

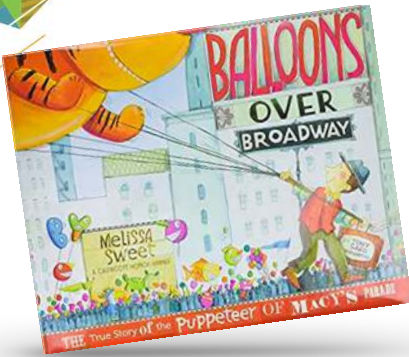
# CATCH a spark!

Using children's literature to SPARK CREATIVITY

## Balloons Over Broadway: The True Story of the Puppeteer of Macy's Parade

Written by Melissa Sweet  
40 pages / Grades K-5

Who doesn't love the time-honored tradition of the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade? Tony Sarg, the master puppeteer who created the infamous balloons was an imaginer, who accepted challenges and found ways to solve problems creatively. A book for all that will be sure to start conversations and inspire through amazing mixed media collage illustrations.



### C Context

Origins of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

**Force and Motion**  
(ropes and pulleys, gears)

Making **plans** and **blueprints** to guide thinking.

### A Arts

**Puppetry** and it's many different forms:

- marionettes
- rod puppets

**Articulation:**  
movements and gestures

**Mixed Media Illustration:** The illustrations include watercolor, collage, photographs, paper maché, paint, fabrics and found objects.

### T Themes

Accepting challenges

Thinking outside of the box

Invention

Creativity

### C Create

Design a new balloon for the Macy's parade.

Research the history of the animated Macy's Holiday windows.

Make puppets of various sizes, styles and formats. Allow students to use them freely, creating puppet shows, which will layer in the skills of performance and storytelling.

Watch a documentary on the Macy's Parade and balloons, and then launch an inquiry into the creation of them.

### H Heart Words

*"Every little movement has a meaning of its own."*

*"They shimmied and swayed through the canyons of New York City."*

