

October Lesson Ideas (Middle)

Literary highlights and extensions for the month of October

Book Ideas



Hello, Universe

by [Erin Entrada Kelly](#) and [Isabel Roxas](#)

Themes: Realistic Fiction | Disability | Bullying

- Grab your reader's attention by watching this [book trailer](#) for *Hello, Universe*.
- Listen to the [Meet-the-Author Recording](#) to discover how the author starts stories by asking her characters questions. Ask students how this approach shifts the writing process.
- Use the [reader's theater script](#) to learn more about the characters while practicing fluency. You can also read several chapters in the [ebook preview](#).
- [Guide conversation](#) about Virgil's feelings of failure. What advice would you give him?



A Little Bit Super: With Small Powers Come Big Problems

by [Gary D. Schmidt](#), [Jarrett J. Krosoczka](#), and [Leah Henderson](#)

Themes: Humor | Science Fiction/Fantasy | Heroes

- Read the [ebook preview](#) then discuss both the introduction and author's use of graphic novel format. How do the frames set up the plot and problem for this collection of stories?
- Ask students to write their own superpowers on a Post-it note. Share them with a partner and keep them handy whenever they are feeling down. See these [discussion questions](#) for even more ideas.
- Listen to one of the 14 stories in this [audiobook excerpt](#). Lead a discussion or ask students to write about how "4 Seconds to Sonder" follows the premise of the book.
- Read and discuss the [Fuse #8 interview](#). What do we learn from going behind the scenes with the book's creators?

Author Study Ideas



Nikki Grimes

- Explore the author page for [Nikki Grimes](#) to learn about her and the awards she has won.
- Browse resources for [Garvey's Choice](#). Read poems from the [ebook preview](#) and listen to the [audiobook excerpt](#). Ask students to share what they've learned about Garvey.
- Utilize this [educator's guide](#) for more ideas or perform the [reader's theater script](#).
- Invite students to enjoy another title from the [author's collection](#).

Refer to the [TeachingBooks Literary Calendar](#) for curricular connections and birthday and holiday celebrations.

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