

Crew: Bell Grade: K Semester/Year: Winter 2016

Title: The Strength of a Bear

Guiding Questions:

- 1. What makes a bear a bear?
- 2. How does strength help us grow and learn?

Learning Targets:

- 1. I can explain how the physical features of a black bear help it survive.
- 2. I can evaluate conditions that help a black bear survive.
- 3. I can interpret what bears represent in stories.
- 4. I can illustrate why bears are an important symbol of our school.

Kick Off:

◆ Bear Moon Walk (Martis Valley: nighttime moon walk and visualization led by Jill Stevenson)

Culminating Product/Event:

- Papier-maché bear as mascot display; presentation (2011)
- > Poster of drawing/strength statements for Office (2013)
- > SELS mascot drawings for spiritwear (2016??)

Case Study #1: LT #1 & 2

Bear Necessities

Overview:

- Physical characteristics of black bear
- Relationship to habitat

Project:

- o Building a bear den
- o Bear drawings (with artist Jill Stevenson)
- Habitat models

Literature Used:

- Assorted F/NF texts, poems & songs
- Focus: letters/sounds; Look at picture/Use beginning & ending sounds; fiction/non-fiction
- Complex text: bear article

Writing Assignments:

• Informative: Lucy Calkins unit of study

Other Assessments:

- Physical features cut/paste
- Conditions for survival (interactive models)

Fieldwork:

- Bear Moon Walk in Martis Valley (night walk)
- Folsom Zoo (bear observation)

Experts:

- Jill Stevenson (artist)
- Folsom Zoo docents
- BEAR League
- American Bear Assoc. (MN)

Service Learning:

Character/Adventure:

Moon Walk

More Than a Bear

Case Study #2: LT #3 & 4

Overview:

- Concept of symbolism
- Varieties and value of strength as a character trait

Project:

- Sew spirit pouches
- Strength Interviews (Director; staff)

Literature Used:

- Assorted F/NF texts, poems & songs
- Focus: letters/sounds; Look at picture/Use beginning & ending sounds; fiction/non-fiction
- Complex text: bear poem

Writing Assignments:

• Informative (Calkins continued)

Other Assessments:

• Interview rubric

Fieldwork:

Experts:

- Jill Stevenson
- Alaina Reichwald (counselor)

Service Learning:

- Papier-maché bear as mascot display; presentation (2011)
- Poster of drawing/strength statements for Office (2013)

Character/Adventure:

- Strength Interviews
- Presentation at Community Mtg.