



YAK'S CORNER TEACHER GUIDE

This week we read about author Louis Sachar and Children's Book Week. We also learned how to make a peace dove using origami.

Name Game

ACTIVITY: As Louis Sachar has discovered, some of the best fiction is based in reality. Create a list of interesting-sounding names. They might be names of kids in your class or perhaps names that you've taken from last year's yearbook. Then write a physical description and personality for the name you've created. Base your description on the ideas the name brings to mind — not necessarily how the real people look and act.

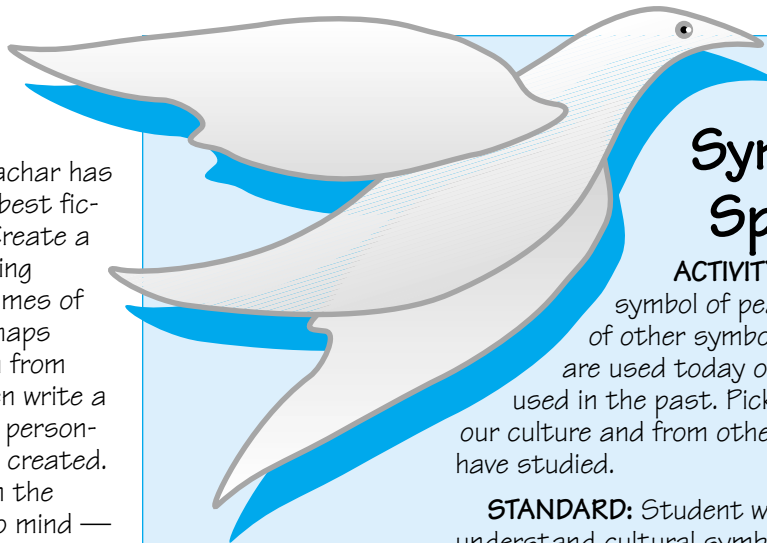
One of the Yak's favorite names from his school days, for example, is Molly Murdock. He pictures her as being a petite girl with thick curly red hair and freckles (even though the real Molly had brown hair). The Yak thinks Molly Murdock would be an energetic person who is always happy, no matter what.

Once you've developed the personalities to go with your names, use a diagram to show what the relationships between your characters would be.

STANDARDS: Students will write descriptive passages. Students will use a variety of techniques for organizing information.

Book Nook

ACTIVITY: The Yak shared the names of some of his favorite books for you to read during



Symbolically Speaking

ACTIVITY: The dove is a symbol of peace. Develop a list of other symbols of peace that are used today or that have been used in the past. Pick symbols from our culture and from other cultures you have studied.

STANDARD: Student will identify and understand cultural symbols.

Children's Book Week. Why don't you compile a list of five of your favorite books? For each, write the name of the book, the author's name, the publisher's name, where the publisher is located, the year the book was first published and a brief summary of what the book is about. Share your list with friends or siblings to encourage them to read.

STANDARD: Students will learn research skills, including how to find bibliographic information in a book.

Paper Caper

ACTIVITY: The need for finding peace has been a hot topic since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Look through your newspaper to find five stories about conflicts. Then answer the following questions for each story:

- What people or entities are involved?
- What is the conflict?
- Was the conflict resolved peacefully? If not, what might have been done differently so that there could have been a peaceful resolution?

STANDARD: Students will develop problem-solving skills.

Animal Images

ACTIVITY: Animals have long been used as cultural symbols. They were especially popular in ancient Egyptian culture. Identify symbolic animals from ancient Egypt and explain their significance to the people of that time.

STANDARD: Student will study and understand the history of ancient Egypt.





YAK'S CORNER ACTIVITY SHEET

www.yakscorner.com

Hey kids, this week we read about author Louis Sachar and Children's Book Week. We also learned how to make a peace dove using origami.

Name Game

ACTIVITY: As Louis Sachar has discovered, some of the best fiction is based in reality. Create a list of three interesting-sounding names. Then write a physical description and personality for the name you've created. Base your description on the ideas the name brings to mind.

Character name:

Physical description:

Personality:

Character name:

Physical description:

Personality:

Character name:

Physical description:

Personality:

Symbolically Speaking

ACTIVITY: The dove is a symbol of peace. Brainstorm a list of three other symbols of peace that are used today or that have been used in the past. Pick symbols from our culture and from other cultures you have studied.

Draw the symbols in the boxes on the right. Beside each symbol, jot down why you think the symbol has come to stand for peace.

Peace symbols
