

SPRINGBOARDS

40 Outstanding Literature Units

by Suzy Red

Including 533 Pages of Activities,
A CD, and Site License for One School

Units for:

The 20 Abilene Librarians' Mockingbird Award List for 2005-2006

Plus

19 of the Texas Library Association 2x2 List for 2006

For Grades 1-3

Plus:

Bonus Books: *Wallace's Lists* by Barbara Bottner
and *Diary of a Spider* by Doreen Cronin



Character
Development

Puzzles

Readers' Theater
Scripts

Cross-Curriculum
Activities

Writing

Multiple Choice
Comprehension

Each Activity is Keyed into Gardner's Multiple Intelligences



Logical-
Mathematical

Interpersonal



Naturalist

Musical



Bodily-
Kinesthetic

Intrapersonal



Spatial

Linguistic



Mockingbird Award Books, 2005-2006

(List chosen by the Abilene I.S.D. Resource Specialists)

Additional activity pages are included in the enclosed CD.

Pages

<u>Alice the Fairy</u> by David Shannon (Ages 4-6) Alice is determined to become a fairy, but she discovers it isn't easy. Alice becomes a springboard into everyday magic.	Book, 6-8 CD, 10 pp.
<u>Ants</u> by Deborah Hodge (Ages 4-8) From reading about ants to studying them up close, this book will be a springboard into antsy science projects.	Book, 9-15 CD, 15 pp.
<u>Armadilly Chili</u> by Helen Ketteman (Ages 4-8) The Little Red Hen is told Texas-style with Billie Armadilly doing all the work to make chili while the desert critters play. This book provides a springboard into a study of 5 families of Texas animals and folk tales.	Book, 16-23 CD, 15 pp.
<u>Bread Comes to Life</u> by George Levenson (Ages 4-8) Come read the picture story of bread from seed to loaf! Then you will want to spring into action, baking your own bread.	Book, 24-27 CD, 13 pp.
<u>The Camel's Lament: A Poem</u> (Ages 4-9) by Charles E. Carryl. A lyrical resurrection of an earlier published poem, this description compares a camel to other animals. It will provide a springboard for further study of camels as well as appreciating our own differences.	Book, 28-32 CD, 13 pp.
<u>Everybody Works</u> by Shelley Rotner (Ages 3-6) This simple look at the world of work highlights conventional and unconventional jobs and inspires kids to explore their own futures.	Book, 33-38 CD, 22 pp.
<u>Farm Life</u> by Elizabeth Spurr (Ages 3-5) In Bill Martin's classic <u>Brown Bear, Brown Bear</u> style, this book explores the farm with its animals and equipment and provides a springboard into classification.	Book, 39-44 CD, 16 pp.
<u>I Wanna Iguana</u> by Karen Kaufman Orloff (Ages 4-8) Alex had a lot of reasons for wanting a pet iguana. Unfortunately, his mother didn't agree. Written as a series of letters between Alex and his mom, this book is the perfect springboard into persuasive writing.	Book, 45-48 CD, 9 pp.
<u>Jungle Drums</u> by Graeme Base (Ages 4-8) A little warthog named Ngiri learns the magic of the jungle drums and gets revenge on the animals who make fun of his small size. It provides the opportunity to springboard into character traits of honor and loyalty as well as specialized animal parts.	Book, 49-53 CD, 12 pp.
<u>Karate Hour</u> by Carol Nevius (Ages 4-8) The world of Karate comes alive in pictures and text! From here, you can spring into the study of health, simple machines, and self control.	Book, 54-60 CD, 15 pp.
<u>Mr. George Baker</u> by Amy Hest (Ages 4-8) Young Harry befriends a 100-year old man who wants to learn how to read. A natural springboard to compassion and respect and a welcome addition to 100-studies.	Book, 61-65 CD, 14 pp.
<u>Mrs. Watson Wants your Teeth</u> by Alison McGhee (Ages 4-7) A second grader scares a first grader into believing that her teacher is an alien who collects children's teeth. It becomes the perfect springboard into a dental health unit.	Book, 66-69 CD, 12 pp.
<u>My Light</u> by Molly Bang (Ages 4-10) The sun tells its story of how all energy on earth comes from its light. A motivating springboard into the study of photosynthesis, energy, and sunlight.	Book, 70-73 CD, 23 pp.
<u>Oh No, Gotta Go</u> by Susan Middleton Elya (Ages 4-7) Spanish words are woven into this poetic story of a young girl looking for a bathroom. A natural springboard into multicultural studies.	Book, 74-76 CD, 8 pp.
<u>A Rain Forest ABC: An Alphabet Book</u> by Amanda Doering (Ages 6-12) The rainforest is the setting for this beautiful alphabet book. Springboard into ecology and animal habitats.	Book, 77-80 15 pp.
<u>Snip Snap! What's That?</u> by Mara Bergman (Ages 3-7) A scary alligator creeps out of a manhole and into a house, but the kids discover they are courageous enough to lick the critter. Springboard into story mapping, alligator research, and a comparison of scary stories. <i>(Also on the Mockingbird list)</i>	Book, 81-84 CD, 14 pp.
<u>Souperchicken</u> by Mary Jane Auch (Ages 4-8) Can Henrietta Hen become the hero of this barnyard tale? Will it require more than her courage, leadership, and her ability to read to help her save the chickens from the soup factory? The fanciful story provides a springboard to character development and reading motivation.	Book, 85-88 CD, 11 pp.
<u>Spiders: Biggest! Littlest!</u> by Sandra Markle (Ages 4-9) Learning about spiders can be fun, especially in this terrific picture book about seven spiders and how their different sizes help them live successfully. The book provides a springboard to reading non-fiction and extending understanding of other concepts in science.	Book, 89-93 CD, 16 pp.
<u>A Very Hairy Scary Story</u> by Rick Walton (Ages 4-8) If your daddy told you to be home before dark, what would happen if you decided to stay and play anyway? Making bad choices can have scary results. Springboard into comparing scary stories and developing the character trait of honesty.	Book, 94-99 CD, 15
<u>Winners Never Quit</u> by Mia Hamm (Ages 4-8) Soccer superstar, Mia Hamm, tells a true story from her childhood when she learned that winners sometimes lose, but they never quit. It is a great springboard into learning sportsmanship and perseverance.	Book, 100-102 CD, 11 pp.



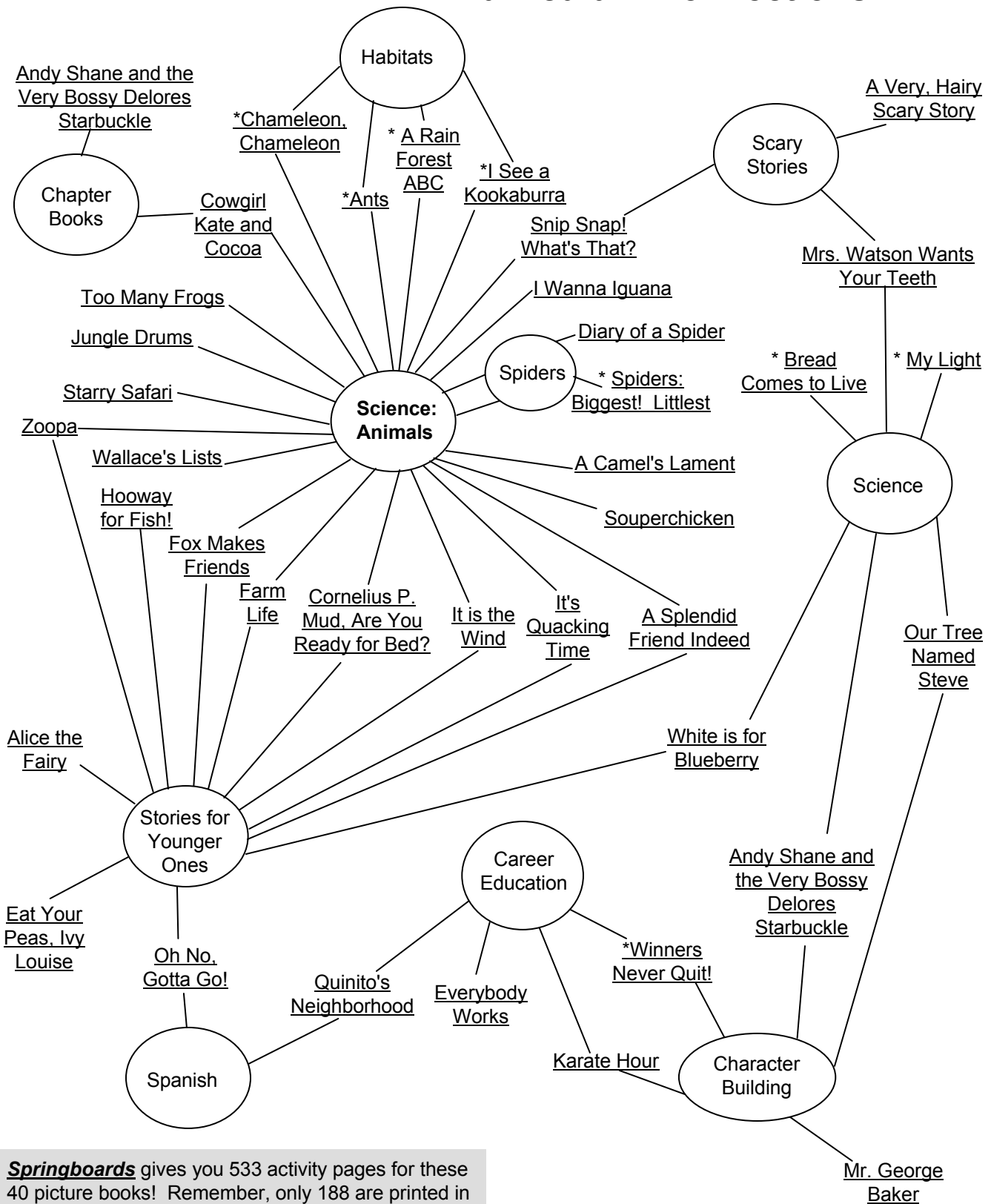
	Pages
<u>Diary of a Spider</u> by Doreen Cronin (Ages 5-8) In a companion book to <u>Diary of a Worm</u> , Worm's friend, Spider, tells about his life and provides a perfect springboard into idioms and a study of spiders.	Book, 103-105 CD, 12 pp.
<u>Wallace's Lists</u> by Barbara Bottner (Ages 5-8) Wallace organizes his life with lists and uses them to plan his every move. What will happen when he meets Albert, an unlikely friend whose passion is exploring the unknown? Spring from <u>Wallace's Lists</u> into making lists of your own!	Book, 106-109 CD, 12 pp.

Selections from the 2X2 List for 2006

(List compiled by the Texas Library Association)

<u>Andy Shane and the Very Bossy Delores Starbuckle</u> by Jennifer Richard Jacobson (Ages 6-8) A very bossy classmate makes life miserable for Andy Shane. Granny Shane comes to the rescue with a thing or two up her sleeve. Connections range from dealing with a bully to studying insects. A chapter book!	Book, 110-120 CD, 27 pp.
<u>Chameleon, Chameleon</u> by Joy Cowley (Ages 4-8) Revel in the stunning photos as you follow the chameleon in the forests of Madagascar. You'll enjoy using this story as a springboard to animal habitats, camouflage, and diets.	Book, 121-123 CD, 16 pp.
<u>Cornelius P. Mud, Are You Ready for Bed?</u> by Barney Saltzberg (Ages 5-8) A creative little pig vows that he has done all of the typical bedtime chores, but the illustrations reveal that Cornelius P. Mud has done them all very comically. Spring into creativity and then to bed as you read this one.	Book, 124-126 CD, 10 pp.
<u>Cowgirl Kate and Cocoa</u> by Erica Silverman (Ages 4-8) Cowgirl Kate has a big job counting and rounding up cattle, so she depends on her somewhat lazy pony, Cocoa. Their four terrific cowpoke adventures will springboard you into characterization and chapter books. A chapter book!	Book, 127-131 CD, 14 pp.
<u>Eat Your Peas, Ivy Louise</u> by Leo Landry (Ages 2-4) Discover the roots of cafeteria antics as you watch Ivy Louise play with her very playful peas. Spring from acrobatic vegetables into nutrition and manners!	Book, 132-133 CD, 10 pp.
<u>Fox Makes Friends</u> by Adam Relf (Ages 3-6) Have you ever been so bored that you decide to make friends...out of an apple, a turnip, some strawberries, and sticks? Fox works hard and in the process, makes some real friends! Fox will help you spring in to art and friendship building.	Book, 134-138 CD, 13 pp.
<u>Hooray for Fish!</u> by Lucy Cousins (Ages 2-5) Little Fish swims through the ocean looking for his favorite fish and meets all kinds of other fish on the way. A great springboard into art and adjectives!	Book, 139-142 CD, 15 pp.
<u>I See Kookaburra! Discovering Animal Habitats Around the World</u> by Steve Jenkins (Ages 5-8) Animals have special body parts that help them live happy, healthy lives in their own neighborhoods. Spring from neighborhoods to habitats to ecology in the six beautifully illustrated biomes.	Book, 143-147 CD, 11 pp.
<u>It is the Wind</u> by Ferida Wolff (Ages 3-6) A young boy hears sounds in the night and wonders what is making them. A fresh springboard into sequence, nocturnal animals, and the senses.	Book, 148-151 CD, 11 pp.
<u>It's Quacking Time</u> , by Martin Waddell (Ages 3-6) A duck family awaits the arrival of their newest little duckling. The older duckling is surprised to discover that a tiny duckling is inside the egg and that he was once in an egg, too. A great springboard into animal families and researching ducks.	Book, 152-155 CD, 7 pp.
<u>Llama, Llama Red Pajama</u> by Anna Dewdney (Ages 2-5) Baby Llama isn't so sure that he wants to go to bed without Mama Llama. This book will springboard you into discussing fears and emotions.	Book, 156-159 CD, 13 pp.
<u>Our Tree Named Steve</u> by Alan Zweibel (Ages 4-9) Steve was a special tree, providing his family with many sweet memories that Dad includes in his letter to his children. A perfect springboard into letter writing, ecology, and appreciation for special people and things that create our sweet memories.	Book, 160-165 CD, 14 pp.
<u>Quinito's Neighborhood</u> by Ina Cumpiano (Ages 3-7) Young Quinito takes you through his neighborhood, showing you the jobs his neighbors do. Spring to your own neighborhood, exploring jobs.	Book, 166-169 CD, 13 pp.
<u>A Splendid Friend, Indeed</u> by Suzanne Bloom (Ages 3-7) Duck meets Bear who is reading, writing, and thinking. Duck wants to do those things, too, but will he ever quit talking so they can be friends? Spring into friendship making with this book!	Book, 170-172 CD, 7 pp.
<u>Starry Safari</u> by Linda Ashman (Ages 2-6) Hop into the Jeep! Beep! Beep! Beep! We're going on a safari! We'll see lots of animals and have lots of fun! Spring from the Jeep into your animal unit!	Book, 173-177 CD, 12 pp.
<u>Too Many Frogs</u> by Sandy Asher (Ages 4-8) An unusual guest loves to listen to Rabbit read. Although it disturbs his well-planned life, Rabbit discovers that having a friend is worth the trouble. Use it as a springboard into a study of frogs and friends.	Book, 178-182 CD, 11 pp.
<u>White is for Blueberry</u> by George Shannon (Ages 4-8) Spring out of the box to observe objects in nature from a different perspective, their changing colors!	Book, 183-185 CD, 9 pp.
<u>Zoopla</u> by Marino Gianna (Ages 3-7) This cute springboard from alphabet soup into the animal world will test your powers of observation and tickle your funny bone.	Book, 186-188 CD, 7 pp.

Curriculum Connections



Springboards gives you 533 activity pages for these 40 picture books! Remember, only 188 are printed in this book. **The CD contains ALL 533 pages.** After you find the book you want to use, print the entire unit from the CD.

* Denotes books non-fiction.

How to Use Springboards

Literature provides springboards that take children from books into the world through concept extensions. It provides bridges between cultures. It inspires children to venture out from an immature view of the world to mature understanding. Great books provide a sound academic and social foundation for young, inquisitive minds. Tapping into children's laughter and wonder, this literature motivates enthusiasm for building academic skills, character development, and social strength.

Characters, settings, and situations in carefully chosen picture books will provide a myriad of opportunities for laughter, projects, reading, writing, science, math, and music while exposing children to other cultures and developing a deep appreciation of the American traditions. These books that cross every genre will become the catalysts for interactive problem solving skills, interdisciplinary foundational academic skills, and laughter.

Older children should be encouraged to check out these picture books to take home and share with younger siblings. The activities are geared for grades 1-3 and will provide challenges that extend well beyond the reading level of the books.

Use with Gifted Children

Children with special talents will find that Springboards provides much needed enrichment, challenge, and extension to their curriculum. Here is a suggested plan:

1. Group your gifted children into pairs or groups of four.
2. Allow the groups to choose a book that appeals to them. Provide a copy of selected activities from each Springboards unit for each group.
3. Read the book aloud to your students. It is important that they hear good literature read and reread by enthusiastic, vibrant readers who model voice changes in tone, volume, and characterization dictated by the story.
4. As they get started, it is essential that the teacher, parent, or librarian guide them through the first units, explaining how the group can work together to produce quality products called for in the unit and to learn how to discuss the literature most effectively as a cooperative group.
5. Students practice readers' theater scripts to perfection. They then must be given the opportunity to present the readers' theater to a group that has not heard it in order to try (a) to entertain an audience and (b) to inspire the audience to read the book. This will develop their fluency as well as their presentation skills.
6. Students will complete all of the activities in the unit. It is important that the teacher work closely with them, giving feedback, encouragement, and guidance. As the year progresses, students will begin to show more enthusiasm for independence and quality responses to challenge. You will see them transferring their high levels of understanding and depth of study to other facets of their reading and learning.
7. Springboards will provide mentoring possibilities from class to class and from older students to younger students. Second graders may present the results of their studies to first graders. They can read the books aloud to their younger friends, teach them songs, demonstrate their projects, and share their own writing with them. Their leadership skills will blossom as they become mentors.

The Springboards CD contains 533 pages of activities. The printed Springboards contains about 188 of these pages. Be sure to print ALL the activities from the CD!