

COMPUTER SCIENCE & DIGITAL FLUENCY SMART START GRANT LESSON PLAN

Date: April 2026		Unit/Lesson: Caldecott Medal Unplugged Glyph Project	
Approximate Time (in minutes) to complete lesson: 5 class times 35 minutes each		Grade Level: 2nd Grade	
Materials and/or Resources: -Anchor chart *What is a Caldecott book? *Caldecott requirements *How is a Caldecott book chosen? -"Tomfoolery: Randolph Caldecott and the rambunctious coming-of-age of children's books" Several previous Caldecott books 3 picture books published in 2025 for students to vote on Caldecott Glyph Chart/Directions Caldecott Glyph Data Graph Blue and green construction paper circles to use as the "medal". Various clipart and stickers to use		CSDF Concept/Standard Addressed: 2-3.IC.1, 2-3.IC.2, 203.CT.2, 2-3.CT.3, 2-3.CT.4, 203.NSD.1, 2-3.DL.1, 2-3.DL.3, 2-3.DL.4	
Student-friendly "I Can" Statements: I can...identify the book as a Caldecott by the medal on a book cover. I can...explain that the Caldecott Medal is for the illustrator (the artist). I can...look at the illustrations and tell the story, even without reading the words. I can...explain why I think a book deserves to win a Caldecott medal. I can...explain the process of how a book is chosen for a Caldecott medal.		Vocabulary Words: *Illustrator *Caldecott *Glyph *Data *Decode *Illustration	

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ENGAGING THE LEARNERS	This lesson engages the students to think beyond the text in books. The students move beyond the words and look at the illustrations. Can you tell what the story is about just by looking at the illustrations? What makes the illustrations in a book stand out from another book? This project also engaged the students by moving beyond just “looking at pictures” and turning them into active data analysts and art critics.
EXPLORING THE CONCEPT	The unplugged coding aspect turned their opinions into a puzzle. Once the glyphs were added and the students finished their “medals”, they could then use the medals as a key to read their friends' projects and collect the data needed to answer our main question “What book was our choice for our “Mock 2026 Caldecott Award”.
EXPLAIN THE CONCEPT(S)	Students acted as a “Mock Caldecott Committee”. We read a selection of past Caldecott winners and discussed why they were winners of the award. We then chose 3 books from a selection of 12 books that were published in 2025, to be our choices for the award. Students spent 1 library class reading the potential winners and looking specifically at the artistic elements (colors, art technique used). We explored how to gather data by using glyphs and creating our own medals, then use the medals created to determine our winner.

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ELABORATE

EVALUATE: Assessment of Student Knowledge:

X ☐ Informal (observation, student work sample, etc..)

☐ Formal (formative or summative)

Cross Curricular Links (standards):

Library Scope and Sequence: Recognizes the value and guidance provided by literary awards and appreciates artistic components.

Demonstrating interest in others' perspectives during learning activities.

Generating products that illustrate learning.

Homework / Notes / Reflection: