

Realia Ideas from the Sunshine Books

Create a display using a realia item and statement relating to events or people in each book. The statements can be typed or hand-lettered, laminated on construction paper or poster board and displayed with the matching realia item. You might consider hanging the laminated statement and realia item above your Sunshine book display.

You can use the realia item and corresponding statements in two ways:

- The entire statement can be placed on display for reading motivation.
- The clue (statement) can be used without mentioning the book's title. This could then become a contest (*i.e.*, Mystery Object Contest) as students are asked to identify which book matches the clue and realia item. The clue and the realia item should be numbered and should correspond to a numbered contest entry slip.

Book: *Andy Russell, Not Wanted by the Police*

Item: Garbage Bag (filled with as many of the following items as possible - Oat Bran Toasties cereal box, army boot, purple stocking, two paintbrushes, used tube of paint)

Statement: What if you found these items in your neighbor's garbage can when they were supposed to be away on a vacation? Find out if Andy and his friend call the police or get to the bottom of this mystery by themselves in *Andy Russell, Not Wanted By the Police*.

Book: *Escaping the Giant Wave*

Item: Warning Sign

Statement: Kyle reads a warning sign on the beach, but does he pay attention to what the sign says? Read *Escaping the Giant Wave* to see if Kyle remembers and heeds the warning.

Book: *Gooney Bird Greene*

Item: Chopsticks

Statement: Who eats sushi for their school lunch? Read *Gooney Bird Greene* to find out more about this unusual girl.

Book: *Granny Torrelli Makes Soup*

Items: Soup Pot and Stirring Spoon

Statement: Rosie and Bailey are best friends. They have been best friends their whole lives. But something happens to make Rosie so angry at Bailey that she says she hates him. However, Rosie remembers what's important about love, life, and friendship when *Granny Torrelli Makes Soup*.

Book: *Gregor the Overlander*

Item: Flashlight

Statement: Why were the batteries and flashlights so important to Gregor and the Underlanders? Find the answer to this question in *Gregor the Overlander*.

Book: *How Tía Lola Came to Visit Stay*

Item: Dominican Republic flag

Statement: Where does Tía Lola put her Dominican Republic flag? Read why Tía Lola posts her flag at the center of the garden in *How Tía Lola Came to Visit Stay*.

Book: *Ida B*

Item: Apple

Statement: If you could talk to an apple tree, what do you think it would say? Read *Ida B* to find out what the trees say to her.

Book: *Lewis and Clark and Me*

Item: Large Bone

Statement: "I chewed it and sucked out all the delicious marrow." Who gave this to Seaman? Read *Lewis and Clark and Me* to find out.

Book: *Million Dollar Kick*

Item: A Book entitled *Soccer for the Complete Idiot* (Make cover yourself)

Statement: Why would a girl who hates soccer buy a book entitled *Soccer for the Complete Idiot*? Perhaps it has something to do with the contest she won and her chance to make the *Million Dollar Kick*!

Book: *Once Upon a Marigold*

Item: Colored Rock Crystals

Statement: "It's a big cave with lots of rooms, and in each room the walls and ceilings are studded with a different kind of crystal." Edric the troll introduces Christian to the cave in *Once Upon a Marigold*.

Book: *Owen Foote, Super Spy*

Item: Piece of Camouflage Clothing

Statement: Why would Owen Foote create camouflage headgear out of a pair of his father's boxer shorts? Read *Owen Foote, Super Spy* and find out why!

Book: *Seaward Born*

Item: Small Wooden Boat

Statement: Born a slave, Michael keeps a small boat as his only company reminding him of his dream to one day be free and sail the seas. Read *Seaward Born* to learn how Michael makes his dreams come true.

Book: *Trading Places with Tank Talbott*

Item: Life Jacket or Life Preserver

Statement: If you can't swim, do you need to wear a life jacket when you are in a boat? Find out about Jason's mishap when he did not have one on and he fell into the water. Read about the consequences of this event in *Trading Places with Tank Talbott*.

Book: *The World According to Humphrey*

Items: Tiny Notepad and Pencil

Statement: This notebook and pencil belong to class pet Humphrey the hamster. Read his observations of life both in school and on his visits to students' homes in *The World According to Humphrey*.

Book: *The Young Man and the Sea*

Items: Oars

Statement: When Samuel is bringing his catch back to shore, why does he have to use these oars instead of the motor on his boat? Read *The Young Man and the Sea* to find out.