



Bobby's Books

Book: The Keeping Quilt

Possible Themes: family, memories, symbols

Publisher, Publishing Date and ISBN Number: Aladdin Paperbacks, 1988, 0-689-84447-6

Author: Patricia Polacco

Recommended Age of Child: Ages 5-10

Description of Book:

A homemade quilt ties together the lives of four generations of an immigrant Jewish family, remaining a symbol of their enduring love and faith.

Quote from Book:

“We will make a quilt to help us always remember home,” Anna’s mother said. “It will be like having the family in back home Russia dance around us at night.”

Lesson Plan Ideas:

Have each child design a quilt square about the loved one they are missing.

These designs can be done on paper or actually on cloth and made into a quilt over a period of time.

Discuss what item reminds them the most of their loved one. Give each child enough index cards that they can draw the item and then write or have someone write for them, five or six things that they want to remember. Punch holes and use a clasp ring to make a book for each child to take home.

Use quilt square patterns as coloring sheets. Talk about the pattern of life and have the child draw what the pattern of their life looks like. Be prepared to spend a lot of time talking about their interpretations of these patterns.

Materials Needed: Drawing and writing materials, index cards, clasp rings, fabric, fabric crayons or markers