

Take the Story Out of the Book

Using Children's Literature
in Biliteracy Units

Susan Pryor



Presentation Outline

- Identify benefits of using children's literature
- Explore considerations for selecting books
- Describe how children's literature can be used in biliteracy units
- See examples of biliteracy units that weave children's literature throughout the unit

Benefits

Using Children's Literature

motivation
engagement
authenticity
complexity

"Trade books are written by people who have something to say and hope their words appeal to readers who seek personal knowledge, insight, and pleasure "

(Jacobs & Tunnell, 1996)

Benefits

Using Children's Literature

- Builds and supports contextualized knowledge
- Encourages extended and multifaceted exploration around a central question or big idea
- Inspires extension or innovation that can be applied to content learning, writing or word study/fluency practice

Considerations Selecting Children's Literature

- Cultural Relevance
- Cultural Accuracy
- Curricular Relevance

*"Reading the world
always precedes reading the word,
and reading the word
implies continually reading the world"
(Freire, 1987)*

Considerations Selecting Children's Literature

- Authenticity of Text
- Quality of Translation
- Complexity of Language
- Coherence of Text and Illustrations
- Artistic Appeal



Mapping Your Unique Considerations

Mapping Your Unique Considerations for Selecting and Using Children's Literature in Multilingual Settings

Things that will Influence
Cultural Relevance
Funds of Knowledge

Things that will Influence
Linguistic Compatibility
Language Levels

Things that will Influence
Curricular Relevance
Learning Standards
Topical Constraints

©Susan Pryor.

Created for Children's Literature Afternoon Session on June 22, 2015
Teaching for Biliteracy Summer Institute | June 22-26, 2015 | Chicago, Illinois

Children's Literature Can Contribute To...

- Unit Planning
(Short- & Long-Term)
- Concrete Activities to Build
Oracy & Background Knowledge
- Text Innovations or Extensions
for Shared/Independent Writing
- Generation of Meaningful Text
for Word Study or Fluency
Practice

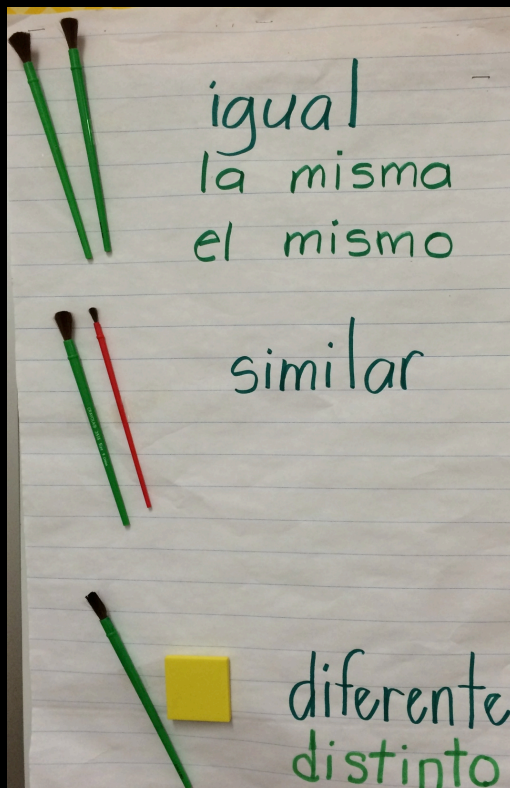


Children's Literature for Building Oracy & Background Knowledge



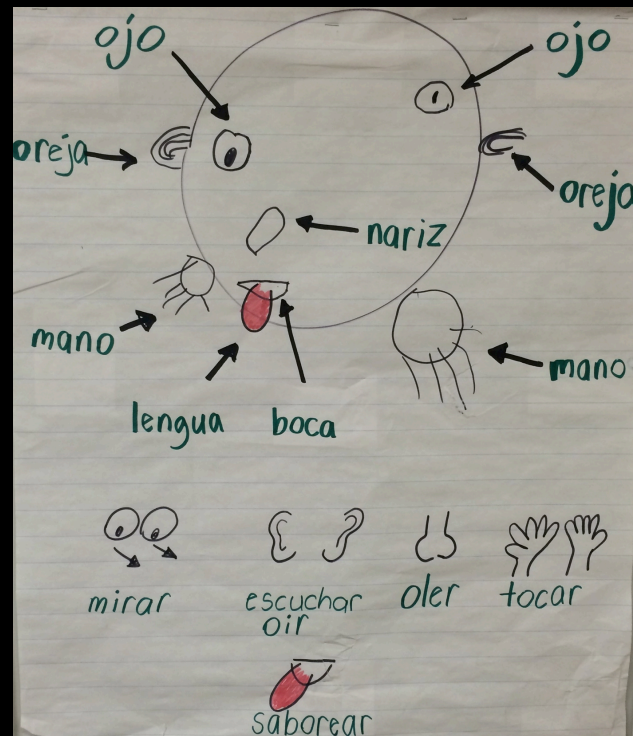
Math

Standards



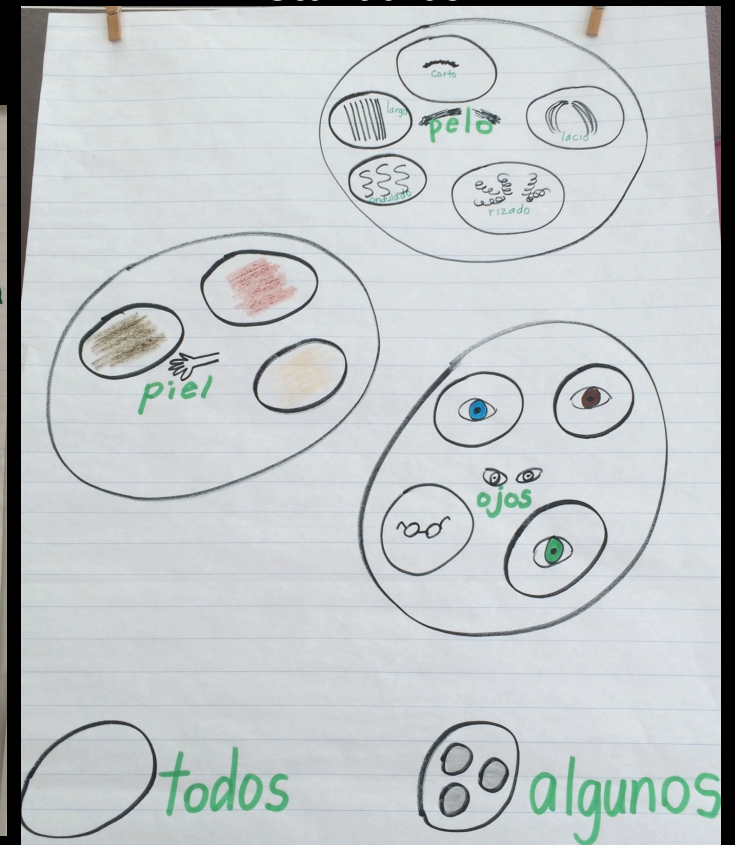
Science

Standards

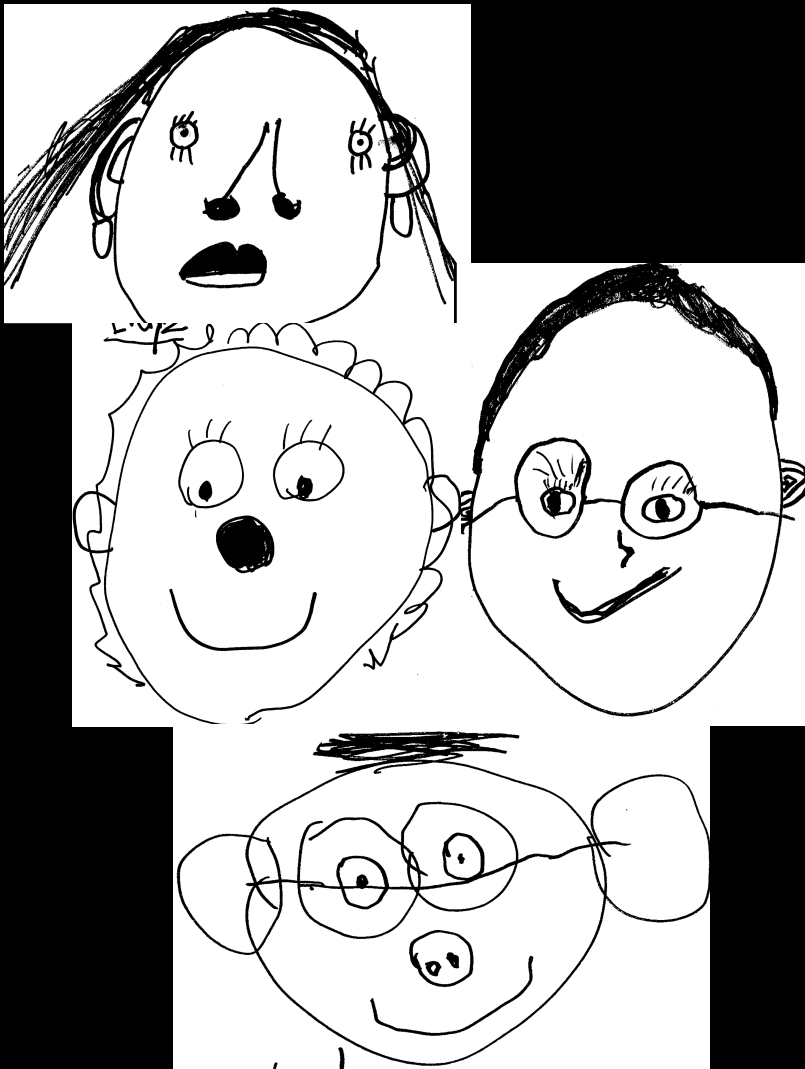


Social Studies

Standards

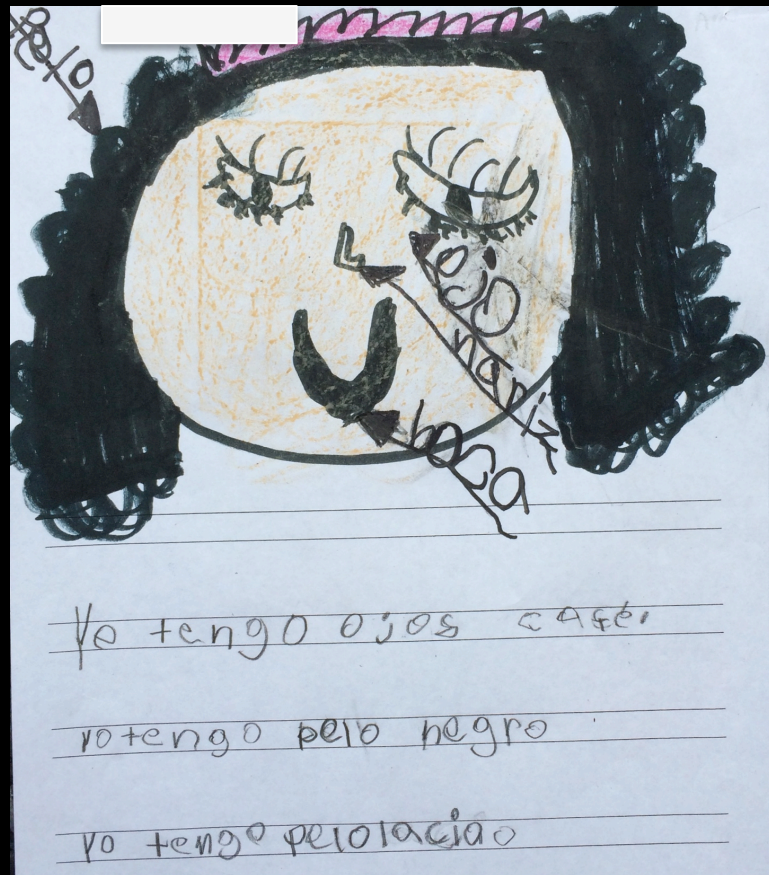


Children's Literature for Building Oracy & Background Knowledge



Children's Literature for Writing

Independent



Shared



Los ojos ☒ el pelo de los niños de Loyola

En el salón de Loyola, muchos niños tienen ojos café.

No hay niños con ojos azul.

Un niño tiene los ojos verde.

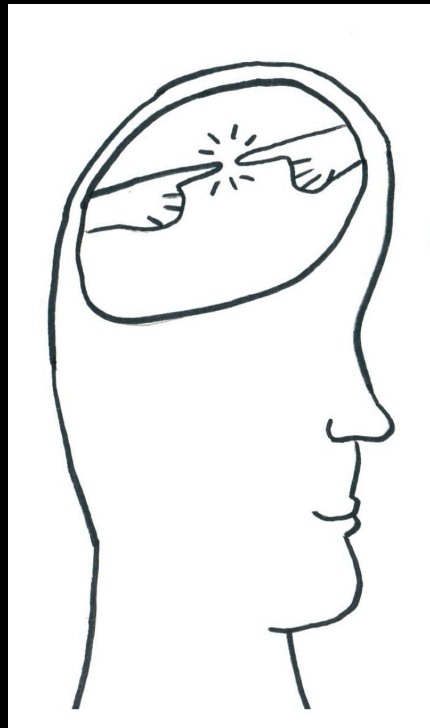
Todos los niños tienen pelo negro o café.

Todos tenemos pelo diferente.

Las niñas tienen pelo largo.

Los niños tienen pelo corto.

Children's Literature for Reading

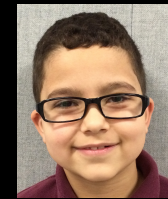


Me recuerda de...



–Esa niña me recuerda de mi pelo rizado.

–Los lentes me recuerdan de los lentes de Arturo...



...y yo soy igual a la niña porque yo tengo pelo lacio también.



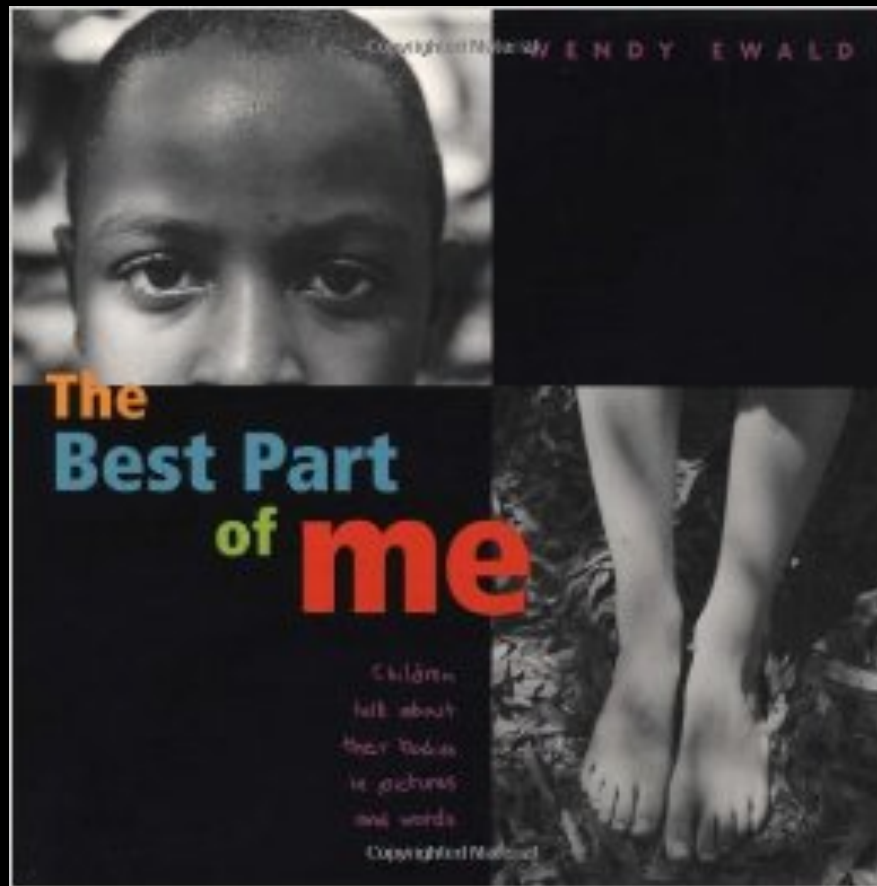
Children's Literature for Word Study & Fluency Practice



Cortas	Largas
verde	Loyola
*negro	ondulado
*café	rizado
pelo	
*azul	
ojos	
largo	
corto	
lacio	

S	Z	C
cáscara	manzana	Centros
vástago	calabaza	ciencia
vamo 3 →	corazón	CEREBRO
Maestra	Ely	lacio
similar	manzano	gracias
olas	rizado	diccionario
Fiska	Zoología	
Pinguinos		

Children's Literature and Literacy in the Other Language



★ My hair ★

I like my hair its long,
black and wavy. If you look
real close you can see red
streaks. It comes from my
mexican heritage. Its wavy
like the ocean

★ By: Camila Villasana ★

Thinking Through the Use of a Text

**My Unique
Considerations**

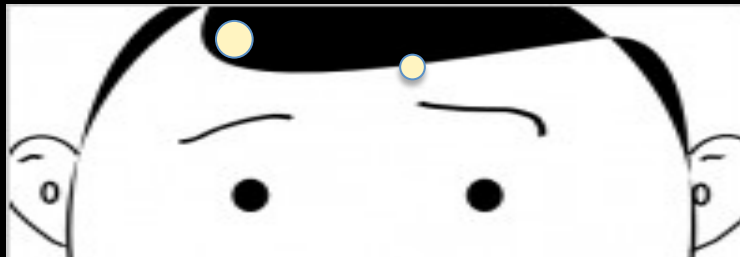
**Book
or
Standard/Topic**

I should use a Latino author so my students can see themselves as authors. Most of my students are 2nd or 3rd generation emerging bilinguals, some of my students are biracial too. Should I use an African American author?

Although my students like Alma Flor Ada stories, I can't think of two stories with the same character. Who are other contemporary Latina authors?

I need to do an author study and teach how to compare/contrast characters in 2 stories.

MONICA BROWN!
She wrote two books about Marisol McDonald.



**I know a great book
to teach about...**



**I'm interested in finding
books to teach about...**



**I'm interested in finding
books to teach about...**

**I know a great book
to teach about...**



Thinking Through the Use of a Text

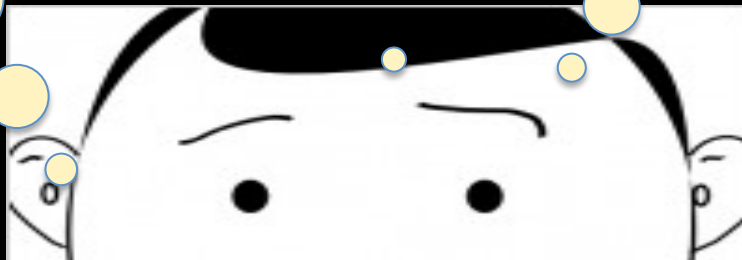
Concrete Activities

Oracy & Background Knowledge

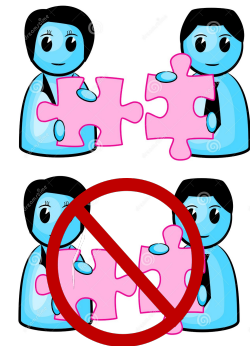
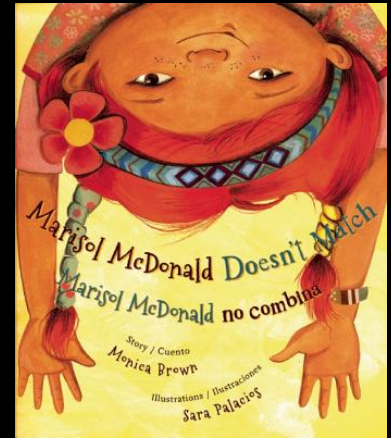
After looking at the book, I see that I can use pictures or body language to scaffold a lot of the new language for my students. But I need to make sure my students understand that Marisol likes not matching.

My students need to understand match/not match. They can figure that out from pictures. I can use Concept Attainment.

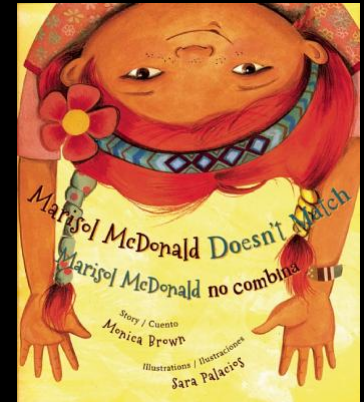
I can use Adapted Readers Theater to dramatize these two pages in the book that show her feelings when she matches/doesn't match.



Children's Literature for Building Oracy & Background Knowledge



Children's Literature for Building Oracy & Background Knowledge



Thinking Through the Use of a Text

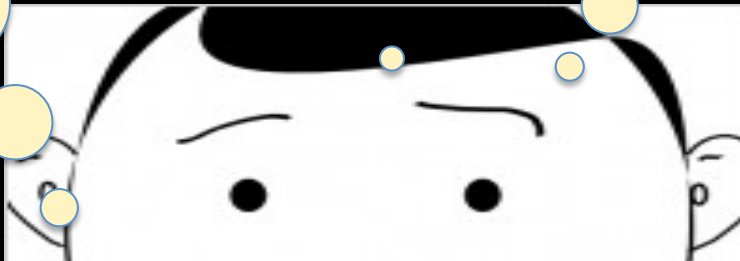
Reading & Writing

What questions can I ask during the reading to ensure literal understanding?
(1st reading)

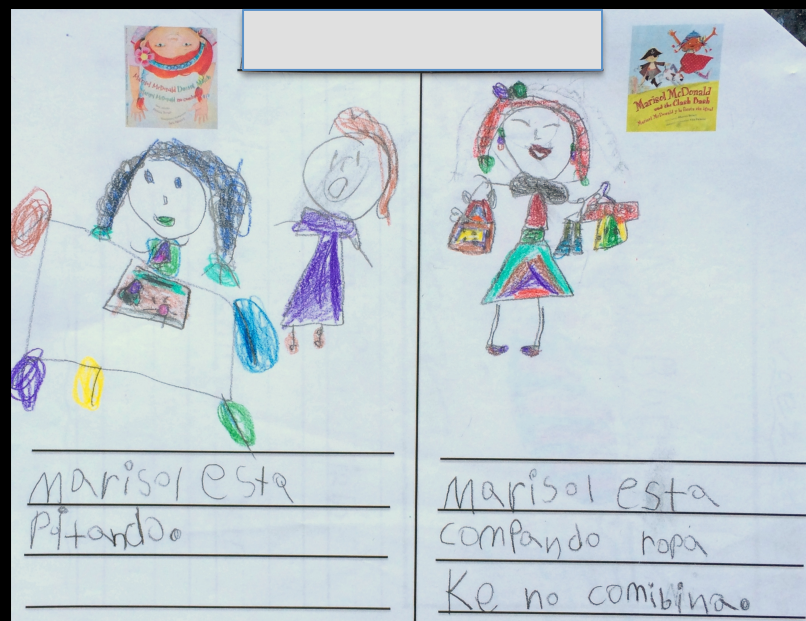
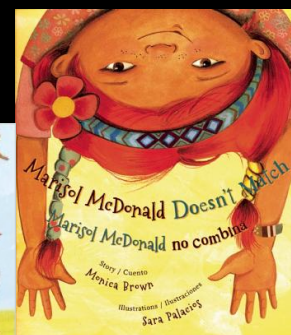
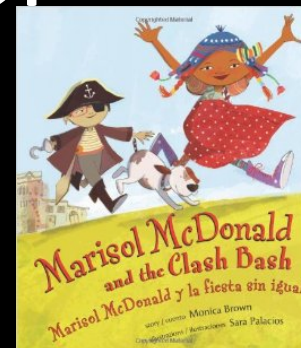
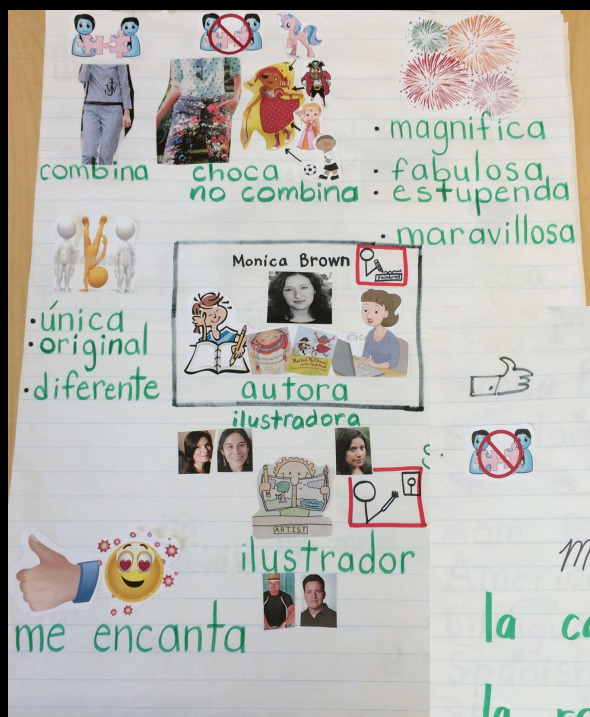
What questions can I use to work on reading strategies?
(2nd or → reading)

What words or phrases will my students need to answer my questions or to express themselves in writing about this book?

What modeled or shared writing activities can I do to create the text that will later be used as a resource for writing, word study or fluency?



Children's Literature for Reading & Writing



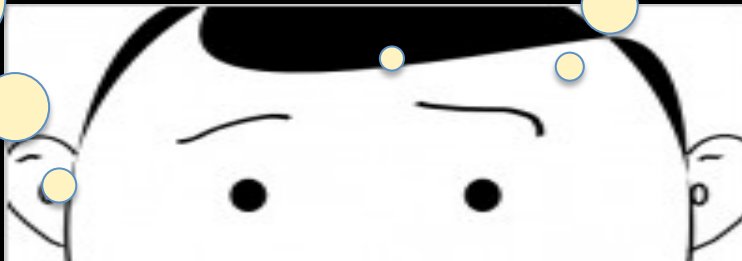
Thinking Through the Use of a Text

Word Study & Fluency

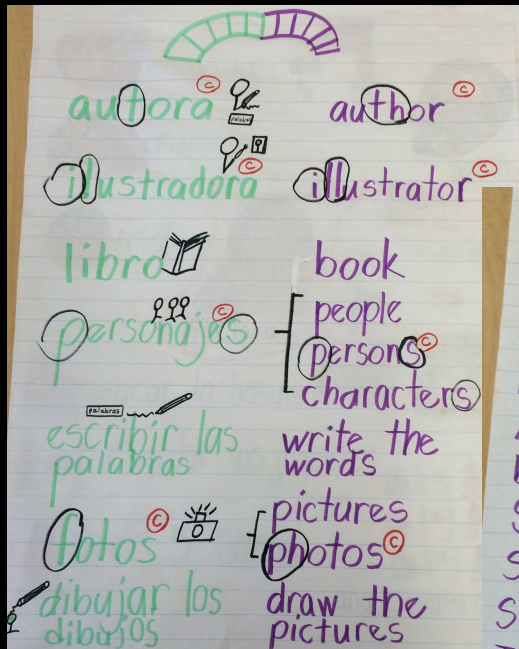
What letters/sounds are left to learn? Any that are salient in the words I think we will use? What other skills from Reading Foundational Skills or Language can I work on?

What text can I use for dictado? A phrase from the book or from one of the charts?

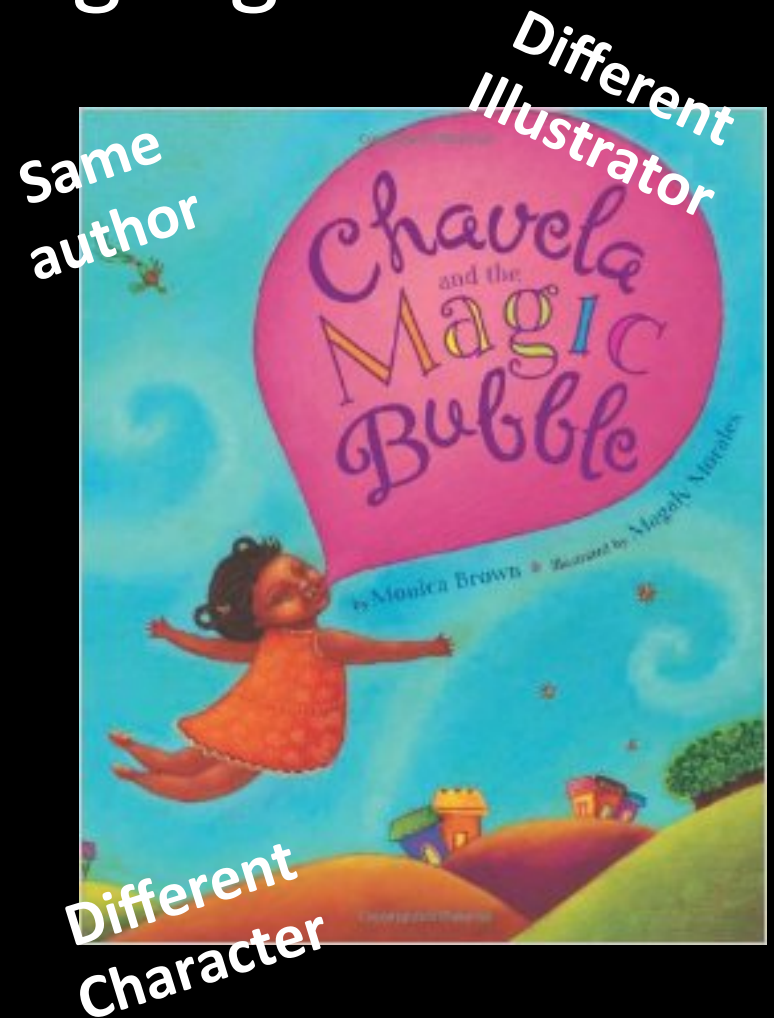
Will I have some text that I can use for fluency practice?



The Bridge and Children's Literature & Literacy in the Other Language



Monica Brown
Monica Brown is an author. She loves to write stories. She is Latina. Her mom is from South America. Monica is bilingual. She speaks Spanish and English. She wrote a lot of books. She works with illustrators. They draw the pictures. Monica Brown is like her character Marisol McDonald. They are both bilingual.



Reflection on Texts Used

Self & Others BUF



Author Study BUF





Challenges & Solutions



Authentic literature is expensive and difficult to obtain for review



Write grants to:

- Purchase books
- Travel to international book fairs
- Attend conferences about literature from different countries

Country and culture influence the format and content of international books



Become familiar with conventions common in different countries.

A Free & Immediate Solution



Share the knowledge and expertise gained through your own experience with others!

