Adult Education Lesson Plan
for
Move Over, Rover! by Karen Beaumont

**Name of Activities:** Theodor Seuss Geisel Award

**Students Participating; size of group:** Adults; individuals or small groups

**Lesson Goal:** Adults will learn about the Theodor Seuss Geisel Award given to the author and illustrator of a beginning reader book, appropriate for children from pre-K through Grade 2.

**Learning Objectives/Skills:** The learners will be able to:
- a) Identify the Theodor Seuss Geisel Award Book and Honor Book seals
- b) Learn about books that have been awarded the Geisel Award since 2006
- c) Identify locations where Geisel Award Books can be found (E.g. public libraries, school libraries, and bookstores)

**Environmental Adaptations, Time and Materials Needed:** These activities can be adapted to almost any environment; however, a flat surface (table or desk) would be helpful. The activities will take approximately **30-40 minutes** depending on the students. The following materials will be needed:
- A variety of Geisel Award and Honor books
- A few Dr. Seuss books
- Geisel Award and Honor Book List (one for each adult)

**Procedure/Description of the Activity**

1. Instructor begins by introducing the Theodor Seuss Geisel Award given by the American Library Association. The award is given in honor of Dr. Seuss whose real name was Theodor Seuss Geisel. Show the participants some Dr. Seuss books to remind them of books that they may have read or had read to them as children. Using the Geisel books, point out the Geisel Award seal, which features a picture of Dr. Seuss. The gold seal is attached to the winning book and the silver seal is attached to a book that is an honor book.

2. Share with participants the Geisel Award and Honor Book List. Explain that these are books that can be found in most public and school libraries because of winning the award. These would be excellent titles for young children.

3. Using the Geisel books as examples, share information about the annual Geisel Award. The award is given to a book for readers from pre-K to Grade 2. The book must contain illustrations, which function as keys or clues to the text. The committee considers all forms of writing—fiction, nonfiction, and poetry.
The following criteria is considered in awarding the Geisel:

✓ Subject matter must be intriguing enough to motivate the child to read
✓ The book may or may not have short “chapters”
✓ New words should be added slowly enough to make learning them a positive experience
✓ Words should be repeated to ensure knowledge retention
✓ Sentences must be simple and straightforward
✓ There must be a minimum of 24 pages. Books may not be longer than 96 pages
✓ The illustrations must demonstrate the story being told
✓ The book creates a successful reading experience, from start to finish; the plot advances from one page to the next and creates a “page-turning” dynamic.

Explore the American Library Association website for more information:
http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/geiselaward/geiselawardtermcriteriatgeiselawardtermscriteria/geiselawardtermscriter.cfm

4. Allow the learners to look through the Geisel titles choosing one or two to read individually.

5. In small groups, ask the learners to share the Geisel titles with each other and make note of titles that they are interested in finding at their local library and sharing with children on their comment sheets.
**Assessment:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Participants’ Names</th>
<th>Comments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a) Identify the Theodor Seuss Geisel Award Book and Honor Book seals</td>
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**Reflect on the Activity:**

1. What worked well?

2. What didn’t work?

3. What might have made the activity more successful?

4. Did you notice any potential for follow-up activities based on what the students said or did?

**Transfer Home/Extension Ideas:** a) Encourage learners to look for Geisel Award Winning books at their local libraries b) Mention that the Geisel Award is always given in January and to watch for new Geisel titles to be highlighted at local libraries c) Suggest that learners continue adding comments to the Geisel Award and Honor Book List so they can identify types of books their children enjoy.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Literacy Area(s)* Addressed (check all that apply):</th>
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<th>Language Development</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X The Power and Pleasure of Literacy</td>
<td>X The Literate Environment</td>
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<td>Phonological Awareness</td>
<td>Phonemic Awareness</td>
<td>X Types of Text</td>
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<td>Letters and Words</td>
<td>X Vocabulary</td>
<td>X Knowledge of Print</td>
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<td>Building Knowledge and Comprehension</td>
<td>Reading Comprehension</td>
<td>Motivation</td>
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<td>X Fluency</td>
<td>X Multiple Literacy</td>
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* from National Center for Family Literacy’s *Building Strong Readers* and *Learning to Read and Write*