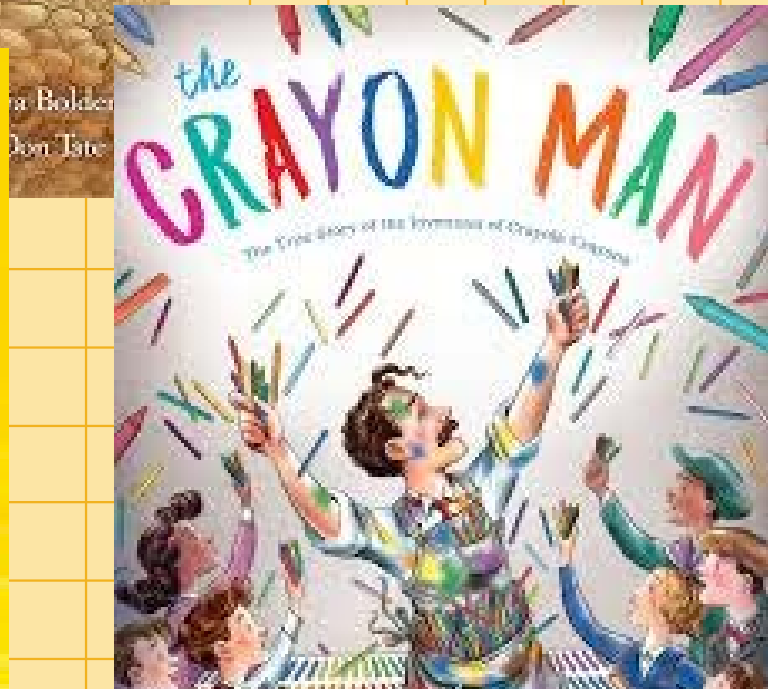
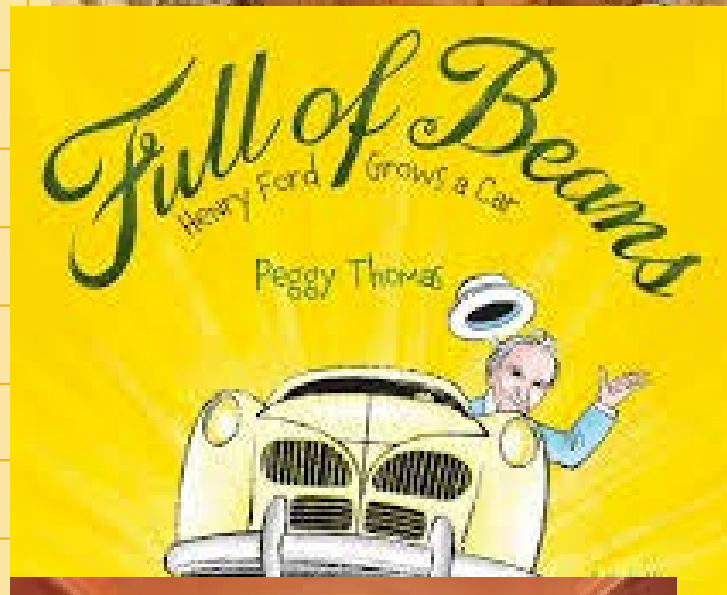
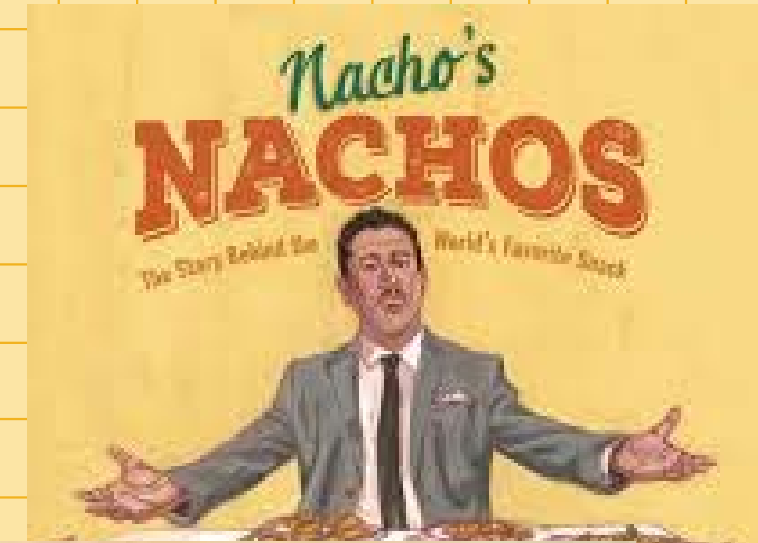
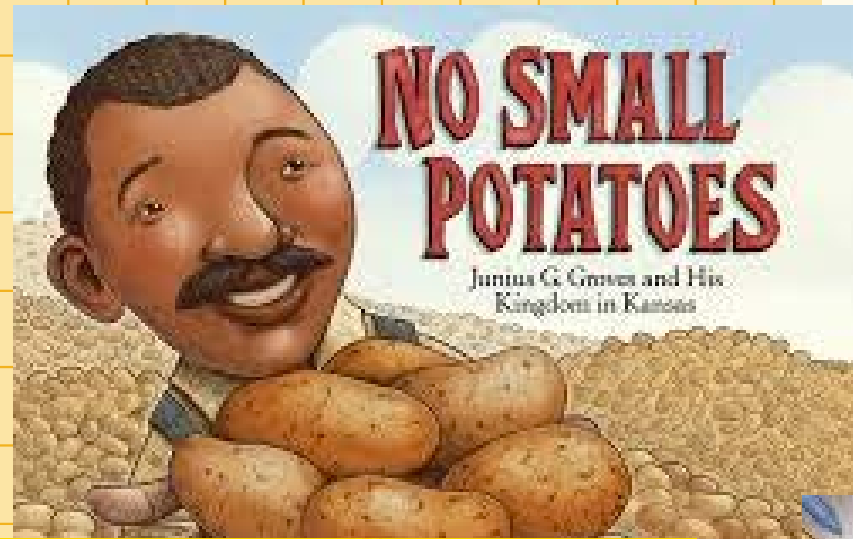


**Happier with dirt
under my fingernails.**

Norman Borlaug:
**My greatest friends
are wheat heads.**

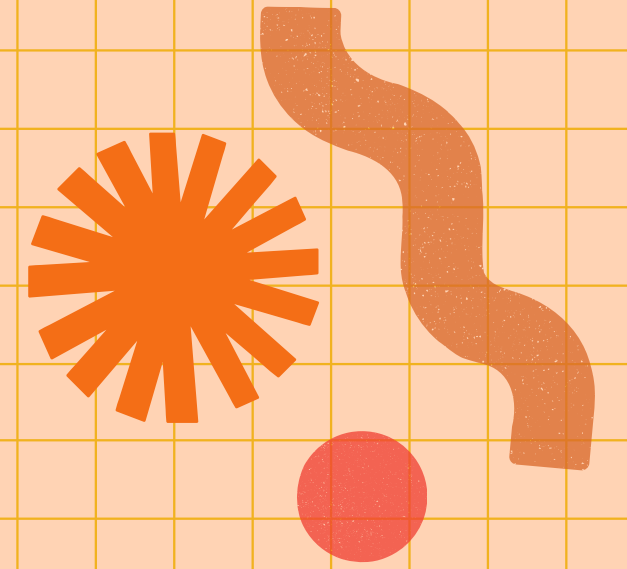


Bio & Ag/Food Book Recommendations





Blackout Poetry



Traditional
Nonfiction Texts

Children's Books:
Creative Nonfiction

Children's Books:
Fiction

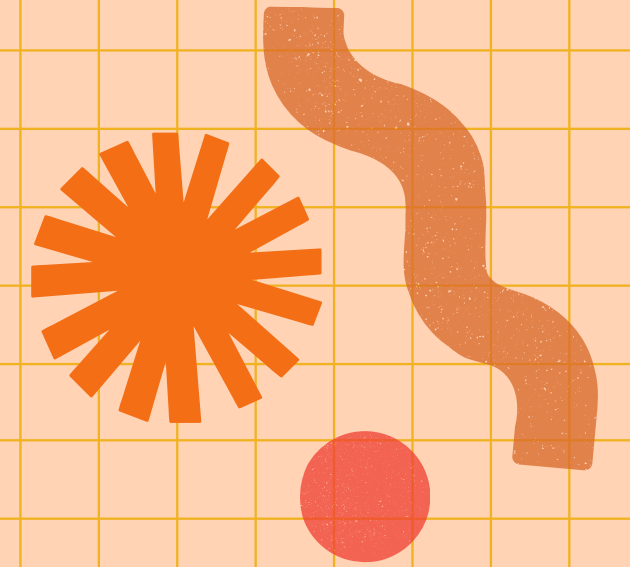
Students create poetry from a short nonfiction text by using a permanent marker to "blackout" all the words they don't want to use. Then they create a poem using the words that remain.

Try it with:





Blackout Poetry Example



HONEY BEES & AGRICULTURE

Honey bees live in large colonies made up of one queen bee, a small number of male drone bees, and thousands of female honey bees. The female honey bee, also called a worker bee, performs all the important duties to keep hives healthy. These tasks include taking care of the young, protecting the hive, and bringing back nectar and pollen and turning them into honey for the hive to eat. Many honey bees in the U.S. are managed in hives by over 200,000 beekeepers. In Illinois, there are currently over 4,000 beekeepers and over 30,000 honey bee hives! Honey bees produce six hive products used by humans for nutritional and medicinal purposes: honey, pollen, royal jelly, beeswax, propolis, and venom. But the most important contribution that honey bees make is in the number of vital crops that they pollinate across the country. Honey bees alone account for about \$15 billion in U.S. crops every single year. Many crops we eat every day are only on our plates because of honey bees. Nuts, vegetables, apples, cantaloupe, cranberries, pumpkins, sunflowers, and many more crops are dependent on honey bee pollination.



“Honey Bees”
Large colonies
One Queen
Thousands of worker bees
Taking care of the young
protecting the hive
bringing back
Nectar

and

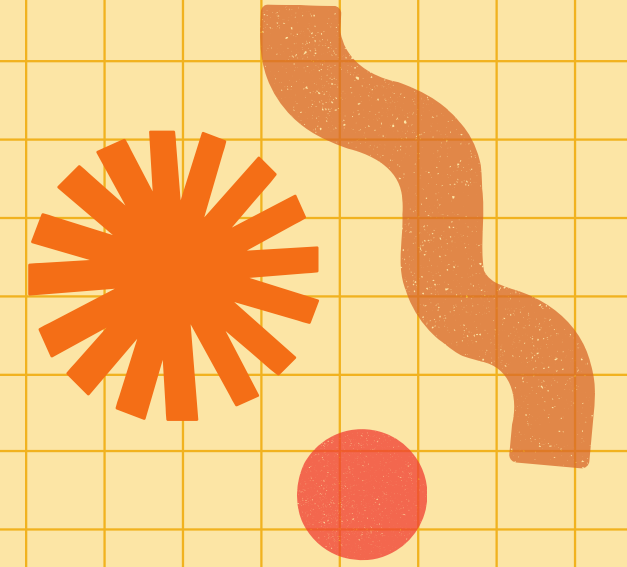
Pollen
Honey for the hive to eat.
We eat every day
because of:

Honey Bees.





Reading a Visual Image



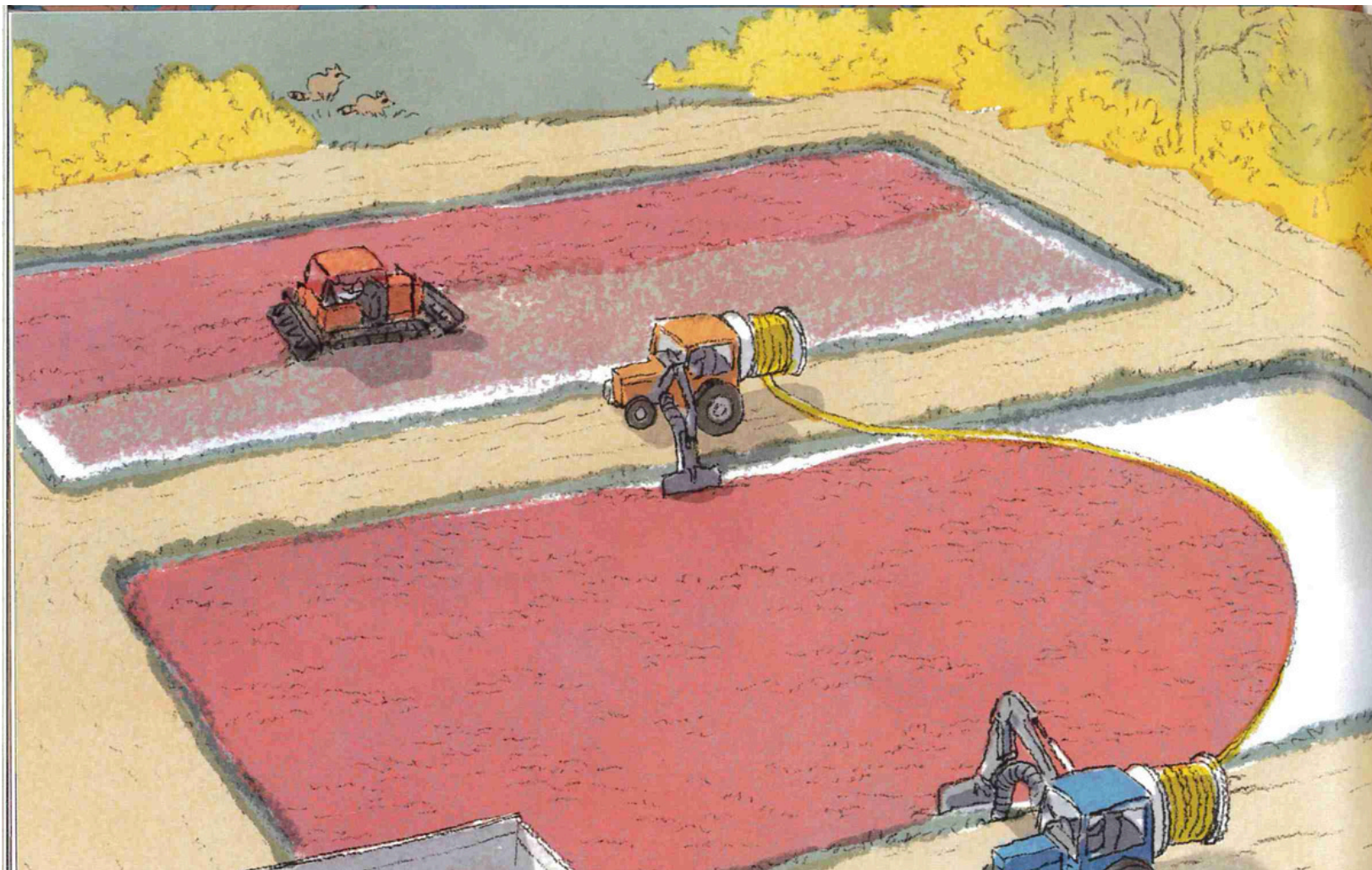
Images & Videos

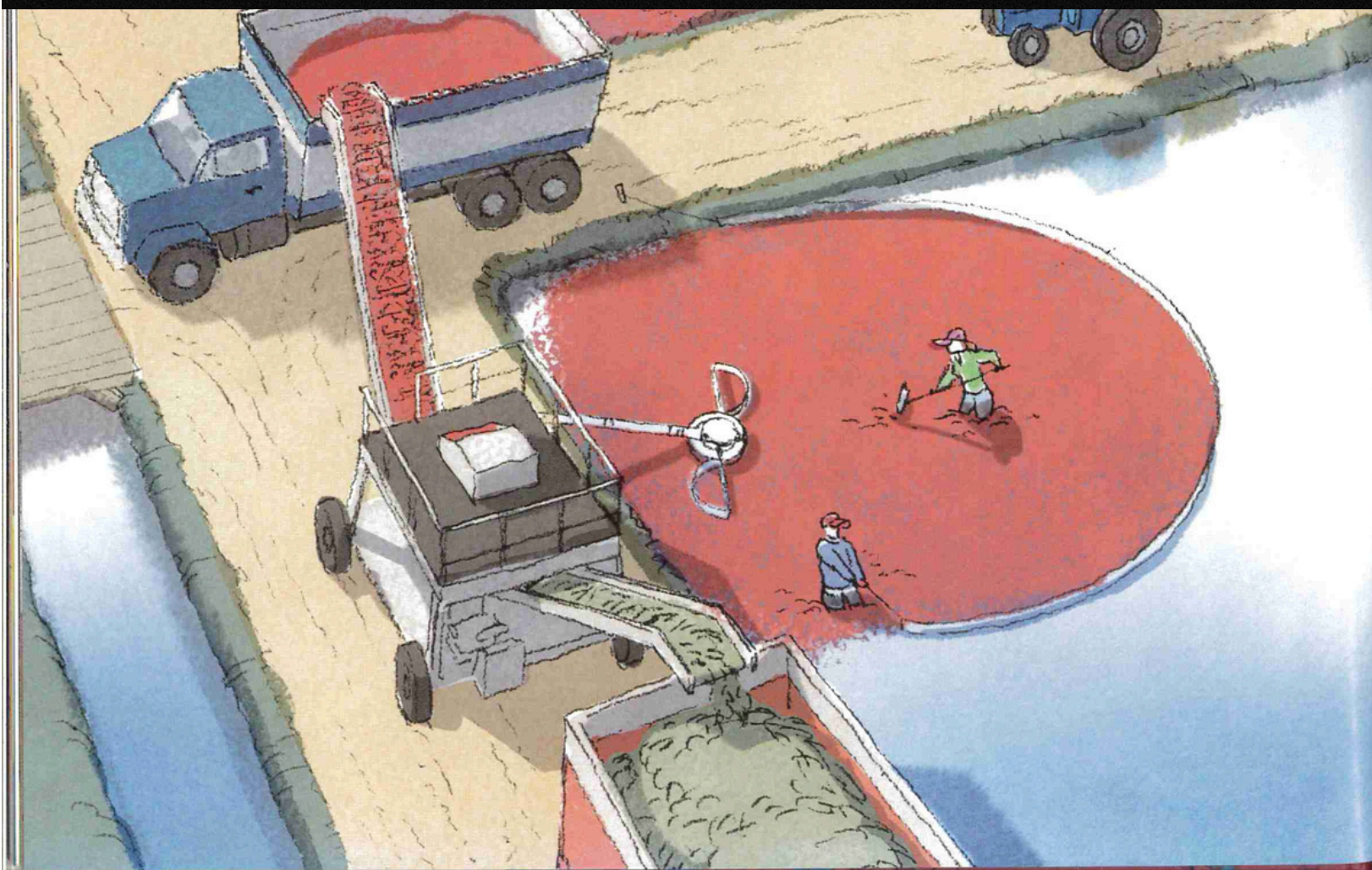
Children's Books:
Fiction

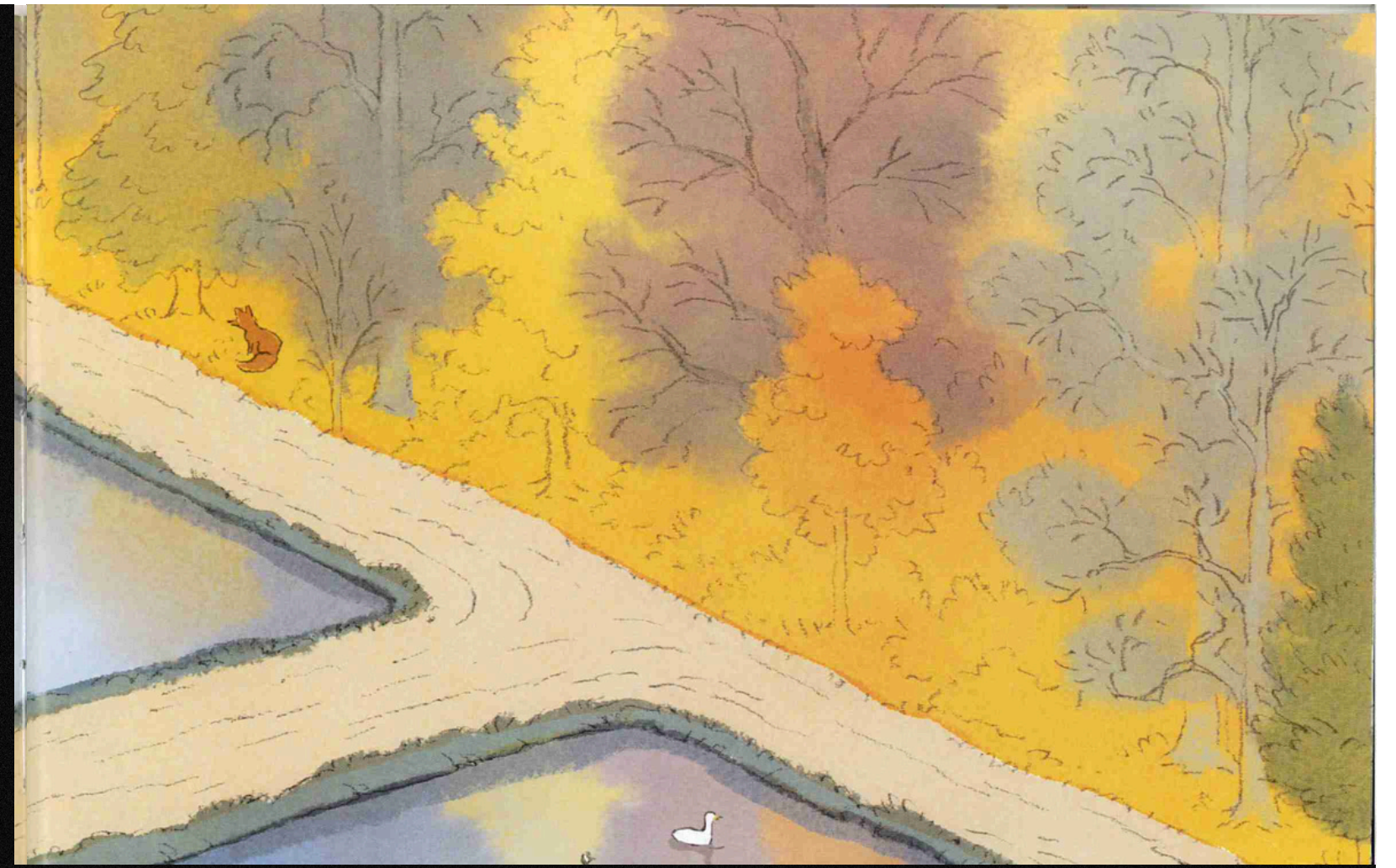
Children's Books:
Creative Nonfiction

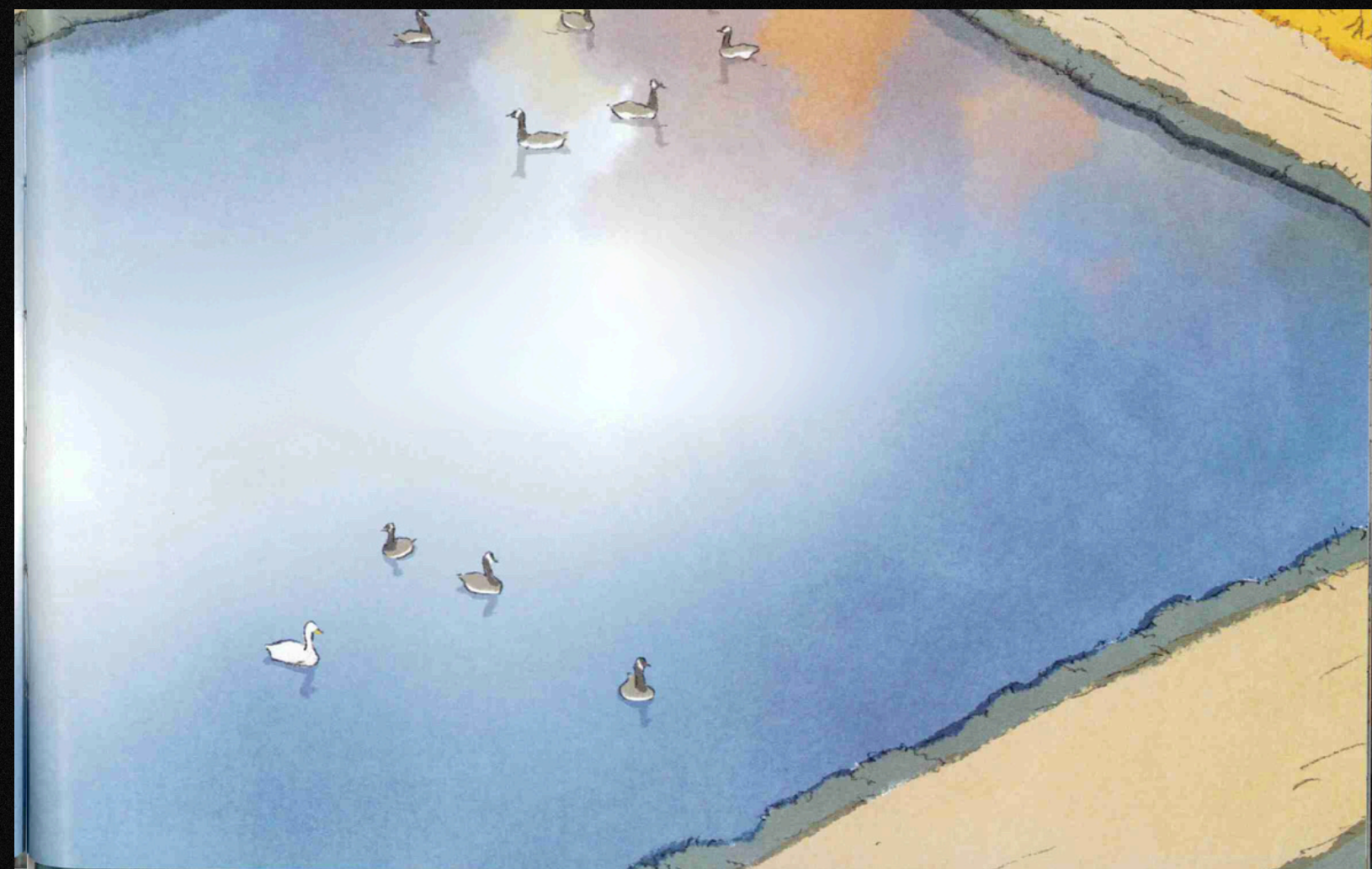
Teachers will "black out" 3/4 of an image at a time and project it while students look closely and take notes. Then, students see the full image and share their comprehension of the "text."

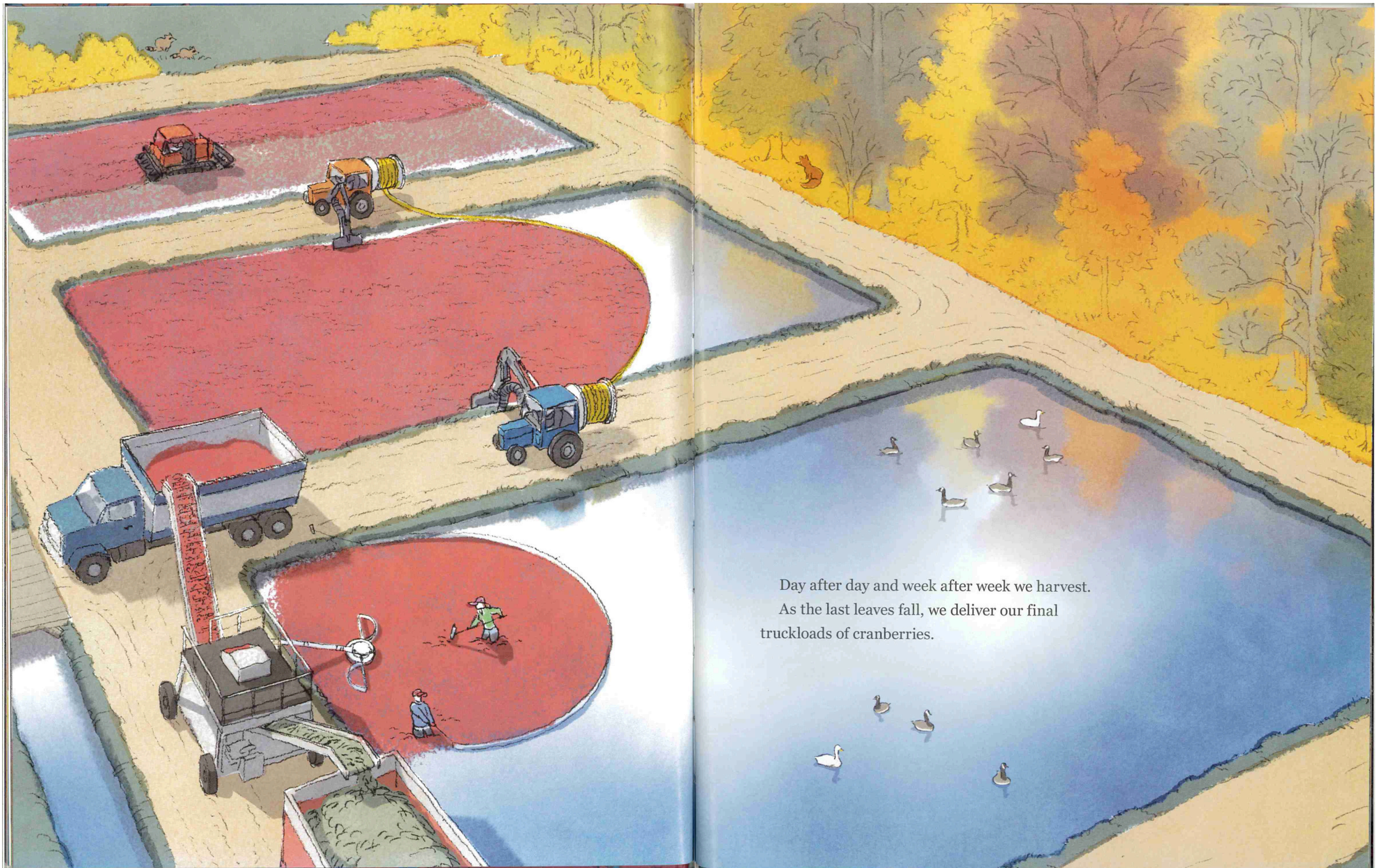








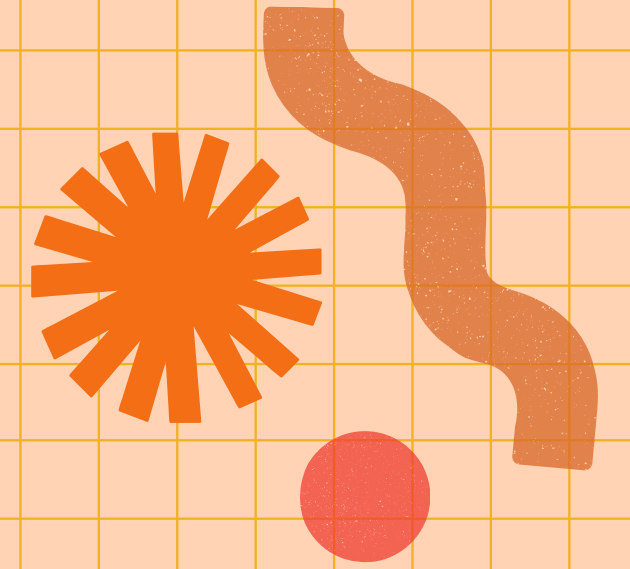




Day after day and week after week we harvest.
As the last leaves fall, we deliver our final
truckloads of cranberries.



Interview an Image



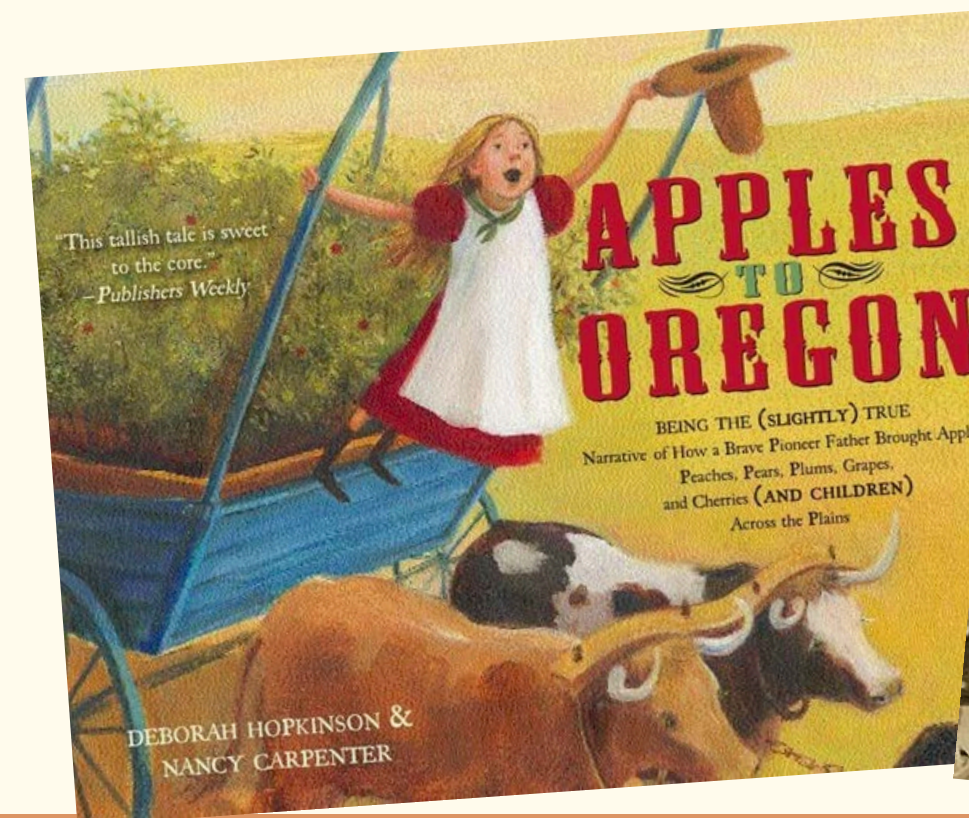
Images & Videos

Children's Books:
Fiction

Children's Books:
Creative Nonfiction

Students will look closely at an image & create questions they would ask to learn more about it.

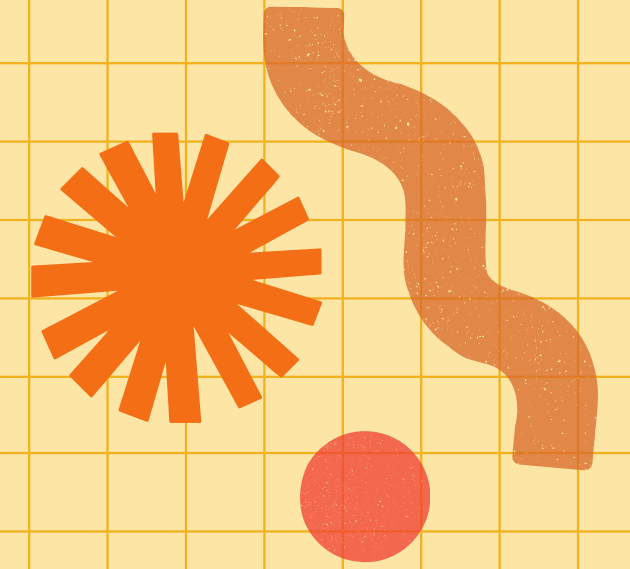
Try it with:







Two-Column Notes



Images & Videos

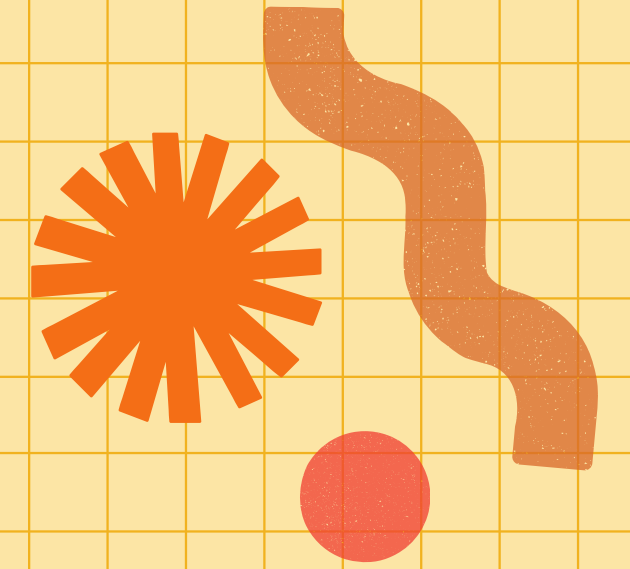
Headings can be customized depending on the "text" being used. Most versions include "Information" in the first column and some form of "Reactions" in the second column.

Try it with:





Creating Books and "Texts"



Children's Books:
Creative Nonfiction

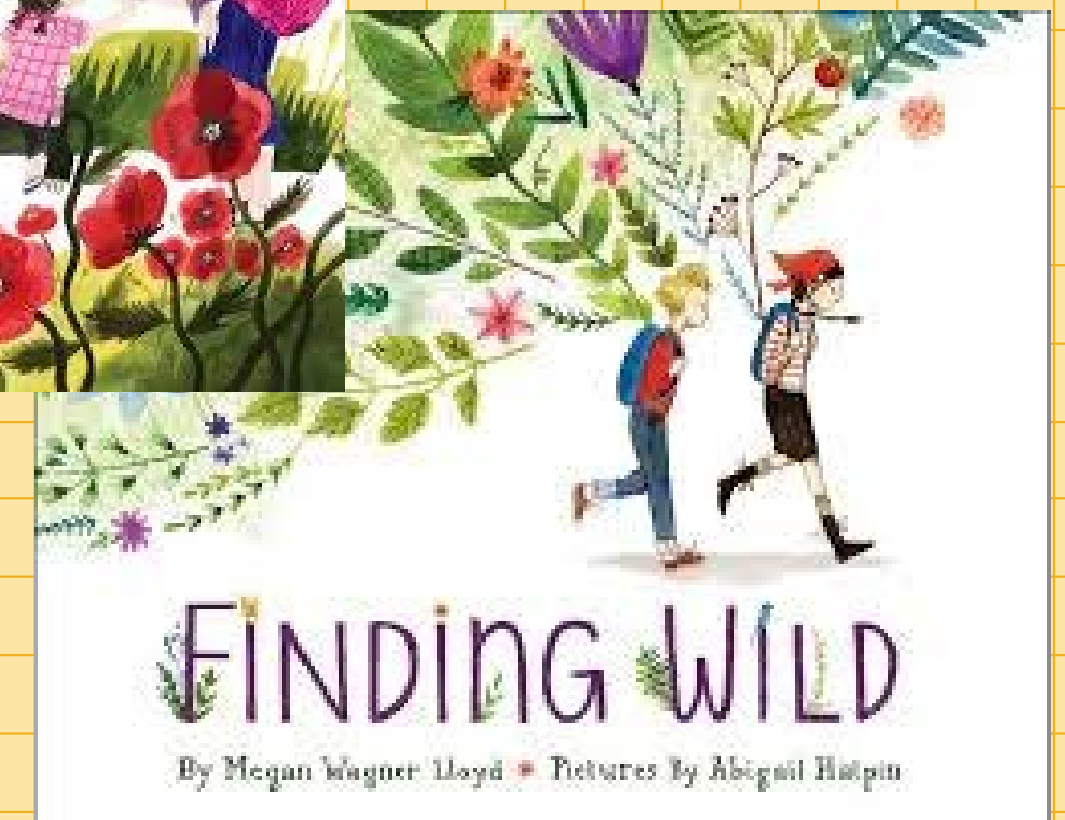
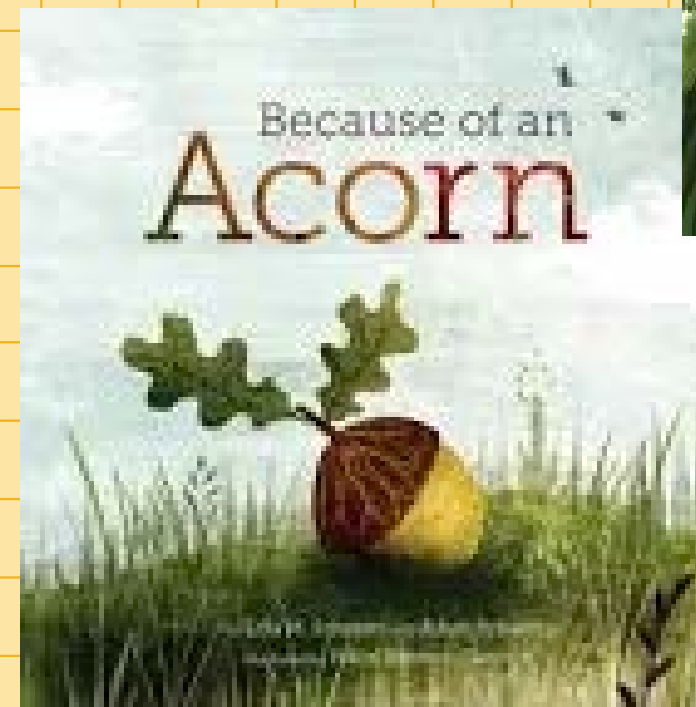
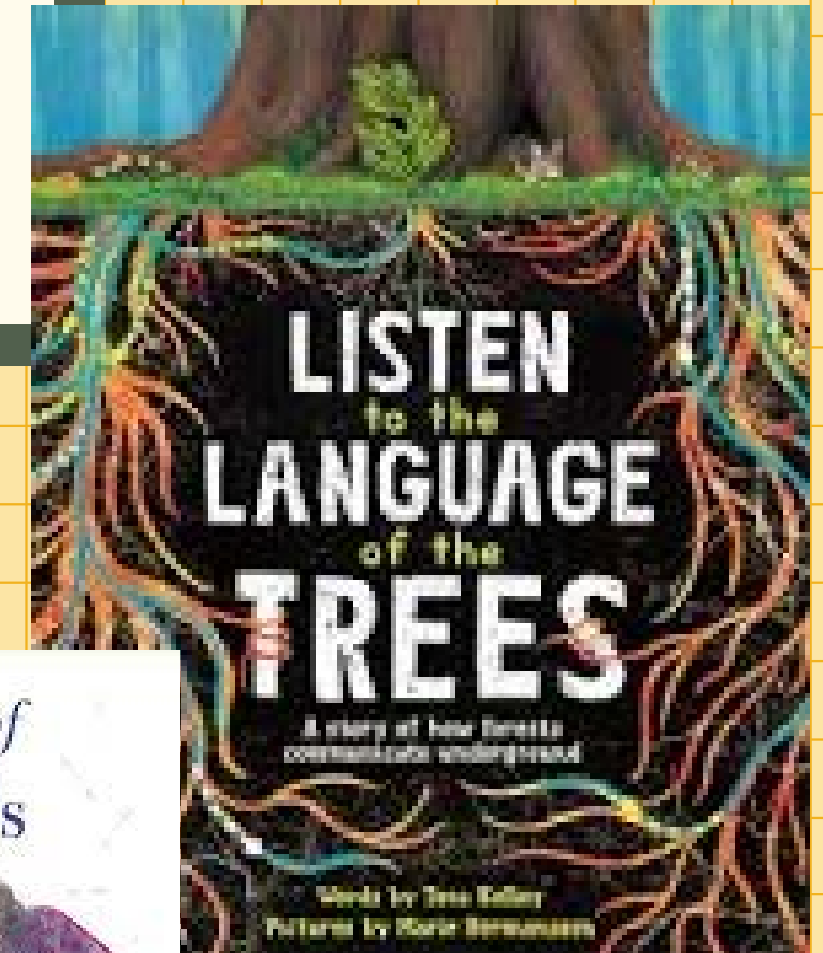
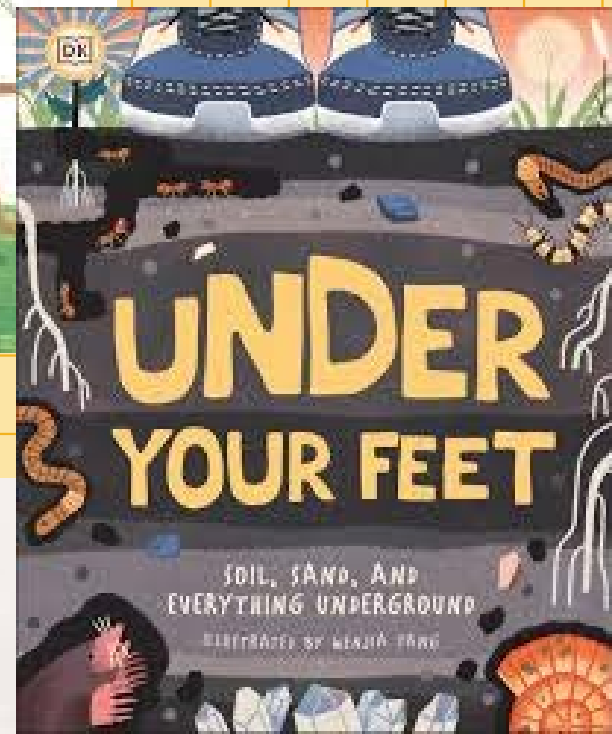
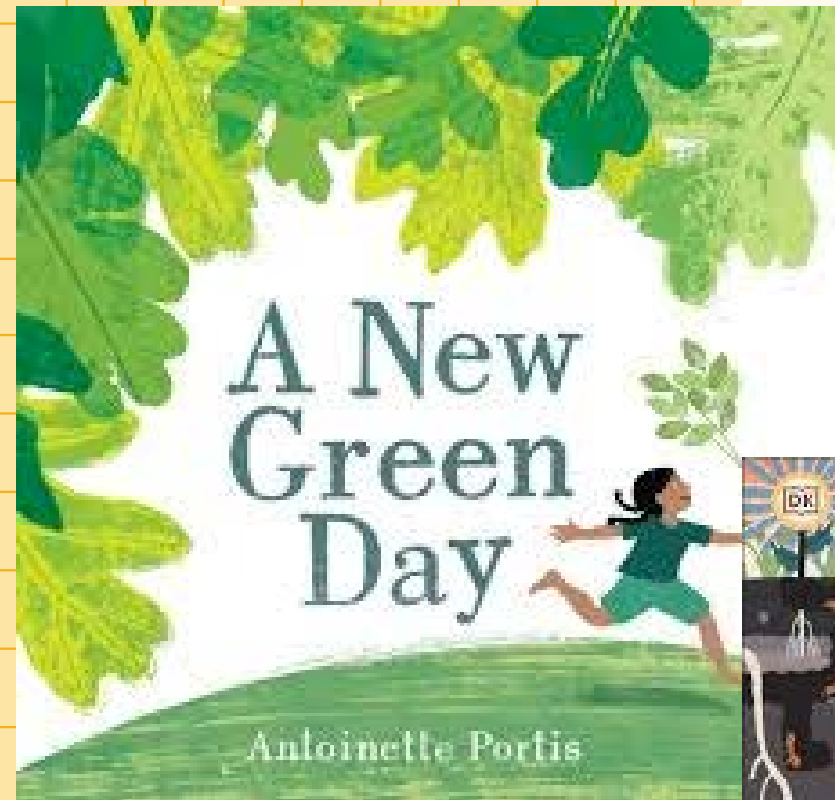
Children's Books:
Fiction

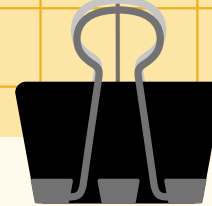
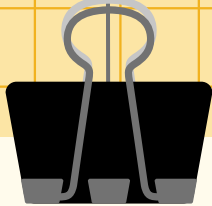
Traditional
Nonfiction Texts

Images & Videos

- Specialty Crop Zine
- Nature Walk Flip Book
- Pizza Process Spinner

Nature Book Recommendations





THANK YOU!



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