

EDUCATION 465-4 Children's Literature
Instructor: M. S. O'Connell
January 10th - April 4th

Wednesdays: 4:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Location: PDC 601

TEXTS: Egoff, Sheila. The Republic of Childhood (A Critical Guide to Canadian Children's Literature in English), Second Edition. Toronto: Oxford University Press, 1975.

Lukens, Rebecca J. A Critical Handbook of Children's Literature. Agincourt: Gage Educational Publishers Ltd., 1976.

OBJECTIVES:

- A. That students become familiar with the scope of children's literature through a survey of:
 1. the fiction, fantasy, poetry, lore...
 2. the resources and criticism in the field
 3. award-winning books; evaluative criteria
- B. That students have in-depth knowledge of one genre (fantasy, poetry...) within the field of children's literature.
- C. That students know ways of integrating children's literature with an elementary school program.

REQUIREMENTS:

1. Write a paper on one genre within the field of children's literature. Your paper should be one that you could share with a teacher who has expressed a wish to know more about the selected genre (i.e. fantasy for pre-teen children; Canadian fiction for older children; Indian legends;...). List references used in order of their value to you. (50%)
2. Plan and present with a group of four (approx., a workshop that illustrates a way or ways of either integrating children's literature with a class project or generating a class project as an outcome or reading a book or several books. (25%)
3. Outline (on no more than two pages) the books you would use and the points you would make if you were invited to give a "book talk" to the parents of children in a selected age range. (25%)

TOPICS: In addition to the literary elements discussed by R. Lukens in Chapters Two through Eight, and the Canadian children's literature (in English) discussed by S. Egoff, the following topics will be considered:

1. Children's Literature as a way of knowing.
2. Books of yesterday - an historical perspective.
3. Censorship and children's books.
4. Storytelling.
5. Creative writing.
6. Films and filmstrips as resources in Children's Literature.
7. Children's books from the perspective of a publisher, an author and an illustrator.
8. Other topics requested by students.