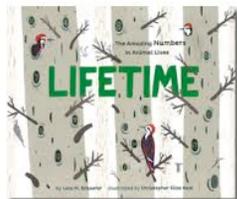


**Sean's Picks**

**LIFETIME: The Amazing Numbers in Animal Lives** By Lola M. Schaefer



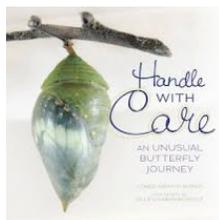
Recommended for all ages

What appears to be a counting book is in fact much, much more. The text illustrates how many times one particular animal performs one

behavior or grows one feature in a lifetime. For example, "In one lifetime, this caribou will grow and shed 10 sets of antlers."

**Use in writing to...**to explore shocking and interesting facts authors can highlight to elevate interest in their texts.

**Use in reading to...** to explore informational text structure. In particular, the way several informational texts contain pertinent information at the back of the text.



**Handle With Care: An Unusual Butterfly Journey** By: Loree Griffin Burns

Recommended for All Ages

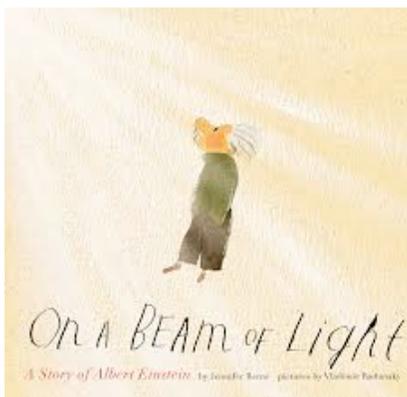
This informational text teaches us about the lifecycle of the butterfly in a unique way. Photographs illustrate the cycle that takes place on a butterfly farm in Costa Rica.

**Use in writing to...**be used as part of a shared research project about life cycles, giving students factual information to write about butterflies. Also for modeling how pictures can be used in informational texts to show changes/growth over time.

**Use in reading to...**to study informational text structures. Also to assess how point of view or purpose shapes the content and style of a text. (This is an account of a real-life farm trying to raise money to protect the forest around them.)

**Sean's Picks**

**On a Beam of Light** By: Jennifer Berne



Rec. Grades 2 and up

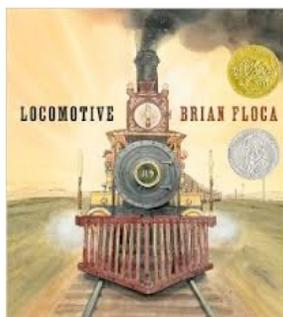
A biography with a narrative structure, this text has captivating illustrations that highlight the message about Einstein's

creative mind. The book illustrates the power of the imagination.

**Use in writing to...**to explore character development. Red text is used in this text to give specific information about Einstein's unique traits, which could support an inquiry lesson about how we describe characters in our writing.

**Use in reading to...**to model close reading, citing specific textual evidence that supports interpretations/theories about Einstein and the "creative mind."

**Heather's Picks**



**Locomotive** By: Brian Floca

In 1869 the Transcontinental Railroad changed travel forever. How did they do it? How did the iron horses run? What were the problems? What were the effects?

**Use in writing to...**focus on repetition for effect, strong verbs, the rule of three, onomatopoeias and much more.

**Use in reading to...**using context and illustrations to figure out unfamiliar words like hogger, pistons and switchmen.

**Heather's Picks**

**Terrific**



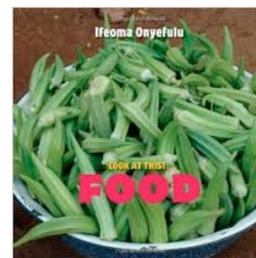
By Jon Agee

Recommended for All Ages

Similar to Babymouse's "typical" response, Eugene says "terrific" (sarcastically) to everything good that happens in his life. It's not until he meets a parrot that he begins to truly understand the meaning of the word—terrific.

**Use in writing to...**study a narrative with well-written dialogue, study how writers introduce props (like the pomegranates) and use them later for a twist and endings that return to titles.

**Use in reading to...**study how Eugene's character changed over time, study a theme like "having someone who believes in you can make all the difference."



**Food** By: Ifeoma Onyefulu

Recommended for K-2

In the simplest form of informational text, there is an overarching topic like "Home" and then examples of what is found in African homes as a single label for a beautiful two-page photographic spread.

**Use in writing to...**study how writers use labels and how a writer can organize labeled pages. For example, why did the author choose to end with 'sleeping mat'?

**Use in reading to...**use picture clues to help understand unfamiliar words. For example, if you don't know what millet is like, what kind of food do you think it might be from the picture? How might it taste?