

A Closer Look at . . .

Gifted Books, Gifted Readers
By Nancy Polette

For K – 8th Educators

Nancy Polette has chosen the best picture books and junior fiction and non-fiction to use with gifted students to encourage creative and critical thinking as well as enjoyment of reading and application to the writing process. The strategies she has chosen helps build excitement and anticipation in gifted students before their reading experience. The activities suggested help students apply what they have learned from the characters about whom they have read.

Concepts included in her choice of picture books include

- The Need to Belong
- The Need to Achieve and Feel Self-Esteem
- The Needs for Beauty, Order, and Harmony
- The Need to Cope with Stress
- The Need for Laughter, Nonsense, and Expanded Vocabulary
- The Need to Know and Extend Developing Concepts
- The Need to Know and Extend Developing Concepts: Animal Families, Community Helpers, Africa, Rocks, Robots, and the Earth

She explores the world of imagination in fairy tales and fantasy; the improvement of critical and creative thinking skills, vocabulary, problem solving, imaging, and observation through the classics and poetry. She explores our diverse cultural background in books about native Americans, African-Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Asian-Americans. Finally she chooses books and topics to learn about the past – the Middle Ages, U.S. History, World War II, and Heroines and Heroes.

Gifted Books, Gifted Readers is filled with hundreds of booktalks, model strategies, and activities to use in the classroom.