

YHBA Novel Resource - Carmine: A Little More Red

Young Hoosier Book Award Book

Carmine: A Little More Red Written and Illustrated by Melissa Sweet

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Publisher

Houghton Mifflin

About the Author and Illustrator

Melissa Sweet is the author of 3 children's books and the illustrator of over 40 children's books. She has also illustrated book jackets, maps, magazine, and fun items like playing cards, and food and toy packaging! Ms. Sweet was born in New Jersey and attended Endicott College and the Kansas City Art Institute. She now lives in Maine with her family and dogs.

Contact Information

<http://www.melissasweet.net>

melissa@melissasweet.net

68 Main Street

Rockport, Maine, 04856

207-236-0348

Photo



Connections to the Book

Like Carmine, red, in all hues, is Ms. Sweet's favorite color! She also has a dog named Rufus.

Other Books Written and Illustrated by Melissa Sweet

Fiddle-I-Fee: A Farmyard Song for the Very Young
Tupelo Rides the Rails

Other Books Illustrated by Melissa Sweet

Baby Bear's Chairs by Jane Yolen
Baby Bear's Books by Jane Yolen
Bat Jamboree by Kathi Appelt
Bats on Parade by Kathi Appelt
Bats Around the Clock by Kathi Appelt
The Boy Who Drew Birds by Jacqueline Davies
Charlotte in Giverny by Joan Knight
Charlotte in Paris by Joan Knight
Dirty Laundry Pile: Poems in Different Voices by Paul B. Janeczko
Giggle Wiggle Wake Up by Nancy White Carlstrom
Girls Think of Everything: Stories of Ingenious Inventions by Catherine Thimmesh
Kindergarten Kids by Stephanie Calmenson
Llama in Pajamas by Gisela Voss
Love and Kisses by Sarah Wilson
Marvelous Marvin and the Pioneer Ghost by Bonnie Pryor
Marvelous Marvin and the Wolfman Mystery by Bonnie Pryor
Moonlight: The Halloween Cat by Cynthia Rylant
Mother May I? By Grace Maccarone
My Grandma is Coming to Town by Anna Grossnickle Hines
Naptime, Laptime by Eileen Spinelli
Pinky & Rex by James Howe
Pinky & Rex and the Bully by James Howe
Pinky & Rex and the Double-Dad Weekend by James Howe
Pinky & Rex and the Just-Right Pet by James Howe
Pinky & Rex and the Mean Old Witch by James Howe
Pinky & Rex and the New Baby by James Howe
Pinky & Rex and the New Neighbors by James Howe
Pinky & Rex and the Perfect Pumpkin by James Howe
Pinky & Rex and the School Play by James Howe
Pinky & Rex Get Married... by James Howe
Pinky & Rex Go to Camp by James Howe
Rosie and the Poor Rabbits by Maryann MacDonald
Rosie Runs Away by Maryann MacDonald
Rosie's Baby Tooth by Maryann MacDonald
Sing Me a Window by Elizabeth Lee O'Donnell
Schoolyard Rhymes by Judy Sierra
Snippets: A Gathering of Poems, Pictures, and Possibilities by Charlotte Zolotow
A Snowman on Sycamore Street C.B. Christiansen
Sycamore Street by C.B. Christiansen
The 5,000-Year-Old Puzzle: Solving a Mystery of Ancient Egypt by Claudia Logan

The Sky's the Limit: Stories of Discovery by Women and Girls by Catherine Thimmesh
The Talking Pot: A Danish Folktale by Virginia Haviland
Ten Little Lambs by Alice B. McGinty
Will You Take Care of Me? by Margaret Park Bridges
Won't You Be My Hugaroo? by Joanne Ryder
Won't You Be My Kissaroo? by Joanne Ryder
Welcome Baby by Stephanie Calmenson

Awards

2005 New York Times Best Illustrated Children's Books of the Year
2005 Maine Student Book Award
2008 Arizona Young Readers' Master List
2008 Young Hoosier Book Award (IN) Nominee

Art Medium

Watercolor – this medium is easily accessible and safe for students to use; they may also experiment with adding collage effects to watercolor pictures.

Annotation

Author and Illustrator Melissa Sweet has created a lively, classic tale of Red Riding Hood in her story Carmine: A Little More Red. In this story, the heroine, Carmine, is a young painter, has a passion for the color red and a habit of dilly-dallying along the way to her Grandma's house. Along for the trip is Carmine's dog, Rufus. Written with beautiful language in the style of an ABC book, Ms. Sweet's story will entertain readers and teach new vocabulary in a delightful and humorous way. Each page begins with a new word, abecedarian, (alphabetically arranged,) and then used within the context of the page. The watercolor illustrations are a perfect fit for the funny, whimsical story, and the use of bright, bold color appropriately reflects the main character's zeal for art. Carmine learns an important lesson and Granny's Alphabet Soup recipe is the delicious ending to this story.

Genre

Fairy Tale Fiction

Point of View

First and Third Person (First Person accounts appear in the illustrations.)

Theme

Conduct of life, painting

Carmine, the main character, loves the color red and believes that each of her paintings benefits from "a little more red." Adding a vivid color to a painting, or adding adventure to your day can brighten up any situation.

Conflict

External conflict – Carmine, known for dawdling, doesn't make it to Granny's house in a timely manner and the wolf arrives before Carmine and Rufus.

Conflict Resolution

Carmine and Rufus arrive at Granny's to rescue.

Characters

Carmine – young girl, painter, known for dawdling, loves the color red

Rufus – Carmine's dog

Granny – Carmine's grandmother, makes alphabet soup

Wolf - sneaky

Setting

Present Day

Carmine's House

The Woods

Granny's House

Interest Level

Pre-K – 2 Perma-Bound Resources

Reading Level

3.1 Perma-Bound Resources

Booktalk

If you've read the story Little Red Riding Hood, the story Carmine: A Little More Red will be familiar to you. Carmine, the main character of the story, is a young painter who loves the color red, her dog Rufus, and Granny's Alphabet Soup. When Carmine leaves her house to visit Granny, she stops along the way to create a painting and a poem, but soon trouble arises with the arrival of the wolf! Written and illustrated by Melissa Sweet, Carmine: A Little More Red is a fun twist on the classic tale with new characters and silly new circumstances.

Discussion Questions

Before Reading

What's your favorite color?

Do you know any other names or shades of that color?

Does your family ever cook anything that is a tradition?

For a holiday or a birthday?

During Reading

Do you think that it was wise for Carmine to stop along the way? page 6

Would a wolf really eat a dog? page 10

What do you think wolves really eat? page 10

If you were in the woods and saw a wild animal, what would you do? page 22

After Reading

What did Carmine learn from her adventure?

Looking at the illustrations, what other fairy tale characters did you see?

Why do you think Ms. Sweet included the first person dialog in the illustrations?

Language

beware (page 3) - to be cautious or careful

clutter (page 4) – a mess, litter

dilly-dally (page 5) – to waste time, to go slowly

exquisite (page 7) – beautiful, charming, rare

farther (page 8) – a greater distance

haiku (page 9) – a three-line poem with 5 syllables in the first and third lines and seven syllables in the second line

indeed (page 11) – in fact, in truth

knoll (page 12) – a small, rounded hill

lurking (page 13) – to wait, sneakily

mimic (page 14) – to copy action or speech, to repeat

nincompoop (page 15) – a silly or foolish person

omen (page 16) – a sign of something about to happen

pluck (page 17) – to pull out

quiver (page 17) – to shake, tremble, shiver

reckoned (page 18) – to think or assume

surreal (page 19) – seeming unreal, having the qualities of a dream

usually (page 24) – common, everyday

voila (page 25) – a French expression meaning, “there you are,” or “there you have it”

x-ray (page 27) – the ability to view through solid objects – x-ray vision

yodel (page 29) – a call, song, or shout

zillion (page 31) – an extremely large number

Anticipation Statements

Read-Alikes

Before		<u>Carmine: A Little More Red</u> Written and Illustrated by Melissa Sweet	After	
Agree	Disagree		Agree	Disagree
		Girls can be painters.		
		Wolves eat dogs and people.		
		It is a good idea to stop in the woods by yourself.		
		You should always be cautious and never trust strangers.		

Fiddle-I-Fee: A Farmyard Song for the Very Young by Melissa Sweet

Tupelo Rides the Rails by Melissa Sweet

African Animals ABC: An Alphabet Safari by Sarah Schuette

Food ABC: An Alphabet Book by Amanda Doering

Superhero ABC by Bob McLeod

Petite Rouge: A Cajun Red Riding Hood by Mike Artell

Little Red Cowboy Hat by Susan Lowell

Lon Po Po: A Red-Riding Hood Story From China translated and illustrated by Ed Young

Little Red Riding Hood: A Newfangled Prairie Tale by Lisa Campbell Ernst.

Book Activities

Map skills

Map Skills

Name: _____ Date: _____

Melissa Sweet created illustrations for the map from Carmine's house to Granny's house. Your assignment is to create a map showing the route from our classroom to the playground. Using the space below, create a sketch of what your map will look like. This should be a bird's-eye-view, like a bird would see flying overhead.



Now that you have a sketch, use the large paper to draw a bigger map. Use lots of color, label each part, and draw the path that you would walk.

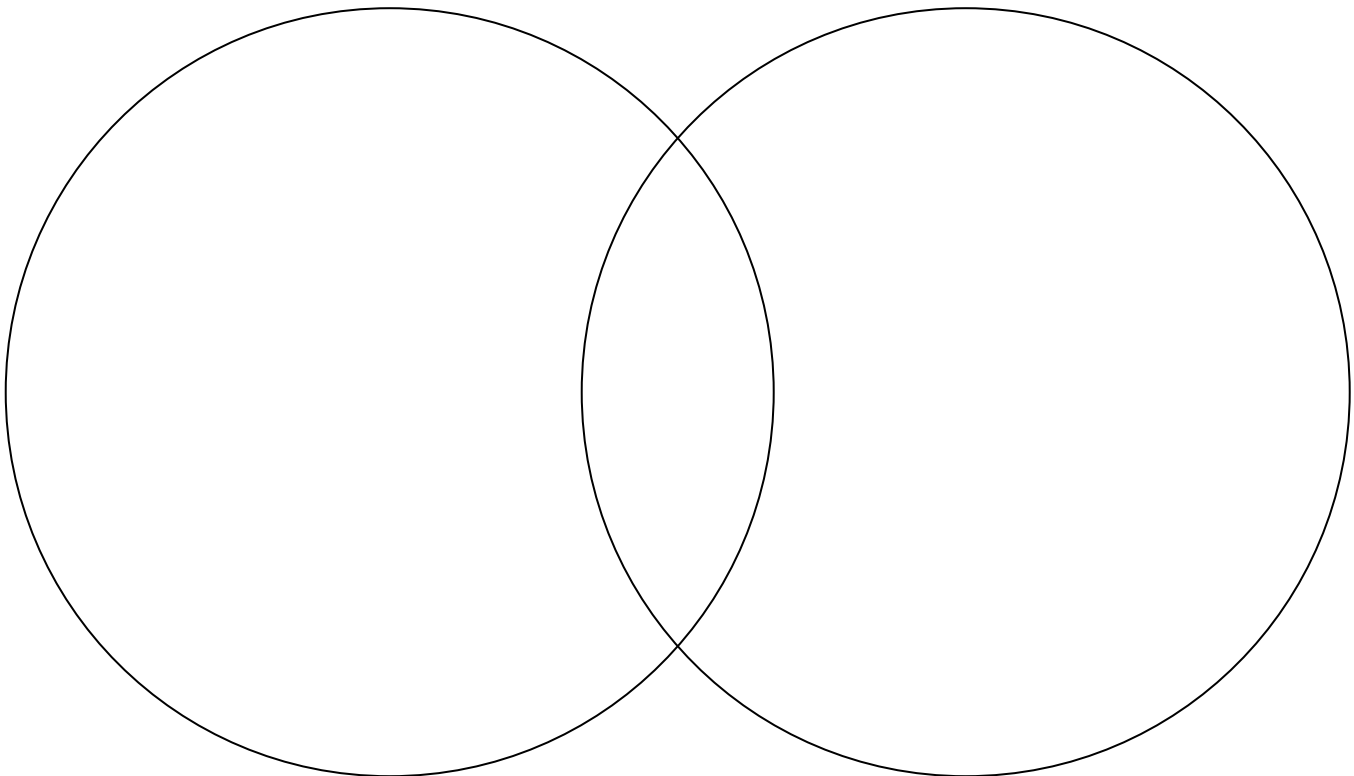
Compare and Contrast Little Red Riding Hood Stories
Compare and Contrast Little Red Riding Hood Stories

Name: _____ Date: _____

We have read Carmine: A Little More Red by Melissa Sweet and Little Red Riding Hood: A Newfangled Prairie Tale by Lisa Campbell Ernst. Using the Venn diagram, compare and contrast the two stories. Write at least 2 statements in each part of the diagram.

Carmine

Little Red Riding Hood



Indiana Academic Standards Met by Book Activities

Kindergarten Social Studies

K.3.1 Use words related to location, direction and distance, including here/there,

over/under, left/right, above/below, forward/backward and between.

K.3.2 Identify maps* and globes* as ways of representing Earth and understand the basic difference between a map and globe.

Kindergarten Language Arts

K.3.3 Identify characters, settings, and important events in a story.

First Grade Social Studies

1.3.3 Identify and describe the relative locations* of places in the school setting.

First Grade Language Arts

1.3.1 Identify and describe the plot, setting, and character(s) in a story. Retell a story's beginning, middle, and ending.

Second Grade Social Studies

2.3.5 Identify and describe cultural or human features on a map using map symbols.

Second Grade Language Arts

2.2.7 Interpret information from diagrams, charts, and graphs.

2.3.3 Compare and contrast versions of same stories from different cultures.

Third Grade Language Arts

3.3.7 Compare and contrast versions of the same stories from different cultures.

Across the Curriculum Connections

Dictionary Skills - Language Arts

Using the following chart, have students define words from the story Carmine: A Little More Red by Melissa Sweet. This may be done in partnerships or independently.

Name: _____

Date: _____

- Chose 10 of the vocabulary words from the story Carmine: A Little More Red by Melissa Sweet.
- Locate the word in the dictionary.
- Write the page number where you found the word.
- Write the guidewords that are on the page.
- Write the definition as it applies to the story.

Word	Page #	Guide Words	Definition

Resources:

Dictionaries

Multiple copies of Carmine: A Little More Red by Melissa Sweet

Copies of the dictionary skills chart for each pair of students or each student

Kindergarten Language Arts

K.1.3 Understand that printed materials provide information.

First Grade Language Arts

1.2.5 Use context (the meaning of the surrounding text) to understand word and sentence meanings.

Second Grade Language Arts

2.2.9 Use context (the meaning of the surrounding text) to understand word and sentence meanings.

Third Grade Language Arts

3.1.7 Use a dictionary to learn the meaning and pronunciation of unknown words.

ABC Books – Language Arts

After reading Carmine: A Little More Red by Melissa Sweet, review the story pointing out the alphabetical words listed at the top of each page. Using a large sheet of paper, or recording on the board, have students list a word for each letter of the alphabet. After creating a class list, have students create their own alphabetical list based on a theme or topic. Students should also add illustrations to their list of words. The independent activity could also be used to create a book. Classes of older students may partner with classes of younger students to create themed alphabet books to introduce a concept or to be used as an introductory lesson for a new unit of study.

Kindergarten Language Arts

K.1.19 Learn and apply knowledge of alphabetical order (first letter) when using a classroom or school library/media center.

First Grade Language Arts

1.1.18 Classify categories of words.

Second Grade Language Arts

2.1.1 Demonstrate an awareness of the sounds that are made by different letters by:

- distinguishing beginning, middle, and ending sounds in words.
- rhyming words.
- clearly pronouncing blends and vowel sounds.

Third Grade Language Arts

3.5.5 Write for different purposes and to a specific audience or person.

Resources

North American Wolves. June, 16, 2008, from

<http://www.cosmosmith.com/wolfpage.html>

International Wolf Center, June 16, 2008 from <http://www.wolf.org/wolves/index.asp>

These websites can be used to help students learn more about the habits, characteristics, and size of several types of wolves.

Harper Collins Children's Authors and Illustrators- Lisa Campbell Ernst, June 16, 2008, from

<http://www.harpercollinschildrens.com/HarperChildrens/Kids/AuthorsAndIllustrators/ContributorDetail.aspx?Cid=16400>

The book used in one of the activities to compare and contrast Little Red Riding Hood stories is Little Red Riding Hood: A Newfangled Prairie Tale by Lisa Campbell Ernst. Students can find out more about Ms. Campbell Ernst on this website.

James Marshall's Favorite Fairy Tales DVD. Scholastic, 2001.

This DVD showcases several classic fairy tales, including Little Red Riding Hood with illustrations by James Marshall.

Indiana Academic Standards Met by Novel Content

Kindergarten Language Arts

K.1.1 Identify the front cover, back cover, and title page of a book.

K.1.19 Learn and apply knowledge of alphabetical order (first letter) when using a classroom or school library/media center.

K.1.22 Listen to stories read aloud and use the vocabulary in those stories in oral language.

K.2.1 Locate the title and the name of the author of a book.

K.2.2 Use pictures and context to aid comprehension and to draw conclusions or make predictions about story content.

K.2.3 Generate and respond to questions (who, what, where).

First Grade Language Arts

1.2.3 Respond to who, what, when, where, why, and how questions and recognize the main idea of what is read.

1.2.5 Use context (the meaning of the surrounding text) to understand word and sentence meanings.

Bibliography

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<http://www.barnesandnoble.com>

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<http://www.houghtonmifflinbooks.com/catalog/titledetail.cfm?titleNumber=592635>

Houghton Mifflin Author Website

<http://www.houghtonmifflinbooks.com/catalog/authordetail.cfm?authorID=5282>

Melissa Sweet.Net

<http://www.melissasweet.net/index2.php>

Powell's Books Kids' Q&A

<http://www.powells.com/kidsqa/melissasweet.html>

Harper Collins website

<http://www.harpercollinschildrens.com/HarperChildrens/Kids/AuthorsAndIllustrators/ContributorDetail.aspx?CID=16400>

International Wolf Center

<http://www.wolf.org/wolves/index.asp>

Wolves of the World

<http://www.cosmosmith.com/wolfpage.html>

Perma-Bound Books

<http://www.perma-bound.com>

Indiana State Academic Standards

<http://www.doe.in.gov/standards/welcome.html>