Title: *The Strength of a Bear*

**Guiding Questions:**

1. What makes a bear a bear?
2. How does strength help us grow and learn?

**Learning Targets:**

1. I can explain how the physical features of a black bear help it survive.
2. I can evaluate conditions that help a black bear survive.
3. I can interpret what bears represent in stories.
4. I can illustrate why bears are an important symbol of our school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kick Off</th>
<th>Culminating Product/Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>♦ Bear Moon Walk (Martis Valley: nighttime moon walk and visualization led by Jill Stevenson)</td>
<td>➢ Papier-maché bear as mascot display; presentation (2011)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>➢ Poster of drawing/strength statements for Office (2013)</td>
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<td>➢ SELS mascot drawings for spiritwear (2016??)</td>
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**Case Study #1: LT #1 & 2**

**Bear Necessities**

**Overview:**

- Physical characteristics of black bear
- Relationship to habitat

**Project:**

- Building a bear den
- Bear drawings (with artist Jill Stevenson)
- Habitat models

**Literature Used:**

- Assorted F/NF texts, poems & songs
- Focus: letters/sounds; Look at picture/Use beginning & ending sounds; fiction/non-fiction
- Complex text: bear article

**Writing Assignments:**

- Informative: Lucy Calkins unit of study

**Other Assessments:**

- Physical features cut/paste
- Conditions for survival (interactive models)

**Fieldwork:**

- Bear Moon Walk in Martis Valley (night walk)
- Folsom Zoo (bear observation)

**Experts:**

- Jill Stevenson (artist)
- Folsom Zoo docents
- BEAR League
- American Bear Assoc. (MN)

**Service Learning:**

**Character/Adventure:**

- Moon Walk

**Case Study #2: LT #3 & 4**

**More Than a Bear**

**Overview:**

- Concept of symbolism
- Varieties and value of strength as a character trait

**Project:**

- Sew spirit pouches
- Strength Interviews (Director; staff)

**Literature Used:**

- Assorted F/NF texts, poems & songs
- Focus: letters/sounds; Look at picture/Use beginning & ending sounds; fiction/non-fiction
- Complex text: bear poem

**Writing Assignments:**

- Informative (Calkins continued)

**Other Assessments:**

- Interview rubric

**Fieldwork:**

**Experts:**

- Jill Stevenson
- Alaina Reichwald (counselor)

**Service Learning:**

- Papier-maché bear as mascot display; presentation (2011)
- Poster of drawing/strength statements for Office (2013)

**Character/Adventure:**

- Strength Interviews
- Presentation at Community Mtg.