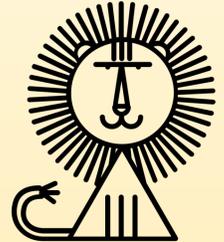
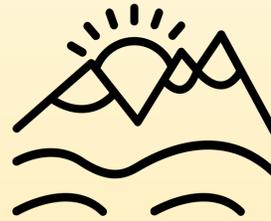
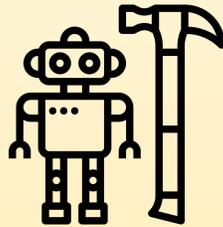


Tips for Connecting Books with Summer Fun

by Carolee Dean and Kristen Wilkinson

Watch for more tips including activities for Real-World Writing summer 2022 at <http://caroleedeanbooks.blogspot.com/>

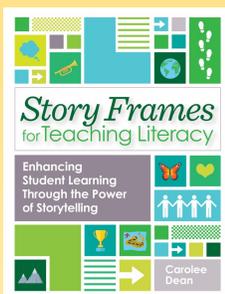
Sign up for my newsletter on the [CONTACT](#) page to get the FREE Writing Template - TRAVEL TROUBLE



Carolee Dean –Speech-Language Pathologist, CALT, Dyslexia Interventionist, YA author, and creator of *Story Frames for Teaching Literacy: Enhancing Student Learning Through the Power of Storytelling* (Brookes Publishing, 2021)



Kristen Wilkinson – Program Director for the Colorado State University Environmental Learning Center, an environmental education outreach center in Northern Colorado for children and adults.



For more fun books, find a PDF of all 32 children's titles featured in *Story Frames* at wordtravelliteracy.com. Learn more about *Story Frames* at <https://bpub.fyi/StoryFrames>

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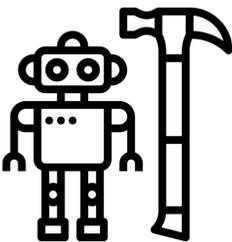
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- **Plant a Garden**– Plant zucchini in a reusable shopping bag on an apartment balcony or build a fence trellis with old bicycle wheels for climbing cucumbers. Explore these ideas and more with step-by-step directions and photographs in *Grow All You Can Eat in 3 Square Feet: Inventive Ideas for Growing Food in a Small Space* by DK Publishing. You may want to participate in a group garden like the main character in *Miguel's Community Garden* written by JaNay Brown-Wood and illustrated by Samara Hardy. It's ideal for ages 3-7. Maybe you'd just like to visit a community garden or attend a local Grower's Market. For further exploration, *SciShow Kids* has YouTube episodes on [How Does a Seed Become a Plant?](#) and [Grow Your Own Plants!](#)



- **Explore Science in the Kitchen** – Use those healthy foods you grew in your garden or bought at the Grower's Market and have fun cooking. Take your culinary adventure one step further by learning the chemical properties of food. Make a science experiment out of the process with *Science Experiments You Can Eat* (Revised and Updated) written by Vicki Cobb and illustrated by Tad Carpenter. It is perfect for ages 8 and up. *SciShow Kids* also has a whole series on cooking with science: [Baking a Cake with Science](#), [How to Build a Solar Oven](#), and [Why Does Cooking Eggs Make Them Hard?](#)



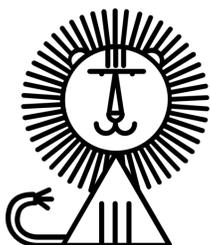
- **Become an Inventor** – Read about real-life inventors in books like *Franz's Phantasmagorical Machine* written by Beth Anderson and illustrated by Caroline Hamel. Many items around the house can be used with the suggestions outlined by Temple Grandin in *Calling All Minds: How to Think and Create Like an Inventor*. If your kids have ideas for inventions that are a little too complicated or dangerous to try at home, send their designs to *Kids Invent Stuff* <https://kidsinventstuff.com/>. The website links to the YouTube channel where you can watch the engineer hosts, Ruth and Shawn, build the inventions of kids ages 4-11. They even offer prizes. Even if your kid's invention idea is not selected, that's okay. Submitting a written description along with a video or drawing is a great way to promote summer writing and creative thinking.

Tips for Connecting Books with Summer Fun (Continued)

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- **Visit a National Park** – If you aren't able to take a big trip, go on a nature walk, visit a local natural area, or take a virtual trip through nature by watching [America's National Parks by National Geographic \(Disney+\)](#) or [Born in the Rockies by Nature \(PBS\)](#) Either way, start your journey by reading books like *National Parks of the U.S.A.* written by Kate Siber and illustrated by Chris Turnham or *Grand Canyon* written and illustrated by Jason Chin. These books can be read aloud to young children or explored on their own by kids ages 7 and up. They are also great resources for adults.



- **Visit a Zoo or Wild Animal Park** – If you don't have one nearby, watch shows like [Animals with Cameras by Nature \(PBS\)](#). Read about the fascinating world of wild animals in books like *Make Way for Animals!: A World of Wildlife Crossings* written by Meeg Pincus and illustrated by Bao Luu and discover real-life animal heroes in *125 Animals That Changed the World* by Brenna Maloney. Read more about wildlife crossings at <https://www.wildways.us/>.



- **Check out More Titles** - Don't forget to visit your local library or bookstore to find more fun books and ask about their summer reading programs while you are there.

Watch for more book titles and tips including activities for Real-World Writing by following my blog at caroleedeanbooks.blogspot.com. Sign up for my newsletter [HERE](#) to receive the free writing template for *Travel Trouble*.

