

# 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: *Attack of the Mutant Underwear***

Item: Journal or Diary

Statement: Cody records his daily mishaps in this journal. What kind of sad, funny, embarrassing, and heroic experiences did Cody record? Read *Attack of the Mutant Underwear* to enjoy Cody's adventures.

## **Book: *Attack of the Tagger***

Item: Digital Camera

Statement: How do you catch a criminal in the act? Find out how fifth grader Nolan Ryan uses this camera to solve a mystery and become a superhero in *Attack of the Tagger*.

## **Book: *Because of Anya***

Item: Wig stand (effective with or without a wig)

Statement: "Now Anya reached out and touched the smooth top of her own wig stand. Even without eyes, even without a face, the wig stand seemed to taunt her." Do you know anyone who wears a wig? Find out why Anya has to wear a wig in *Because of Anya*.

## **Book: *The Beloved Dearly***

Item: Ticking alarm clock

Statement: Mister Doggie slept with an alarm clock in his dog bed to comfort him. In the end, the clock and the importance of time take on a broader meaning for Ernie and his dad. Find out what happens in *The Beloved Dearly*.

## **Book: *The Boy Who Spoke Dog***

Item: Rusted metal box with lid

Statement: Sage, a wise, old sheep dog, leads Jack to a rusted metal box containing items that will help Jack survive on the island. Find out what these objects are and how Jack becomes *The Boy Who Spoke Dog*.

## **Book: *Chasing the Falconers***

Item: Toy cows, miniature mountain bikes, photographs, bottle caps, cigar box, penny, toy soldiers, amethyst crystals, maps, or motel key

Statement: Aiden and Meg Falconer must prove their parents' innocence or the couple will be facing life in prison, but first, they must find a way to escape the juvenile detention center where they have been placed. Find out who is chasing the Falconers and how they use their wits to make it across the country, facing many challenges along the way.

### **Book: *Colder Than Ice***

Item: Digital Camera

Statement: Mark takes pictures of people, animals, and places. Read *Colder Than Ice* to find out why using a camera helps Mark organize his thoughts.

Item: Ice Skates

Statement: “Hey, you will miss out on a whole month of skating,’ Bunk said.” Read *Colder Than Ice* to find out why it was so important for Josh to have his skates as soon as possible.

### **Book: *Cryptid Hunters***

Item: Stuffed toy monkey

Statement: Grace O’Hara always carries an old worn stuffed toy monkey. Why would a beautiful and intelligent twelve year old still carry a baby’s toy? Read *Cryptid Hunters* to see if this odd toy helps solve Grace’s true identity!

### **Book: *Frog Princess***

Item: Plastic insects, bat, frog (can be found at party stores), or gold bracelet

Statement: “I found an embroidered handkerchief and gently patted the frog’s mouth clean. ‘You had dried fly feet stuck to your lips,’ I said shuddering. ‘All right, let’s try again.’ This time the kiss went off without a hitch or so she thought.” Read *The Frog Princess* to find out about Princess Emeraldalda’s most amazing adventures that started with just one kiss.

### **Book: *Lily’s Ghosts***

Item: Kewpie doll, Old newspapers, Treasure chest

Statement: Her mother’s old Kewpie doll seems to follow Lily around the house. Find out why Uncle Max knows the doll is so important in *Lily’s Ghosts*.

### **Book: *Lowji Discovers America***

Item: United States map

Statement: Have you ever moved to a new place and had a hard time fitting in? Read *Lowji Discovers America* to find out how Lowji adjusted to his new country.

### **Book: *Made You Look***

Item: Allosaurus head (made out of papier-mâché)

Statement: “It’s an Ambie-saurus,’ I said.....’I mean an allosaurus. One of the meanest meat-eating dinosaurs that ever lived. He ate anyone who got in his way.” Find out if Jason can overcome his nemesis, Amberson Anderson, and become a contestant on the greatest game show of all time, “Masquerade Mania,” when you read *Made You Look* by Diane Roberts.

### **Book: *My Brother’s Hero***

Item: Fishing rod

Statement: Mica introduces Ben and his brother Cody to fishing in the Florida Keys, but trouble follows them as they venture out into the water. Read about their adventures and their problems in *My Brother’s Hero*.

### **Book: *Quake! Disaster in San Francisco, 1906***

Item: Blanket, Old newspaper, Tent

Statement: It took less than a minute for Jacob’s life to change forever. Read *Quake! Disaster in San Francisco, 1906* to find out how Jason survives the worst earthquake ever recorded in the United States.

### **Book: *Runt***

Item: Stuffed animal wolf

Statement: Can the runt of the litter survive and find his place in the wolf pack? Find out what happens to the smallest cub when you read *Runt* by Marion Dane Bauer.