



Golden Legacy:
Original Art from 65 years of Golden Books



©1942, The Poky Little Puppy

Educator's Guide

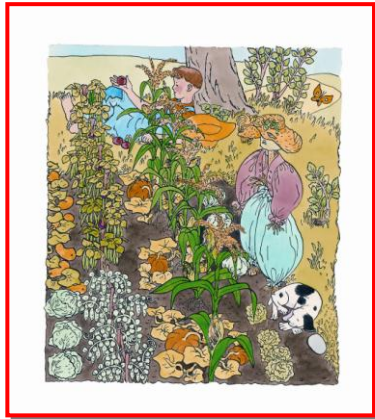
The National Center for Children's Illustrated Literature

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Golden Legacy: 65 years of Original Art from Golden books

Written by Leonard Marcus

Exhibit Curated by Leonard Marcus and Diane Muldrow, Editorial Director for Golden Books, Random House



©1951, *Two Little Gardeners*



©1949, *The Color Kittens*



©1975, *There's No such Thing as a Dragon*

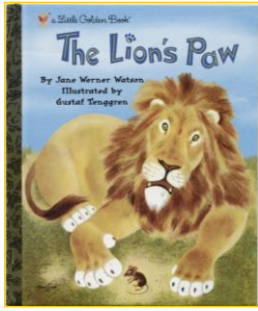
Children have loved Little Golden Books for over 60 years. They have written their names inside each front cover and delighted in the colorful pictures and wonderful stories. Thanks to the happy hours spent with each book, many children have developed a lifelong love for reading. Launched in 1942—the first full year of America’s involvement in the Second World War—Little Golden Books made high quality illustrated books available at affordable prices for the first time to millions of young children and their parents. Among the artists who contributed to the ambitious series were greats of the European émigré community (including Garth Williams, Feodor Rojankovsky, and Tibor Gergely) who had gathered in New York as the European situation worsened; alumni of the Walt Disney Studios (including Gustaf Tenggren, Martin Provensen, J.P. Miller, and Mary Blair); and such American originals as Leonard Weisgard, Eloise Wilkin, Elizabeth Orton Jones, Richard Scarry, and Hilary Knight.

Over two billion Little Golden Books have reached the hands of children. We salute the talented authors and artists who helped create these wonderful gold foil spine books and enriched the lives of our young ones.

As educators, we often look for books that enrich our students. But it is also important that we don’t lose sight of having fun while learning.

At the NCCIL, we have tried to make Classroom Connections with some of the Little Golden Books that we hope will be useful to you, as you take this Golden journey with us.

The Lion's Paw



Illustrated by Gustaf Tenggren, this is a heartwarming story of a lion and a mouse. The lion has a thorn in his paw, and the African jungle is buzzing with one question: “Who will take the thorn out?” All the animals are busy, and no one has the time to do it, until a little mouse walks up to the lion and offers to help.

CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS



Language Arts:

Journal Journey – Journal writing provides children with an opportunity to explore ideas without being graded. It is a good way to get the children into a habit of writing. Not only does it improve the writing and thinking skills, it aids in memory development. Children can also write their own versions of the story. This activity allows students of differing abilities to respond to the invitation to write. If a child is already writing well, they will choose the more advanced activity. If the child is struggling with his or her writing, he/or she may choose a “drawing and labeling” approach to the journal.

Plot it Out- Read the book to the class as an example of how important it is to help others when they need us. Have students outline a plot for their own version of a friend in trouble. Use the writing process to help with the revising and editing of the pieces.



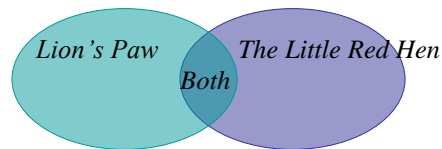
Science:

Animal Exploration- After reading the book, discuss the characteristics of different animals. Talk about the Rainforest and the animals that call it their home. Students can then choose an animal for research and present a written and/or oral report.



Math:

Mighty Red Hen -Read to the class *The Little Red Hen*. Ask them to compare and contrast the two stories. The students will learn to demonstrate graphically how the two stories overlap, record their similarities and differences on a Venn diagram.

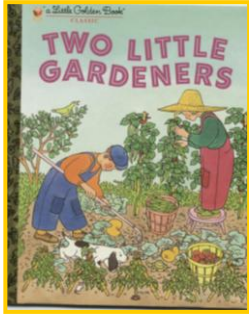


Art:

What's Deep in the Forest? Jungles can be deep. Have children list the animals that stay on the edge of the jungle and then go on deep into the forest. Children will have fun making these jungle scrolls.

- Materials: Cardboard tube, 4x4 colored construction paper, hole punch, erasable markers, glue stick, scissors.
- Procedure: Illustrate and write the information on the construction paper. Glue the bottom edge of one fact card (construction paper) with the top edge of the next. Continue till done. Glue the top of the first fact card on to the cardboard tube. Roll up the fact cards. Your scroll is now ready.

Two Little Gardeners



Illustrated by Gertrude Elliot, this book explores the four seasons of the year. What is planted in spring is eaten in fall and put in jars for the snowy winters. Summer brings with it birds and furry animals only to eager to eat. The vivid illustrations make it easy to fall in love with the two little gardeners hard at work. This book can be used to introduce a unit on seasons.

CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS



Language Arts:

So You Are a Tree In My Garden: Students can let their imagination run wild by writing about the life of a tree! The kind of tree, its location and setting.....the possibilities are endless.



Science: Students will understand the importance of gardens and trees. This book may be used to introduce a unit on seasons.

Seeds and More: Discuss seeds and their parts; familiar and unfamiliar seeds; conditions needed to sprout and grow. Students can plant their own gardens by sowing some seeds in small planters, watching and recording its progress.

What Do I See That's Been Made From the Trees? Brainstorm and list everything that is made from trees. Students will be surprised!

Colorful Celery Test: Mix different food colors in a jar or clear vases. Stand sticks of celery in them and watch what happens over a 24-48 hour period. The stalk and leaves should turn the color of the colored water. This activity can be explained to how the water is carried throughout a tree.

How Old Are You? Find a log or tree that has been cut down and count the rings. Each ring represents one year of life for the tree.



Art:

My Garden Diorama

- Materials required: a shoebox, construction paper, scissors, any other material the student wants to use, and glue
- Procedure: Students can design their own gardens by constructing their own dioramas complete with plant and animal life.

Magical Gardens: Students can create their own magical gardens. Collages of paper, different painting mediums and/ or sequences can flower up in their gardens. This would also be a great time to introduce the children to Georgia O' Keefe's flowers and Monet's paintings. The children may even be adventurous enough to try it themselves!



The Color Kittens

First published in 1949, *The Color Kittens* is written by Margaret Wise Brown and illustrated by Alice and Martin Provensen. It tells the story of two kittens, Brush and Hush, and their colorful adventures. The book would be wonderful to introduce the kindergarteners to the world of colors and reinforce it to the 1st graders. The illustrations are simple enough for the children to enjoy.



CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS

Language Arts:

Read My Thoughts: Notice how Brush and Hush's feelings change from page to page. Have your students identify what they might be experiencing with each new color the kittens make. Students can make a list of things that make them happy and things of which they are afraid, and the times when they started to create one thing and ended up with something completely different.

Actions Speak Louder than Words: Ask students to talk about their pets in terms of how the animal acts. A cat owner will tell something about how a cat acts. Then ask another pet owner to tell how their pet acts. Continue until you have allowed each pet owner to talk about their pet's behavior. Each time a new word is used, add that word to a list. You may want the students to see if they can name other actions that might work for this list. Students may use these words as they write their stories or journal entries for the week.



Math:

Venn Diagrams: Have children who own cats as pets raise their hands. Have children who own other animals as pets raise their hands. Ask a cat owner to tell something about how a cat acts. Then ask another pet owner to tell how their pet acts. Draw a Venn diagram on the board to visually illustrate the similarities and differences.

More and Some More/Proportions: The children will learn more, some, some more and less, some less pattern with the help of colors. E.g.: What would happen if we mix red and white in different proportions?



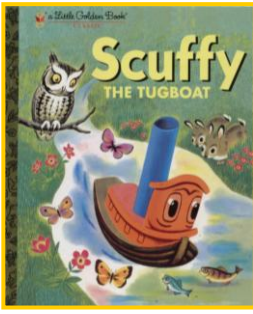
Art:

Color Wheel: Create cool color tricks while learning about primary and secondary colors and color blending
Materials: Crayons, colored Pencils, string, poster board.

Procedure: On thin white cardboard or poster board, trace a circle 5" in diameter. Cut the circle out. Draw lines to divide the front and back of each circle into equal pie-like sections. Color the sections in with crayons. Experiment with varying color patterns on different wheels and predict results. Poke a small hole in the center of the circle with scissors. Pull a string of yarn halfway through the hole. Hold one end of the string in each hand. Swing the string and circle until the length is twisted. Give the string a firm, brisk pull. As the wheel spins, watch the colors appear to mix. Complementary colors such as yellow and purple, red and green, or blue and orange will appear muddy brown. Alternating two primary colors will result in the secondary color that those two colors create. For example, when alternating sections are blue and yellow, the spinning wheel will appear to be green. *Why does this occur?* The wheel spins so fast that instead of seeing each color separately, the eyes and the brain see the visual illusion of a mixture.

Children, Children which colors do you see? Children will enjoy this fun activity. Have them list out the various things they like, or own, or even see around in the classroom. Can they figure out which colors combine together to make them up?

Scuffy the Tugboat and His Adventures Down the River



Tibor Gergely's simple illustrations bring our beloved Scuffy the Tugboat to life. His adventures take us down a river to the unknown seas. The story unfolds through the eyes of Scuffy, a small tugboat on a shelf in the toy store who was sure he was meant for bigger things. The water-filled bath tub was not enough. When the store owner and his young son finally took him to sail up the river, Scuffy knew it was time for him to sail; he sniffed his blue smokestack and off he went!

CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS



Language Arts:

Faraway Family and Friends- Scuffy missed the man with the polka dot tie and his little boy while they were apart. Educators can discuss different methods of staying in touch with their special family member or friend who is far away. Review the format of a friendly letter and have students compose a letter and send it to a friend or family member. It might be fun to suggest that they also write a text message for the phone or an email.

Let's Pretend: Children are full of limitless imagination. Have children pick a vehicle they like. They should pretend to be the vehicle and then write a diary account of their day, daily in their journal for a week.

Fairy Tales..... The way we want them!: Given a "same story, different version," the students with assistance from the teacher can make up their own resolutions to different fairy tales.

Analyze It: Using a story map have students analyze the story elements. For deeper understanding of the text ask the children why they think each element was presented the way it was.

Characters	Characteristics	Problems faced	Solution



Science:

Sink or Float? - Students can try making boats of various kinds and with a variety of materials. Experiment to see if they float and why. Use this opportunity to introduce science terms like buoyancy, wind and wind patterns, navigational maps, and machines.



Art:

Riverscape: A collage of the harbor!

- Materials: Different shades of blue tissue paper, glue, colored construction paper.
- Procedure: Draw a harbor scene on a white construction paper. Layer and glue the blue tissue paper for the river, the colored construction paper for the trees, buildings and other boats, and sail away with creativity!