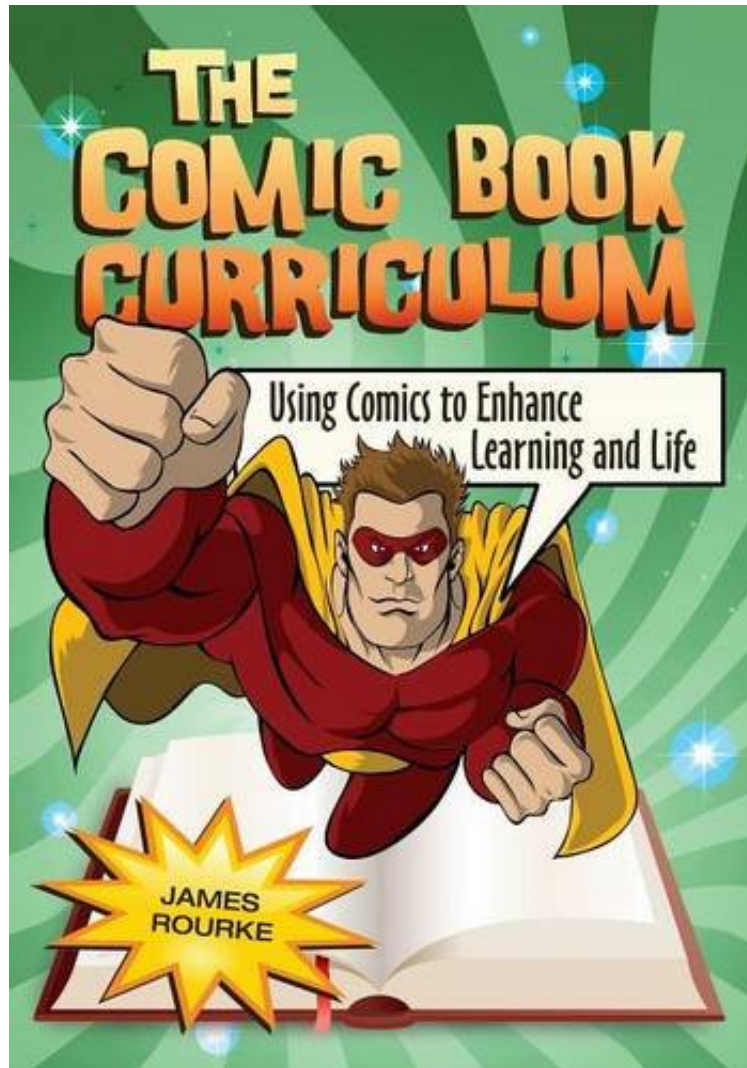


(Free download) The Comic Book Curriculum: Using Comics to Enhance Learning and Life

The Comic Book Curriculum: Using Comics to Enhance Learning and Life

James Rourke

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James Rourke : The Comic Book Curriculum: Using Comics to Enhance Learning and Life before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Comic Book Curriculum: Using Comics to Enhance Learning and Life:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Especially recommended for teachers seeking to develop effective supplemental materials for their classroom curriculumsBy Midwest Book ReviewI was an education curriculum coordinator for a Wisconsin School District and a part of my job was to help classroom teachers and home schooling

parents develop instructional materials for 'reading phobic' students. Usually these were boys from grade school through high school for whom reading was difficult. Sometimes from a learning disability, often from a lack of interest in the written word. That was when I first introduced the comic book as part of an effective program to elicit interest in these students with respect to reading, and at the same time developing their reading skills. Using Disney and anthropomorphic comics in the younger grades, and 'super hero' comics in the upper grades, the students not only benefited in terms of their reading abilities (including comprehension and vocabulary development), they also picked up ethical values and philosophical insights based on the 'good vs. evil', 'with great power comes great responsibility' messages embedded within the stories and characters comprising the comics. Now James Rourke (a history teacher at the Norwich Free Academy, Norwich, Connecticut) has created in "The Comic Book Curriculum: Using Comics to Enhance Learning and Life" a complete introduction to the value of incorporating comic books into a reading curriculum, as well as a means of illustrating a wide range of issues ranging from the mythic hero, to the revelation of character arising from crisis, to the value of team work, and more. The emphasis is on the 'super hero', ranging from Superman and Batman, to Spiderman and Thor, to Green Lantern and the X-Men -- characters for whom students will already be quite familiar. Informed and informative, enhanced with a profusion of notes, a 'Comic Bibliography', as well as a comprehensive index, "The Comic Book Curriculum" is a 160-page, superbly written and presented compendium that is especially recommended for teachers seeking to develop effective supplemental materials for their classroom curriculums.

This fascinating journey into the heart of comics connects their unique blend of entertainment and wisdom with school curriculum to invigorate teachers and students alike. 11 individual chapters introduce and analyze famous comic book characters, including Batman, Captain America, Spider-Man, and the X-Men Teacher tools, including a vocabulary list, curriculum connections, and lesson plans, complement each hero A bibliography of comics and graphic novels can be used in the classroom or for further research

"a superbly written and presented compendium that is especially recommended for teachers seeking to develop effective supplemental materials for their classroom curriculums." - Midwest Book "This author knows his comics, and his connections to real life will be useful for teachers who would like to use comics in their classes to spark interest, as well as bridging the gap between comics and traditional literature. Recommended." - Library Media Connection "James Rourke has written a masterful work that develops questions and insights about the virtues, personal identity, justice, and the meaning of life, by way of engaging the many characters and plots of the Comic Book. This is a delightful, brilliant work for students and general readers who wish to think philosophically about the worlds of Superman, Batman, and other superheroes." (Dr. Charles Taliaferro, Professor of Philosophy, St. Olaf College)"James Rourke does an excellent good job of showing how major superheroes and their stories raise some of the deepest and most important ethical and psychological questions we all need to ask and answer. This book will be a major help in the classroom and beyond, and will help introduce many readers into the world of classic literature through a new doorway." (Tom Morris, author of *If Harry Potter Ran General Electric* and *Philosophy for Dummies*, and Editor of *Superheroes and Philosophy*)"In this fabulous and timely book, Rourke combines a fan's love of comics with an educator's zeal for knowledge. Comic books have always been rich with human emotion, morality, and conflict, and in this book Rourke shows, with a wealth of examples and practical advice for teachers, how to present this to high school students as a supplement--not a replacement--for traditional literature." (Mark D. White, professor, co-editor of *Batman and Philosophy: The Dark Knight of the Soul*, and editor of *Watchmen and Philosophy: A Rorschach Test* and *Iron Man and Philosophy: Facing the Stark Reality*)About the AuthorJames Rourke is a history teacher at the Norwich Free Academy, Norwich, CT.