Raccoon on His Own
Written and illustrated by Jim Arnosky
(Lesson Plan by Lana Voss)

Literature

Focus: Students will compare Raccoon on His Own with Raccoons and Ripe Corn.

Pass Objectives:
6.2a Compare different endings to stories and identify the reasons and the impact of the different endings.
6.2b Compare plots, settings, and characters presented in several texts by the same author.
6.2c Infer the lesson or moral in a variety of texts.
6.3 Identify figurative language and sound devices in writing and how they affect the development of a literary work.

Supplies:

Visit school and public libraries to obtain multiple copies of Raccoons and Ripe Corn and Raccoon on His Own. Have students work in pairs at their desks or place the books in a center for students. Ask students to write new endings for each story and discuss the effects. Compare the plots, settings and characters in the two books. What is similar and what is different? Can you determine a lesson or moral for each book? Which book has the most figurative language? Give examples. What media did Arnosky use to illustrate each book? Which book has the best illustrations? Why?