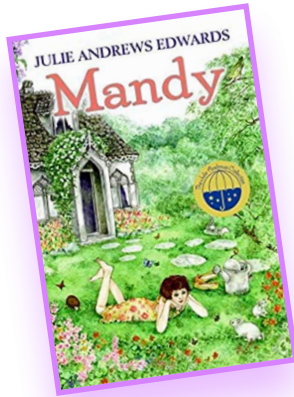


CATCH a spark!

Using children's literature to SPARK CREATIVITY



Mandy

Written by Julie Andrews Edwards
320 pages / Grades 2-7

Mandy is a ten-year old orphan who discovers an abandoned cottage beyond the walls of the orphanage. In her longing for a home of her own, she transforms this one and strives to keep it all for herself. A secret admirer and a series of events that happen one stormy night at the cottage will change her life forever. This is a delightful story about a desire for independence, yet also a longing for family and love.

C Context

The book is very rich in **vocabulary**.

Superb mentor text for **descriptive writing** and **visualization**.

Plants, gardening, the **power of nature**.

Looking at a greater world around you, as well as understanding one different from your own, in this case, **life as an orphan**.

Point of view and perspective. Have students place themselves in Mandy's shoes, along with the other characters as they arise.

A Arts

The **artistry and beauty of nature**.

This is explored in many different ways, from the visualization of the grounds where the cottage is, to the garden that Mandy creates and the descriptions of her flowers and colors.

Words and language as art and their descriptive qualities.

T Themes

Hope

Family

Love

Independence

Belonging

Home

Caretaking

C Create

Design a garden. Consider plant/flower choices including color, height and variety. After creating this independently, design a collaborative garden and plant it together.

Begin a collection, much like the shells that line the inside of the cottage (which was a real cottage as seen by the author). How will you showcase your collection and create something bigger with it?

What is an area you could transform for a community project, like Mandy does with the cottage? Make a plan for this.

H Heart Words

"...sometimes she felt as though she must surely break apart with so much going on inside her. It was as though she were searching for something, though what or where it was she could not say."

"...you're strong and not afraid to go looking for your life."

"She had found what she had been looking for her whole life."

