Young Adult Book Discussion Kits

Young Adult Book Discussion Kits are available to library patrons for use by home and community discussion groups, as well as teachers in the classroom setting. Each kit contains a set of thirty identical soft-cover books accompanied by a book discussion guide. The guides feature information about the author, reviews of the book, discussion questions, suggested further readings, and other pertinent information. Each kit is packaged in a canvas tote bag and may be borrowed for six weeks.

Young Adult Book Discussion Kits may be reserved and sent to the library branch of your choice for pick up. If you would like to reserve a kit, please stop by your local library branch or call 574-1611. The kits may also be reserved through our website www.lfpl.org. A list of all the kits may be found in the LFPL catalog by typing Book Discussion Kit Young Adult at the title prompt.

Information for this flyer was partially gathered from the following resources:


http://www.houghtonmifflinbooks.com/authors/macaulay/macaulaybio.shtml
David Macaulay’s is a very prolific children’s illustrator. His works range from meticulous architectural drawings to witty stories with cartoon-like drawings. This kit includes four examples of the different types of work for which Macaulay has become known. Black and White is his Caldecott-winning book, which tells four different stories that the reader soon finds out are all related in some way. Shortcut uses the idea of how cause and effect can change a story. Rome Antics follows the flight of a pigeon, shown in different perspectives as it flies to deliver a special message. Angelo is a touching tale of two unlikely friends.

About the Author

David Macaulay was born on December 2, 1946 in Burton-on-Trent, England. When he was eleven years old, his family moved to the United States and settled in Bloomfield, New Jersey. As a child and young adult he drew constantly and enrolled at the Rhode Island School of Art and Design after graduating from high school. He earned a Bachelor’s degree in architecture and spent time studying in Rome.

He spent time working as an interior designer, middle school teacher, and college professor before breaking into the world of children’s literature. His first book Cathedral was published in 1973 and won him a Caldecott Honor award in 1974.

His work has continued as he produces quality children’s literature that focuses on architecture, explaining the mechanisms that make things work, and stories that use both visual and written prompts to create an interactive experience for the reader.

He has won numerous awards for his books including the Caldecott Award in 1991 and two Caldecott honors. He has also been named multiple times the New York Times Ten Best Illustrated Books list.

Macaulay says, “There are things I think people have a need to know…I want them to look around more – to pay attention to the world around them, to take an extra moment to look at things, to think about things.”

What the Critics Say…

“Macaulay’s books on architecture are by now an institution in themselves…”
~School Library Journal

“What David Macaulay can draw — churches, cities, pyramids — he does better than any other pen-and-ink illustrator in the world.”
~Time

“There is a sense of wonder in David Macaulay’s work. It’s fresh and genuine.”
~Washington Post

Discussion Questions:

1. In Rome Antics, Macaulay uses only one color other than black and white in the book. Why do you think he did that? How did the color red make the book special?

2. What do you think the note “YES” from the pigeon to the man meant in Rome Antics?

3. If you say it fast enough, “Rome Antics” sounds like Roman-tics.” Can you think of any other puns in Macaulay’s work?

4. What is your favorite story within the book Black and White? What do you like about it?

5. What’s black and white and red all over? What’s black and white and read all over?

6. David Macaulay says Black and White is comprised of four stories, or maybe it is really about one story? What story or stories do you think are being told in Black and White?

7. Angelo is a man who learns to love a pigeon, and the pigeon loves him right back. Not many people have pigeons for a pet. What unusual animal might you like to have for a pet? Why?

8. David Macaulay likes to experiment with sequencing of stories. Sequencing is the order in which a story occurs. Every story has a beginning, middle and end. Why do you think David Macaulay likes to play with the order of the story?

9. In many books by David Macaulay, buildings play an important part of the story. His grandfather and father’s careers influenced what he drew and wrote. What do your parents do at work? If you were a writer and illustrator, how would you include what they do in your stories?

10. Shortcut is about cause and effect; how one action can change an entire sequence of events. In Shortcut Albert puts his jacket on the sign, making Sybill think she is taking the shortcut into town. What would have happened, do you think, if Albert had not placed his jacket there?