

# 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.

## ***The Blue Ghost***

Item: Medical home reference book

Statement: Does your family have a home medical reference book or do you just call the doctor? What did families do 100 years ago if someone was sick? Find out how Liz “travels back in time” to save one of her ancestors in *The Blue Ghost*.

## ***Clementine***

Item: Painter stilts

Statement: “I was smiling all about this when I strapped the stilts onto my legs.” Read *Clementine* to discover why she wanted to walk on the painter’s stilts.

Items: Hat with Polka Dottie’s flea collar, pepperoni, red shoes, blue jay feather, *M&Ms*, charm bracelet, lace, pink sparkle nail polish, a dead bumblebee, and the rest of the red curly hair.

Statement: “Then I got my mother’s favorite hat, a big bottle of glue, and my dad’s aftershave, which Margaret and I love to squirt all over us because it has such a heavenly aroma.” Read *Clementine* to find out why she was making such a wonderful creation.

## ***Dexter the Tough***

Item: A very old bike or pictures of very old bikes

Statement: Have you ever seen or ridden a very old bike? Dexter didn’t have anything else to do but ride the old bike. Read *Dexter the Tough* and discover where Dexter’s bike ride led him.

## ***The Ghost’s Grave***

Items: Baseball, Coal miner’s hat, Models of leg bones, Realistic copy of \$100.00 bill

Statement: What can a baseball, a coal miner’s hat, leg bones, and money have in common? They are all items found in Peg Kehret’s thrilling book *The Ghost’s Grave*.

## ***The Homework Machine***

Items: Computer and examples of homework

Statement: So what can go wrong if you have a computer do your homework? Read *The Homework Machine* to find out about the consequences this foursome faces when Belch takes over homework duty!

## ***Listen!***

Item: Digital camera

Statement: Listening to nature was very important to Charley’s mother, a famous naturalist photographer. Read *Listen!* to find out what Charley learns about herself and her mother’s unique gift.

## ***The Missing Manatee***

Items: Plastic or plush manatee, Fishing pole, Rod and reel, Artificial fishing bait, Plastic tarpon, Karaoke machine, and/or Rope to demonstrate different knots

Statement: Why in the world would anyone want to shoot a manatee? And where was it now? Read *The Missing Manatee* to find the answers to Skeet’s questions.

### **No Talking**

Items: Red plastic bullhorn, Red mini notebook, and Folded index cards for tallying points

Statement: Could something as simple as not talking change your school? It is boys against girls in this amazing two day competition. Find out who the winners and the losers are in *No Talking* by Andrew Clements.

### **Phineas L. MacGuire. . . Erupts!**

Items: Plastic dinosaurs, purple ink pen, empty soda bottle, dishwashing liquid, baking soda and vinegar (e.g., volcano making supplies), and comic books

Statement: From the highly scientific notebooks of Phineas L. MacGuire, read about his re-invention of the other Mac in his class.

### **Roxie and the Hooligans**

Items: Walking stick or cane

Statement: "When Uncle Dangerfoot came to visit, everything in the house had to be just so...the man who had wrestled alligators and jumped planes was not to be kept waiting." Nine-year-old Roxie Warbler loves to hear her uncle tell of his adventures with Lord Thistlebottom, the author of *Lord Thistlebottom's Book of Pitfalls and How to Survive Them*. Roxie practically knows the book by heart. But unfortunately Roxie doesn't need to survive pitfalls in adventures, but she does at school where a group of bullies, Helvetia's Hooligans, tease her about her big ears. Suddenly, though, Roxie finds herself on a deserted island with, not only the hooligans, but a pair of bank robbers on the run! Can Lord Thistlebottom's advice help Roxie survive all the pitfalls she faces on this wild adventure? Read *Roxie and the Hooligans* to find out.

### **Rules**

Items: Yellow rubber duck, Audiocassette or videotape, Sketchbook and colored pencils

Statement: "Sometimes people laugh when they like you. But sometimes people laugh to hurt you." "No toys in the fish tank." "Flush!" These are some of the "Rules for David." Read *Rules* to find out why Catherine has to write them down for her brother.

### **The Sloppy Copy Slipup**

Items: Paper, Pencil, Imagination, and Inspiration

Statement: Read "*The Sloppy Copy Slipup*" to find out how Brian finally manages to get his sloppy copy completed.

### **Stumptown Kid**

Items: Baseball glove and bat

Statement: Playing baseball is an important part of Charlie's life. Read *Stumptown Kid* to find out whether Charlie's Stumptown Stormers beat the famous Wildcats.

### **The Stupendous Dodgeball Fiasco**

Item: Sign – 'WELCOME TO HARDINGTOWN: THE UNOFFICIAL DODGEBALL CAPITAL OF THE WORLD'

Statement: "Phillip saw the big sign as the door opened. Dodgeball? He wondered what that was." Read *The Stupendous Dodgeball Fiasco* to find out if Phillip fits in at his new school by playing dodgeball.

### **The Thing about Georgie**

Items: Step stool and/or Coffee cans

Statement: Georgie needs a step stool to write on the chalkboard at school and his friend uses empty coffee cans to make a great costume for his school play. Read *The Thing about Georgie* to see why Georgie needs these items and how he learns to accept himself.