



BLOG



The Best Picture Books for Halloween

Decorations are popping up everywhere and Halloween season is officially in full swing! Students are always so excited for this time of year, so why not fuel their excitement with some fun Halloween picture books? In this post, I share my favorite Halloween picture books with some tips about how they can be used in the classroom. I'm so excited about sharing these books, I decided to share my Halloween

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How to Teach Plot Structure

Identifying and understanding plot structure is a key skill for elementary students to become good readers. Identifying main story elements is a building block to be able to eventually retell and summarize fiction. Plot structure may also be referred to as story structure or literature structure, but they are the same general skill. In this blog post, I provide a step-by-step on how to teach plot structure skills. I also

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How to Use Reading Digital Mini Lessons

I created reading digital mini lessons for teachers who are always scrambling to find the materials they need in so many places. I thought, "What if teachers could have everything they need in ONE place with clear instructions broken down for each day?" Between the read alouds, question prep, anchor charts, student guided practice, and everything else, mini lessons took me so much time to prepare as a teacher. That

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How to Build Intrinsic Motivation in Students

Teachers are some of the most creative people in the world. They come up with the most inventive, engaging, and exciting lessons, classrooms, and more. Cute and fun behavior management and reward systems are no exception. Teachers come up with adorable charts, token systems, prizes, and even the latest trend... Desk Pets. There is no doubt that these reward systems are super creative, fun, and motivating for students. But are

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The Best Back to School Books

The beginning of the year is a crucial time to set expectations, develop relationships, and set the stage to grow a caring classroom community. One of my favorite ways to do this is through classroom read aloud books and discussions. These read aloud books can be sprinkled into your regular reading and social studies lessons to serve a double purpose! These are my seven favorite back to school read aloud

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Just Say No to Behavior Clip Charts

Behavior clip charts have been a staple in many classrooms as the primary behavior management tool for years. In my early days as a substitute teacher, I remember how helpful behavior charts were for me to manage behaviors as a guest



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