

Jenny McElroy

Language Arts Technology

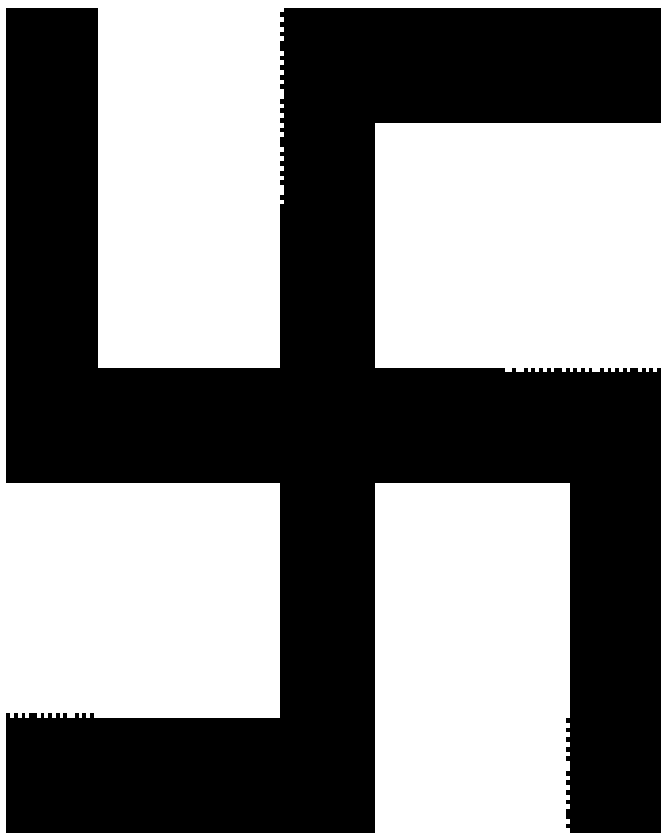
Literary Circles Extension Project

Literacy Reflection

This book and others like it remind us of how horrible the Holocaust was and by remembering we will pay tribute to those that endured these terrible injustices. While reading this book I was able to discuss the chapters with others in our literary circles, we were able to point out sections in the book that we felt the most strongly about and parts that we may not have quite understood. You were able to discuss the many symbolisms in the book that you may have missed or miss interrupted. Having this kind of sounding board provided us with a sound understanding of the book from various points of view. I found that this book was a nice mixture of various events that occurred in Warsaw Poland during World War II. I enjoyed that the book was written from the view of a young boy during this time period. This made it more authentic in my eyes. I believe this will impact the students in my class's understanding of these events and how they affected children their own age. Throughout this book we watch as Misha goes from a naïve boy to a man who must come to terms with all that has happened during his very long lifetime. Milkweed allows it's readers to take Misha's journey with him. We get to see the boy turn into a man and what occurs during the childhood truly shape us as adults.

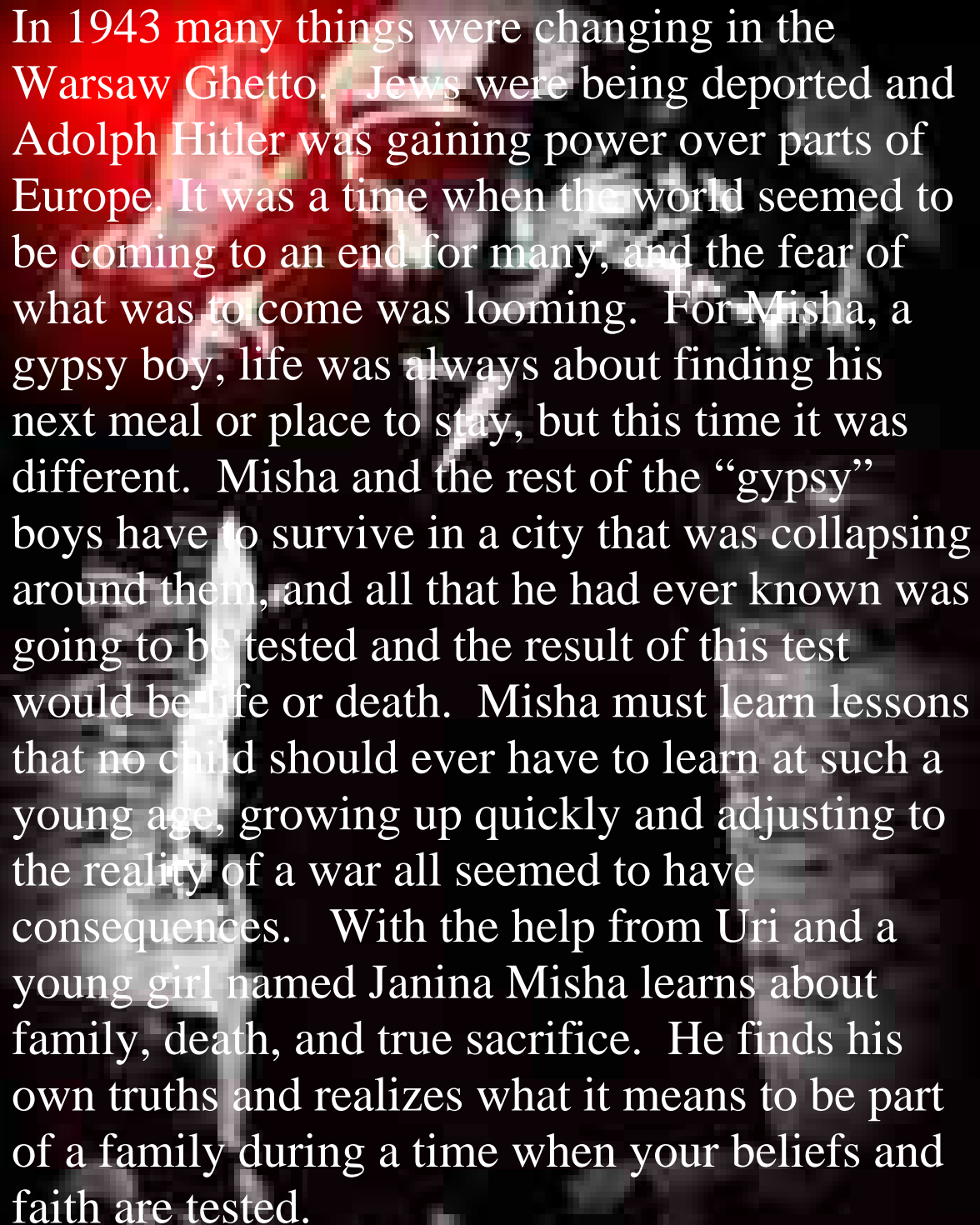
Literacy Extension Project

For my project I decided that I would have the students recreate the book cover of Milkweed. By creating their own cover students aren't just picking random pictures but they must make it tell a story. The pictures they choose will represent what they interrupted the story to mean. After completing the cover the students will then be asked to show that they understood what the book was really about. This is done by having them write a summary on the book. Students must provide information about the book in such a way that they do not reveal too much about the book. Here students are able to illustrate what they have learned. Being able to rewrite the book jackets shows higher level knowledge of the subject at hand.



Milkweed
By
Jerry
Spinelli





In 1943 many things were changing in the Warsaw Ghetto. Jews were being deported and Adolph Hitler was gaining power over parts of Europe. It was a time when the world seemed to be coming to an end for many, and the fear of what was to come was looming. For Misha, a gypsy boy, life was always about finding his next meal or place to stay, but this time it was different. Misha and the rest of the “gypsy” boys have to survive in a city that was collapsing around them, and all that he had ever known was going to be tested and the result of this test would be life or death. Misha must learn lessons that no child should ever have to learn at such a young age, growing up quickly and adjusting to the reality of a war all seemed to have consequences. With the help from Uri and a young girl named Janina Misha learns about family, death, and true sacrifice. He finds his own truths and realizes what it means to be part of a family during a time when your beliefs and faith are tested.

Rubric for Book Cover and Summary

	Beginning	Developing	Accomplished	Score
Overall Visual Appeal	<p>0 points</p> <p>There are few or no graphic elements. No variation in layout.</p>	<p>2 points</p> <p>Graphic elements sometimes, but not always, contribute to the understanding of concepts, ideas and relationships. There is some variation in type size, color, and layout.</p>	<p>4 points</p> <p>Appropriate and thematic graphic elements are used to make visual connections that contribute to the understanding of concepts, ideas and relationships. Differences in type size and/or color are used well and consistently.</p>	
Summary of book	<p>0 points</p> <p>No details referenced from the book, no understanding of the book.</p>	<p>2 points</p> <p>There are a few details mentioned in the summary of the book. Little understanding of the book.</p>	<p>4 points</p> <p>5 or more details mentioned in the summary of the book. Shows understanding of the book.</p>	
Mechanical Aspects	<p>0 points</p> <p>misplaced or missing images, misspellings and/or grammatical errors.</p>	<p>1 point</p> <p>There are some missing images misspellings and/or grammatical errors.</p>	<p>2 points</p> <p>No mechanical problems noted.</p>	

Credits

Images- All images taken from Google images

Rubric- Rubrics4Teachers