

Activity 4: Be An Apprentice: Design The Book Of Your Life

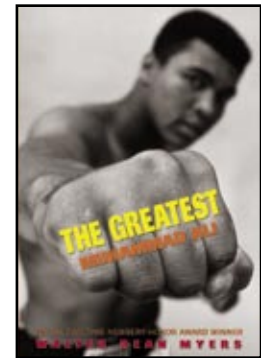
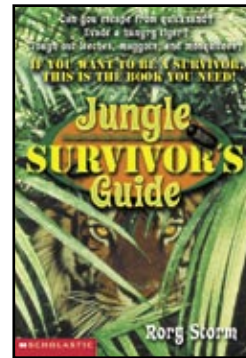
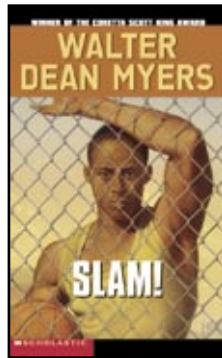
**BIG
IDEA**

Careers

Children become informed readers when they discuss how books are designed and identify their own criteria for choosing books at your next distribution.

Books to Highlight: Choose books with high interest covers. Examples are:

- *SLAM!* by Walter Dean Myers
- *The Greatest: Muhammad Ali* by Walter Dean Myers
- *Survivor's Jungle Guide* by Rory Storm



Arts and Crafts: Bring the supplies children would need to create book covers. Ask them to design the book of their life story and design a cover that they think would sell the most books. Then, use a piece of string and clothes pins to display the works of art at the distribution. After children design their book covers ask them to look at the books that are available and to be able to explain which books they chose and why.



Community Involvement: A high profile community member or someone who works in the publishing industry would be great to talk about the "marketing" aspect of books. This could even be as simple as asking the community librarian to talk about how she chooses books to display in the local library.



Time of Year: This is a good activity to do at the end year. By engaging children into the business of books, they get to become educated consumers and consider how they are making their book choices. Are they looking for substance over style? If children already have prior experience at a distribution, they may even be able to discuss why they made their book choices over the year and if their choosing strategy always ensured good reads.



Questions to Engage Children:

- Can you always judge a book by its cover? If so, what would the cover of your book say about your "story"?
- If you wanted to sell your story, what could you have put on the cover that would have guaranteed a sale?

Book Cover Template

Use this template to design the book of your life.

