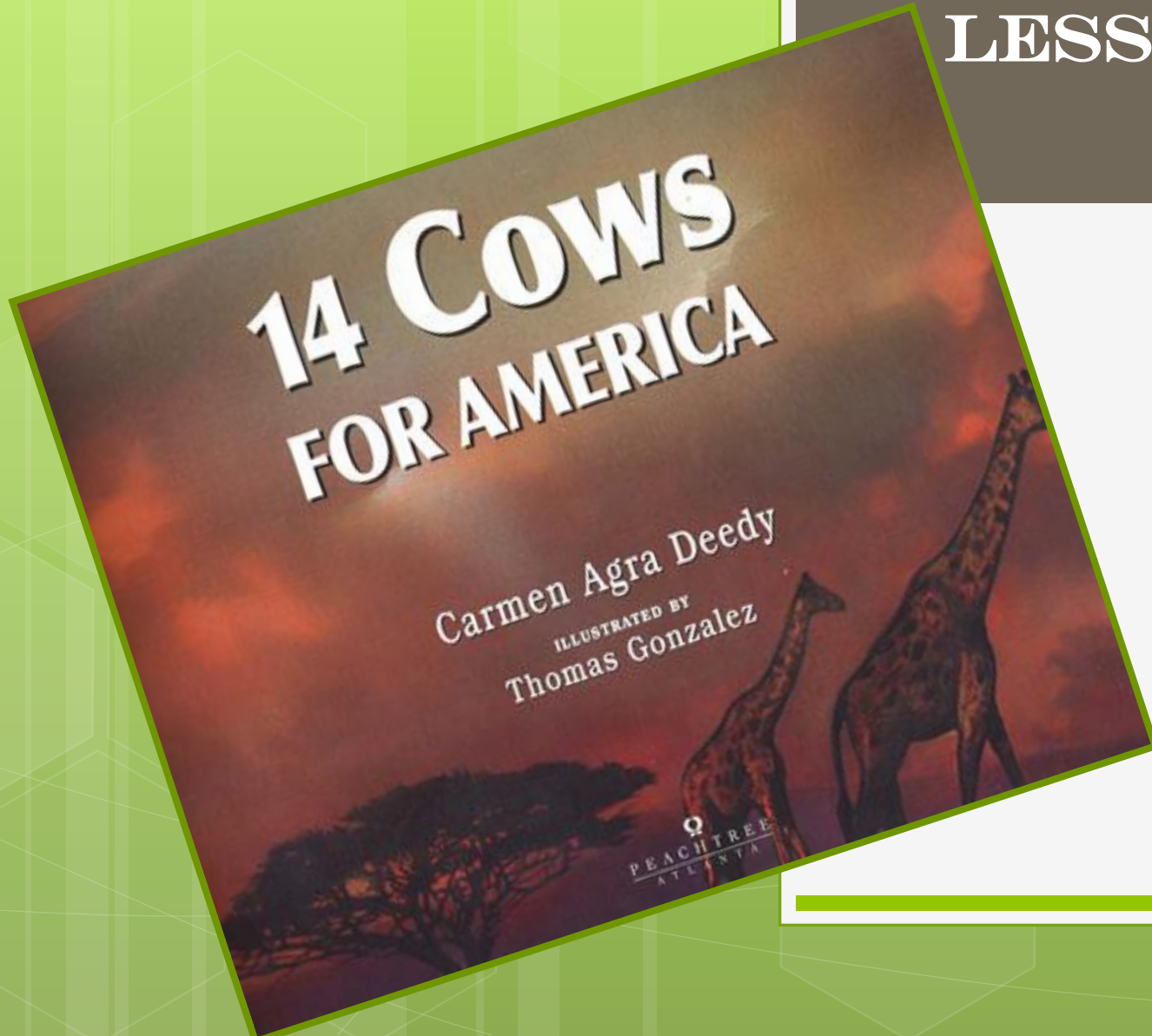


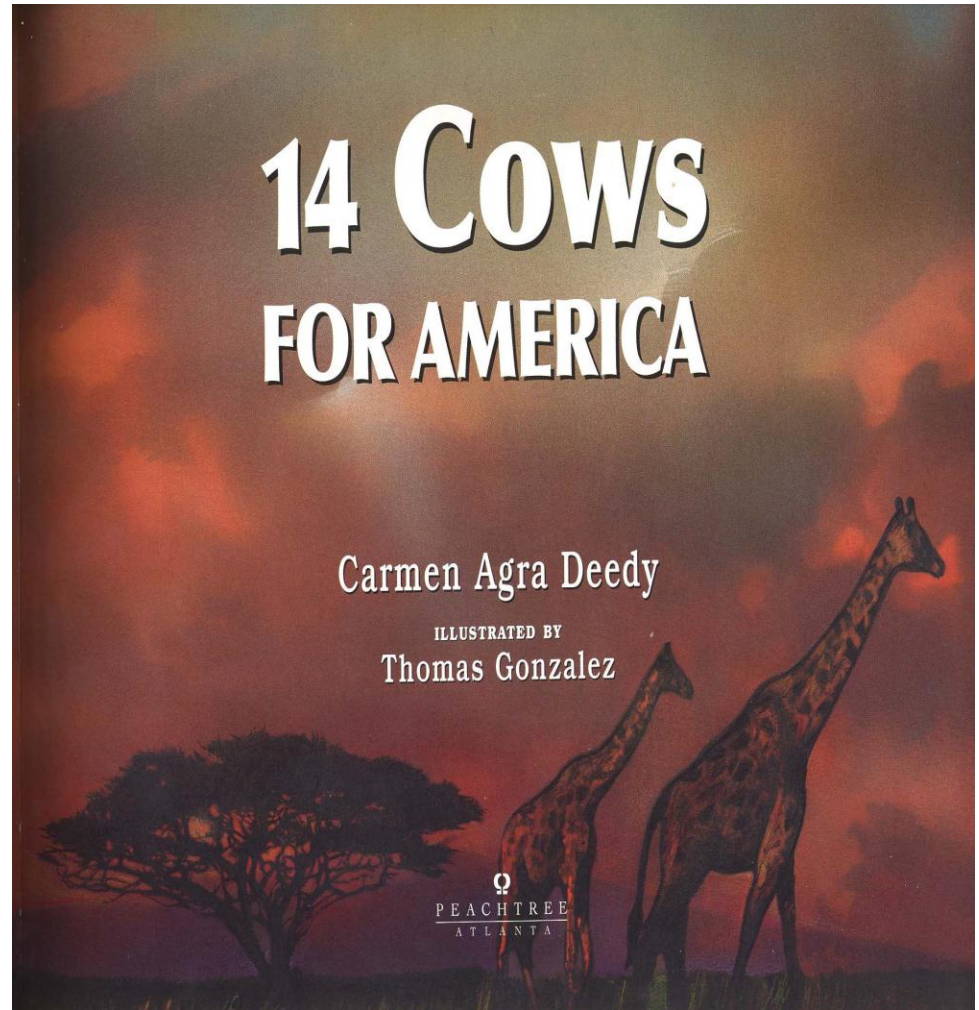
EXEMPLAR READING LESSON



Look at the cover

- **Think about what you see;**
- **Think about any emotion words;**
- **Think of a sentence using one of the sentence starters:**

- **I think this represents. . .**
- **The idea I am getting is. . .**



Day 1-Independent Read

14 Cows for America by Carmenagra Deady



The remote village waits for a story to be told. News travels slowly to this corner of Kenya. As Kimeli nears his village, he watches a herd of bull giraffes cross the open grassland. He smiles. He has been away a long time.

A girl sitting under a guava tree sees him first and cries out to the others. The children run to him with the speed and grace of cheetahs. He greets them with a gentle touch on his head, a warrior's blessing.

The rest of the tribe soon surrounds Kimeli. These are his people. These are the Maasai.

Once they were feared warriors. Now they live peacefully as nomadic cattle herders. They treat their cows as kindly as they do their children. They sign to them. They give them names. They shelter the young ones in their homes. Without the herd, the tribe might starve. To the Maasai, the cow is life.

"*Sipa*. Hello," Kimeli hears again and again. Everyone wants to greet him. His eyes find his mother across the *enkoi*, the ring of huts with their roofs of sun-baked dung. She spreads her arms and calls to him, "*Aokhia*. Welcome, my son." Kimeli sighs. He is home.

This is sweeter and sadder because he cannot stay. He must return to the faraway country where he is learning to be a doctor. He thinks of New York then. He remembers September.

A child asks if he has brought any stories. Kimeli nods. He has brought with him one story. It has burned a hole in his heart.

But first he must speak with the elders.



As tradition as old as the Maasai, the rest of the tribe gathers under an acacia tree to hear. There is a terrible stillness in the air as the tale unfolds. With growing disbelief, men, women, and children listen. Buildings so tall they can touch the sky? Fires so hot they can melt rocks and dust so thick they can block out the sun?

Kimeli tells of the earthquake. More than three thousand souls are lost. A great silence falls over the Maasai. Kimeli waits. He knows his people. They are fierce when provoked, but easily moved to compassion when they hear of suffering or injustice.

An elder speaks. He is shaken, but above all, he is sad. "What can we do for these poor people? Nearby, a cow lows. Heads turn toward the herd. "To the Maasai," Kimeli says softly, "the cow is life."

To the elders, Kimeli offers his only cow, *Eukaruta*. He asks for their blessing. They give it. But they want to offer something more.

Kimeli sends word to the United States Embassy in Nairobi. In response, the embassy sends a jeep. His jeep jounces along the dusty, rugged roads. He is hot and tired. He thinks he is late to meet with Maasai elders. He cannot be more wrong. As the jeep nears the edge of the village, the man sits up. Clearly, this is no ordinary diplomatic visit. This is...

...a story. Hundreds of Maasai greet the American in full tribal splendor. At the sight of the man's bright blood-red tunics and spectacular beaded collars, he can only marvel.

It is the start of a sacred ritual. Young warriors dance, leaping into the air like fish from a stream.

Women sing mournful songs. Children fill their bellies with milk. Speeches are exchanged. And now it is time.

Kimeli and his people gather on a sacred knoll, far from the village. The only sound is the gentle chiming of cowbells. The elders chant a blessing in Ma as the Maasai people of Kenya present...



14 cows for America.

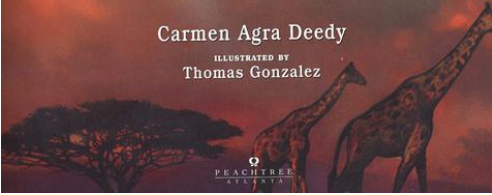
There is no nation so powerful it cannot be wounded, nor a people they cannot offer mighty comfort.



14 COWS FOR AMERICA

Carmen Agra Deedy

ILLUSTRATED BY
Thomas Gonzalez



Day 1-Seed Discussion

Possibilities for seeds:

- After reading this book you will be leading your own discussions.
- You aren't just going to answer my questions, instead you are to identify and develop topics important to your own thinking.
- As you read, think of one important thing to discuss and write it down.
- Remember we want to develop strong seeds that will lead to lots of discussion about the topic.

- Information or situations that I don't understand
- Comments about what I have learned
- Things that seem interesting or surprising
- Vocabulary I want to know about
- Descriptive writing I particularly enjoyed
- Things that remind me of other things I know

Name _____ Date _____

Question Answer Relationship

 <p>In the Text, Right There</p>	
 <p>In the Text, Think, Search and Find</p>	
 <p>In My Head, Author and Me</p>	
 <p>In My Head, On My Own</p>	

Day 2-Close Analytic Read

14 Cows for America by Carmenagra Deady



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The rest of the tribe soon surrounds Kimeli. These are his people. These are the Maasai.

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A CLOSER LOOK AT...

compassion



Synonyms Other words for <u>compassion</u>	Things or People that can be <u>compassionate</u>	How I feel when someone/ something is <u>compassionate</u>	What I might say when someone/ something is <u>compassionate</u>	What I might do when someone/ something is <u>compassionate</u>

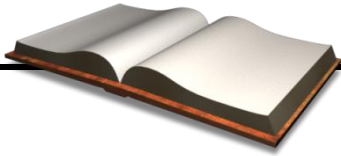
Guiding Question

Read the sentence below:



The Maasai tribe showed compassion for America after 9/11.

Based on the sentence above, what does the word compassion mean?



Page-by-Page



In the picture, I see...	It appears...	New evidence I gathered from text...	Now I know...

- **Text Coding/Selective Highlighting**
 - Helps you to understand the importance of key ideas within a piece of text
 - Extends text discussion
 - Dictated by the essential question and/or the theme
 - Helps to set the purpose for reading
 - Refer back to the Page-by-Page organizer. Reread through the organizer coding F for friendship and K for kindness represented in the illustrations and text.

F– Evidence of the Maasai’s friendship

K - Evidence of the Maasai’s kindness

Guiding Question



Explain how the illustrations and text in *14 Cows for America* show the friendship and kindness of the Maasai.

Author's Toolbox for Bringing a Character to Life



You get to know a character by what he does.



You get to know a character by what he says and what others say about him.



You get to know a character by his thoughts and what others think about him.



You get to know a character by his feelings and how others feel about him.



You get to know a character by what the author tells you about the way he looks.

Author's Toolbox for Bringing a Character to Life



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You get to know a character by what he says and what others say about him.



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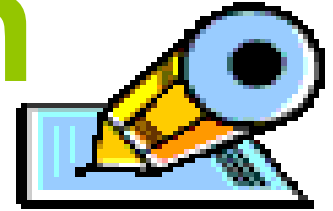


You get to know a character by his feelings and how others feel about him.



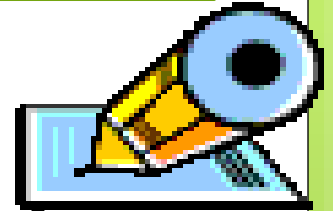
You get to know a character by what the author tells you about the way he looks.

Guiding Question



Explain how Kimeli's feelings, personality, and actions contribute to the outcome of the story.

Performance Task Question:



How does the story support the author's main message/ theme in the statement *"There is no nation so powerful it cannot be wounded nor a people so small they cannot offer mighty comfort."*

(Author's Perspective-

What does the author mean...?)

A. Teacher Model/ Think Aloud

How does the story support the author's main message/theme in the statement "There is no nation so powerful it cannot be wounded nor a people so small they cannot offer mighty comfort."

