



“Bring in the kids!”:

The Experience of an
Academic Library/
Elementary School
Partnership

Molly M. Wolf
ACRL-DVC Fall 2018 Program
October 26, 2018

Widener University



- Three campuses across two states
- Main Campus located in Chester, PA
- Undergraduate, Graduate, & Doctoral Programs
- Approximately 6500 students



Stetser Elementary School



Stetser Elementary School

- Located in Chester, PA
- 318 students
- Kindergarten – 6th Grade
- 13:1 Student to Teacher Ratio
- 100% of students qualify for free breakfast & lunch
- 93% Black / 4% Hispanic / 3% White

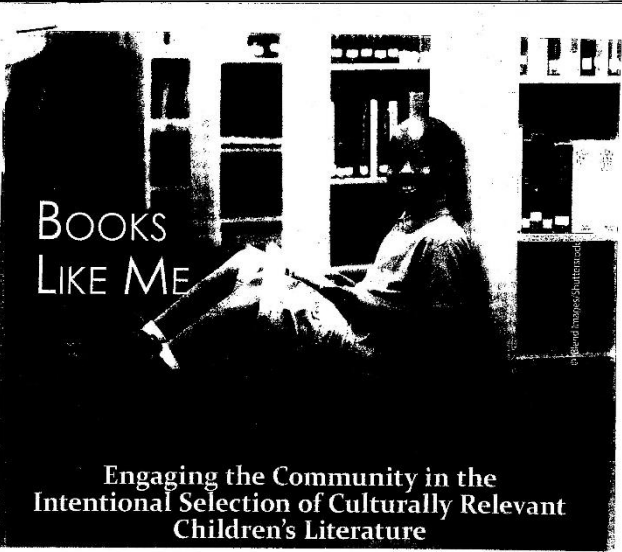
Stetser Elementary School



The Widener / Stetser Relationship

- **Community Engaged Teacher Education Program**
 - “The Community Engaged Teacher Education program is a critical service learning program that utilizes the integration of science/sustainability and language arts concepts as an organizing feature.”

“Books Like Me” Grant



BOOKS LIKE ME

Engaging the Community in the Intentional Selection of Culturally Relevant Children's Literature

Culturally relevant literacy instruction can be helpful in addressing student achievement gaps in U.S. schools. Research shows that lack of sufficient background knowledge impedes students' comprehension of school texts. This article examines the potential benefits of children's literature that employs culturally congruent themes and images. The authors also encourage use of "community teachers" who would possess the cultural knowledge to establish meaningful connections with the students, families, and communities. Uncovering such knowledge bases within a community may improve teaching and subsequently help mobilize student learning and enhance the relevance of students' school experiences.

by Eva Zygmunt, Patricia Clark, Susan Tancock, Wilfridah Mucherah, and Jon Clausen

Eva Zygmunt is Associate Professor of Elementary Education, Patricia Clark is Professor of Elementary Education, Susan Tancock is Professor of Elementary Education, Wilfridah Mucherah is Professor of Educational Psychology, and Jon Clausen is Associate Professor of Educational Studies, Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana.

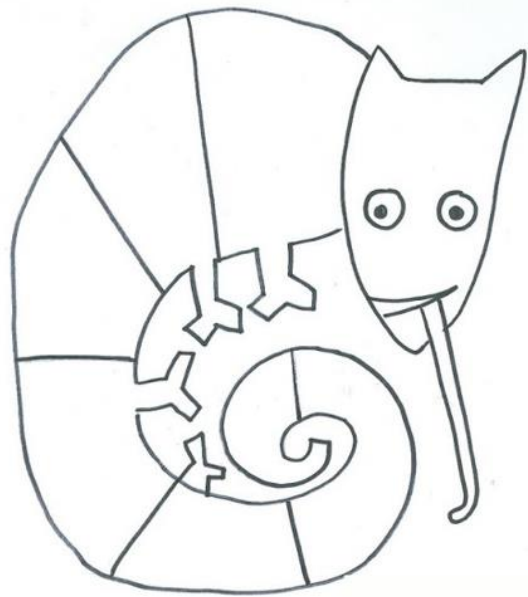
24 | Childhood Education

S.S.R. Fridays (2016-2017)





A Coordinating Activity



One thing that makes me unique is _____

Name: _____

The Cat in the Hat Word Search

X M F I Z F U N E V
Q P H J U M P L A Y
H T L L Q L F W W G
B T Y T M U T I N X
B D R S E U S S S S
A L G A M E S H V H
V T Z S U N N Y H D
B A L L J N Y Y Q O
Z K J P L S Y C Z T
M J M V K L W C A X
T U D C L O O H I T
B V I A F B X M Y E
M R S M O T H E R X
T U A T H I N G Z A
I B O X P T S S E R

BALL TRICKS
BOX WISH
BUMP
CAT
DRSEUSS
FISH
FUN
GAMES
HAT
JUMP
MOTHER
PLAY
SALLY
SUNNY
THING



Art Projects



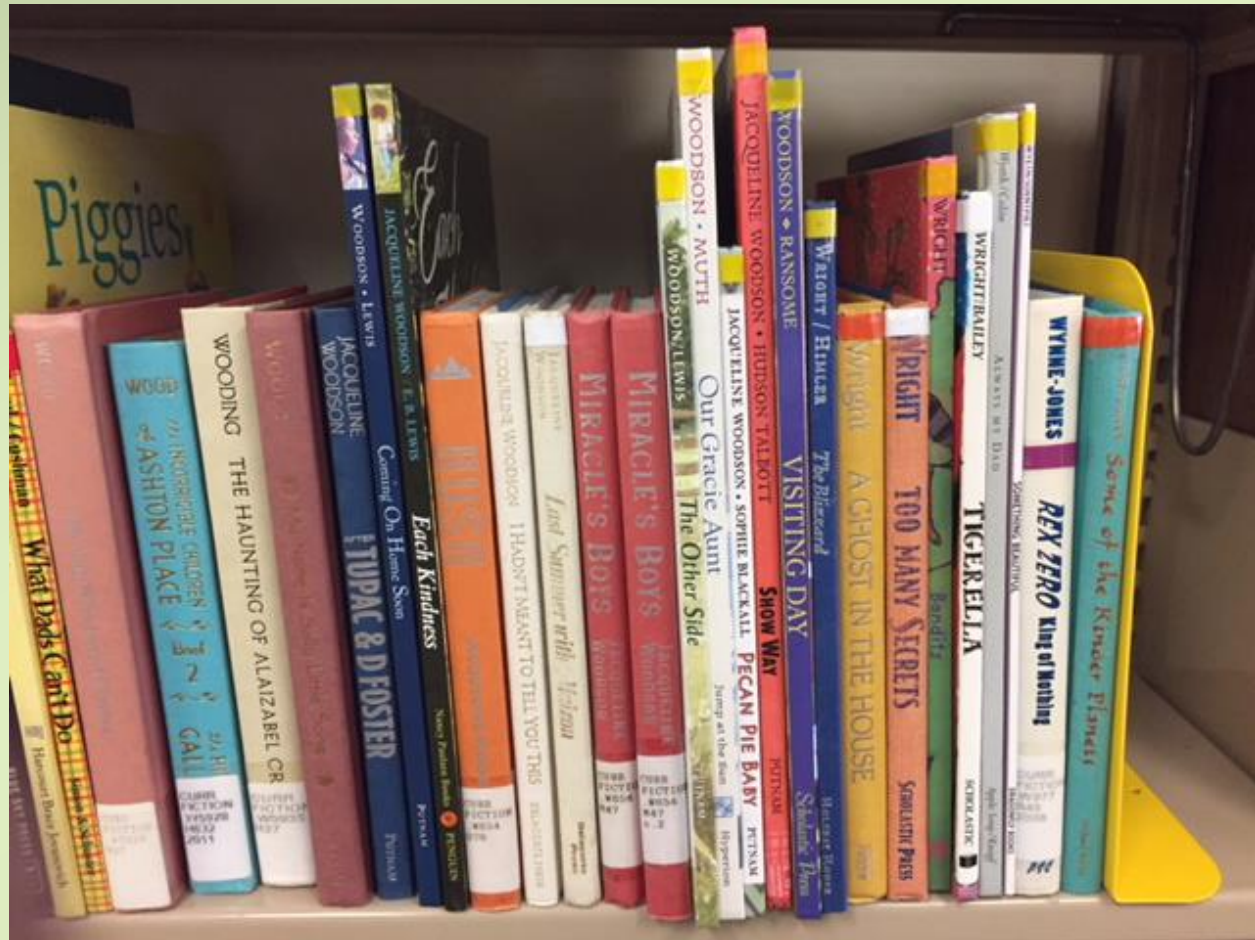
End of the Year Review



S.S.R Fridays (2017-2018)



Leveling the Books



Next Steps

- Level More Books!
- Have Students generate the book lists
- Have student/library staff read to the students
- Add another art project – Paper Bag Puppets!
- Expand to more grades!

Questions?



References

- Pennsylvania Department of Education. (2018a). *PSSA results*. Retrieved from <https://www.education.pa.gov/data-and-statistics/PSSA/Pages/default.aspx>
- Pennsylvania Department of Education. (2018b). *Pennsylvania school performance profile: Stetser el sch*. Retrieved from <http://www.paschoolperformance.org/Profile/6599>

Thank you!

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