

# Children's Literature Across the Curriculum Ideas

## Created by students at the University of North Carolina Charlotte

**Title:** *Arthur's Thanksgiving.*

**Author:** Marc Tolan Brown

**Publisher/Copyright:** Joy Street Books, Little, Brown and Co., 1990

**Grade Level:** 2-4

**Summary:** Arthur is elected to direct the Thanksgiving play for his class. A problem develops when no one will volunteer to be the turkey. A hilarious solution to the problem will surprise the readers.

### Reading/Writing Connections

1. Show book cover. Read title and author.
2. Point out characters.
3. Introduce the author pointing out the characters he writes about are people that he knows, that Arthur is part him and part of his two sons, Tolan and Tucker, who are included somewhere in all of his books. His characters are Aardvarks.
4. Read story-sharing pictures inviting some discussion of some of the things they see.
5. Stop before reading the solution to the problem for individual predictions.
6. List predictions on tagboard.
7. Finish reading story.
8. Match who made closest prediction.
9. Distribute turkey cookies-treat.
10. Thinking skill-practice putting your thoughts in a few words. Sound exciting answers: How clever is Arthur?

### Vocabulary-Spelling

appointment	auditorium	breath	complained	curtain
desperate	direct	disaster	entire	explained
glamorous	narrator	outfit	performance	rejoicing
smooth	symbol	turkeys		

### Library Connections

1. Research-read the autobiographical sketch of author. Marc Tolan Brown.
2. Direct students to find other books written by author.
3. Literary Appreciation: Create a Marc Brown Nook. Collect and display his other works. There are 17 in the best selling Arthur Adventure Series.

### Science and Math Connections

1. With the assistance of parent volunteers, have a healthy tasting Thanksgiving turkey treat. Serve: turkey slices with veggies, cups and dip, turkey dressing squares.
2. Let students assist in counting and measuring for equal parts for each and cutting equal squares of dressing.

### Social Studies Connection

1. Review the story of The First Thanksgiving focusing on the role of the turkey.
2. Research-find out the states of the U.S. that produce the most turkeys. Locate and plot those states on the map.

**Art Connections**

1. Decorate a large poster board with a picture of a turkey. Cut out a hole for students face. Let individual students pose for turkey photos. Be sure to have camera.
2. Choral Speaking. Present The Turkey Hunt using pictographs or picture writing.

**Music Connection**

1. Sing, dance and clap to: Turkey Wobble, turkey shoo, turkey in the straw and play music for turkey struts.

**Publishing:**

2. Display for sharing all writing, drawings, photos and other project completed. Invite other classes and parent to enjoy.