

Recommended Touchstone Texts

Writers' Workshop



Book Title	Author	Writing Unit	This book is good for modeling
The Dandelion Seed	Joseph Anthony	Small Moments	Word choice
Salt Hands	Jane Chelsea Aragon	Small Moments	Personal narrative Focus
Jin Woo	Eve Bunting	Small Moments	Inside story
Fireflies	Julie Brinckloe	Small Moments	Personal narrative Focus
It Takes a Village	Jane Cowen-Fletcher	Small Moments	Sentence structure Short-sentence impact Ending in the Moment Ellipses
Mama Zooms	Jane Cowen-Fletcher	Small Moments	Comparisons
Bigmama's	Donald Crews	Small Moments	Short-sentence impact
Shortcut	Donald Crews	Small Moments	Focused small moment Onomatopoeia Capital letters for emphasis

Book Title	Author	Writing Unit	This book is good for modeling
Jamaica's Find	Juanita Havill	Small Moments	Starting in the moment
Julius, The Baby of the World	Kevin Henkes	Small Moments	Show, don't tell
Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse	Kevin Henkes	Small Moments	Character thinking
Owen	Kevin Henkes	Small Moments	Dialogue
Sheila Rae's Peppermint Stick	Kevin Henkes	Small Moments	Small moment
Wemberly's Ice Cream Star	Kevin Henkes	Small Moments	Small moment
Wemberly Worried	Kevin Henkes	Small Moments	Character thinking
Come On, Rain!	Karen Hesse	Small Moments	Beginning with dialogue Comparisons Figurative language
Amazing Grace	Mary Hoffman	Small Moments	Small moment

Book Title	Author	Writing Unit	This book is good for modeling
Aunt Flossie's Hats (and Crab Cakes Later)	Elizabeth Fitzgerald Howard	Small Moments	Sparking memories
Joshua's Night Whispers	Angela Johnson	Small Moments	Ellipses Refrain Time of day Ending in the moment
Goggles	Ezra Jack Keats	Small Moments	Starting in the moment
A Letter to Amy	Ezra Jack Keats	Small Moments	Starting in the moment Ending in the moment
The Ghost of Sifty, Sifty Sam	Angela Shelf Medearis	Small Moments	Necessary setting
The Kissing Hand	Audrey Penn	Small Moments	Stretching a moment across pages Creating mood Character thinking
The Relative Came	Cynthia Rylant	Small Moments	Strong lead
Nothing Ever Happens on 90 th Street	Roni Schotter	Small Moments	Generating ideas (Finding things in your own life)
Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day	Judith Voirst	Small Moments	Starting in the moment

Book Title	Author	Writing Unit	This book is good for modeling
Ira Sleeps Over	Bernard Waber	Small Moments	Personal narrative Focus
A Chair for My Mother	Vera B. Williams	Small Moments	Stretching a moment
Knuffle Bunny	Mo Williems	Small Moments	Dialect ("Baby Talk") Story mountain structure Suspense/Tension Ending in the Moment
Owl Moon	Jane Yolen	Small Moments	Stretching a moment
It Takes a Village	Jane Cowen-Fletcher	Authors as Mentors	Sentence structure Short-sentence impact Ellipses Refrain
Bigmama's	Donald Crews	Authors as Mentors	Short-sentence impact
Shortcut	Donald Crews	Authors as Mentors	Focused small moment Onomatopoeia Capital letters for emphasis
Possum Magic	Mem Fox	Authors as Mentors	Strong lead
Chester's Way	Kevin Henkes	Authors as Mentors	Underlining for emphasis Ellipses Refrain

Book Title	Author	Writing Unit	This book is good for modeling
Chrysanthemum	Kevin Henkes	Authors as Mentors	Words get larger for emphasis Short-sentence impact Word choice
Jessica	Kevin Henkes	Authors as Mentors	Lists of things Circular Ending
Julius: The Baby of the World	Kevin Henkes	Authors as Mentors	Word choice
Kitten's First Full Moon	Kevin Henkes	Authors as Mentors	Refrain
Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse	Kevin Henkes	Authors as Mentors	Refrain
Shelia Rae, the Brave	Kevin Henkes	Authors as Mentors	Short-sentence impact Refrain
A Weekend with Wendell	Kevin Henkes	Authors as Mentors	Refrain List of things Capital letters for emphasis
Wemberly Worried	Kevin Henkes	Authors as Mentors	Character thinking Ellipses Refrain
A House is a House for Me	Mary Ann Hoberman	Authors as Mentors	Refrain

Book Title	Author	Writing Unit	This book is good for modeling
Do Like Kyla	Angela Johnson	Authors as Mentors	Refrain Many moments stories
Joshua by the Sea	Angela Johnson	Authors as Mentors	Refrain Lists of things
Joshua's Night Whispers	Angela Johnson	Authors as Mentors	Ellipses Refrain Time of day
The Leaving Morning	Angela Johnson	Authors as Mentors	Ellipses List of things Time of day
Mama Bird, Baby Birds	Angela Johnson	Authors as Mentors	Ellipses
One of Three	Angela Johnson	Authors as Mentors	Ellipses Lists of things
A Sweet Smell of Roses	Angela Johnson	Authors as Mentors	Bold print Ellipses Refrain
Peter's Chair	Ezra Jack Keats	Authors as Mentors	Dialogue Suspense
The Snowy Day	Ezra Jack Keats	Authors as Mentors	Onomatopoeia

Author	Writing Unit	This book is good for modeling
Patricia C. McKissack	Authors as Mentors	Colons
Robert Munsch	Authors as Mentors	Word placement on the page Refrain
Robert Munsch	Authors as Mentors	Word placement on the page Refrain
Robert Munsch	Authors as Mentors	Word placement on the page Refrain
Robert Munsch	Authors as Mentors	Word placement on the page Refrain
Robert Munsch	Authors as Mentors	Onomatopoeia Refrain
Patricia Polacco	Authors as Mentors	Onomatopoeia Time of day Strong lead
Robin Pulver	Authors as Mentors	Why punctuation is important
Chris Van Allsburg	Authors as Mentors	Many moments story
	Patricia C. McKissack Robert Munsch Robert Munsch Robert Munsch Robert Munsch Patricia Polacco Robin Pulver	Patricia C. McKissackAuthors as MentorsRobert MunschAuthors as Mentors

Book Title	Author	Writing Unit	This book is good for modeling
Two Bad Ants	Chris Van Allsburg	Authors as Mentors	Many moments story Word choice Circular ending
Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day	Judith Viorst	Authors as Mentors	Many moments story Refrain
Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus	Mo Williems	Authors as Mentors	Capital letters for emphasis Persuasive language
Knuffle Bunny	Mo Williems	Authors as Mentors	Dialect ("Baby Talk") Suspense/Tension Ellipses
Henny Penny	H. Werner Zimmerman	Authors as Mentors	Refrain
All About Deer	Jim Arnosky	Nonfiction Writing: Procedures and Reports Writing in the Content Areas	Beginning All-About books by asking questions
All About Rattlesnakes	Jim Arnosky	Nonfiction Writing: Procedures and Reports Writing in the Content Areas	Beginning All-About books by asking questions
All About Sharks	Jim Arnosky	Nonfiction Writing: Procedures and Reports Writing in the Content Areas	Various formats for All-About books
Can It Rain Cats and Dogs?	Melvin and Gilda Berger	Nonfiction Writing: Procedures and Reports Writing in the Content Areas	Various formats for All-About books

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Book Title	Author	Writing Unit	This book is good for modeling
How to Lose All Your Friends	Nancy Carlson	Nonfiction Writing: Procedures and Reports	Introduction to How-To writing
		Writing in the Content Areas	
Hungry, Hungry Sharks	Joanna Cole	Nonfiction Writing: Procedures and Reports	Writing facts
		Writing in the Content Areas	
Apples	Gail Gibbons	Nonfiction Writing: Procedures and Reports	How-To models All-About models
		Writing in the Content Areas	(various page types)
Cats	Gail Gibbons	Nonfiction Writing: Procedures and Reports	All-About models (various page types)
		Writing in the Content Areas	
Dogs	Gail Gibbons	Nonfiction Writing: Procedures and Reports	All-About models (various page types)
		Writing in the Content Areas	
Frogs	Gail Gibbons	Nonfiction Writing: Procedures and Reports	All-About models (various page types)
		Writing in the Content Areas	
From Seed to Plant	Gail Gibbons	Nonfiction Writing: Procedures and Reports	How-To models All-About models
		Writing in the Content Areas	(various page types)
How a House is Built	Gail Gibbons	Nonfiction Writing: Procedures and Reports	How-To models All-About models
		Writing in the Content Areas	(various page types)
Monarch Butterfly	Gail Gibbons	Nonfiction Writing: Procedures and Reports	All-About models (various page types)
		Writing in the Content Areas	

Book Title	Author	Writing Unit	This book is good for modeling
The Pumpkin Book	Gail Gibbons	Nonfiction Writing: Procedures and Reports	How-To models All-About models
		Writing in the Content Areas	(various page types)
Rabbits, Rabbits, More Rabbits	Gail Gibbons	Nonfiction Writing: Procedures and Reports	How-To models All-About models
		Writing in the Content Areas	(various page types)
Spiders	Gail Gibbons	Nonfiction Writing: Procedures and Reports	All-About models (various page types)
		Writing in the Content Areas	
The Usborne Book of Juggling	Clive Gifford	Nonfiction Writing: Procedures and Reports	How-To model
		Writing in the Content Areas	
Gross Grub	Cheryl Porter	Nonfiction Writing: Procedures and Reports	Various How-To models
		Writing in the Content Areas	
How To Make a Kite	Scholastic	Nonfiction Writing: Procedures and Reports	Listing materials Writing directions
		Writing in the Content Areas	
How To Make a Sock Puppet	Scholastic	Nonfiction Writing: Procedures and Reports	Listing materials Writing directions
		Writing in the Content Areas	
Apples to Applesauce	Inez Snyder	Nonfiction Writing: Procedures and Reports	Clear How-To directions with transitions
		Writing in the Content Areas	
How Many Days to America	Eve Bunting	Realistic Fiction	Historical fiction setting

Book Title	Author	Writing Unit	This book is good for modeling
Ella Sarah Gets Dressed	Margaret Chodos-Irvine	Realistic Fiction	Dialogue
The Name Jar	Yangsook Choi	Realistic Fiction	Characters and problems
It Takes a Village	Jane Cowen-Fletcher	Realistic Fiction	Sentence structure Short-sentence impact Ellipses Refrain
Bigmama's	Donald Crews	Realistic Fiction	Short-sentence impact
Shortcut	Donald Crews	Realistic Fiction	Focused small moment Onomatopoeia Capital letters for emphasis
Grandpa Never Lies	Ralph Fletcher	Realistic Fiction	Refrain Word choice
Wilfred Gordon McDonald Partridge	Mem Fox	Realistic Fiction	Story mountain structure
Jamaica's Find	Juanita Havill	Realistic Fiction	Story mountain structure
Jessica	Kevin Henkes	Realistic Fiction	Lists of things Circular Ending

Book Title	Author	Writing Unit	This book is good for modeling
Come On, Rain!	Karen Hesse	Realistic Fiction	Beginning with dialogue Comparisons Figurative language
One of Three	Angela Johnson	Realistic Fiction	Ellipses Lists of things
Goggles	Ezra Jack Keats	Realistic Fiction	Story mountain structure
A Letter to Amy	Ezra Jack Keats	Realistic Fiction	Story mountain structure
Peter's Chair	Ezra Jack Keats	Realistic Fiction	Story mountain structure
The Snowy Day	Ezra Jack Keats	Realistic Fiction	Story mountain structure
Goin' Someplace Special	Patricia C. McKissack	Realistic Fiction	Colons
The Ghost of Sifty, Sifty Sam	Angela Shelf Medearis	Realistic Fiction	Necessary Setting
Fishing Day	Andrea Piakney	Realistic Fiction	Historical fiction setting

Book Title	Author	Writing Unit	This book is good for modeling
The Keeping Quilt	Patricia Polacco	Realistic Fiction	Historical fiction setting
What Zeesie Saw on Delancey Street	Elsa Okon Rael	Realistic Fiction	Historical fiction setting
The Dot	Peter H. Reynolds	Realistic Fiction	Beginning with the problem
Ish	Peter H. Reynolds	Realistic Fiction	Beginning with the problem
Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day	Judith Viorst	Realistic Fiction	Story mountain structure
Freedom Summer	Deborah Wiles	Realistic Fiction	Stretching the action Suspense Show, don't tell
A Chair for My Mother	Vera B. Williams	Realistic Fiction	Stretching a moment Story mountain structure
Knuffle Bunny	Mo Williems	Realistic Fiction	Dialect ("Baby Talk") Suspense/Tension Story mountain structure
The Memory Coat	Elvira Woodruff	Realistic Fiction	Historical fiction setting

Book Title	Author	Writing Unit	This book is good for modeling
Weird Pet Poems	(compiled by) Dilys Evans	Poetry	Rhyming Descriptions Line breaks/spacing on a page
Mama Zooms	Jane Cowen-Fletcher	Poetry	Comparisons
Hello, Harvest Moon	Ralph Fletcher	Poetry	Personification Word choice
A Writing Kind of Day: Poems for Young Poets	Ralph Fletcher	Poetry	Poems about everyday life and objects
Insectlopedia	Douglas Floriall	Poetry	Rhyming Descriptions Line breaks/spacing on a page
Julius, The Baby of the World	Kevin Henkes	Poetry	Show, don't tell
Honey, I Love and Other Love Poems	Eloise Greenfield	Poetry	Rhyming Poems about self and family
Night on Neighborhood Street	Eloise Greenfield	Poetry	Rhyming Poems about everyday life
A Poke in the I	(compiled by) Paul B. Janeczko	Poetry	Shape poems

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Compiled by Shelly Gaskin Union County Public Schools

Book Title	Author	Writing Unit	This book is good for modeling
Water Dance	Thomas Lockler	Poetry	Looking at objects through poets' eyes
Tomie's Little Book of Poems	Tomie de Paola	Poetry	Different types of short poems
The Frogs Wore Red Suspenders	Jack Prelutsky	Poetry	Rhyming Descriptions Line breaks/spacing on a page
A Light in the Attic	Shel Silverstein	Poetry	Funny Rhyming
Falling Up	Shel Silverstein	Poetry	Funny Rhyming
Where the Sidewalk Ends	Shel Silverstein	Poetry	Funny Rhyming
Popcorn	James Stevenson	Poetry	Rhyming Descriptions Line breaks/spacing on a page
Casey at the Bat	Ernest Lawrence Thayer	Poetry	Comparisons
A Rocket in My Pocket	(complied by) Carl Withers	Poetry	Various types of poems

Book Title	Author	Writing Unit	This book is good for modeling
Small Poems	Valerie Worth	Poetry	Show, don't tell Figurative language
Dear Peter Rabbit	Alma Flor Ada	Living the Writerly Life	Varied letter writing (including Friendly, Apology, Thank You, and Invitation)
Yours Truly, Goldilocks	Alma Flor Ada	Living the Writerly Life	Varied letter writing (including Friendly, Apology, Thank You, and Invitation)
Dear Mrs. Larue: Letters from Obedience School	Mark Teague	Living the Writerly Life	Letter writing