CATCH a spark!

Using children's literature to SPARK CREATIVITY



Feed Your Mind: A Story of August Wilson

Written by Jen Bryant, Illustrated by Canada Chapman 48 pages / Grades 3-8

August Wilson is a two-time Pulitzer winning playwright and one of the nations's greatest playwrights in history. This story, told in two acts and multiple scenes, is told in powerful language and imagery, which embodies Wilson in everyday. Readers will be amazed at his path to success, being self taught in the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh when he couldn't find a school to accept him for himself.

Context

Racial prejudice -America in the 1950s and 1960s

Importance of words, language and reading

Poetry, language and inspiration of authors.

Author's Notes as an important resource of knowledge.

Play structure scenes, climax, characters

Spoken Word as a way of public speaking

August Wilson, the playwright. The book includes a detailed timeline and listing of his plays. He is one of America's most influential playwrights.

Themes

Determination

Persistence

Words and language

Power of listening

Knowledge is power

Create

Just like Freddy did... Write a paper on someone from the past that you admire.

Create your life as play with scenes. What are the standout moments that deserve to be highlighted?

Sit in a crowded room and listen. Write down some of the sentences you hear. Turn those sentences into a story or piece of art.

Heart Words

"If you can read, you can do anything - you can be anything."

"He reads with delight and with a fearsome hunger, like a guest at a royal feast, the table so wide, so vast - all he can do is try to taste a bit of everything."

"Connection - a word that's all about how the "I" becomes "we. how the artist becomes the voice, the spirit of his own community."

"... a whole world can flower from some small, single thing."