

CATCH a spark!

Using children's literature to SPARK CREATIVITY



Lift

Written by Minh Lê, Illustrated by Dan Santat
56 pages / Grades K-2

A wordless picture book (beginning graphic novel) that sparks imagination and celebrates the power of possibility as a young girl attempts an escape and exploration on her own to gain independence, but ultimately discovers the importance of family and the people who are most important to you.

C Context

Sibling rivalry and the **importance of family**.

Making inferences. The story has a great deal of emotion and character, without being discussed directly. A great book to begin talking about what inferences are and **justifying thinking**.

Literal and figurative meanings of words. (i.e. the idea of a physical lift, but also an emotional lift)

Fantasy as a genre

A Arts

What are **graphic novels**? This beginning graphic novel will introduce students to the craft, and how they are written, fostering conversations about **layout, storyboarding, and telling stories through pictures**.

T Themes

Independence
Family
Coming home
Giving a lift

C Create

Work in teams to create a wordless story, which could be done in illustration or through photography for younger learners.

Connect to fictional writing by having students create their own story of the adventure their elevator would take them on and including what it is that brings them back, much like the character in the story.

H Heart Words

"After all, everyone can use a lift sometimes."

As there are few words in this story ask students to choose their favorite panel or their "heart art" and explain their choice.

