

***BUILDING BRIDGES
AND
BREAKING BARRIERS
WITH
GOOD BOOKS***

*By: Andrea Donegan, Intermediate School Counselor
Suzanne Dunbar, Secondary Level Library Media Specialist*

*A good book is an
event in my life.*

Stendhal

*“If you don't like to
read, you haven't
found the right
book.”*

– J.K. Rowling

*Books can be
dangerous. The best
ones should be labeled
“This could change
your life.”*
Helen Exley

OBJECTIVE FOR BUILDING BRIDGES PRESENTATION...

To learn the specific details of a specially designed book club to promote soft skill development in students.

To learn about grade appropriate books with character-building themes that can be used in a group or individual setting to promote growth, reflection, and learning.

To consider a different format for character development than the typical classroom based lessons.

WHY?

ASCA National Model Standards

Self-Management Skills

- × **B-SMS 7.** Demonstrate effective coping skills when faced with a problem

Social Skills

- × **B-SS 2.** Create positive and supportive relationships with other students
- × **B-SS 2.** Create positive and supportive relationships with other students
- × **B-SS 4.** Demonstrate empathy
- × **B-SS 5.** Demonstrate ethical decision- making and social responsibility

WHY?

National Library Standards (Future Ready & ITSE)

X A. Learner Competencies

Learners develop and satisfy personal curiosity by: 2. Reflecting and questioning assumptions and possible misconceptions.

X 3. ISTE for Students: Knowledge Constructor 3d. Students build knowledge by actively exploring real-world issues and problems, developing ideas and theories and pursuing answers and solutions.

X D. Grow LITERACY: Inspires and supports the reading lives of both students and teachers
Creates inclusive collections that acknowledge and celebrate diverse experiences and provide instructional opportunities to empower learners as effective users and creators of information and ideas.

WHY?

District Literacy Goals

- X Increase student reading stamina by providing time for students to read.
- X Provide student choice in reading selections.
- X Confer with students about their reading.
- X Implement reading strategies to ensure common language and focus, and participate in professional development.
- X Assist students in setting personal reading goals.
- X Foster opportunities for students to take an active role in collaborative discussions about reading.

HERE'S THE IMPACT OF READING 20 MINUTES PER DAY!

A student who reads

20:00

minutes per day

will be exposed to
1.8 MILLION
words per year
and scores in
90th PERCENTILE
on standardized tests

A student who reads

5:00

minutes per day

will be exposed to
282,000
words per year
and scores in
50th PERCENTILE
on standardized tests

A student who reads

1:00

minute per day

will be exposed to
8,000
words per year
and scores in
10th PERCENTILE
on standardized tests

 SCHOLASTIC

READING MATTERS!

Book Club Components

Students:

- Sign up
- Select books
- Invited to lunch or recess discussion
- Check in during library checkout time
- Complete book survey after reading book
- Select another book if interested
- Participate in Book Bash

HOW IS THIS DIFFERENT THAN A TRADITIONAL BOOK CLUB?

- Reached more students
- Involved more reading
- SEL specific themes
- Variety
- Flexibility



- Book Critique Survey
- Library check-out
- Recess/lunch
- Discussion Cards
- Book Bash
- Google Classroom?

High School Consideration – Advisory, study hall, Remind app, Google classroom, announcements, social media, lunch hour, before/after school .



BOOK SELECTION



Theme (Genre) & Lexile

[Lexile Look Up/Lexile - Grade Level - F&P](#)

[Teaching Books/NovelList](#)



TOPICS/THEMES SELECTED

- Loss/Death/Grieving
- Discrimination
- Bullying
- Disabilities
- Social Media
- OCD
- Dishonesty/Peer Relationships

DYER LIT VOYAGEURS

Social/Family/Emotional Issues

- × [Book Club List](#)
- × [Additional Book Club Suggestions](#)
- × [YA Books](#)



FINDING THE \$\$\$

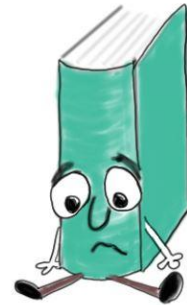
Library Funds – CSFs

PTO

Walmart Grants

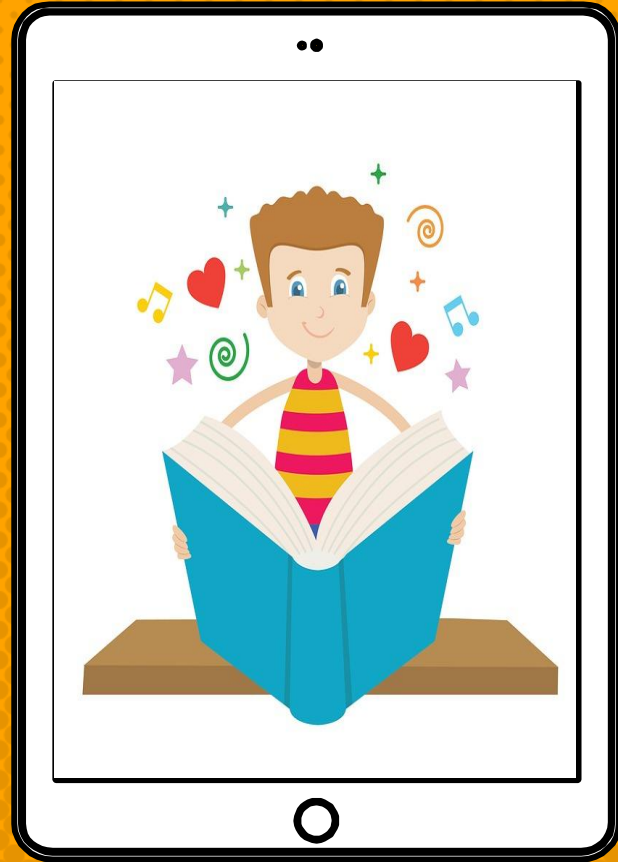
Company Grants

[Inexpensive Books!](#)



BOOK REVIEW

GOOGLE SURVEY



HOW HARD WOULD IT BE TO BE THE MAIN CHARACTER IN THE BOOK?

#1 - NOT HARD AT ALL

#5 - VERY HARD

#5 - 15 STUDENTS

#4 - 12 STUDENTS

#3 - 6 STUDENTS

#2 - 1 STUDENTS

#1 - 0 STUDENTS

**HOW WELL CAN YOU
RELATE TO THE
STRUGGLES THAT PLAYED
OUT IN THE BOOK?**

**50% OF STUDENTS COULD RELATE
PRETTY WELL OR VERY WELL TO THE
STRUGGLES IN THE BOOK**

***AFTER READING THIS BOOK, HOW MUCH MORE DO YOU UNDERSTAND
THE STRUGGLES/ISSUES THAT PLAYED OUT IN THE BOOK?***

- I learned a lot and have a really good understanding of the issues/struggles occurring in the book.
 - 6 responses
- I have questions. I want to learn more about the issues.
 - 27 responses
- I don't really understand the issues/struggles in the book.
 - 0 responses

WHO WAS YOUR FAVORITE CHARACTER AND WHY?

Finding Perfect: My favorite character is Molly because she learns to face her fears and tell someone about her problem.

Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus: My favorite character was Zion because I thought he was extremely brave and never let a smile slip from his face. He'd be a great friend to have in real life.

The Hundred Dresses: Maddie because she was true to her character and changed her ways.

Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus: Aven because she still does everything else that I do normally and she doesn't let not having arms get in the way

Posted: Eric, because he tries to make things better in the end, but it didn't become what he wanted, so he accepted the fact that it'll be like that.

The Girl with More than One Heart: The main character, Briana, because she is a great storyteller and I understand her feelings about her father

WHAT DID YOU LEARN FROM READING THIS BOOK?

Posted: To trust your friends and always be there for them.

Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus: I learned that it's okay to be different, and if you surround yourself with good people, you won't even think about the people who look at you differently.

Searching For David's Heart: To never give up, think about what you say before you say it, and appreciate people in your life that are kind to you.

Finding Perfect: If you are struggling tell someone.

Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus: I learned that you should never let your differences stop you from doing what you want.

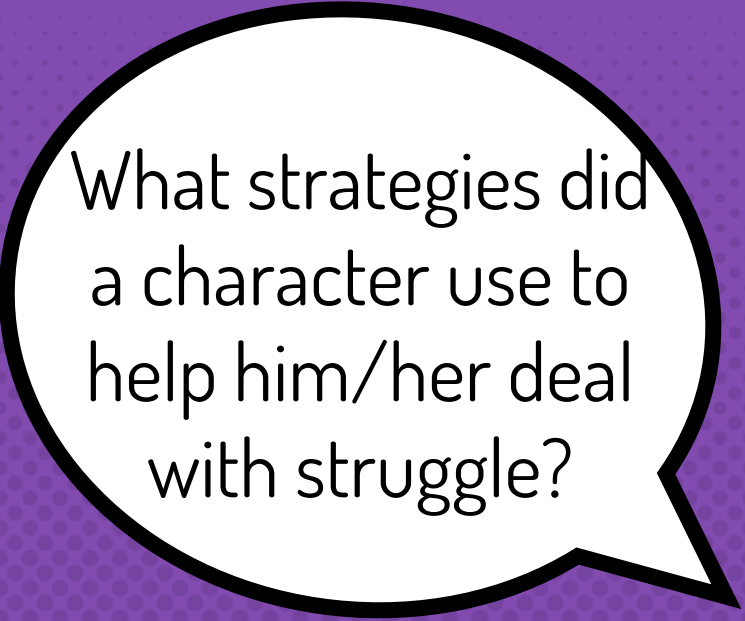
WHAT DID YOU LEARN FROM READING THIS BOOK?

A Hundred Dresses: You are perfect just the way you are unless your a bully then you should change.

Rules: Some people don't have the same problems as you.

The Perfect Score: I learned that the people are different but, in all they can join together and get along just fine and have fun.

The Girl with More than One Heart: I learned that sometimes a death of loved one can change you, and sometimes you have to help out that person who lost a loved one, and not just be the bystander.



What strategies did a character use to help him/her deal with struggle?

Finding Perfect: She tried to stop, but couldn't so she told someone and got help.

Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus: Practicing and not getting help so she does it herself.

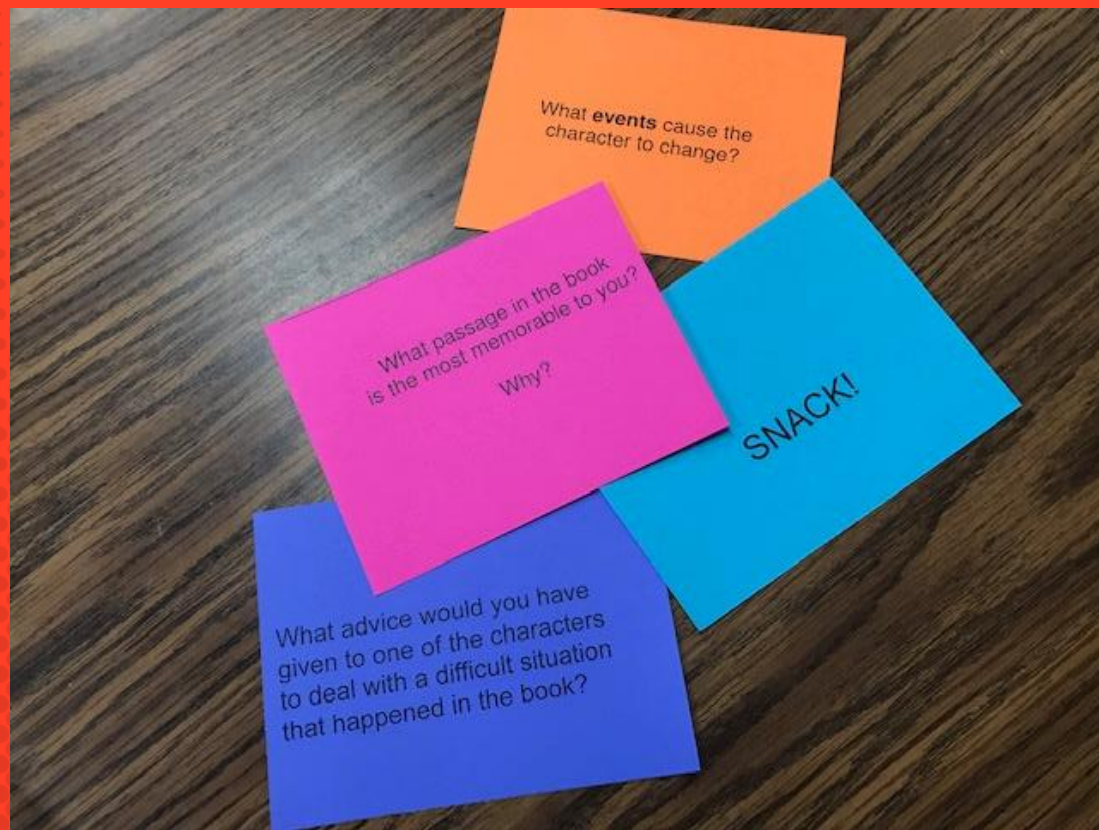
Posted: He tried to get people get along with each other and by talking to them calmly.

Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus: Aven used breathing techniques to calm down and then tried again

EMPATHY & UNDERSTANDING

AFTER READING THIS BOOK, HOW MUCH MORE DO YOU UNDERSTAND THE STRUGGLES/ISSUES THAT PLAYED OUT IN THE BOOK?

- I learned a lot and have a really good understanding of the issues/struggles occurring in the book.
 - 6 responses
- I have questions. I want to learn more about the issues.
 - 27 responses
- I don't really understand the issues/struggles in the book.
 - 0 responses



Discussion Cards

PROMOTING & SUSTAINING INTEREST

- Use of Morning Announcements
- Check-in during library checkout
- Passes for lunch/recess discussion
- Catch students when out and about
- Signs/posters in the library
- ELA teachers – Fulfills reading requirement

Book Snaps

#BookSnaps
with Google Slides

Tara Martin
#REALedu
@TaraMartinEDU
tarammartin.com

finding
PERFECT
ELLY SWARTZ

Aubrey

- Sad
- Captivating
- Memorable

Book Snaps

Grace



Searching for David's Heart
Cherie Bonner
A Christmas story



HOPE



Hopeful
Determined
Sad
Forgiveness
Friendship

Ava

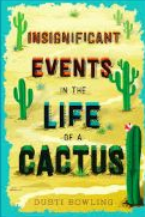


THE PERFECT SCORE
ROB BUYEA





Test adventures
Funny
Weird
Interesting Captivating
Original

Karl



INSIGNIFICANT
EVENTS
IN THE
LIFE
OF A
CACTUS
DORRIT BOWLING



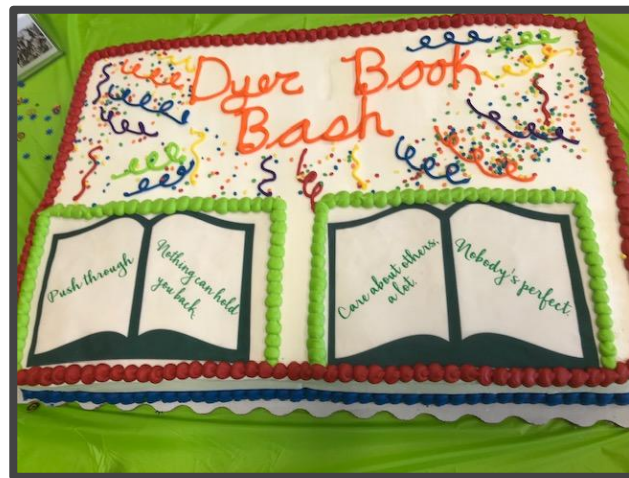
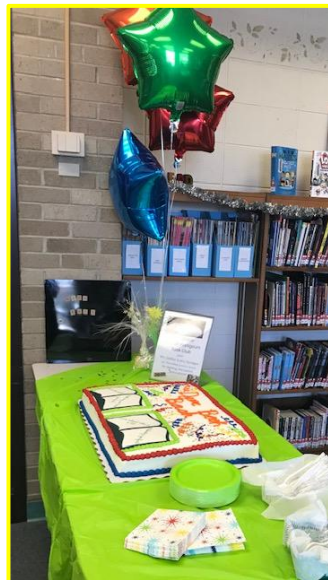
Laughter
Awkwardness
lonely

BOOK BASH SCHEDULE

- *Students Arrive – Welcome
- *Enter Drawing for Free Books
- * Book Snap Activity
- *Post-It Note Activity
- *Cake & Social Time
- *Book Charms



BOOK BASH





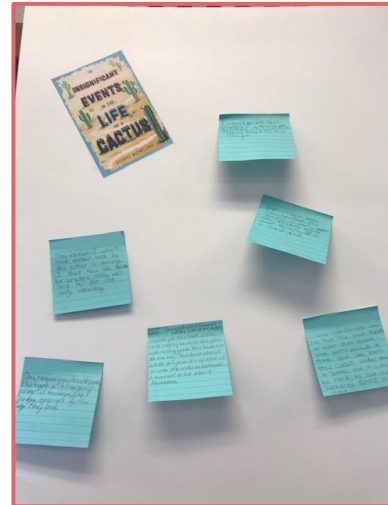
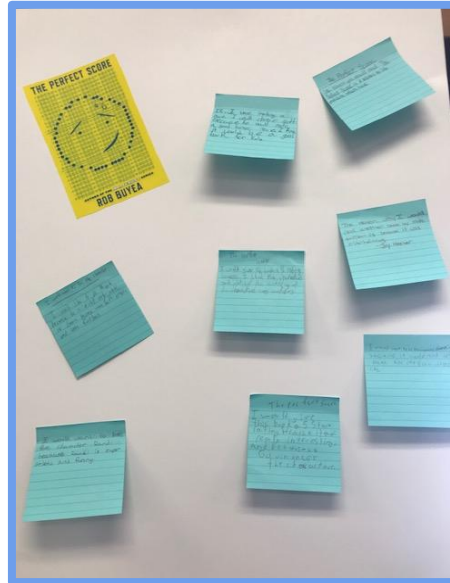
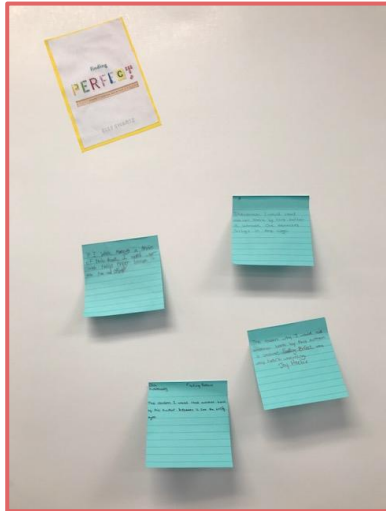
BOOK BASH

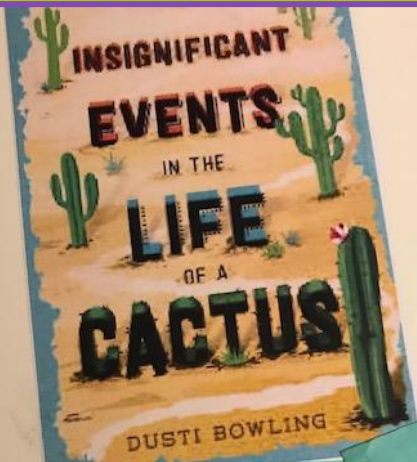


Book Charms



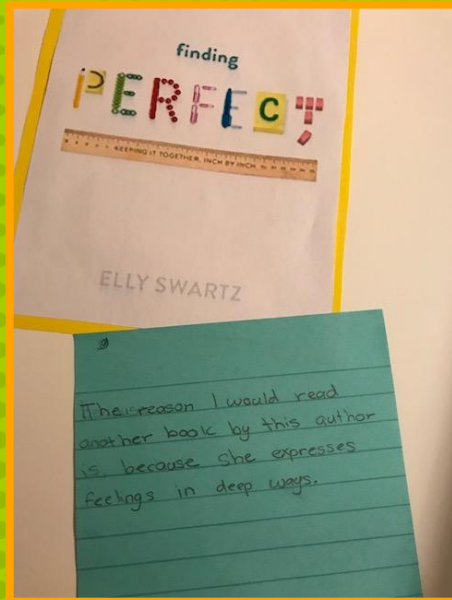
BOOK BASH



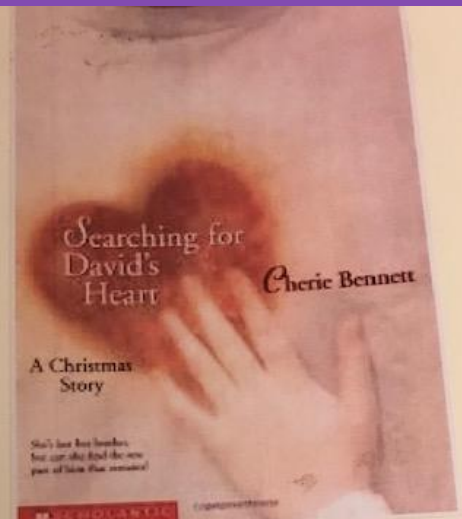


Kenzie Glisch
 Insignificant Events in the Life of a Cactus
 I would give this book a five star rating because the plot was really good. This book made me cry! This book shows what anyone is capable of. It was also informational; I learned a lot about Tourettes.

One reason I should read this book is because it is powerful and judges a way that



The reason I would read another book by this author is because she expresses feelings in deep ways.



One reason you should read this book is because it builds up empathy for the main character, Darcie, so throughout the book you feel sad, excited, and hopeless along with her.

Book Bash Tips

- ***1 ACTIVITY***
- ***MORE TIME FOR BASH***
- ***MORE SOCIAL TIME***
- ***HAVE TEACHERS STOP IN***
- ***HELP WITH CAKE/FOOD***
- ***FOOD ALLERGIES***

* More interaction with students

*Have them do Book Snap another time



ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

- *Safe Space
- *Identity as a “reader”
- *Connections (parents, peers, staff)
- *Promotional materials
- *Students “selling” books to other students”

COMPANION ACTIVITIES

- *Hundred Dresses* Reading
- *Searching for David's Heart* Movie
- Picture Books Collection

Bibliotherapy

“...many of us have engaged in a type of bibliotherapy for most of our lives while reading books, by empathizing or identifying with characters or gaining factual information about our problems, or when we’ve written to express ourselves, by composing letters, journal entries, or stories. Reading for pleasure, with no motive to heal, can be deeply therapeutic for many.

By Kate Jackson
Social Work Today
Vol. 16 No. 6 P. 10

“One of the main benefits of bibliotherapy, Barlow says, is that it helps individuals see, as Lincoln suggested, that their experiences aren’t unique. The practice, she says, gives clients “the chance to experience the universality of human experience and emotion.”

Developmental bibliotherapy, employed by educators, librarians and healthcare workers, facilitates transitions with basically healthy individuals (Rubin, 1978).

Although benefits may be derived just from reading helpful literature (Floyd et al., 2006), researchers found enhanced effects when counselors help select material. This appears to be the case especially with materials that prompt discussion and clarification of issues (Newman et al., 2003).

“An influential 2013 study published in “Science” found that reading literary fiction improved participants’ results on tests that measured social perception and empathy, which are crucial to “theory of mind”: the ability to guess with accuracy what another human being might be thinking or feeling.” Elaine Vance, October 18, 2017

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THANKS!

BOOK THEME IDEAS ON SEL TOPICS



- What ideas do you have for topics?
- Please jot down ideas on the post-it note

Things We Need to Bring

- Sign/Easel
- Book Charms
- Discussion Cards - Printout? I added a link
- Books
- Collections Printout
- Business Cards
- Mints/Candy
- Post-its
-