



# HOW TO EAT FRIED WORMS

BY THOMAS ROCKWELL



## Literature Unit

by Pamela S. Freed

### Includes:

Book Talk Teaching Tips (genre, setting, main characters, game/activity, story-related recipe)

Comprehension & skills questions (open-ended)

Comprehension & skills questions (multiple choice)

Vocabulary List

Glossary

Teacher Key for questions and vocabulary

Vocabulary Puzzle Student Page

Vocabulary Puzzle Teacher Key

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## Star Book Café Book Talk Tips

Genre: Realistic fiction

Setting: Main settings are the places around town where the boys prepare and eat the worms.

Main Characters: Joe, Alan, Billy, Tom

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### Worm Poster Game

#### Supplies Needed:

Light-colored 12x18 construction paper (20 sheets)

Markers

Scissors

Gummy Worms

1. Free-form draw the outline of a worm (or use the pattern on the next page - using overhead to make larger) on 12 x18 light-colored construction paper.
2. Cut out your worms.
3. On one side of each worm, write one of the clue book questions or a vocabulary word.
4. On the other side of the worm, write the answer to the question or the definition of the vocabulary word.

To play game with students:

Hold up a question worm (with question facing students), or a vocabulary word worm (definition side facing students). Choose a student to answer the question, or tell you the vocabulary word. When a student answers correctly, tell them they have earned a prize. To receive their prize, they must open their mouth and close their eyes. Dangle a gummy worm over their mouth, then drop the gummy worm in their mouth. By the end of the game, the students are running towards you with their mouths wide open, like little birdies, anticipating a prize worm! 😊

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### Dirt Pudding

instant chocolate pudding

milk

crushed Oreo® cookies

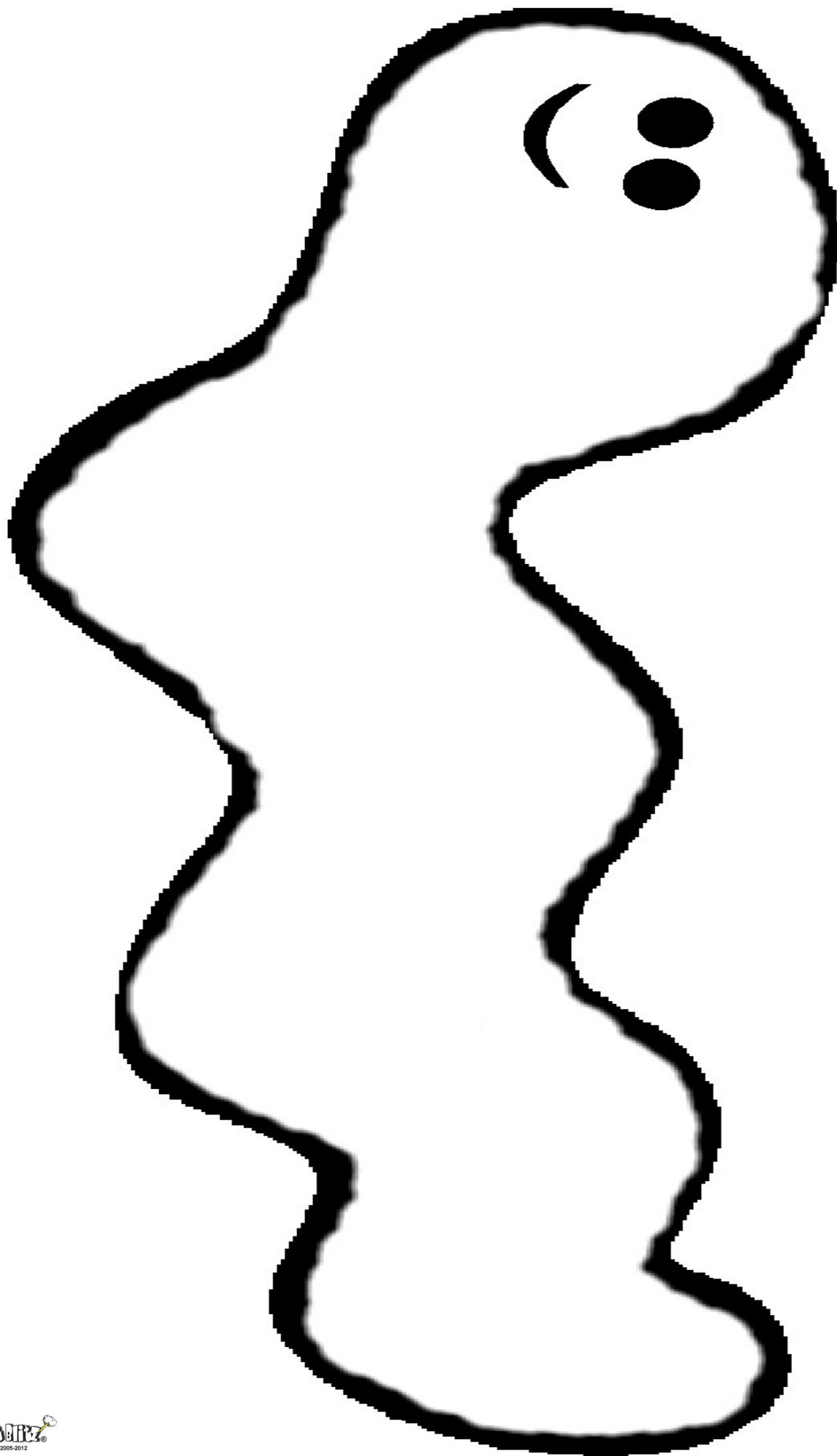
gummy worms

small clear plastic cups

plastic spoons

Prepare pudding. Fill cups 3/4 full of pudding. Place a gummy worm (or 2 or 3) inside the cup on top of the pudding, leaving part of the worm hanging over the side of the cup. Fill up the cup with crushed cookies.

\*VERY small clear plastic cups can be found at party supply stores if you want to serve smaller amounts of chocolate and sugar. 😊





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1. How many worms did Alan bet Billy \$50 that he would not eat?

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2. Where did Alan say he would get the money to pay the bet?

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3. When was Billy supposed to eat the worms?

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4. What were the eating conditions of the bet?

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5. What did Billy do to get ready to eat the first worm?

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6. What did Billy do after he ate the first worm?

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7. What did Billy say was the hardest thing about eating worms?

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8. What was Billy's nightmare about?

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9. Who wrote How to Eat Fried Worms?

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10. Who won the bet, and how was the bet paid?

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# HOW TO EAT FRIED WORMS

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1. How many worms did Alan bet Billy \$50 that he would not eat?  
A. Fifteen                      B. One hundred                      C. Twelve                      D. Twenty
2. Where did Alan say he would get the money to pay the bet?  
A. From his parents                      B. From his wealthy grandfather  
C. From his friends                      D. From his savings account
3. When was Billy supposed to eat the worms?  
A. Every day for breakfast                      B. Every night at midnight  
C. Every day for lunch in the school cafeteria                      D. One a day for fifteen days
4. What were the eating conditions of the bet?  
A. The worms had to eaten while they were still alive.  
B. The worms could be cooked any way AND there had to be a witness.  
C. The worms had to be eaten at midnight for twenty consecutive nights.  
D. Billy had to get a friend to eat each worm with him.
5. What did Billy do to get ready to eat the first worm?  
A. He vomited.                      B. He took a nap.                      C. He exercised.                      D. He ran a mile.
6. What did Billy do after he ate the first worm?  
A. He fainted.                      B. He vomited.  
C. He hopped around flapping his arms.                      D. He recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
7. What did Billy say was the hardest thing about eating worms?  
A. Swallowing them down whole                      B. The thought of the worms  
C. Keeping them down after eating them                      D. How bad they tasted
8. What was Billy's nightmare about?  
A. He was eating snake-sized worms in Longchamps Restaurant.  
B. He was being chased by gigantic worms on the school playground.  
C. He was in a courtroom being sentenced to stay in a prison with a worm warden.  
D. He dreamed he became a giant worm.
9. Who wrote How to Eat Fried Worms?  
A. Thomas Rockwell                      B. Barbara Robinson                      C. Nina Laden                      D. Avi
10. Who won the bet, and how was the bet paid?  
A. Alan; Billy worked at Longchamps Restaurant washing dishes.  
B. Billy; Alan took out a loan at the local bank.  
C. Alan; Billy gave him his life savings.  
D. Billy; Alan worked at the store to earn the \$50.



# HOW TO EAT FRIED WORMS



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## How to Eat Fried Worms Vocabulary

1. bet -

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2. duel -

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3. witnesses -

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4. python -

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5. night crawler -

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6. horseradish -

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7. manure -

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8. hearty -

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9. solemnly -

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10. savory -

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# How to Eat Fried Worms Glossary

**bet:** an agreement requiring a person to give something to the person who wins



**duel:** a combat between two people fought with weapons in front of witnesses



**hearty:** plentiful and satisfying



**horseradish:** a strong tasting seasoning related to mustard



**manure:** bodily waste from animals



**night crawler:** a large earthworm found on the soil's surface at night, used as fish bait



**python:** very large nonpoisonous snake

**savory:** pleasing to the taste or smell

**solemnly:** very serious and dignified



**witnesses:** persons present at an event who can testify to the event taking place



# HOW TO EAT FRIED WORMS

## BY THOMAS ROCKWELL

### How to Eat Fried Worms Questions & Answers

1. How many worms did Alan bet Billy \$50 that he would not eat? **A) Fifteen**
2. Where did Alan say he would get the money to pay the bet? **D) From his savings account**
3. When was Billy supposed to eat the worms? **D) One a day for fifteen days**
4. What were the eating conditions of the bet? **B) The worms could be cooked any way AND there had to be a witness present.**
5. What did Billy do to get ready to eat the first worm? **C) He exercised.**
6. What did Billy do after he ate the first worm? **C) He hopped around flapping his arms.**
7. What did Billy say was the hardest thing about eating worms? **B) The thought of the worms**
8. What was Billy's nightmare about? **A) He was eating snake-sized worms in Longchamps Restaurant.**
9. Who wrote How to Eat Fried Worms? **A) Thomas Rockwell**
10. Who won the bet, and how was the bet paid? **D) Billy; Alan worked at the store to earn the \$50.**

### Vocabulary & Definitions

1. bet – **an agreement requiring a person to give something to the person who wins**
2. duel – **a combat between two people fought with weapons in front of witnesses**
3. witnesses – **persons present at an event who can testify to the event taking place**
4. python – **very large poisonous snake**
5. night crawler – **large earthworm found on the soil's surface at night, used as fish bait**
6. horseradish – **a strong tasting seasoning related to mustard**
7. manure – **bodily waste from animals**
8. hearty – **plentiful and satisfying**
9. solemnly – **very serious and dignified**
10. savory – **pleasing to the taste or smell**





# HOW TO EAT FRIED WORMS

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## Syllable Scramble

**Instructions:** Fill the answers to the clues by using all the syllables in the Syllabox. The number of letters in each vocabulary word is shown by the dashes. Number of syllables is shown in parentheses before answer dashes. Each syllable is only used once.

Syllabox											
bet	crawl	du	el	emn	er	es	heart	horse	ish	ly	ma
ness	night	nure	py	rad	so	sa	thon	vor	wit	y	y

- strong tasting seasoning related to mustard (3) \_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- very large poisonous snake (2) \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- agreement to give something to person who wins, wager (1) \_\_\_\_\_ 8 \_\_\_\_\_
- plentiful and satisfying (2) \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- pleasing to the taste or smell (3) \_\_\_\_\_ 9 \_\_\_\_\_
- bodily waste from animals (2) \_\_\_\_\_ 7 \_\_\_\_\_
- very serious and dignified (3) \_\_\_\_\_ 10 \_\_\_\_\_
- large earthworm found on the ground at night (3) \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_
- persons who can testify to an event taking place (2) \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_ 11 \_\_\_\_\_
- combat between two people in front of witnesses (2) \_\_\_\_\_ 6 \_\_\_\_\_

Fill in the letters numbered in the answers above to answer the question below.

Where did Billy see himself eating snake-sized worms?

\_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_ 6 \_\_\_\_\_ 7 \_\_\_\_\_ 8 \_\_\_\_\_ 9 \_\_\_\_\_ 10 \_\_\_\_\_ 11 \_\_\_\_\_



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## Syllable Scramble

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Syllabox											
bet	crawl	du	el	emn	er	es	heart	horse	ish	ly	ma
ness	night	nure	py	rad	so	sa	thon	vor	wit	y	y

- strong tasting seasoning related to mustard (3) H O R S E R A D I S H  
1
- very large poisonous snake (2) P Y T H O N  
2
- agreement to give something to person who wins, wager (1) B E T  
8
- plentiful and satisfying (2) H E A R T Y  
3
- pleasing to the taste or smell (3) S A V O R Y  
9
- bodily waste from animals (2) M A N U R E  
7
- very serious and dignified (3) S O L E M N L Y  
10
- large earthworm found on the ground at night (3) N I G H T C R A W L E R  
4
- persons who can testify to an event taking place (2) W I T N E S S E S  
5 11
- combat between two people in front of witnesses (2) D U E L  
6



Fill in the letters numbered in the answers above to answer the question below.

Where did Billy see himself eating snake-sized worms?

I N H I S D R E A M S  
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

# READING UNITS AVAILABLE FROM Pamela S. Freed & See LitBlitz.com for more information on book clubs



## Elementary - Primary:

Amelia Bedelia by Peggy Parish  
Be a Perfect Person in Just Three Days by Stephen Manes  
Because of Winn-Dixie by Kate DiCamillo  
(The) Berenstain Bears and the Wheelchair Commando by Stan and Jan Berenstain  
(The) Best Christmas Pageant Ever by Barbara Robinson  
(The) Best Halloween Ever by Barbara Robinson  
(The) Boxcar Children by Gertrude Chandler Warner  
(The) Boy of the Three Year Nap by Dianne Snyder  
Charlotte's Web by E.B. White  
Chocolate Fever by Robert Kimmel Smith  
(The) Chocolate Touch by Patrick Skene Catling  
Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs by Judi Barrett  
(The) Five Chinese Brothers by Claire Huchet Bishop  
Flat Stanley by Jeff Brown  
Freckle Juice by Judy Blume  
Frog and Toad Are Friends by Arnold Lobel  
(The) Great Kapok Tree by Lynne Cherry  
How Many Days to America? By Eve Bunting  
How to Eat Fried Worms by Thomas Rockwell  
(The) Keeping Quilt by Patricia Polacco  
Mailing May by Michael O. Tunnell  
Math Curse by Jon Scieszka  
Mike Mulligan & His Steam Shovel by Virginia Lee Burton  
(The) Polar Express by Chris Van Allsburg  
Sarah, Plain and Tall by Patricia MacLachlan  
Skippyjon Jones by Judy Schachner  
Stone Soup by Marcia Brown  
(The) Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig by Eugene Trivizas  
When Pigasso Met Mootisse by Nina Laden  
Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak

## **COMING SOON!**

A Long Way From Chicago by Richard Peck  
Amelia and Eleanor Go For a Ride by Pam Munoz Ryan  
Bridge to Terabithia by Katherine Paterson  
Fight Like a Patriot by David Mark Lopez  
Flowers for Algernon by Daniel Keves  
Gulliver's Travels by Jonathan Swift  
Hatchet by Gary Paulsen  
Holes by Louis Sachar  
Jacob Have I Loved by Katherine Paterson  
Moses: When Harriet Tubman Led Her People to Freedom  
by Carole Boston Weatherford  
Pink and Say by Patricia Polacco  
Saturday and Teacakes by Lester Laminack  
So B. It by Sarah Weeks  
So Far From the Sea by Eve Bunting  
Terrible Things: An Allegory of the Holocaust by Eve Bunting  
The Bracelet by Yoshiko Uchida  
The Harmonica by Tony Johnston  
The Library Dragon by Carmen Agra Deedy  
The Lord of the Flies by William Golding  
The Martian Chronicles by Ray Bradbury  
The Other Side by Jacqueline Woodson  
The Time Machine by H.G. Wells  
The Yellow Star - The Legend of King Christian X of Denmark  
by Carmen Agra Deedy  
Trumpet of the Swan by E.B. White

## Elementary - Intermediate and/or Middle School:

A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L'Engle  
A Year Down Yonder by Richard Peck  
Across Five Aprils by Irene Hunt  
Al Capone Does My Shirts by Gennifer Choldenko  
Among the Hidden by Margaret Peterson Haddix  
Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis  
Chasing Vermeer by Blue Balliett  
Crispin: The Cross of Lead by Avi  
Diary of a Wimpy Kid by Jeff Kinney  
Each Little Bird That Sings by Deborah Wiles  
Elijah of Buxton by Christopher Paul Curtis  
Fever, 1793 by Laurie Halse Anderson  
Fly Like a Witch by David Mark Lopez  
Found by Margaret Peterson Haddix  
Freak the Mighty by Rodman Philbrick  
Inkheart by Cornelia Funke  
Island of the Blue Dolphins by Scott O'Dell  
Letters from Rifka by Karen Hesse  
Maniac Magee by Jerry Spinelli  
Number the Stars by Lois Lowry  
Out of the Dust by Karen Hesse  
Peter and the Starcatchers by Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson  
Romeo and Juliet retold by Bruce Coville  
Run Like a Fugitive by David Mark Lopez  
Running Out of Time by Margaret Peterson Haddix  
Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes by Eleanor Coerr  
The 39 Clues: The Maze of Bones by Rick Riordan  
The Butterfly by Patricia Polacco  
The Devil's Arithmetic by Jane Yolen  
The Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank  
The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins  
The Indian in the Cupboard by Lynne Reid Banks  
The Last Book in the Universe by Rodman Philbrick  
The Lightning Thief by Rick Riordan  
The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis  
The River Between Us by Richard Peck  
The Thief Lord by Cornelia Funke  
The Wall by Eve Bunting  
The Watsons Go To Birmingham, 1963 by Christopher Paul Curtis  
Through My Eyes by Ruby Bridges  
To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee  
Tuck Everlasting by Natalie Babbitt  
Yertle the Turtle by Dr. Seuss