



The Kindergarten Chronicles

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Nevada Reading Week

Southern Nevada
Regional Professional
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Explore the Mysteries of the World: Read!

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Nevada Reading Week is coming (March 2-6) and we want to give you plenty of time to plan meaningful activities that will get your students even more excited about literature. Our theme for the week is **Explore the Mysteries of the World: Read!** This theme can bring to mind a plethora of fun and unique lessons that you can do in your classroom to make it a memorable week. Your school will undoubtedly have fun things planned for you and your students to participate in, but here are some fun ideas that are specific to early learners.

young learners to experience the world as well! The internet is a great resource for multicultural books lists, but the following is a suggested list of books that represent different cultures and countries around the world. Have fun on your weeklong adventure!



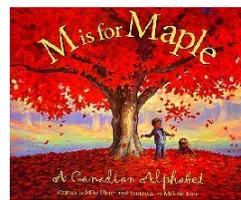
fun ideas that are specific to early learners.

To introduce the idea of exploring the world, start off the week by giving each of your students a small, pre-assembled booklet that will be his or her "passport," with a blue cover and five or more blank pages. You may also want to include each child's picture in his or her passport to make it more authentic. You can use this passport to record all the exciting places you visit in literature throughout the course of the week.

Choose one major country or city from each continent, so your class can "go around the world" during this exciting adventure. For each place you visit, stamp your students' passports. You may use a sticker as a stamp or a letter stamp representing that country.

It's quite easy to find nonfiction literature about each of the countries and continents of the world, but fiction that represents a variety of cultures is a fun way for our

Province) by Michael Ulmer
South America: *The Girl from the Sky: An Inca Folk-tale from South America* Adapted and illustrated by Janice Skivington
Europe: *Tea for Ruby* by Sarah the Duchess of York Ferguson

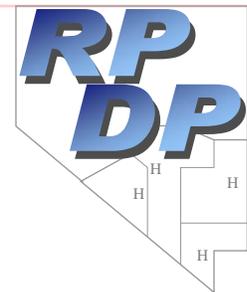


North America: *M is for Maple: A Canadian Alphabet (Discover Canada Province by*



Asia: *Three Samurai Cats: A Story from Japan* by Eric A. Kimmel
Australia: *Diary of a Wombat* by Jackie French.
Antarctica: *Tacky the Penguin* by Helen Lester
Africa: *Jungle Drums* by Graeme Base

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Bill Hanlon, Director



Explore the World!

Here are some center or whole group activities that correspond with the above themes from literature around the world!

North America: Make a Canadian goose using simple shapes (folded circle, full circle, handprints). To extend this activity for your quick learners, you may have them write some facts about Canada on the inside of the folded circle.



South America: Make a woven bracelet, using ribbon, thin paper strips, or yarn. This will be a reminder of the weaving skills of the Inca.

Europe: Have a snack of tea and crumpets (shortbread cookies) after reading *Tea for Ruby*. Children should use very proper manners and they can each share something they learned about England from the story.

Asia: Make an origami Samurai hat. For step-by-step instructions, go to <http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/origami/Samuraihat/>



Australia: Begin with the phrase "as lazy as a wombat." Use some

other similes to describe animals, such as, "as light as a butterfly" and "as jumpy as a bunny." Ask the children to describe themselves using an animal simile. Have them write their simile (with teacher assistance, if necessary) and illustrate it. These pages can be assembled into a class book that can be enjoyed for the rest of the school year!

Antarctica: Make a penguin hand puppet using the template found at http://www.first-school.ws/t/craft/penguin_hearts_b.htm (attach to a craft stick). Have children use the puppet to retell the story of *Tacky the Penguin*.

Africa: Using the printable of a warthog found at http://www.first-school.ws/t/cp_animals/warthog-2.htm, have the children color the warthog, then fold the paper in thirds. On the back of the warthog illustration, the children can write or illustrate the beginning, middle, and end of the story, *Jungle Drums*.



Have a WONDERFUL Nevada Reading Week!