

# CATCH a spark!

## Using children's literature to SPARK CREATIVITY



### The One Thing You'd Save

Written by Linda Sue Park

72 pages / Grades 3 - 6

Newbery Award winner Linda Sue Park brings us a quiet, simple but powerful story told through a form of Korean poetry. In just 72 short pages, we meet a middle school class and get to know them well. An engaging piece of literature that captures middle schoolers well as they grapple with a teacher's question: What is the one thing you would save if your house was on fire?

#### C Context

**Sijo** - a form of Korean poetry that has three lines of thirteen to seventeen syllables.

**Socio-emotional decisions.** How do we make them and what drives the choices.

**What is valuable?**

**Purposeful word choice** in developing characters and emotion.

**Author style and craft.** How do authors give us insight into characters by showing us, not telling us details. How do we **infer** knowledge about characters?

#### A Arts

**Point of view, layout, and focus in illustration.** How does choice in editing come into play when depicting illustrations? How can you give meaning to illustration through purposeful layouts and design?

**Pencil drawing** - gaining depth, layers and color using grayscale.

#### T Themes

Emotions

Value

Memories

What is important? /  
What really matters?

#### C Create

Infer while reading to discover the names and backgrounds of each character. Use the clues given by the author to choose a character and develop their backstories. Write a short story about your chosen character.

Create a pencil drawing that uses layout and focus to direct audience attention in gaining meaning. How can you develop depth and meaning using just one pencil?

Debate what is really important and what matters. Why do we place value on material items?

#### H Heart Words

*"...it's from the day that Pete Alonso looked at me, right at my eyes, and that's not on ink or paper, it's for real, so it can't ever fade."*

*"I don't need the grade books to remember you... because you're unforgettable. Don't you ever forget that."*

From the author's note: *"Using old forms in new ways is how poetry continually renews itself, and the world."*

