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Vocabulary with Character: Lessons from Newberry Books

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A stack of three books is shown on the left side of the image. The top book has a light-colored cover, and a yellow pencil with a pink eraser is resting on its surface. A shiny red apple is positioned to the left of the books. The background is a solid, muted green color.

Vocabulary with Character: Lessons from Newbery Books

Karen L. Parker, Ed.D.
Dean, School of Education

Includes book club study guide at the end of the book!

What Really Matters in **VOCABULARY**

*Research-Based Practices
across the Curriculum*



Patricia M. Cunningham

VOCABULARY
is critical
in **ALL** subjects





Comprehensive Vocabulary Framework

1. **Multiple and varied word encounters**
2. **Real, concrete experiences**
3. **Pictures and other visuals**
4. **Speaking and writing**
5. **Essential words taught directly**



Comprehensive Vocabulary Framework

6. **Teacher read-aloud & independent reading time**
7. **Independent vocabulary strategies**
8. **WORD WONDER!**

Vocabulary Levels:

Choosing words to teach

Tier one	Generally known by students
Tier two	Many students do not know, but will need to know
Tier three	Uncommon, obscure, technical



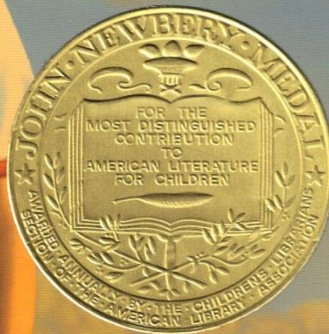
Newbery books: Criteria for character development

- Well-written books with moral dilemmas
- Enough depth beyond literal level
- Admirable but believable characters
 - about the same age
- Wide range of cultures
 - boy and girl lead characters

"A BRILLIANT BOOK." —Dave Barry

A novel by the Newbery Honor winner and National Book Award Finalist

Jack Gantos



Newbery Medal 2012



Three Read-Aloud Words

exasperated

torturous

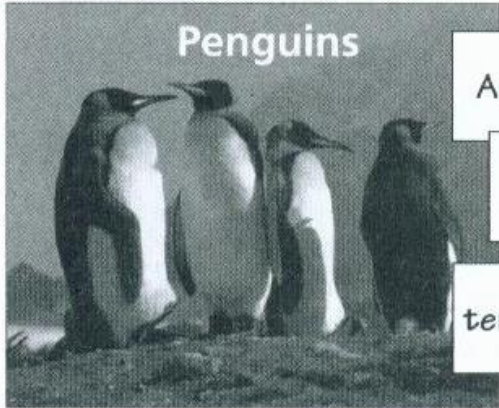
casually



Dead End in Norvelt

Three Read-Aloud Words

Read-Aloud Words Posters

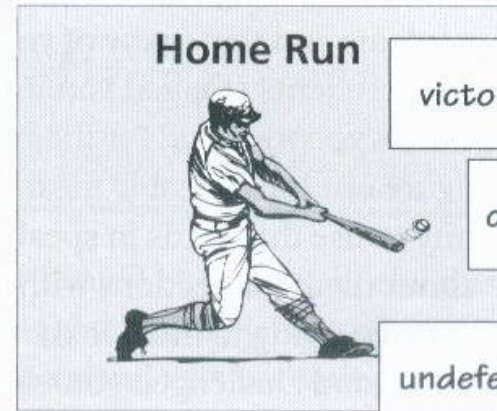


Penguins

Antarctica

predators

temperature



Home Run

victorious

courageous

undefeated

The Little Red Hen



wheat

plant

myself

“Turn and talk”

Oral



Three Read-Aloud Words

exasperated

torturous

casually



Dead End in Norvelt



Magic Morphemes:

Compounds

Cool Compounds

applesauce

airplane

jellyfish

campfire

earthquake

playground

ballpark

drawbridge

birthday

bookstore

brainstorm

quicksand

skateboard

girlfriend

carpool

lifeguard

boyfriend

basketball

knucklehead

newspaper

fingerprints

headquarters

pancakes

postcard

earrings

barefoot

starfish

firefighter

football

grandmother

snowflakes



Magic Morphemes:

Prefixes

un Words We Hunted Up

unemployed

unwilling

unfortunate

unsafe

unequal

unstable

uncertain

underground

unreasonable

unpleasant

uncle

unoccupied

unbroken

united

unfriendly

unfamiliar

unusual

uniform

unsuccessful

unwanted

unicorn

underwear

unfair

unconscious

unhappy

unexpected

unbelievable

unpopular

unhealthy

unlucky



Magic Morphemes: Suffixes

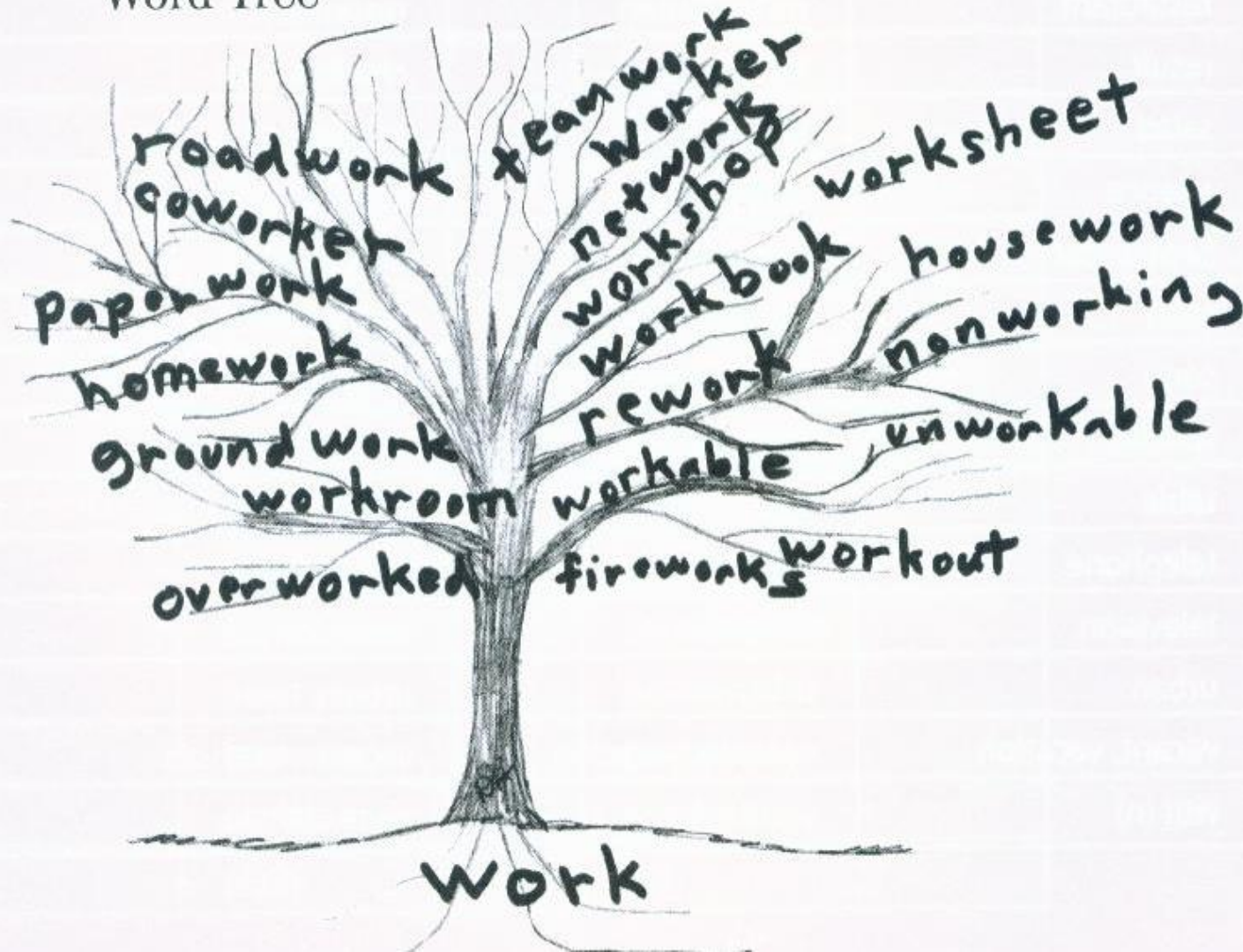
er Person or Thing

climber	printer	employer	computer	worker
teacher	remainder	producer	pitcher	player
murderer	bumper	fighter	explorer	catcher
drummer	scooter	container	grasshopper	reporter
settlers	locker	dancer	clippers	ringleader
		folder		robber

Magic Morphemes: Roots



Word Tree





Buck Tradition!

Interactive Introduction

- ***New word/OLD concept***
or
- ***New word/NEW concept***
 - Hands-on, virtual,
picture walks
 - Context,
kid-friendly definitions

"An important book for all people living in free society."

—PETER SÍS, AUTHOR OF *THE WALL*

BREAKING STALIN'S NOSE



EUGENE VELCHIN

Newbery Honor
2012



Sticky Note Day

COMMUNAL

It's dinnertime so the kitchen is crowded. Forty-eight hardworking, honest Soviet citizens share the kitchen and single small toilet in our **communal** apartment. We live here as one large, happy family: We are all equal; we have no secrets.

Breaking Stalin's Nose

Interactive Activities

Rivet

1. c o m m u n a l

2. -----

3. -----

4. -----

5. -----



Interactive Activities

- **Fill in my blank**
- **Guess what I am?**
- **20 Questions**
- **Pictionary**



Interactive Activities

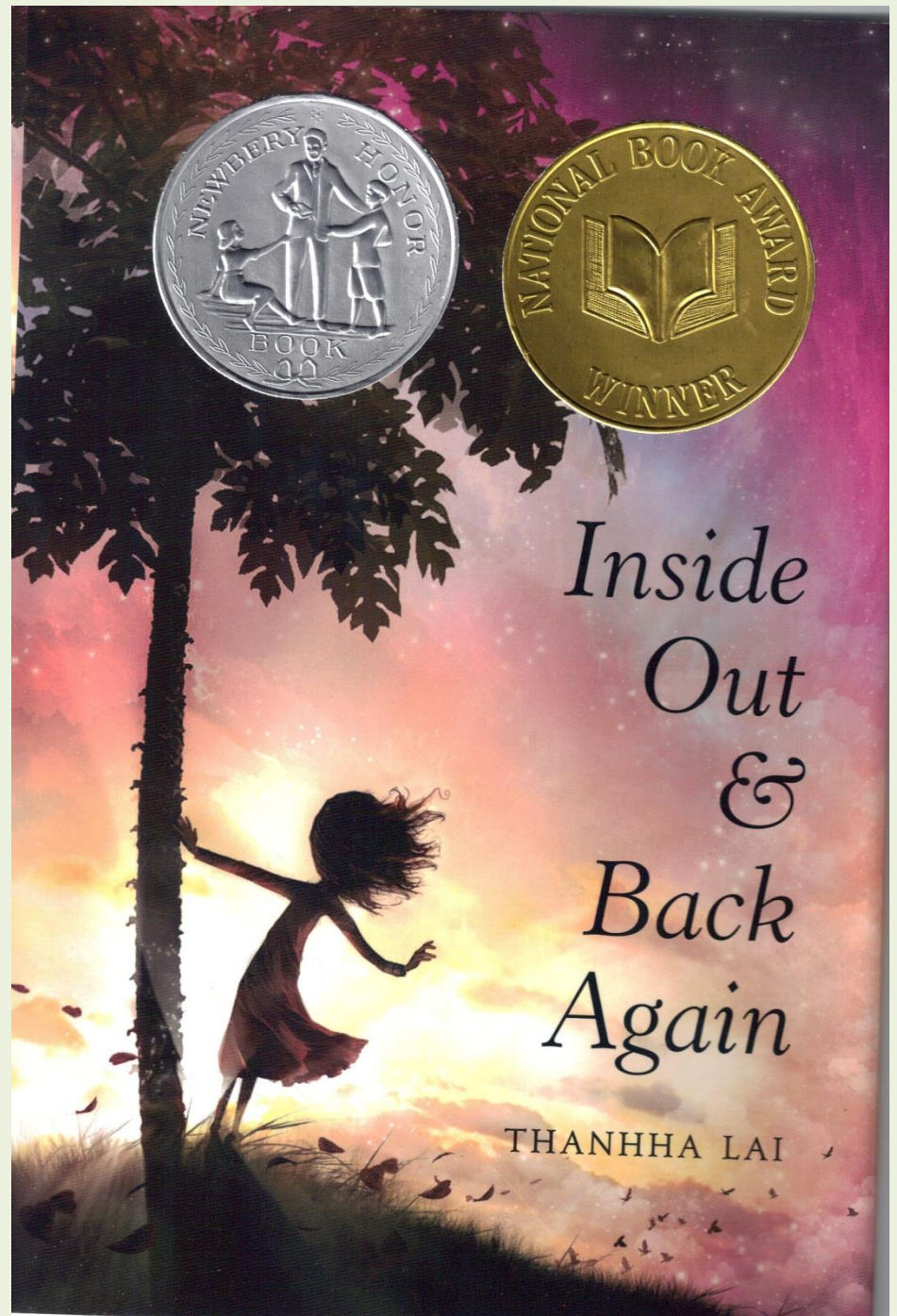
Vocabulary Bingo

equipment	tour	pajamas	terrified	evacuating
volcano	giraffe	buffalo	baton	eruption
ally	peacock	FREE WORD	habitat	essential
allusion	orchestra	world	cancel	accidental
disrupt	conductor	flexible	pedestrians	envious



WORD WONDER!

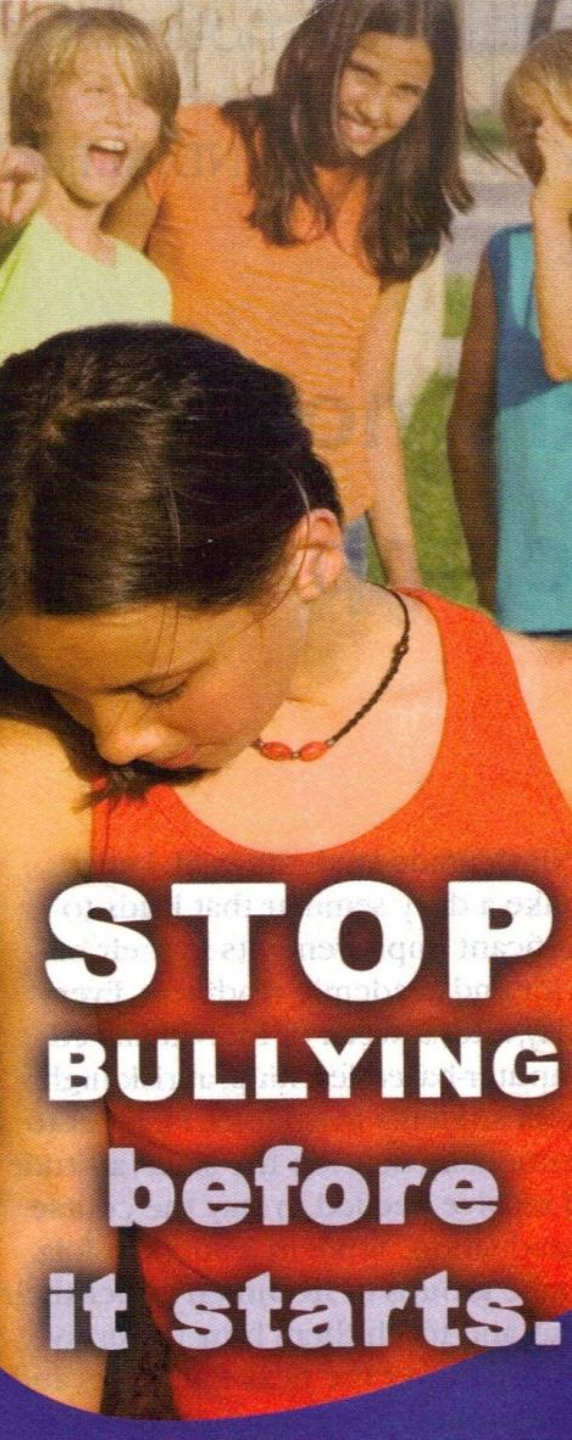
Newbery Honor
2012



Character Theme

Bullying

- Entire school population
(not just problem students)
- Beyond bullying
(overall school climate)
- Permanent, ongoing program
(not temporary response to incidents)



**STOP
BULLYING
before
it starts.**

Culture of kindness



Role of teacher

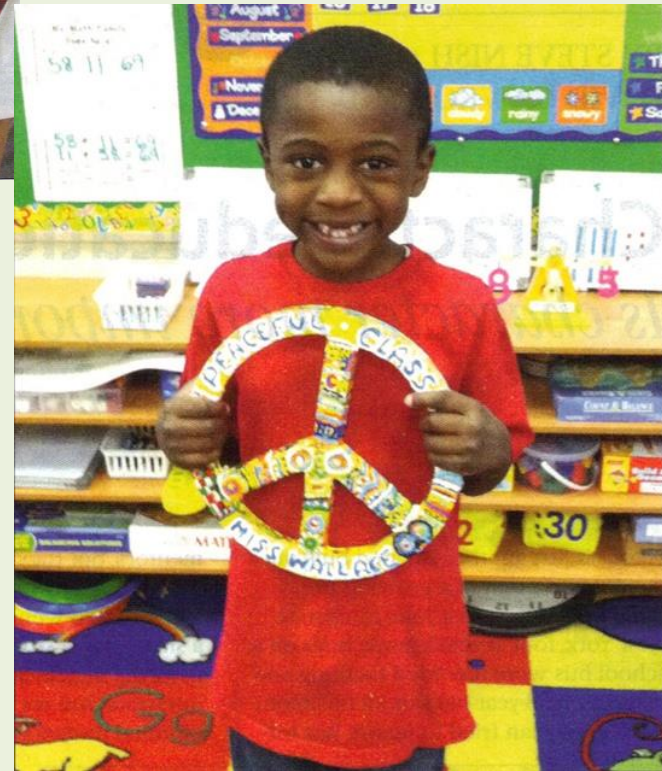


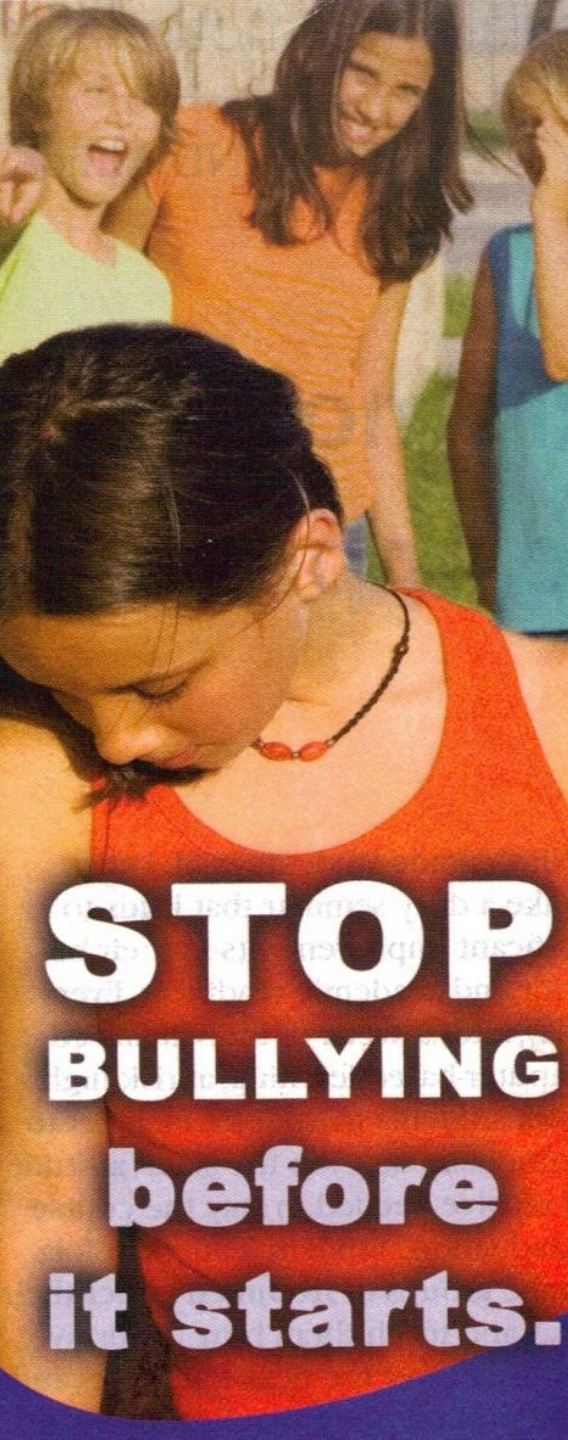
Leaders





Bystanders





Character Theme

Bullying

- Role play
- Brainstorm strategies
- Emphasize power of group
- Befriend bully victims



Newbery books

Vocabulary
Character