

Rachel Dustin

Trumbull, Connecticut



Rachel has been teaching in the primary grades for 17 years and has an absolute love and passion for teaching reading. It brings her so much joy to pour over books with her students, often laughing, sometimes crying, and analyzing stories.

It is Mrs. Dustin's personal mission to find a genre, series, or title of book for each and every one of her students to love. She truly believes, and tells her students that if they don't enjoy reading, it's because they haven't met their soulmate of a book yet. She tells them that their match is out there and together, they will find it. Keeping this promise requires her to have conversations with students about their interests and strengths, observation of their reading behaviors and making reading a social activity. Mrs. Dustin believes that if she can find at least one book to hook her young readers, it will be the key that unlocks a life of reading. Being literate and enjoying reading will open their

worlds to learn anything it is that they want to or need to in their personal and professional lives. In Mrs. Dustin's experience, creating a classroom community of readers, greatly improves student engagement. Therefore, she is excited to use the Book Love Grant to purchase sets of leveled book club books for her third grade classroom.