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:

Explore "Hmm.."

Develop "Ah-ha!"

Interact "Huh?"

Connect

Reflect

Contact Adrienne:
Email: adrienne@readingpowergear.com
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Twitter: @AdrienneGear
“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 Shirtliffe
- What’s In A Name? – Nichola Batzel
  (indigenous)
- Alma and How She Got Her Name – Juana Martinez-Neal

**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

**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

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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)

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 Wojtwokez
Oddrey – Dave Whamond
Green Pants – Kenneth Kraegel

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

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

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 Macri
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 Leaanna

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

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

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
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

GROUP A

GROUP B

GROUP C

GROUP D

GROUP E

GROUP F

GROUP G

GROUP H

GROUP I

GROUP J

GROUP K

GROUP L

GROUP M

GROUP N

GROUP O

GROUP P

GROUP Q

GROUP R

GROUP S

GROUP T

GROUP U

GROUP V

GROUP W

GROUP X

GROUP Y

GROUP Z

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Underground – Christopher Evans

**Segregation/ Racism**
- White Socks Only – Evelyn Coleman
- Freedom Summer - Deborah Wiles
- Separate is Never Equal – Duncan Tonatiuh

**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 – Margriet 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? – Vladimir Radunsky
- Can You Say Peace? – Karen Klatz
- Peace is an Offering – Annette LeBox
- 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
- 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
- Maddi’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 (Nunavut)

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Powerful Understanding Model

Explore "Hmm.."

Develop "Ah-ha!"

Interact "Huh?"
The Many Pieces of ME!
Who Am I?
## Connect – Reflect!

Title: ____________________________________________________________  
Author: __________________________________________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In the story...</th>
<th>This makes me think about...</th>
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</tbody>
</table>
# Read, Think, Connect, Reflect

**Title:** _________________________________  
**Author:** ________________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What happened in the story</th>
<th>My Connection</th>
<th>My Reflection</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This story is about…</td>
<td>This story reminds me of…</td>
<td>This story makes me think about…</td>
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*Reading Power Gear 2018 - For Classroom Use Only*
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: _________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outside Me</th>
<th>Inside Me</th>
<th>Hooray for Me!</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I have ___________________!</td>
<td>I am ___________________!</td>
<td>I can ___________________!</td>
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Reading Power Gear 2018 - For Classroom Use Only
Meet My Special Family!

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:

______________________________________________

______________________________________________

One word to describe my family would be: __________________________
Cultural Celebrations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Special Food</th>
<th>Special Clothing</th>
<th>Special Activities</th>
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<tbody>
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</tbody>
</table>
Would You Rather…. (circle your personal preference)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Have a dog or cat?</th>
<th>Sleep in a tent or a hotel?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eat broccoli or carrots?</td>
<td>Watch TV show or YouTube?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eat cheese pizza or Hawaiian pizza?</td>
<td>Lego or video game?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meet Justin Trudeau or Justin Bieber?</td>
<td>Read a book or watch a movie?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eat fries with or without ketchup?</td>
<td>Be in a room with a spider or a snake?</td>
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<td>Go swimming or skating?</td>
<td>Play basketball or hockey?</td>
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<td>Be outside in snow or sunshine?</td>
<td>Eat a bag of chips or a chocolate bar?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Play indoors or outdoors?</td>
<td>Go Sky diving or bungee jumping?</td>
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<td>Go to a beach or a park?</td>
<td>Have the ability to fly or become invisible?</td>
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<td>Drink something hot or something cold?</td>
<td>Be with friends or be alone?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Be an artist or an athlete?</td>
<td>Play basketball or hockey?</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>My Community Helps Me....</strong></th>
<th><strong>I Help My Community ...</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Choose a place in your community you visit often. How does this place help you?</td>
<td>Choose one thing you can do to help your community. Draw and write how you will do this.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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---

Choose a place in your community you visit often. How does this place help you?

Choose one thing you can do to help your community. Draw and write how you will do this.
Exploring Global Justice

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title:</th>
<th>Summary:</th>
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<td>Main Character:</td>
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<td>Global Issue:</td>
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<tr>
<td>I’m wondering...</td>
<td>This reminds me of ....</td>
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<td>I’m visualizing ...</td>
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Important historical facts I learned…


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