What ENG 221 Students Have Said:
♦ “This was a great project that introduced me to a variety of children’s books. I now have a new understanding and great fondness of children’s literature.”
♦ “My intention in this collection was to select and describe books that would bring adventure, imagination, creativity, sensitivity, and new understanding to the lives of children.”
♦ “This annotated bibliography is something that I will continue adding to as a student, as a parent, and as a teacher.”

Learning Outcomes:
- Select, evaluate, and describe Children’s Literature through critical reading and writing.
- Write confidently about your own and others’ ideas.
- Demonstrate how Children’s Literature enhances personal awareness and creativity.

Annotated Bibliography Description: The Annotated Bibliography is your opportunity to showcase your learning in ENG 221. This major project contributes thirty percent to your final grade for the course.

In an Annotated Bibliography, you describe and evaluate the books that you select and list. In your ENG 221 Annotated Bibliography, you will describe and evaluate 30 children’s books that you have chosen, at least 25 titles from our text. Please consider this assignment as your opportunity to focus on the specific literature that you’re interested in. As we progress through each chapter, make choices from the titles offered (either in the chapters or in the end-chapter bibliographies).

Tip: To produce your best work and to get the most out of this major project, follow the advice of former ENG 221 students: Begin collecting your titles and annotations right away. Then stay current; collect and work with titles as we progress through each chapter.

Resources: Begin by exploring the literature in your own personal libraries: the books that you and your family have grown up with. Beyond that, you’ll find the Children’s Sections of our county and school libraries your best resource. Don’t forget our own LBCC’s small but growing collection. Tap into the home libraries of neighbors, grandmothers, friends, classmates. The Children’s Section of our local and regional bookstores is also a favorite haunt of ENG221 students.

Suggestions: Whatever your approach, remember to make choices that matter to you. While it is a requirement that you select books from each section/chapter that we cover, your choices should reflect the professional whom you are becoming. If, for instance, you’re interested in teaching 3rd Grade, then your bibliography will be heavily weighted with books for that age. If you’ll be working with children as a psychologist, you’ll want to explore a wider age range, but your content choices may reflect a focus on specific books.

Write your annotations as we go. We’ll be handling a wide range of books in and out of class. Try to get in the habit of jotting down the necessary bibliographic information and notes to yourself while you have the book in hand. Then, as soon as you can, sit down with your notes and revise them into your annotation paragraph.
GUIDELINES

ORGANIZATION AND PRESENTATION

- **Title Page**
- **Table of Contents**: Use the book’s organizing principle or develop one of your own, but remember that you’ll need to cover each of the six categories we cover in class: *Books to Begin On, Picture Books, Traditional Lit, Modern Fantasy, Poetry, Contemporary Realistic Fiction.*
- **Cover Letter**: Include a cover letter that introduces your selections. Remember your writer’s role here: You are the authority of this collection. What does *your Annotated Bibliography* offer the reader? Consider here an explanation of the selections you have chosen to include. Finally, please convey your reflections on the value of this project.
- **Presentation**: As you compile your Bibliography, be creative. Consider including your own artwork, illustrations, extensions.

COMPLETENESS

- Include all 30 titles. Twenty-five of those titles must be drawn from our text. You may choose up to 5 that you do not find in our text.
- Be sure that you cover all six categories that we cover in class (as stated above).
- Provide all necessary information. Be thorough in your bibliographic information: *author, illustrator, title, publisher, copyright date, pages.*
- Also, **be thorough in your description and evaluation.** Consider the category as you describe and evaluate. For example, if you include a title in *Contemporary Realistic Fiction*, use that chapter’s guidelines to develop your evaluation. See the attached example (*Owl Moon*) as a guide of quality and length. Finally, feel free to add a personal note to your description/annotation.

QUALITY OF WRITING/FORMAT

- Here’s your opportunity to show off your skills in selecting and evaluating children’s books. Draw from the knowledge (use the concepts and terms) you have gained from our text and discussions. As you present each book, you are the authority.
- Pay attention to your quality of writing as well as to the information that you convey. Be clear; fully develop your description. Remember that grammar and punctuation count. Consider getting help at the Writing Desk in the Learning Center as you revise your annotations.
- Your entries should follow Modern Language Association format. This MLA format is used in the bibliographies that follow each chapter in our text. Consider using the following Sample Entry as a guide for format. Also, consider using the following Bibliography Template as you collect information for each title.
A SAMPLE ENTRY


This beautiful book won the Caldecott Medal for John Schoenherr’s watercolor paintings. The cover illustration can be opened all the way up for the full effect of a father and son in the dazzling light of one evening’s full moon. Each realistic watercolor beautifully incorporates white space for the words to fit perfectly into the composition. This coming of age story is told in first person, from a young boy’s perspective. One day, he is asked to go owling with his father. The reader comes to understand how important it is for the boy to be invited by his father to go along on such an important adventure. Through vivid poetic language the story unfolds: “We walked on. I could feel the cold, as if someone’s icy hand was palm-down on my back.” Suspense builds throughout this simple tale until the final climax of the story which brings the young boy and his father face to face with a great owl. Young children will be drawn to the illustrations and will relate with the desire to go with their father on a special adventure.

BIBLIOGRAPHY TEMPLATE:

Author:___________________________________________________________
Title:_____________________________________________________________
Illustrator:________________________________________________________
Publisher:_________________________________________________________
Publication/Copyright Date:_________________________________________
Notes & Considerations:_____________________________________________
✓ Follow the evaluation guidelines in your text (in the chapter you will be placing this title) to develop your own evaluation.
✓ Is this title an award winner? What are the outstanding features?
✓ Is the author or illustrator noted for other titles?
✓ What age range will appreciate this title?
✓ What is your favorite feature of this book?