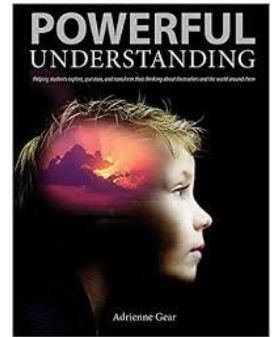


# Powerful Understanding – Adrienne Gear

Learning	Understanding
The taking in (memorizing) of information about a topic from teacher, text and other sources and retelling or regurgitating it. <b><i>Literal learning</i></b>	Interacting with that information and developing new thinking on the topic. Reflect and Rethink. <b><i>Transformative understanding</i></b>



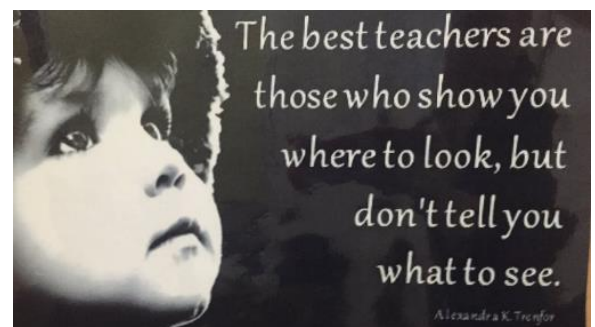
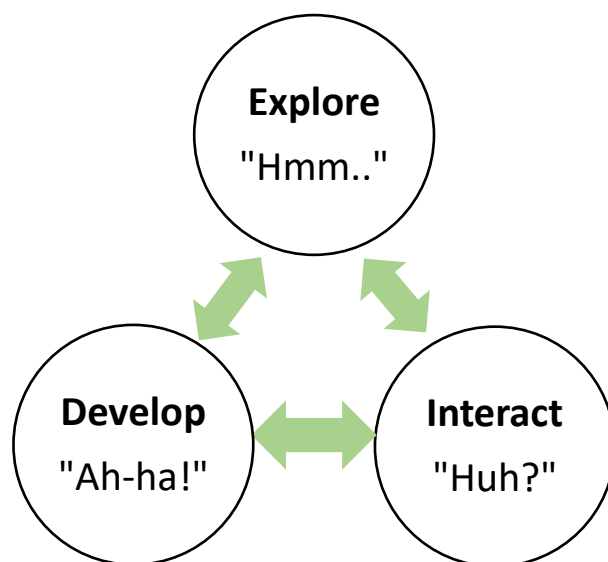
To demonstrate deep understanding, learners MUST be able to show...

- *How has your thinking developed? Stretched? Been transformed?*
- *How are you different because of what you have just learned?*

What does critical thinking look like?



*The Powerful Understanding Model:*



## Contact Adrienne:

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*"To achieve our educational goals, we need to promote social emotional literacy as well the three "R"s. The purpose of education is to enable children to be life-long learners and effective citizens."*

(Jonathan Cohen, 2001. Director of the Program for Social and Emotional Learning at Teachers College, Columbia University.)

## Powerful Understanding:

- **Understanding Self** – My Name, Celebrate Me, My Family, My Culture, My Moral Compass, My Feelings, My Hopes and Dreams
- **Understanding Others** – Friendships, Empathy, Inclusion, Diversity, My Social Footprint, My Local Community
- **Understanding the World** – Global Citizenship, Global Justice, Global Education, Global Footprint, Peace, Privilege and Poverty

## Anchor Books for *Powerful Understanding* Lessons

### UNDERSTANDING SELF

\**Why Am I Me?* – Paige Britt

#### My Name:

Too Many Daves – Dr. Seuss  
 Thunder Boy Junior – Sherman Alexie  
 Chrysanthemum – Kevin Henkes  
 The Change Your Name Store - Leanne Shirliffe  
 What's In A Name? – Nichola Batzel (indigenous)  
 Alma and How She Got Her Name - Juana Martinez-Neal

#### Celebrate Me:

I Like Me! – Nancy Carlson  
 I Like Myself! - Karen Beaumont  
 Excellent Ed - Stacy McAnulty  
 Looking Like Me! – Walter Dean Myers

My Nose, Your Nose – Melanie Walsh

#### My Family:

A Family is a Family is a Family – Sara O'Leary  
 The Family Book – Todd Parr  
 My Family Tree and Me – Dušan Petričić

#### My Culture and Cultural Celebrations

Cultural Traditions in Canada - Molly Aloian  
 Families Around the World – Margriet Ruurs  
 This Is How We Do It: One Day in the Lives of Seven Kids from around the World - Matt Lamothe

Islandborn - Junot Diaz  
Kids Around the World Celebrate!: The  
Best Feasts and Festivals from Many  
Lands - Lynda Jones  
Bringing in the New Year – Grace Lin  
Pesk’a and the Salmon Ceremony –  
Scott Ritchie (Indigenous)

### **My Grandparents**

Tangerines and Tea, My Grandparents  
and Me –  
The Hello-Goodbye Window – Norton  
Juster  
A Morning with Grandpa – Sylvia Lui  
Lessons from Mother Earth – Elaine  
McLeod  
Last Stop on Market Street – Matt de la  
Pena  
Drawn Together - Minh Le

### **My Personal Preferences**

I Like Bees, I Don’t Like Honey – Sam  
Bishop  
Red Rockets and Rainbow Jelly – Sue  
Heap

### **My Feelings**

The Way I Feel – Janine Cain  
The Feelings Book – Todd Parr

## **UNDERSTANDING OTHERS**

### **Friendship**

Be A Friend – Salina Yoon  
How to Be a Friend: A Book About  
Friendship - Michaelene Mundy  
You Are Friendly – Todd Snow  
The Best Friends Book – Todd Parr

### **The Friendship Fix**

*Draw the Line* – Katheryn Otoshi  
*I’m the Best!* – Lucy Cousins  
*The Worst Best Friend* – Alexis O’Neil  
*Chester’s Way* – Kevin Henkes  
*That’s (Not) Mine!* - Anna Kang

Finn Throws a Fit – David Elliott  
Out, Out, Away From Here – Rachel  
Woodward  
Sam's Pet Temper - Sangeeta Bhadra  
The Red Tree – Shaun Tan  
Small Things – Meg Tragonning

### **Mindfulness**

Now – Antoinette Portis  
I Am Peace – A Book of Mindfulness –  
Susan Verde  
Take the Time: Mindfulness for Kids –  
Maud Roegiers

### **My Moral Compass**

Big Red Lollipop - Rukhsana Khan  
A Bike Like Sergio’s – Meribeth Boelts  
Summer My Father Was Ten – Pat  
Brisson

### **My Unique Self**

Be Who You Are! - Todd Parr  
It’s OKAY to be Different – Todd Parr  
Lovely – Jess Hong  
Beautiful – Stacy McAnulty  
The Boy Who Grew Flowers - Jen  
Wojtpwocz  
Oddrey – Dave Whamond  
Green Pants – Kenneth Kraegel

*Friendship is Like a SeeSaw* – Shona  
Innes

### **Being Friendly**

*Mean Jean the Recess Queen* – Alexis  
O’Neill  
*Hooway for Wodney Wat* - Helen Lester  
*Enemy Pie* – Derek Munsoon  
*Invisible Boy* – Trudy Ludwig  
*The Outlaw* – Nancy Vo  
*What Happens Next?* – Susan Hughes

### **Inclusion**

*Strictly No Elephants* - Lisa Mantchev  
*The Big Umbrella* - Amy June Bates  
*I'm Not Invited?* - Diana Cain  
Bluthenthal  
*All Are Welcome* - Alexandra Penfold  
*We Are All Dots* - Giancarlo Macrì  
*A Very Big Bunny* - Marisabina Russo  
*I Wasn't Invited to the Birthday* -  
Susanna Isern  
*Eddy Longpants* – Merielle Levert  
*Marshall Armstrong is New to Our  
School* – David Mackintosh

### **Diversity**

*Do I Look Odd To You?* - James McDonald  
*Why Am I Me?* – Paige Britt  
*Let's Talk About Race* – Julius Lester  
*Lovely* – Jess Hong  
*Chocolate Milk, Por Favor: Celebrating  
Diversity with Empathy* - Maria  
Dismondy  
*Wherever You Are* – Mem Fox  
*Most People* – Michael Leanna

### **Kindness**

*Be Kind* - Pat Zietlow Miller  
*What Does It Mean to Be Kind?* – Rana  
DiOrio  
*Each Kindness* – Jacqueline Woodson

*Good People Everywhere* - Lynea Gillen  
*Come with Me!* – Holly M. McGhee  
*If You Plant a Seed* – Kadir Nelson  
*The Jelly Donut Difference: Sharing  
Kindness with the World* – Maria  
Dismondy  
*Heartprint* – P.K. Hallinan

### **My Social Footprint – (Action-Reaction)**

*What If Everybody Did That?* - Ellen  
Javernick  
*What If Everybody Said That* – Ellen  
Javernick  
*The Way I Act* – Steve Metzger  
*The Bad Seed* – Jory John  
*Adrian Simcox Does NOT Have a Horse* –  
Marcy Campbell  
*Ruthie and the Not So Teeny Tiny Lie* –  
Laura Rankin  
*Edward Fubwupper Fibbed Big* –  
Berkeley Breathed  
*Sam Tells Stories* – Thierry Robberecht  
*Mr. Peabody's Apples* – Madonna

### **Empathy**

*Stand in My Shoes* – Bob Sornson  
*I'm New Here* – Anne Sibley O'Brian  
*That Neighbor Kid* - Daniel Miyares  
*My Name is Sangoel* – Karen Willia

### **Community**

*Counting on Community* - Innosanto Nagara  
*Look Where We Live: A First Book of Community Building* – Scott Ritchie  
*Can We Help?: Kids Volunteering to Help Their Communities* - George Ancona  
*Maybe Something Beautiful: How Art Transformed a Neighborhood* - F. Isabel Camp

## **UNDERSTANDING THE WORLD**

### **GLOBAL JUSTICE**

#### **Colonization**

*Encounter* – Jane Yolen (Christopher Columbus)  
*The Rabbits* - John Marsden

#### **Emancipation**

*The Patchwork Path: A Quilt Map to Freedom* – Betty Stroud

Underground – Christopher Evans

**Segregation/ Racism**

White Socks Only – Evelyn Coleman

Freedom Summer - Deborah Wiles

Separate is Never Equal – Duncan Tonatium

**Assimilation**

I Am Not a Number – Jenny K Dupuis

When We Were Alone – David Alexander Robertson

Stolen Words – Melanie Florence

**Dictatorship**

Sparrow Girl – Sarah Pennypacker

The Composition – Antonio Skarameta

**Censorship**

The Stamp Collector – Jennifer Lanthier

Secret of the Dance – Andrea Spalding (banning of The Potlatch)

**Civil Rights**

Viola Desmond Won't Be Budged - Jody Nyasha Warner

Rosa – Nikki Giovanni

I Have a Dream - Dr. Martin Luther King Jr

**Persecution**

The Harmonica - Tony Johnston (Holocaust)

Rose Blanche – Christophe Gallaz (Holocaust)

Naomi's Tree - Joy Kogawa (Japanese Internment Camp)

**Exploitation**

Brave Girl: Clara and the Shirtwaist Makers' Strike of 1909 - Michelle Markel (P,I)

I Like, I Don't Like - Anna Baccelliere (I)

Malala, a Brave Girl from Pakistan/Iqbal, a Brave Boy from Pakistan: Two Stories of Bravery - Jeanette Winter (I)

**Immigration**

Gleam and Glow – Eve Bunting

A Different Pond – Bao Phi

Stepping Stones – Margruit Ruurs

Adrift at Sea: A Vietnamese Boy's Story of Survival - Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch

My Wounded Island - Jacques Pasquet (climate refugees)

Dreamers – Yuyi Morales

Mustafa – Marie Louise Grey

Someone New – Anne Sibley O'Brien (could also be kindness)

The Dress and the Girl – Camille Andros

**Refugee Crisis**

The Banana Leaf Ball – Katie Smith Milway

My Name is Not Refugee – Kate Milner

Four Feet, Two Sandals – Karen Lynn Williams

My Beautiful Birds – Suzanna Del Rizzo

**PEACE**

The Peace Book – Todd Parr

What Does Peace Feel Like? – Vladamir

Radunsky

Can You Say Peace? – Karen Klatz

Peace is an Offering – Annette LeBox

What Is Peace? – Wallace Edwards

Peace – Wendy Anderson

## GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP – Change Agents

Paths to Peace: People Who Changed the World - Jane Breskin Zalben  
People of Peace: 40 Inspiring Icons - Sandrine Mirza  
Spirit Bear and Children Make History – Cindy Blackstock  
Rice From Heaven – Tina M. Cho  
One Peace: True Stories of Young Activists – Janet Wilson  
Here We Go: A Poetry Friday Power Book - Sylvia Vardell and Janet Wong  
A is for Activist – Inosanto Nagara  
Weezer Changes the World - David McPhail  
Malala, a Brave Girl from Pakistan/Iqbal, a Brave Boy from

Pakistan: Two Stories of Bravery - Jeanette Winter

## GLOBAL FOOTPRINT

*What*

*Does it Mean to Be Green?* – Dana Di Orio  
*Common Ground: The Water, Earth, and Air We Share* - Molly Bang  
*A Forest* - Marc Martin  
*Sandy's Incredible Shrinking Footprint* - Femida Handy  
*S is for Save the Planet: A How-To-Be Green Alphabet* - Brad Herzog  
*My Green Day* – Melanie Walsh  
*Ten Things I Can Do to Help My World* – Melanie Walsh  
*The Earth Book* – Todd Parr  
*Our Gift-Filled Earth* - Eun Hee Na  
*Maddie's Fridge* – Lois Brandt

## PRIVILEGE, POVERTY, and HOMELESSNESS

*I Like, I Don't Like* - Anna Baccarillia  
*If the World Were a Village* - David J Smith  
*Voices in the Park* – Anthony Brown  
*Maddie's Fridge* – Louis Brandt  
*Poverty and Hunger* - Louise Spilsbury  
*On Our Street: Our First Talk About Poverty* - Dr. Jillian Roberts  
*Those Shoes* – Maribeth Boelts  
*The Teddy Bear* – David McPhail

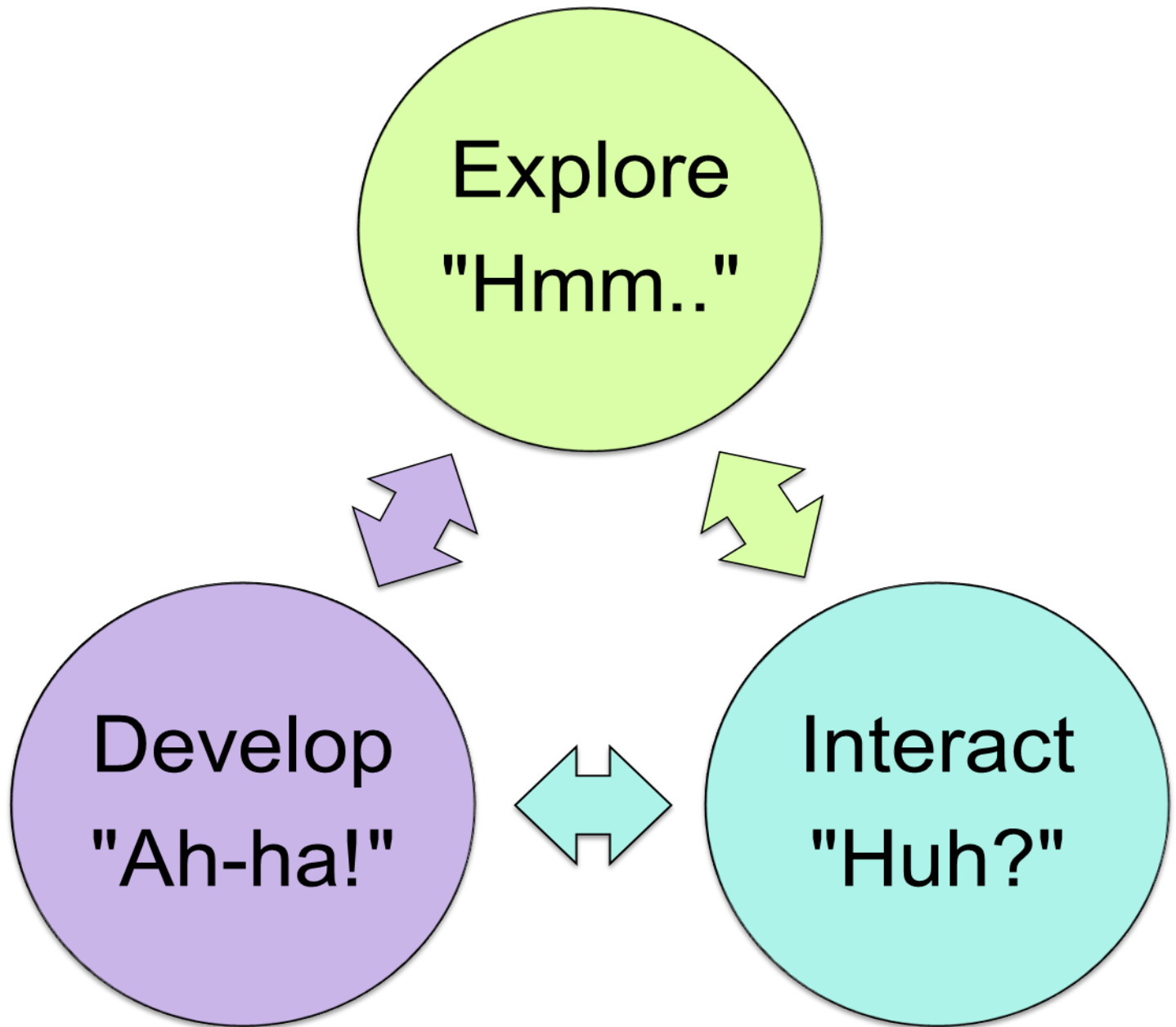
## OTHER INSPIRATIONAL BOOKS:

*Love* - Matt de la Peña  
*Life* – Cynthia Rylant  
*Here We Are: Notes for Living on Planet Earth* -- Oliver Jeffers  
*Thank you, Earth* –  
*We Are All Dots: A Big Plan for a Better World* -Giancarlo Macri

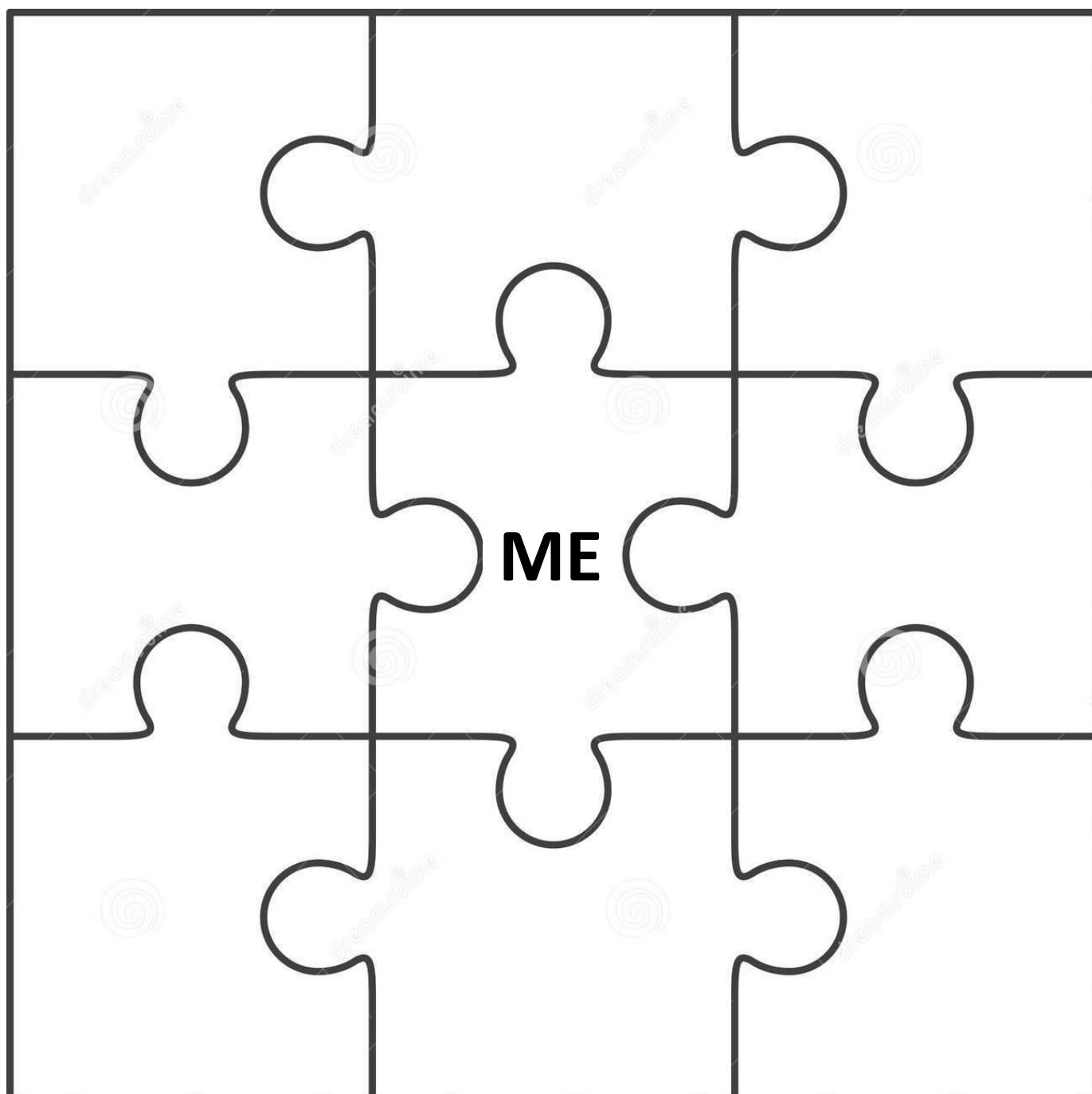
## READING AND THINKING ACROSS CANADA

**Emma and the Silk Train** - Julie Lawson (BC)  
**Saving Thunder Great** - Leanne Shirtcliff (Alberta)  
**Li'l Shadd: A Story of Ujima** - Miriam Korner (Saskatchewan)  
**Finding Winnie** - Lindsay Mattick (Manitoba)  
**Into the Woods** - Rebecca Bond (Ontario)  
**The Stone Thrower** - Jael Earley Richardson (Ontario)  
**Just Like New** - Ainslie Manson (Quebec)  
The Sugaring-Off Party -Jonathon London (Quebec)  
**Free as the Wind: Saving the Wild Horses on Sable Island** - Joseph Bastille (Nova Scotia)  
**Boy of the Deeps** - Ian Wallace (Nova Scotia)  
**Viola Desmond Won't Be Budged** - Jody Nyasha Warner (Nova Scotia)  
**Change of Heart** - Alice Walsh (Newfoundland)  
**Return to the Sea** - Heidi Jardine Stoddart (New Brunswick) ?  
**The Summer of Marco Polo** - Lynn Manuel (P.E.I.)  
**Klondike Cat** - Julie Lawson (Yukon)  
**Wild Eggs** – Suzie Napayok-Short (Arctic - NW Territories)  
**The Gift of the Inukshuk** - Michael Ulmer (Nunavik)

# Powerful Understanding Model



## The Many Pieces of ME!





# Who Am I?

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# Connect – Reflect!

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

In the story...	This makes me think about...

## Read, Think, Connect, Reflect

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Author: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>What happened in the story</b>	<b>My Connection</b>	<b>My Reflection</b>
This story is about...	This story reminds me of...	This story makes me think about...
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
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_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

## My Name

My name is \_\_\_\_\_

My name means

\_\_\_\_\_

My name is from \_\_\_\_\_ (country or culture)

My parents named me \_\_\_\_\_ because

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Something interesting about my name is

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I like my name because

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

If I could change my name, I would call myself

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Celebrate Me!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Outside Me	Inside Me	Hooray for Me!
I have _____!	I am _____!	I can _____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

## Meet My Special Family!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Here is my special family!

(who live in the same house) Don't forget yourself!

_____	-	_____
_____	-	_____
_____	-	_____
_____	-	_____
_____	-	_____
_____	-	_____

### I also have family who live in different places!

_____	lives in	_____
_____	lives in	_____
_____	lives in	_____

### My favorite thing to do with my family:

_____
_____

### My family is special because...

_____
_____

One word to describe my family would be: \_\_\_\_\_

# Cultural Celebrations



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Special Food	Special Clothing	Special Activities

## Would You Rather.... (circle your personal preference)

Have a dog or cat?

Sleep in a tent or a hotel?

Eat broccoli or carrots?

Watch TV show or YouTube?

Eat cheese pizza or Hawaiian  
pizza?

Lego or video game?

Meet Justin Trudeau or Justin  
Bieber?

Read a book or watch a  
movie?

Eat fries with or without  
ketchup?

Be in a room with a spider or a  
snake?

Go swimming or skating?

Play basketball or hockey?

Be outside in snow or  
sunshine?

Eat a bag of chips or a  
chocolate bar?

Play indoors or outdoors?

Go Sky diving or bungee  
jumping?

Go to a beach or a park?

Have the ability to fly or  
become invisible?

Drink something hot or  
something cold?

Be with friends or be alone?

Be an artist or an athlete?

Play basketball or hockey?

Now share and compare with a partner!

We both prefer \_\_\_\_\_

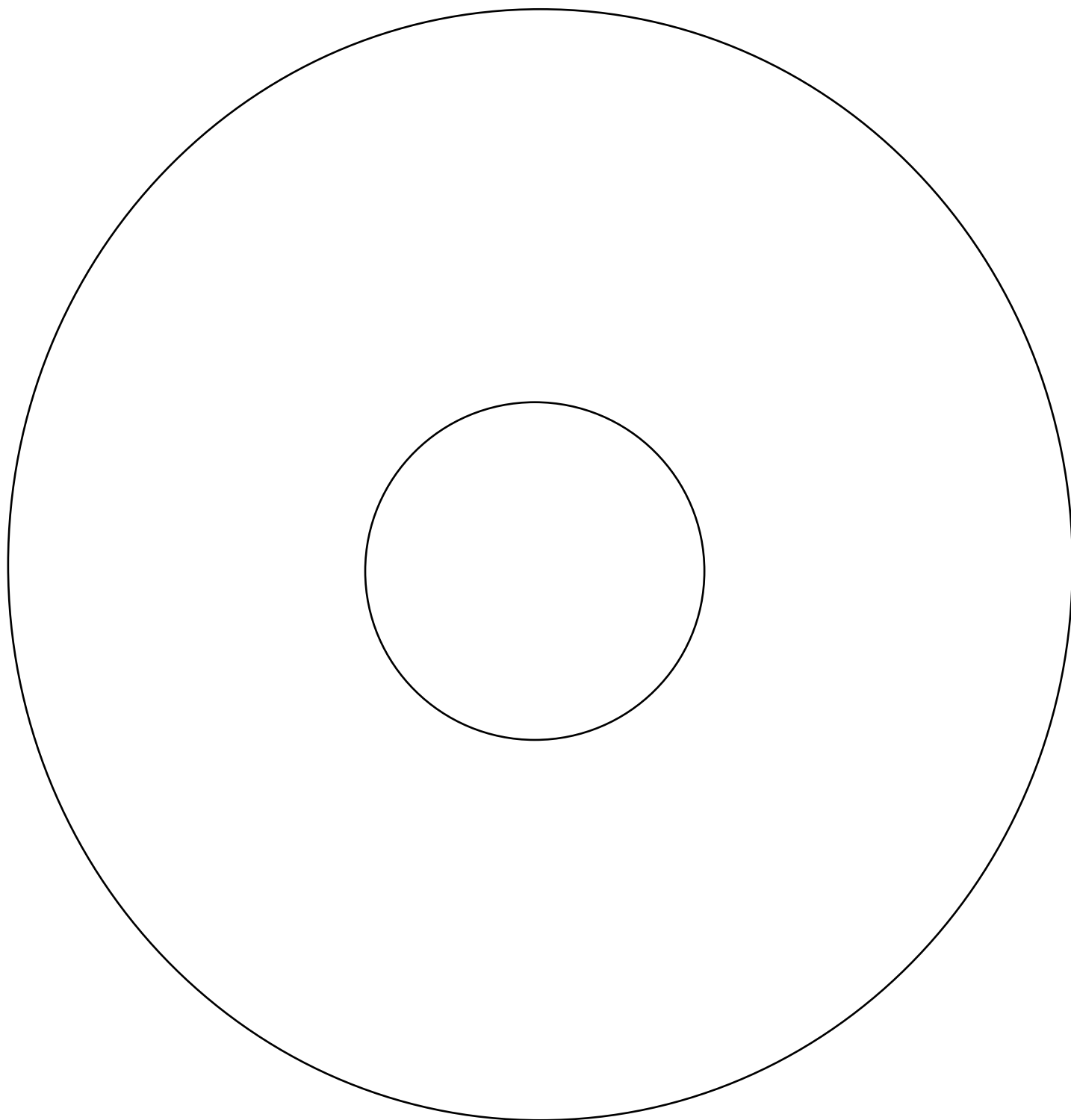
But I \_\_\_\_\_

and he/she \_\_\_\_\_



## My Community and Me!

Draw a picture of yourself inside the small circle. In the outside circle, draw, label and color places in your community.



## My Community and Me (part 2)

<b>My Community Helps Me....</b> Choose a place in your community you visit often. How does this place help you?	<b>I Help My Community ...</b> Choose one thing you can do to help your community. Draw and write how you will do this.
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Reading Power Gear 2018 - For Classroom Use Only

**Important historical facts I learned...**

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**Reflection ....** (Reaction, response, feelings, opinions... how this story connects to **global justice**)

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