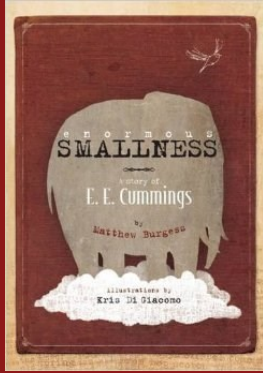


2017 Towner Award Nominee



Author: Matthew Burgess

Illustrator: Kris Di Giacomo

Brooklyn, NY: Enchanted Lion Books

53 pages

AR 5.2

Lexile: 970

Curriculum Connections: poetry, art, literary elements, language, self-esteem, creative writing

Best lends itself for instruction of: Excellent for close reading and building band 3-4 complex vocabulary

Here E.E.'s life is presented in a way that will make children curious about him and will lead them to play with words and ask plenty of questions as well. Lively and informative, the book also presents some of Cummings's most wonderful poems, integrating them seamlessly into the story to give the reader the music of his voice and a spirited, sensitive introduction to his poetry.

In keeping with the epigraph of the book -- "It takes courage to grow up and become who you really are," Matthew Burgess's narrative emphasizes the bravery it takes to follow one's own vision and the encouragement E.E. received to do just that.

Common Core

Primary:

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.1.3

Describe characters, settings, and major events in a story, using key details.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.1.4

Identify words and phrases in stories or poems that suggest feelings or appeal to the senses.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.2.3

Describe how characters in a story respond to major events and challenges.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.1.4

Describe people, places, things, and events with relevant details, expressing ideas and feelings clearly.

Intermediate:

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.4.2

Determine a theme of a story, drama, or poem from details in the text; summarize the text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.4.5

Explain major differences between poems, drama, and prose, and refer to the structural elements of poems (e.g., verse, rhythm, meter) and drama (e.g., casts of characters, settings, descriptions, dialogue, stage directions) when writing or speaking about a text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.SL.4.2

Paraphrase portions of a text read aloud or information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.4.5.c

Demonstrate understanding of words by relating them to their opposites (antonyms) and to words with similar but not identical meanings (synonyms).

Text Features:

poems by ee cummings, Author's Note, time-line, variety of fonts and print sizes

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Lesson Ideas	Text Set Options																		
Primary:																			
<p>Create a poetry journal. Add poems in a variety of formats into the journal. Have students illustrate each poem.</p> <p>Learn about various types of poetry: found, concrete, haiku, rhyming, acrostic, etc. Compare and contrast a variety of poetry.</p> <p>Use GLAD chants in classroom to teach concepts: http://www.psd1.org/Page/253 http://swcontent.spokaneschools.org/page/2615</p> <p>Poetry Balloons: String a clothesline with a balloons for each student. Inside the balloons put a poem . Students pop the balloon and put their poem in their writing journal, illustrating it.</p> <p>EE Cummings loved elephants. Make a list of things students know about elephants and why he may have loved them.</p>	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"><u>I Carry Your Heart With Me</u> Cameron & Company</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; text-align: center;">2014</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; text-align: right;">EE Cummings Not AR RL 2-6 yr</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"><u>Random House Book of Poetry for Children</u> Random House</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; text-align: center;">1983</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; text-align: right;">AR 2.2</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"><u>When I Heard the Learn'd Astronomer</u> Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; text-align: center;">2004</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; text-align: right;">Walt Whitman AR 2.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"><u>Elephants</u> National Geographic</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; text-align: center;">2010</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; text-align: right;">Laura Marsh AR 4.1</td> </tr> </table>	<u>I Carry Your Heart With Me</u> Cameron & Company	2014	EE Cummings Not AR RL 2-6 yr	<u>Random House Book of Poetry for Children</u> Random House	1983	AR 2.2	<u>When I Heard the Learn'd Astronomer</u> Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers	2004	Walt Whitman AR 2.4	<u>Elephants</u> National Geographic	2010	Laura Marsh AR 4.1						
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<p>Read a variety of styles of poetry. Compare and contrast them. Discuss how the voice effects the way the poem sounds and feels.</p> <p>Read the story <u>Love That Dog</u> with class. Compare the original poem with the poem that the main character in the story writes. Have students write their own poems.</p> <p>Research famous poets. Compare and contrast their lives and their poetry.</p> <p>Have students write their own chants or poems for the subjects you are studying.</p> <p>Watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NA836Ax7scw EE Cummings Balloonman—In Just Spring Provide a hard copy of the poem. Discuss what students noticed and think about the poem. Students may illustrate the poem.</p> <p>Read a biography about a famous person. Write a poem about that person and how they made a difference.</p>	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"><u>Papa Is A Poet: a story about Robert Frost</u> Henry Holt & Company</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; text-align: center;">2013</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; text-align: right;">Natalie Bober AR 4.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"><u>Woody Guthrie: poet of the people</u> Dragonfly Books</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; text-align: center;">2009</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; text-align: right;">Bonnie Christensen AR 5.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"><u>Jazz Age Poet: a story about Langston Hughes</u> Millbrook Press</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; text-align: center;">2006</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; text-align: right;">Veda Boyd Jones AR 5.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"><u>Poetry for Young People: Langston Hughes</u> Sterling Children's Books</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; text-align: center;">2013</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; text-align: right;">RL 4.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"><u>Poetry for Young People: Emily Dickinson</u> Sterling Children's Books</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; text-align: center;">2008</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; text-align: right;">RL 4.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;"><u>Love That Dog</u> Harper Trophy</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; text-align: center;">2001</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; text-align: right;">Sharon Creech AR 4.5</td> </tr> </table>	<u>Papa Is A Poet: a story about Robert Frost</u> Henry Holt & Company	2013	Natalie Bober AR 4.8	<u>Woody Guthrie: poet of the people</u> Dragonfly Books	2009	Bonnie Christensen AR 5.5	<u>Jazz Age Poet: a story about Langston Hughes</u> Millbrook Press	2006	Veda Boyd Jones AR 5.6	<u>Poetry for Young People: Langston Hughes</u> Sterling Children's Books	2013	RL 4.9	<u>Poetry for Young People: Emily Dickinson</u> Sterling Children's Books	2008	RL 4.5	<u>Love That Dog</u> Harper Trophy	2001	Sharon Creech AR 4.5
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