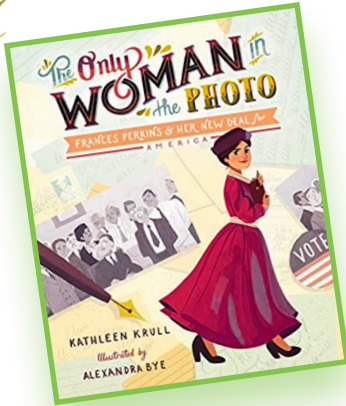


CATCH a spark!

Using children's literature to SPARK CREATIVITY



The Only Woman in the Photo

Frances Perkins and Her New Deal for America

Written by Kathleen Krull / Illustrated by Alexandra Bye

48 pages / Grades 4-8

Few people likely know of Frances Perkins, the first woman to serve in a presidential cabinet and instrumental to The New Deal and creating safety for American Workers. A story rooted in a very black and white past, but told in a colorful way, shedding light and new perspective, while serving as inspiration to future change makers.

C

Context

This book is a walk through history. Spanning and mentioning so many historical events from **1900 -1945**, including the **New Deal, FDR, Great Depression, Social Security**, and so much more.

A

Arts

Graphic arts: Much of the book brings themes and words to life with lettering and graphic design. Discuss with students how layouts and artistic choices for words emphasize meaning.

The illustrations in the book lend themselves to the feel of original early animations, clearly **hand drawn illustration**. It is an interesting choice to pair fun and colorful with the darkness of such a historical time. Is this perhaps because of the color Frances herself brought to situations she was in?

T

Themes

Grit and determination

Strength through quiet

Fighting for injustice

Making a difference and the power of doing so quietly

Finding your voice

Word choice

C

Create

Find a famous historical photo from a given time period. Identify an unknown person in the photo, much the same way Frances was a quiet but strong presence. Research the person to find their true story, or create a story for them.

Frances fought for injustice and what she believed should be changed and made right. Align this to today's world events. What do you see happening that is worth fighting for?

Create a graphic design of a powerful personal phrase.

H

Heart Words

"It was sort of up to me."

"When someone opens a door you go forward."

"I felt the satisfaction of someone who told the truth."

"I had accomplished what I had come to do."

