

These leadership ideas and perspectives were developed on the Children’s Literature for Leaders website. For more information and expanded reflections visit

childrenslitforleaders.com

<p>Book/Author Children’s Story Ideas/Perspectives</p>	<p>Leadership Ideas/Perspectives www.childrenslitforleaders.com</p>
<p>First the Egg By Laura Vaccaro Seeger</p> <p>First the egg, then the chicken. First the chicken, then the egg.</p>	<p>First the leader, then the contribution. First the contribution, then the leader. The paradox of leadership.</p> <p>“Leadership from this perspective is the ability to operate within the present and appreciate the larger context: that results and possibilities grow not from our individual choices only but from the power and contributions of those we lead.” To not recognize paradoxes within our midst means we will invariably try to force others to contribute in ways we think make sense on the path toward a goal.</p>
<p>Beekle By Dan Santant</p> <p>“And <i>together</i> they did the unimaginable.”</p>	<p>Leadership traits found in Beekle: Hope, Passion, Courage, Openness, Joy, Humor, Connectedness, Trust, Attention, Togetherness</p> <p>Believe in your own Beekle. Some of us may not have met him. Some of us may have met him and lost him over time. If we look hard enough, we will find him, perhaps we just need to call out his name.</p>
<p>Part of Your World From Disney’s The Little Mermaid</p> <p>Wouldn’t you think I am the girl, the girl who has everything? But who cares? No big deal, I want more.</p>	<p>Ariel defines what she needs - needs turns her frustration, knowledge, and desire into a vision.</p> <p>Paint a vision, be specific, be curious, dream big and be real, start your journey from a place of have and not a place of have not. Chase your dream with joy.</p>
<p>Defined by Absence By John Burningham</p> <p>“Would you rather be crushed by a snake or eaten by a crocodile?”</p>	<p>Would you rather have a leader who opens possibilities or a leader who tells you what to do?</p> <p>Having a leader means having the possibilities. What possibilities bring doesn’t necessarily make us feel good or comfortable, but <i>having possibilities</i> does. Having possibilities leaves us room for options, hopes, and dreams for something better.</p>

Collaboration for Early Childhood – Symposium 2017

LEADERSHIP THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS

Handout: Translating Children’s Stories Into Leadership Ideas & Perspectives

<p>The Right Word: Roget and His Thesaurus By Jen Bryant</p> <p>“The man is not wholly evil, he has a thesaurus in his cabin.”</p>	<p>Thesaurus for “lead” brings forth questions such as:</p> <p>When I lead does my language elicit, evoke, draw on, call forth the vision and goals I’m working toward?</p> <p>Do I open the door to others so that they can be a part?</p>
<p>Sam and Dave Dig a Hole By Mac Barnett</p> <p>“When should we stop digging?” asked Sam.</p> <p>“We are on a mission,” said Dave.</p> <p>“We won’t stop digging until we find something spectacular.”</p>	<p>A lot of times, curiosity and our opportunity-seeking nature help us innovate and move forward. But there are times when they become distractions and take us away from our goals. Are you a frustrated follower of bosses without a focus? Are you an exhausted boss trying your best to keep everyone focused?</p> <p>Acknowledge how difficult it is to stay committed to goals and to the process of getting there.</p>
<p>The Three Questions Story by Leo Tolstoy By Jon Muth</p> <p>“What is the best time to do things? Who is the most important one? What is the right thing to do?”</p>	<p>Doing the right thing at the right time for the right people is a constant reflection. Embracing both goal and process is a practice. And convincing others to see the good and the bad of both and to find balance can be a struggle.</p>
<p>Barnacle is Bored By Jonathan Fenske</p> <p>“I’m bored, bored, bored.”</p>	<p>Life of a barnacle can be mundane, and it’s okay because sometimes that’s what life is.</p> <p>Boredom can spark the opportunity to talk about patience, endurance and consistency. Leaders use those qualities to survive and inspire others to accomplish their respective missions.</p>
<p>Mole Music By David McPhail</p> <p>“Mole played one more song, then put down his violin and went to sleep. And dreamed beautiful, peaceful dreams.”</p>	<p>The outcomes of your actions will not always be evident in the short-term. Be patient and;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen to your children, their parents, your staff, your self, listen to what kind of “music” is bringing about humility, conciliation, kindness, dignity and reason; • Find resources for those looking to grow, to learn, to practice; • Make space for practice. Be tolerant of mistakes. Allow for correction, protect for correction, give time for each “note” to be practiced and put together. • Stop and listen again...