

CATCH a spark!

Using children's literature to SPARK CREATIVITY



The Christmas Pig

Written by J.K. Rowling
288 pages / Grades 2-6

A young boy faced with tough issues including bullying, divorce and the fear of letting go loses his most cherished friend and will go to any length to get him back. The magic of Christmas and the imagination of a beloved author bring a fast-paced adventure that will have students rooting for a little pig and a boy named Jack, who realize that hope will always be there, even in the hardest of times.

C Context

The concept of **personification**.

Proper nouns vs nouns. How does something change in its depiction by using a capital letter? (i.e. things vs. Things)

Morals and **mottos**

Feelings, principles and emotions. How do they drive us? How do we lose them and find them?

Vocabulary and **layers of meaning** - terms such as: disposable, waste, mislaid, lost

A Arts

Imagination and the creation of other worlds.

Perspective

T Themes

Courage

Bravery

Family

Acceptance

Letting go

Bullying

Divorce and blended families

Friendship

Love

C Create

Find your most cherished possession. Write its story, as if it were alive.

Ask students to participate in public speaking, explaining how they acquired their favorite possession. How did it get its name? What has it seen them through?

Make a list of principles, emotions and feelings, then choose two. Debate which is more powerful - (i.e. hope or happiness). How can you personify these things? Create a representation of what they look like.

H Heart Words

"That's what wakes Things up. Being used and absorbing human feelings..."

"Losing is part of living. But some of us live even though we're lost. That's what love does."

"What makes humans love Things so much?"

"...nothing can be lost for good until all hope has gone."

