

Book Title: *Buffalo*

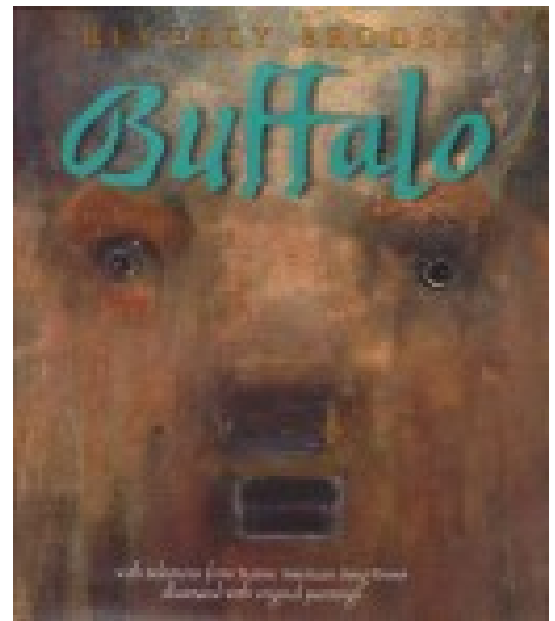
Author and Illustrator: Beverly Brodsky

Annotation: This book is a magnificent collage bringing together visual imagery, teachings, historical detail and tribal song poems. By using a multi-layered perspective, Brodsky conveys a depth of understanding. A must have for any collection on art, poetry, or history of the demise of the buffalo.

Concepts at a Glance:

✚ Resilience, identity, culture,

Text Set: any collection of poetry, art, or books on the buffalo



Projects, Ideas and Activities:

1. Share one page a day-discussing the images and the poetry or description related to the images.
2. Try doing a painting with twigs, reeds, feathers (page 8).
3. Find out more about the buffalo that once roamed the plains in numbers too great to count.
4. Turn any of the poems (p. 18 is excellent for this) into a creative movement or dance using a drum or flute.
5. Use *Countless Millions* (page 16 and 17) as inspiration for a water colour composition. It will require several art classes and specific lessons on:
 - a. Brush technique
 - b. Horizon lines
 - c. Sky layering
 - d. Dry brush to make clouds etc.
6. Use the poem on page 18 as a frame for writing other poetry. This will require lessons on pronouns, commas, verbs, similes, metaphors etc. For example:

I flutter, I flutter, (pronoun +action)

I, whose movements barely stir the air (pronoun + impact)

I flutter, I flutter (repeat)

I, whose wings are patterned with beauty (pronoun +description of body part)

I flutter, I flutter

I, who moves like a gentle breeze (pronoun + simile)

Buffalo- Curricular Links

Art Level Three--Expression- Component 10 - Media and Techniques – Painting

- ✚ Continue to strive for more sophistication in brush skills by using techniques learned in earlier years.
- ✚ Continue to paint using experimental methods including working without a brush.

English Language Arts

2.3 Understand Forms, Elements and Techniques

- ✚ (6-9) Identify key characteristics of a variety of forms or genres of oral, print and other media texts.
- ✚ (7-9) Explore surprising and playful uses of language and visuals.

4.1 Enhance and Improve

- ✚ (7-9) Experiment with figurative language, voice, sentence patterns.

4.2 Attend to conventions

- ✚ (7-9) Use commas to separate phrases and clauses in own writing.

5.1 Respect Others and Strengthen Community

- ✚ (6-9) Discuss how ideas, people, experiences and cultural traditions are portrayed in various oral, print and other media texts.
- ✚ (6-9) Demonstrate respect for diverse ideas, cultures and traditions portrayed in oral, print and other media texts.

Music Skill: Moving

- ✚ (7) Improvise movements to poems, stories and songs (gr 6).
- ✚ (9) Through movement show awareness of changes in tempo, dynamics and mood (gr 6).

Music Skill: Playing Instruments

- ✚ (7) Accompany songs, stories and poems with appropriate instrumental effects. (gr 6).