

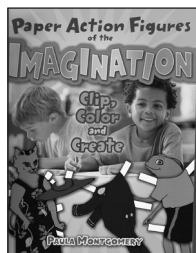
dolls as a class activity will find this book useful simply because it's a compendium of information, ideas, and sources. However, I suspect they will be disappointed by the quality of many of the paper dolls which are, frankly, unattractive with an old-fashioned look and blurry lines; and the animals are anthro-morphized (e.g. they walk on their hind legs and wear human clothes), even though this doesn't fit many of the recommended stories.

An interesting idea for grades 2 through 6. Optional purchase.

Picture That! From Mendel to Normandy: Picture Books and Ideas, Curriculum and Concepts for 'Tweens and Teens

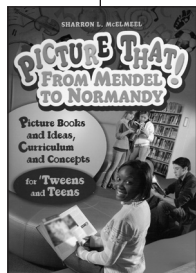
Sharon L. McElmeel
2009
9781591585886

Given my love of picture books and my passionate belief that they have a place in high school classrooms and libraries, I was quite excited to have the opportunity to review *Picture That!* Unfortunately, the richness and depth of Canadian children's books is virtually ignored (I did spot two



titles by Linda Granfield, but that was it). The list of books recommended by McElmeel is VERY American. True, no one list can satisfy everyone, but I was disappointed.

That said, McElmeel has put together an interesting list of picture books suitable for use with students in grades 4 through 12. Chapter 1 covers both how to use this book and how to use picture books with older readers. Chapters 2 through 63 each present a picture book. Each chapter includes a suggestion for using the recommended title as well as publication information, an annotation, background information, extension ideas, and a list of related books for further exploration. A quick list of picture books and two general indexes (authors, titles, and subjects), one to the book and one to the quick list, as well as a detailed table of contents, make information easy to find.



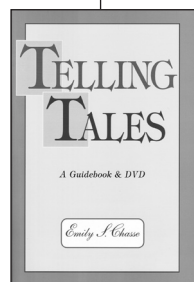
While some of the suggested titles could be used in Canadian classrooms, interested teachers and teacher-librarians would

have to develop a similar list of Canadian titles (and there are LOTS available). This is exactly the sort of project that would make for a neat wiki!

Useful starting point, especially as it validates the use of picture books with older readers. Recommended purchase for board-level professional collections.

Telling Tales: A Guidebook and DVD

Emily S. Chasse
2009
9781555706456



Chasse has been teaching storytelling for the past 20 years and shares that wealth of experience in *Telling Tales*.

The first three chapters provide "how to" information, including an introduction to storytelling, how to locate and select tales, and how to prepare and tell tales. Chapters 4 through 8 cover different types of tales, including classical mythology, family and life experience tales, legends and epics, ballads, and folktales. Chapter 9 covers digital storytelling. Chapter 10 introduces resources. Chapter 11 covers telling tales with children, both in school and in community settings. Chapter 12 covers ways to make storytelling even more fun and interactive, such as tandem

telling, plays, and puppetry. Chapter 13 covers additional considerations, such as setting up a storytelling course, planning events, and professional storytelling.

Chasse includes both information about storytelling and lots of tales. The accompanying DVD allows readers to see and hear tales, an important part of learning to be a storyteller.

While not written for teachers, *Telling Tales* will be of interest to any teachers and teacher-librarians interested in incorporating storytelling into their instructional practice. Chasse emphasizes that storytelling can be used with audiences of all ages—this isn't just for primary students!

Recommended for anyone interested in learning to use storytelling. Probably best as a personal purchase as it will be referred to often. ■