

Blossom & Root Level 2 Language Arts (Second Edition)

Literature List

Introduction to Literary Devices | Trickster Tales | Stories of Friendship, Teamwork, and Adventure

Required Selections (Please note that these selections and the order in which they are covered in the curriculum are subject to change at this point.)

Week 1: Exploring Onomatopoeia

- *The Chicken-Chasing Queen of Lamar County* by Janice N. Harrington
- Alternative additional picture book selections will be provided

Week 2: Exploring Simile

- *Seashells: More Than a Home* by Melissa Stewart
- Alternative additional picture book selections will be provided

Week 3: Exploring Personification

Choose One:

- Highly recommended: *How to Solve a Problem: The Rise (and Falls) of a Rock-Climbing Champion* by Ashima Shiraishi
- *Old Wood Boat* by Nikki McClure
- *My Friend Earth* by Patricia MacLachlan
- *Outside In* by Deborah Underwood

Week 4: Exploring Hyperbole and Tall Tales

Choose One or Expand This Unit Into Several Weeks and Choose Multiple Selections:

- *A Million Fish...More or Less* by Patricia C. McKissack
- *Thunder Rose* by Jerdine Nolen
- *Doña Flor* by Pat Mora
- *John Henry* by Julius Lester
- Alternatively, you can select tall tales of your choosing from *American Tall Tales* by Mary Pope Osborne or Steven Kellogg's books

Week 5: *Fortunately, the Milk*

- *Fortunately, the Milk* by Neil Gaiman

Weeks 6 - 9: Trickster Tales

- *Trickster Tales: Forty Folk Stories from Around the World* by Josepha Sherman
- We will provide alternative picture book titles and/or YouTube videos of storytellers for each week to use in place of the book listed above.

Weeks 10 - 15: Exploring Anthropomorphism

Choose ONE pathway:

- Classic Pathway: *The Wind in the Willows* by Kenneth Grahame
- Contemporary Pathway: *Skunk and Badger* by Amy Timberlake AND *Egg Marks the Spot* by Amy Timberlake

Weeks 16 - 20: There's No Place Like Home

Choose ONE pathway:

- Classic Pathway: *The Wizard of Oz* by L. Frank Baum
- Contemporary Pathway: *A Rover's Story* by Jasmine Warga

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Weeks 21 - 26: Adventures Great and Small

Choose ONE pathway:

- Classic Pathway: *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien
- Contemporary Pathway: *The Very, Very Far North* by Dan Bar-el (with an option to add *Just Beyond the Very, Very Far North* by Dan Bar-el)

Weeks 27 - 29: An Unexpected Quest

- *Dragons in a Bag* by Zetta Elliott

Weeks 30 - 33: Friendship and Belonging

- *Sweep: The Story of a Girl and Her Monster* by Jonathan Auxier
- This selection contains peril, death, and scary situations that may be too intense for some learners. If you have a more sensitive learner, we recommend substituting it for any book of your choosing (with a focus on friendship) or moving on to week 34.

Weeks 34 - 36: Away From Home and Back Again

- *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* by Grace Lin



What Will Be Covered in Blossom and Root Level 2 Language Arts (Second Edition)?

- **Literary Devices:** onomatopoeia, adage, simile, personification, hyperbole, anthropomorphism
- **Grammar:** introduction to the parts of speech, introduction to the parts of a sentence
- **Punctuation:** capitalization of proper nouns, capitalization of the pronoun “I,” capitalization of the first word in a sentence, quotation marks, dialogue tags, identifying and using ending punctuation, commas in dates, commas in a series, identifying and writing contractions
- **Writing (optional):** writing a simple sentence; completing fragments; understanding and using question words; expanding simple sentences; identifying and writing in past tense, present tense, and future tense; combining short sentences; identifying and orally forming the four different kinds of sentences
- **Reading Concepts:** vowel digraphs: ai, ay, ea, ee, oa, ow, oy, oi, aw, au, ou; hard and soft C and G; compound words; open syllables vs. closed syllables; syllable division; common suffixes: -ing, -est, -ful, -ness, -ed; more uses for “silent e;” words that end in “ey” and “ie;” three-letter blends; the four sounds of “u;” R-controlled vowels; the sound of /ah/; reading contractions
- **Geography:** locating the setting of various stories on a map, continents, modes of transportation, fictional cartography (map-making), absolute and relative location, human characteristics/region, physical characteristics/region, movement of goods/ideas/people, interactions between humans and the environment, researching the geography of your child’s home, parts of a river, parts of a mountain, parts of a cave, and parts of a forest.

Additionally, the second edition will include an updated creative extensions guide with hands-on projects, weekly activities to explore the literature selections, weekly copywork selections, weekly narrations and journal prompts, and the much-loved cut-and-paste adventure poems from the first edition.