



TEACHINGBOOKS SPIRIT

Summer, 2006

This seasonal newsletter of <http://www.TeachingBooks.net> highlights specific online curricular connections to books and authors. It is only sent to registered educators who've requested it.

Use the TeachingBooks.net purple Search Box to find and instantly access the following resources and thousands of other online materials about authors, illustrators and books.

Introduce a Newbery Award-winning author to your elementary school students!

- Use TeachingBooks' exclusive Author Program featuring Kate DiCamillo and her newest book, *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*.

<http://www.teachingbooks.net/DiCamillo>

Many students will enjoy seeing Newbery Award winner Kate DiCamillo discuss and read her books. The relationships between humans and animals in Kate's books will draw students in as they learn about her love of words and her creative writing process. Be sure to share the five extra movies in which Kate reads from her various books.

Have your junior high book group discuss friendships and social status!

- Share an audio excerpt of *The Girls* to help the students get into the book.

<http://www.fullcastaudio.com/tek9.asp?pg=products&specific=jnorqqc0>

The social dynamics of junior high can be confounding to all involved. Explore the issues of cliques and girl-on-girl meanness in a safe way by using Amy Goldman Koss' book to start the discussion.

Incorporate historical fiction into history classes for high school students!

- Watch Markus Zusak in an interview about his historical fiction novel, *The Book Thief*.

<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/article/CA6320417.html>

Set in Germany during WWII, *The Book Thief* explores themes of resistance and conformity, kindness and cruelty, as well as the power of words. Share the story behind the story with this interview with Markus Zusak from School Library Journal.

Use nature in your pre-school art project this fall!

- Utilize this Book Guide for Lois Ehlert's *Leaf Man*.

<http://www.harcourtbooks.com/LeafMan/>

Use autumn leaves, or print out a template of leaf shapes so that your students can color and assemble their own Leaf Person or Leaf Animal, as inspired by Lois Ehlert's book, *Leaf Man*. Also find a teacher guide, a template for stickers and an interview with this artistic book creator.

