

**SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY**  
**EDUCATION 465-4**  
**CHILDREN'S LITERATURE**

Summer Intersession, 1989  
(May 8 – June 16)  
Mondays/Wednesdays  
8:30 a.m. – 12:20 p.m.  
Location: MPX 7600

Instructor: Paula Hart

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**PREREQUISITE:** 60 hours of credit.

**CALENDAR DESCRIPTION:**

Literary, educational, and sociological perspectives on literature for children.

**OBJECTIVES:**

This course will get you exploring the variety of books, poems, and stories available to children, give you a chance to look at the literature in terms of current issues (multiculturalism, values, censorship), and help you generate ideas for making literature a vital part of your school day. To help meet these objectives, class format will include a variety of experiences, such as book sharing, workshops, discussions, and lectures.

**OUTLINE OF TOPICS:**

- Discovering children's literature (exploring the range of experiences and prominent authors and illustrators)
- Historical and contemporary scope of children's literature
- Responding to literature
- Why children need books
- Sharing literature with children (through booktalks, reading aloud, story-telling, readers' theatre)
- Children's literature in the school (e.g. role in the development of reading, writing, speaking, and listening; role in cognitive and affective development; integration into other curricular areas)
- Canadian children's literature

**REQUIREMENTS:**

- Class participation in all oral, written, and group work
- Reading journal: a journal of personal reading to include responses, thoughts, reflections, and reactions (including reference to course content, related reading, and responses of others)
- Completion of two of the following:
  - Unit plan based on a book, author, theme, genre, or issue
  - An original children's book/story
  - Study of professional review sources including a review aimed at publication in one of the sources
  - Classroom/library or school literature promotion project

**REQUIRED TEXT:**

Huck, Charlotte. Children's Literature in the Elementary School, 4th ed. Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1987.

**SUGGESTED PRE-READING:**

Jim Trelease's enthusiastic and helpful annotations in The Read-Aloud Handbook (see library holdings) make it a good starting place for exploring books. You might want to try Judith Saltman's Modern Canadian Children's Books for Canadian titles.