**NARRATIVE Mentor/Touchstone Texts – GENRE: Structure and Craft**

A mentor text is any quality text (all or part of the whole piece) used to teach writing. A touchstone text is a favorite mentor text, returned to again and again. Individual teachers and their students choose touchstone texts to learn from that they love. Some possibilities:

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| **Grade** | **Title, author** | **Genre** | **Structure** | **Use to teach Writer’s Craft such as (a partial list):** |
| K and up | *Rollercoaster*  Marla Frazee | Narrative -  Realistic Fiction | Story with repeating pattern | Small moment writing i.e. choosing one most-important focused event from a big day, M3, ellipses, onomatopoeia, 3rd person,  Circle ending, vivid verbs, font choice for meaning, illustrations to add meaning |
| K and up | *Night of the Veggie Monster*  George McClements | Personal Narrative | Story with speech- bubbled subtext | Small ordinary moments of our daily lives can be told extraordinarily well, descriptive word choice, zoom-in drawings, circle ending  (note: I ignore/don’t read the sarcastic speech-bubbled parent-character comments) |
| 1st and up | *Shortcut*  Donald Crews | Memoir | Story | 1st person plural, foreshadowing, dialogue, internal story |
| 1st and up | *My Father’s Hands*  Joanne Ryder | Memoir | Story in present tense | Small moment, Vivid verbs, alliteration, sensory detail, reflective ending |
| 2nd and up | *Owl Moon*  Jane Yolen | Memoir | Narrative free verse poem, story structure | Small moment, setting description, sensory detail, simile, internal dialogue, pacing in the suspense and stretched-out most important moment, reflective ending |
| **Grade** | **Title, author** | **Genre** | **Structure** | **Use to teach Writer’s Craft such as (a partial list):** |
| 2nd and up | *Strong to the Hoop*  John Coy | Personal Narrative | story | Onomatopoeia beginning, dialogue, scenes, internal dialogue, character development through description |
| 3rd and up | *My Rotten Redheaded Older Brother*  Patricia Polacco | Personal Narrative/  memoir | story | Character development through description and dialogue, internal dialogue, scenes, reflection, long slow ending |
| 4th and up | *Come On, Rain*  Karen Hesse | Personal Narrative | story | Small moment, setting description, vivid verbs, verbs used as adjectives, present tense, pacing- slow to fast to slow, dialogue and actions to develop character, show not tell |
| 5th and up | *Miz Berlin Walks*  Jane Yolen | Personal Narrative | Story within a story | Character description, simile, dialect in dialogue, internal dialogue, story within a story structure, circle ending (NOTE: see CC Appendix C for the 8th grade narrative writing sample that apparently used *Miz Berlin* as a mentor text) |
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| **Grade** | **Title, author** | **Genre** | **Structure** | **Use to teach Writer’s Craft such as (a partial list):** |
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