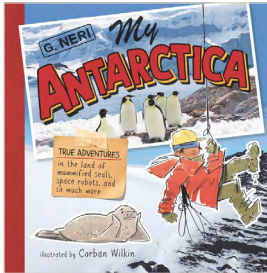


# January Lesson Ideas (Middle)

Literary highlights and extensions for the month of December

## Book Ideas

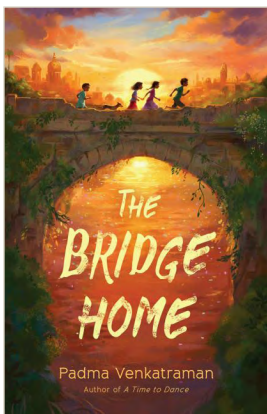


### My Antarctica: True Adventures in the Land of Mummified Seals, Space Robots, and So Much More

by [G. Neri](#) and [Corban Wilkin](#)

Themes: Nonfiction | Science | Geography

- Build background knowledge by exploring the [Virtual Book Tour](#).
- Listen to Neri's [Meet-the-Author Recording](#) about creating My Antarctica.
- Invite students to identify 3 things they learned about the author's research experiences.
- Pair observation and writing skills by inviting students to enjoy Neri's [Imagination Activity](#), describing their own town through the eyes of a stranger.



### The Bridge Home

by [Padma Venkatraman](#)

Themes: Realistic Fiction | South Asian | Homelessness

- Access writing prompts and discussion ideas with this [guide](#).
- Meet the author by listening to her [Audio Name Pronunciation](#). Have your students write and record their own audio name pronunciation.
- Discover how the author's own life influenced her writing with this [Meet-the-Author Recording](#).
- Listen to the [audiobook excerpt](#) read by the author.

## Author Study Ideas



### Raina Telgemeier

- Listen to the author's [Audio Name Pronunciation](#). What tricks does she give to remember how to say her name?
- Play the [Meet-the-Author Recording](#) for Smile. Ask students to make a list of personal experiences they might use to write a story.
- Demonstrate browsing all [books by the author](#), then filter by resource type, such as book trailers or book previews, to find a new book to read.
- Use the share tool to create a shelf card for the [author](#), adding to book baskets, displays, or shelves.

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

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