

The Last of the Sandwalkers

By Jay Hosler

Grade Levels: 6-9, applicable higher

Synopsis:

For over a thousand years, the insect citizens of New Coleopolis have been discouraged from seeking knowledge. But all that is about to change, as a party of distinguished scientists and their companions sets forth on a quest to find new life. From the moment they leave their oasis home and begin their journey across desert, through jungle, and even into the air, Lucy, Raef, Mossy, and the rest will find even more than they bargained for - not just new life, but new civilizations, as well as treachery and, ultimately, the truth about the origins of New Coleopolis. Stunning black and white art depicts action with drama and scope, while explaining Lucy's inventions and discoveries with diagrammatic precision.

Author Website: <http://www.jayhosler.com/>

Curricular Connections:

- English Incorporating
 - nonfiction
 - information into a fictional story / Analyzing
 - author's purpose / Character Analysis & Development/Character types &
 - stereotypes
- Science Communicating - informational text through different mediums / Showing vs. Telling / Ethics in Science

Lesson Ideas:

- How accurate is the information? Have students conduct research on one of the bugs in the story and compare their findings to one of the characters. Discuss/evaluate the accuracy of the information presented in the book. Why did the author choose to present it this way?
- Add a bug. After conducting their own research, students could create a new character for the story. Using a combination of drawings and text, students can mimic Hosler's style to create a description and/or short adventure with their new character.
- Translate the information: collect information from the book and present it in a different way for a different audience. How do you have to change the information and/or characters to appeal to a different reader/listener?

Common Core Standards:

- CCSS.ELA LITERACY.RI.6.5 Analyze how a particular sentence, paragraph, chapter, or section fits into the overall structure of a text and contributes to the development of the ideas.
- CCSS.ELA LITERACY.RI.6.6 Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and explain how it is conveyed in the text.

- CCSS.ELA LITERACY.RI.6.7 Integrate information presented in different media or formats (e.g. visually, quantitatively) as well as in words to develop a coherent understanding of a topic or issue.

Additional Materials:

Teaching Resources Adaptations of Insects and Other Arthropods

Suggested Companion Titles:

- Similar books by the same author: <http://www.jayhosler.com/books.html>
- Appropriate grade-level entomology texts: consult with your school librarian

Professional Reviews:

- *Booklist*, 3/1/2015
- *Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books*, 3/1/2015
- *Kirkus Reviews*, 2/15/2015
- *Library Media Connection*, 12/1/2015
- *School Library Journal*, 5/1/2015