Graphic Biographies

I am so excited to be bringing you this Graphic Biography resource!

Kids LOVE graphic novels...so the team at Out of This World Literacy got together to bring teachers and students Graphic Biographies!

There are countless ways to use the Graphic Biography and 35 support pages included. Here are just a few ideas...

- Guided Reading (complete lesson included)
- Whole group read aloud
- Reading center activities
- Partner reading
- Literature Circle
- Independent Reading Fun

What Is Included:

1. 2-page Graphic Biography with custom illustrations by Andrea Bufford.
2. Google Digital Versions!
3. Answer Keys
4. 3 Comprehension and Vocabulary student pages
5. 6 Writing Prompts
6. 3 Response Forms for After Reading
7. Step-by-Step How to Draw: Amanda Gorman and Open Book
8. 6 Blank Graphic Template Pages for Students to Create their Own Graphic Stories
9. COMPLETE Guided Reading Lesson with Comprehension Check and 5 Teacher Planning Pages
10. 21 Open-ended Discussion Questions to Ask Students After Reading.
11. 19 Open-ended Discussion Statements for Students to Answer After Reading
12. 8 Specific Question Cards with Custom Graphics
13. 44 Open-Ended Discussion Question Cards

Thank you so much to these amazing artists, whose work is found in this resource!





GRAPHIC BIOGRAPHY



amanda gorman

DIGITAL LINKS INCLUDED!



amanda gorman

American Poet/Activist

"I'm the daughter of black writers who descended from freedom fighters who broke chains and changed the world. They call me. And that is the way in which I prepare my..."

Amanda's mantra

Amanda Gorman came into this world earlier than expected, and has achieved more in her 24 years than some people do in an entire lifetime.

In the spring of 1998, in Los Angeles, California, twin girls Amanda and Gabrielle, were prematurely welcomed into the loving arms of their mother, Joan Wicks.



Because of Amanda's early delivery, she experienced some developmental issues as a child. In Kindergarten, she was diagnosed with an auditory processing disorder (APD).

(THAT MEANS THAT SHE HAD TROUBLE UNDERSTANDING WHAT SHE WAS HEARING - HER EARS AND BRAIN DIDN'T WANT TO WORK TOGETHER.)

She also experienced a speech impediment and struggled to pronounce her R's.

But these conditions actually set her up for success instead of failure- Amanda's mother, Dr. Joan Wicks, a 6th grade English teacher, emphasized the importance of education and literacy in the household. The television was limited and reading and writing were applauded.



Amanda found ways of overcoming her conditions with the hard work and practice her mother modeled in her life.

She focused daily on her writing skills and joined an organization that mentors girl writers called, WriteGirl.

She also used songs as a form of speech therapy.



"My favorite thing to practice was the song "Aaron Burr, Sir" from Hamilton because it was jam packed with R's."

As Amanda pursued her passion for writing and word practice, she discovered the power of her voice. She began to share her thoughts and words with those around her, and eventually, with the world.

In 2015, at the age of [illegible] poems called, "The One for[illegible]

The following year, she started a non-profit organization called, One Pen One Page, that aims to lead young writers.



In 2017, only one year into her college education at Harvard University, Amanda became the 1st person to be named NATIONAL YOUTH POET LAUREATE of the U.S.

What is a Laureate?
"A person who is honored for outstanding creative or intellectual achievement."



In the years following, she used her words and voice to advocate for pro-choice legislation, the climate crisis, and social justice.

Then, in January of 2021, she became the youngest poet to read at the presidential inauguration in U.S. history!



The sun radiated upon her animated face, reflecting the yellow glow of her suit jacket into the crowded space. She shared her poem, "The Hill We Climb," and sealed her name forever in time.

Her ambitions remain many as she continues to shine her light on this world, and has a dream to run for the United States presidency of 2036.

"Seeing the ways that I as a young black woman can inspire people is something I want to continue in politics. I don't want to just speak words- I want to turn them into realities and actions."



CHECK OUT HER BOOKS:

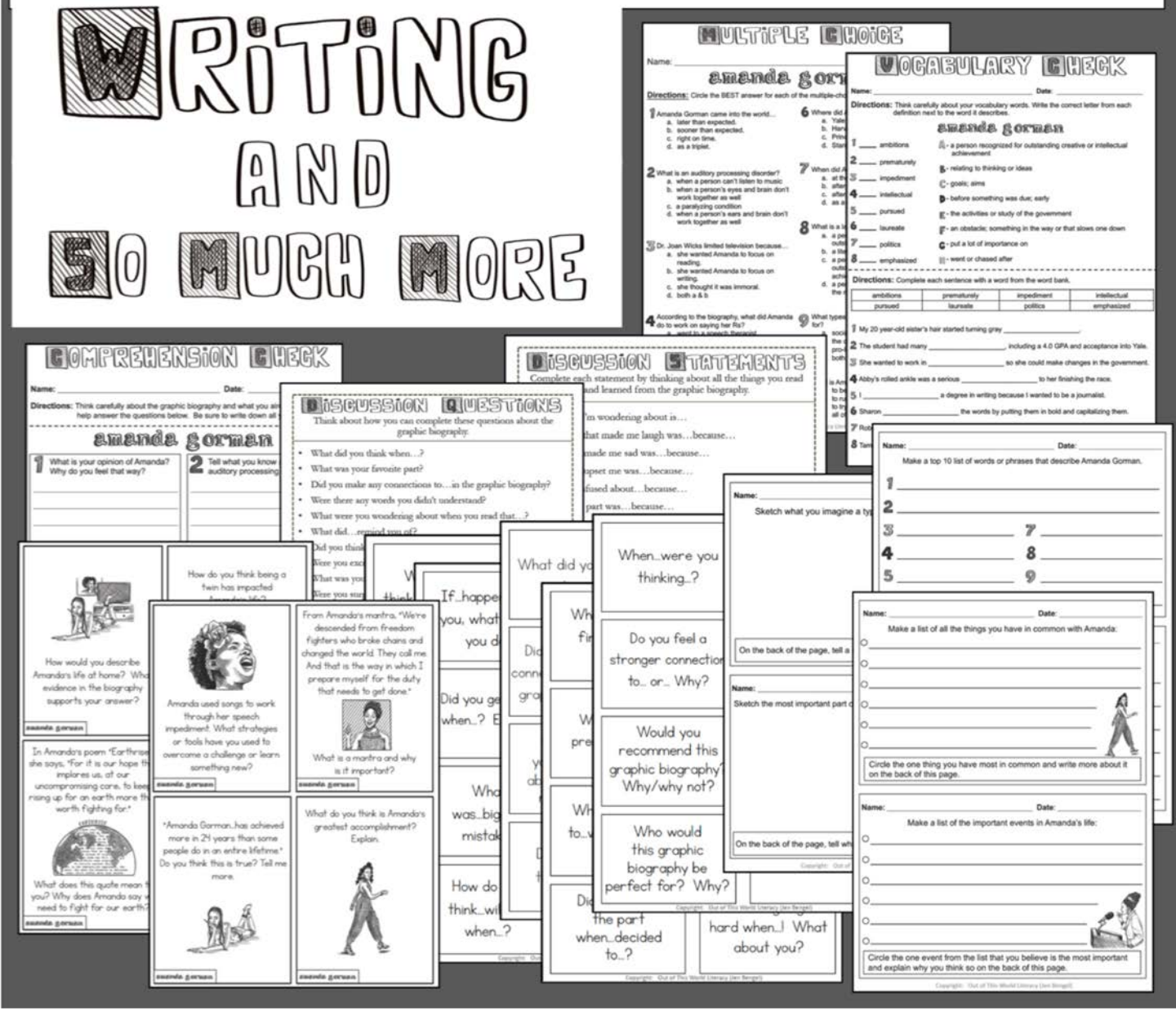
The One for Whom Food Is Not Enough • The Hill We Climb • Call Us What We Carry • Change Sings

Cat in the World LITERACY

35 SUPPORT PAGES INCLUDED



Comprehension Writing and So Much More



GUIDED READING

Out of this World LITERACY

GUIDED READING LESSON



Quick Notes Guide: Use the scale to quickly take notes as you work through the different parts of the lesson.

1 *(no response or incorrect)* 2 *(Partial)* 3 *(Satisfactory)* 4 *(Above Average)*

Group members	Before Reading	During Reading	After Reading

Step 1. The Intro.

Use as a guide to start your introduction:
"Today we are going to read a biography about a young female poet named Amanda Gorman. The format of the story is like a graphic novel. The graphic pictures in the biography will help us learn more about Amanda's life. As we read, let's pay close attention to the illustrations to help us with our reading comprehension. Let's read to find out about Amanda's life and how she overcame many struggles to become a National Poet Laureate!"

Step 2. Read the Text.

How will the group read the text? (Circle One)
Teacher read Choral read
Silent read Partner read
Echo read Other: _____

Reteach and Refocus (keep track of which students you are reading with)
Student: _____
Student: _____

OR...

Running Record (Note Details Below)

Step 3. Share Your Thinking.

1: What is the first thing you are thinking after reading? Tell me more.

2: Which part of the graphic biography did you like best? Why was that your favorite part?

3: What is your opinion of Amanda Gorman? Share reasons for your opinion.

Step 4. Direct Text Questions.

1: Look on page 1. What major obstacle did Amanda overcome? Share your thoughts.

2: What does laureate mean? How did Amanda become a laureate?

3: Look on page 2. Retell what Amanda has accomplished and what she plans to do in the future.

Step 5. Targeted Word Study.

ea vowel team

means	ears
sealed	teacher
dream	reading
creative	lead
hearing	year

Recreate the chart for word Study activity.

Meaning in Text	
creative	*thinks outside the box; in new and different ways*
sealed	*closed; secured; made sure*

Step 6. Writing Response.

Have students copy the writing prompt and respond.
Make a list of things you can learn from reading about Amanda's life. Circle the biggest lesson and write more about it.

Copyright: Out of This World Literacy (Jen Bengel)

GUIDED READING

Date Met: _____ Book Title: _____ Level: _____

	Fluency	Comp.	Word Study
	I Very Choppy	I Incorrect	I Incorrect

GUIDED READING

GUIDED READING

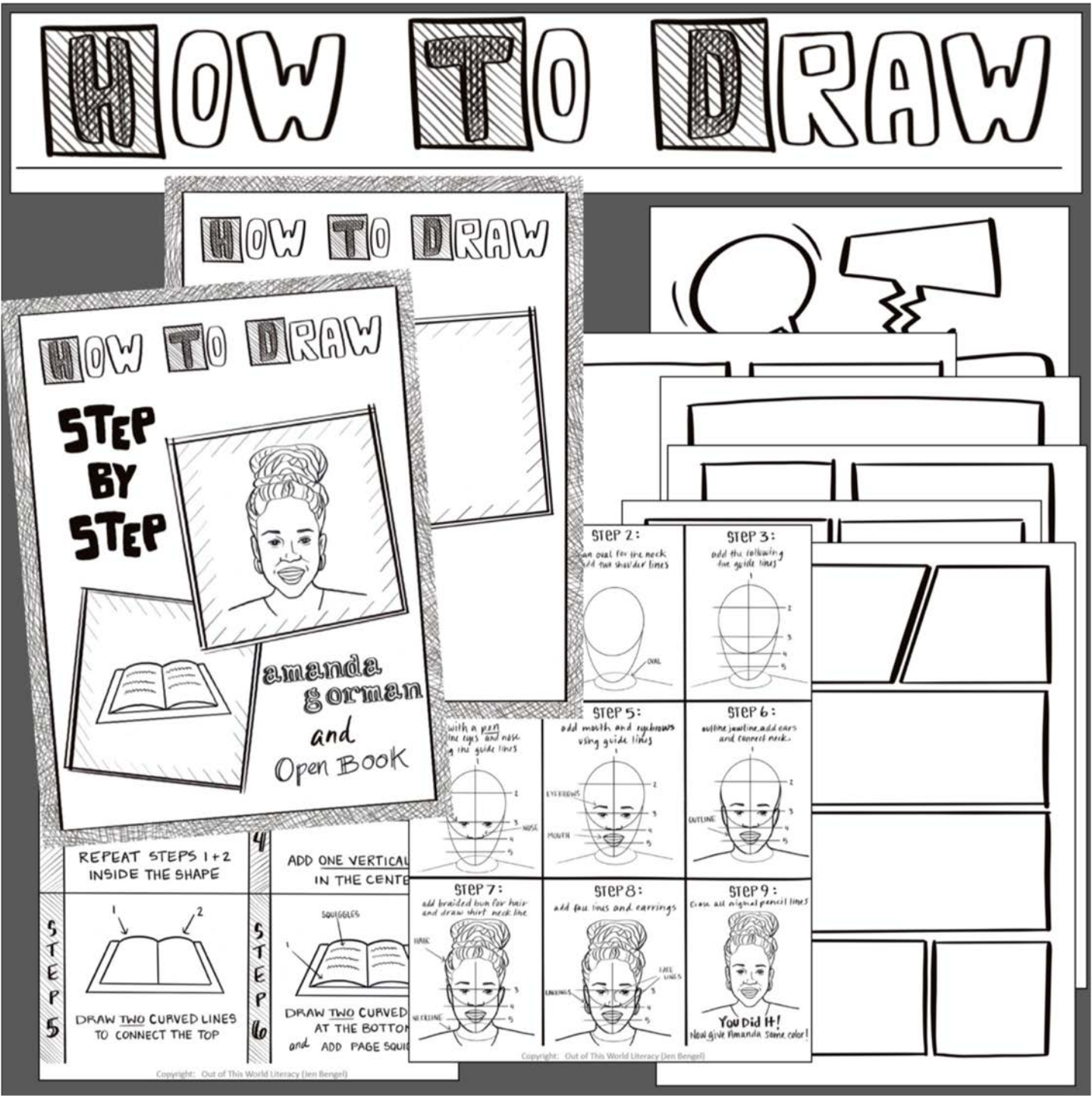
GUIDED READING

Month: _____

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday

Copyright: Out of This World Literacy (Jen Bengel)

HOW TO DRAW


HOW TO DRAW
HOW TO DRAW
STEP BY STEP
amanda gorman
and
Open Book
STEP 2:
STEP 3:
STEP 5:
STEP 6:
STEP 7:
STEP 8:
STEP 9:
You Did It!
REPEAT STEPS 1+2 INSIDE THE SHAPE
STEP 5
DRAW TWO CURVED LINES TO CONNECT THE TOP
STEP 6
SQUIGGLES
Copyright: Out of This World Literacy (Jen Bengel)
Copyright: Out of This World Literacy (Jen Bengel)

GOOGLE™ LINKS FOR STUDENTS

Click each link to assign work to students each day!

The Graphic Biography



amanda gorman



Multiple Choice	Comprehension Check	Vocabulary Check
Writing Prompts	Response Forms	How To Drawing
Graphic Templates	Guided Reading Lesson	Discussion Questions
Discussion Statements	Question Cards	

LINKS ACTIVE IN PAID VERSION

Copyright: Out of This World Literacy® (Jen Bengel)