

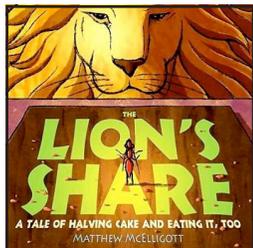


CRUCHLEY'S COLLECTION

Diana Cruchley is an award-winning educator and author, who has taught at elementary and secondary levels. Her workshops are practical, include detailed handouts, and are always enthusiastically received.

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THE LION'S SHARE



The ant is invited to the lion's dinner party and is shocked at the manners of the other guests as they greedily "share" the cake. When she herself is accused of being greedy, the ant

turns the tables on the other guests.

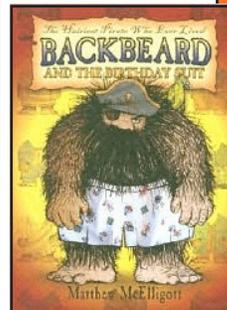
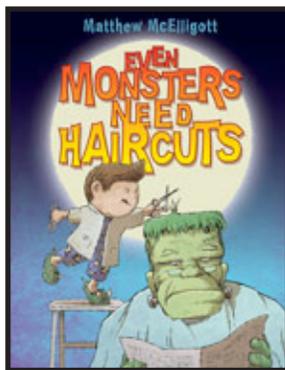
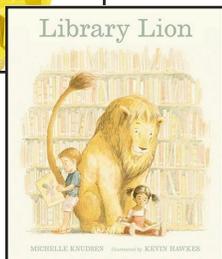
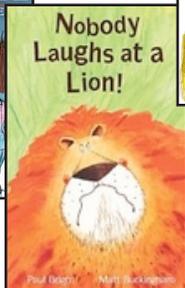
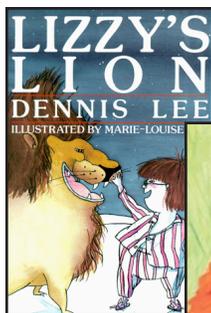
Matthew McElligott, Walker and Company,
©2009, ISBN 0-827-9768-7

THE LION THEME

There are many picture books about lions including:

1. *Jim, Who Ran Away From His Nurse and Was Eaten by a Lion*
2. *We're Going on a Lion Hunt*
3. *Lizzy's Lion*
4. *The Lion and The Mouse* (several versions)
5. *Nobody Laughs at a Lion*
6. *Library Lion*

After reading several, students may write their own lion story. Brainstorm first the qualities a lion is thought to have, so that they can be demonstrated in the story.



READERS' THEATRE

Students could re-write this story as a reader's theatre. There are 10 or more characters whose lines could be written to expand the story line with dialogue.

EXPRESSIONS

The Lion's Share is an expression indicating that the person took the largest amount, just like a lion does in a hunt. Distribute 10-12 expressions to students who will work in groups. Give each group a limited time to explain, in writing, what they think the following animal expressions mean.

- leads a dog's life
- black sheep of the family
- it's raining cats and dogs
- making a monkey out of you
- a white elephant
- kill two birds with one stone
- a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush
- take the bull by the horns
- as stubborn as a mule
- when pigs fly
- having bats in the belfry
- having a bee in your bonnet

MATTHEW MCELLIGOTT'S BOOKS

Matthew McElligott has a terrific website with lesson plans and sources for writers as well as for illustrators. There is a wonderful explanation of how he designed this book with examples from the pages. Three of his books include:

- *Even Monsters Need Haircuts*
- *Absolutely Not*
- *Bean 13*
- *Blackbeard and the Birthday Suit*

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DRAWING WEBSITES

McCelligott's websites has connections to two free drawing programs that I have been having a lot of fun with, and your students will too. One is called *Flame* and the other is called *Harmony*. I like Harmony better. He also connects to a free art program called *Art Rage 2*. Students might like to quickly illustrate a book they have written with sketchy and interesting illustrations - which they can create at home.

MATH

Give students a list of the animals and ask them to create a chart of the values in each division of the cake.

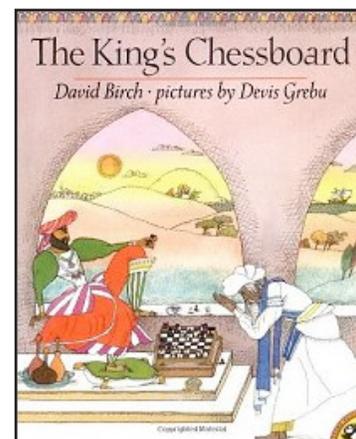
ANIMAL	FRACTION	PERCENTAGE
1. elephant	1/2	50%
2. hippo	1/4	25%
3. gorilla	1/8	12.5%
4. tortoise	1/16	6.25%
5. warthog	1/32	3.13%
6. macaw	1/64	1.56%
7. frog	1/128	.78%
8. ant	1/256	.39%
9. lion	1/512	.19%

MCCCELLIGOTT'S MATH

On his website McCelligott has an interesting step-by-step explanation of geometric progression, which is what this book represents. It culminates in explaining why we get I-POD in 2,4,8,16, or 32 GB and not other numbers. For your older students.

GEOMETRIC PROGRESSION IN THE KING'S CHESSBOARD

The King's Chessboard is based on the same-principal of geometric progression. A wise man does a favour for the king who asks him to name anything as his reward. He says he doesn't want one and when the king insists he decides to teach him a lesson. He asks for 1 grain of rice on the first square of the king's chessboard, and each day double the rice until the last of the 64 squares. At first it's fun to watch a servant bring a few grains of rice on a silk pillow but the king loses interest until the day he sees cart after cart of rice being carried to the wise man's house. The king comes to realize the power of geometric progression and is only saved when the wise man reminds him that he wanted nothing.



PERSONAL WRITING

A springboard from a picture book to personal writing should provide at least three topics if possible. Here are some ideas:

1. Times when I try to make a good impression. What are "good manners"? What do they look like?
2. Times when we share. Times when I or others were greedy.
3. The best gift(s) I ever received.
4. Stories showing why you admire an authority figure (parent, teacher, coach, piano teacher, etc.)
5. My favourite things to eat - where, how, etc.