

charcoal boys

written and illustrated by roger mello

translated from the portuguese by daniel hahn

RESEARCH

what is coal?

where and how do we get it?

what are some effects that it has on our planet?

write 1-2 pages answering these questions.



WRITE

what forms of energy are there besides coal, and how do they work?

after doing some research, pick one renewable energy source and

write 2-3 pages about it.



A DAY IN THE LIFE

if you had to pick one person (be it an actor, a musician, an adult in your life, your doctor, your mom) – to follow around as they live one day in their life, who would you choose and why?



ANIMAL INSTINCT

if a bee or other animal observed you for a day, what do you think they would see? write a page or draw a self portrait, the way you think a bee might see you.

SECRET LIFE OF BEES

a bee-search project. what's the difference between a hornet and a bumble bee? what do bees do? how do bees, wasps, etc, help our planet?



LIFE IN 3D

an activity for younger students

the illustrations in this book are mixed media.

have the kids do some mixed media art!

collage ideas:

self portrait

animal portraits – add fuzz, felt, straw...

their house with:

popsicle sticks

cellophane

cardboard

fabric for curtains

mixed media strongly encouraged!



KIDS WORK

questions for class discussion

the boy in this book works in a coal mine and doesn't go to school, like you do.

what do we think about that?

what is "good" work for kids to do?

what is work that only adults should do?

why do we need to go to school?

when you grow up, what do you want to do?

why do we need to wait to become adults before we can work adult jobs?

further discussion

how old do you think you have to be to be...

...president?

...a doctor?

...an artist?

...a teacher?

...a writer?

why?

