

CATCH a spark!

Using children's literature to SPARK CREATIVITY



The Librarian's Stories

Written by Lucy Falcone / Illustrated by Anna Wilson
32 pages / Grades 2-5

A war-torn city whose library was destroyed is slowly given hope again when the librarian returns to the town square and simply sits and reads aloud. A story that reminds us of the comfort books can bring us, the hope and the inspiration. An interesting companion to the way many are feeling during the recent pandemic.

C Context

The idea that **stories matter** providing a sense of connection and hope. A discussion starter with students about why we turn to books and stories in difficult times.

Inferencing. While the language of the story is simple, the layers of meaning are deep, with many moments only shown in illustration.

The concept of **hope** and finding little glimmers of light in dark times.

Using **real events to inspire** fiction.

A Arts

Symbolism and **color** in illustration to emphasize and express meaning.

Using **light** and **color** to highlight and emphasize meaning as well as giving depth to an interpretation of art. How does color help draw the eye and punctuate meaning? Is it used on every page or only at certain times?

Using **words as illustration.**

T Themes

Keeping hope

The power of stories

Words as comfort

Moving forward in dark times

C Create

Align the story of the young child and the war he lives through with the war we face today during the pandemic. How can you alter the story to fit the different time period.

After writing the new story, how will you use symbolism and color to illustrate it?

Create a representation of any kind (visual, musical, written) of the story that gives you hope. Similarly, what is the story you would share with others to inspire and comfort them?

H Heart Words

"I close my eyes. Her words carry me back..."

"The librarian's stories make us laugh. They help us remember ... what life was like before."

"I want to help."

