

# Teacher's Guide for FACES

October 2010:Monsters

Teacher's guide prepared by Elisabeth Greenberg

Get in the spirit of this issue by having each student create a Monster Book; this can be for their own age group or for a younger child. Remind them that they should think about their audience in terms of language, "fear" factor, design, and interest. You might want to recommend that they read the story *The Ninth Door* at the end of the magazine to see how the author and illustrator worked together. Students can create a 16- or 32-page book.

For each article they read, they should do the project and allot the appropriate number of pages in the book.

**Creepy Critters from the Deep:**

Choose the most interesting creature(s) to you, draw its picture, and write an informative entry about it, using information from the article and Internet research.

**In Search of Monsters, Dear Tommy:**

Illustrate and write about the search for one yet-to-be-identified monster using information from the articles and your own research.

**Scary History: 100 Years of Monster Movies:**

Write and illustrate a cartoon about a monster of your choice, perhaps one from a monster movie.

**Vampires, Winners of the Monster Popularity Contest:**

Write a short story about vampires using some of the legends and information in the article and your own ideas. Think about the setting and time of your story and the atmosphere you want to create as well as the characters and plot.

**Werewolf Whereabouts:**

Draw a picture of a werewolf or other were-creature that incorporates one legend mentioned in the article. Bring out the legend's ideas in your picture caption.

**How to Interpret Your Dragon:**

Write a list of the top five ways to recognize a dragon.

**The Watchful River Spirit:**

Write a letter from the Nyaminyami to his distant wife or from another monster to a separated family member.

**What's in a Name? The Story of Dr Frankenstein's Creature:**

Dramatize the Frankenstein story by writing a short skit.

**Kappa and Oni, Monsters of Japan:**

Write a series of email messages between a Kappa and an Oni, explaining their lives and legends.

**WRAP-UP:**

You may want to have reading circles in the classroom in which each student shares his favorite part of his book or arrange for each student to share his book with a younger student.