

Olentangy Local School District Literature Selection Review

Teacher:	Ross/Schubert	School:	OSMS
Book Title:	Lion (A Long Way Home: A Memoir)	Genre:	Literary Nonfiction/Memoir
Author:	Saroo Brierley	Pages:	273
Publisher:	Penguin Random House	Copyright:	2013

In a brief rationale, please provide the following information relative to the book you would like added to the school's book collection for classroom use. You may attach additional pages as needed.

Book Summary and summary citation: (suggested resources include book flap summaries, review summaries from publisher, book vendors, etc.)

At only five years old, Saroo Brierley got lost on a train in India. Unable to read or write or recall the name of his hometown or even his own last name, he survived alone for weeks on the rough streets of Calcutta before ultimately being transferred to an agency and adopted by a couple in Australia.

Despite his gratitude, Brierley always wondered about his origins. Eventually, with the advent of Google Earth, he had the opportunity to look for the needle in a haystack he once called home, and pore over satellite images for landmarks he might recognize or mathematical equations that might further narrow down the labyrinthine map of India. One day, after years of searching, he miraculously found what he was looking for and set off to find his family.

Lion is a moving, poignant, and inspirational true story of survival and triumph against incredible odds. It celebrates the importance of never letting go of what drives the human spirit: hope. Previously published as A Long Way Home - From Barnes and Noble's Website

Provide an instructional rationale for the use of this title, including specific reference to the OLSD curriculum map(s): (Curriculum maps may be referenced by grade/course and indicator number or curriculum maps with indicators highlighted may be attached to this form)

Team 801 at SMS plans to use this novel as a choice text for a literary nonfiction unit. Each of the novels selected for this unit showcase real "characters" who overcome obstacles on the way to creating their own legacies. The following CCSS will be addressed during our reading:

RI 8.1: Cite the textual evidence that most strongly supports an analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

RI 8.2: Determine a central idea of a text and analyze its development over the course of the text, including its relationship to supporting ideas; provide an objective summary of the text.

RI 8.3: Analyze how a text makes connections among and distinctions between individuals, ideas, or events (e.g., through comparisons, analogies, or categories).

Include two professional reviews of this title: (a suggested list of resources for identifying professional reviews is shown below. Reviews may be "cut and pasted" (with citation) into the form or printed reviews may be attached to the form)

Review #1

Review by Library Journal Review

Starred Review. Separated from his older brother on an outing, five-year-old Brierley boarded a train that instead of taking him back to his home in rural India traveled over 1,000 miles to Calcutta. Unable to read and write or remember his hometown or his last name, Brierley survived alone for months on the harsh streets of the city, until he was eventually taken to an orphanage. The orphanage attempted to track down Brierley's family, but the task was impossible because of the distance he had traveled and his inability to describe his home. Though he was adopted by a loving couple in Hobart, Tasmania, Brierley never gave up hope that he would be reunited with his Indian family. With the advent of Google Earth, the author studied satellite images of India and after years of searching spotted the central business district near his hometown. Vikas Adam's rich voice and smooth delivery results in a polished performance of this miraculous memoir. VERDICT Recommend to all biography/memoir listeners, especially those who enjoy stories of families reunited against long odds.-Beth Farrell, Cleveland State Univ. Law Lib. (c) Copyright 2014. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

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Review #2

Review by School Library Journal Review

Five-year-old Brierley accidentally took a train 1,000 miles from his home in rural India. Unable to remember his last name or hometown, he was eventually adopted by a couple in Tasmania. He never stopped hoping to find his Indian family though, and spent years studying satellite photos until something looked familiar. © Copyright 2016. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

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What alternate text(s) could also fulfill the instructional requirements?

<u>Title:</u> Unbroken (Young Adult Adaptation)	<u>Author:</u> Laura Hillenbrand
<u>Title:</u> The Diary of a Young Girl	<u>Author:</u> Anne Frank
<u>Title:</u>	<u>Author:</u>
<u>Title:</u>	<u>Author:</u>
<u>Title:</u>	<u>Author:</u>
<u>Title:</u>	<u>Author:</u>

Document any potentially controversial content:

Children are shown in danger -- including a disturbing scene in which homeless children are abducted as they sleep, one in which young Saroo is physically inspected, and others in which he's forced to live on the streets with no shelter or food. When the action switches to Saroo's adulthood, adults (twentysomethings) drink at dinner parties, restaurants, and at home; there's also cigarette smoking and infrequent strong language ("s--t," "ass," etc.). And underlying everything are powerful lessons about perseverance, gratitude, family bonds, and the power of technology. - This is from Common Sense Media with regards to the film, which closely relates to the book.

Keeping in mind the age, academic level, and maturity of the intended reader, what is the suggested classroom use: (check all that apply)

Gifted/Accelerated Regular At Risk

GRADE LEVEL(S): 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

Reading level of this title (if applicable): Not available

Date Submitted to Department Chair: 01/2017

Suggested Professional Literary Review Sources:

School Library Journal

Horn Book

Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books

VOYA (Voice of Youth Advocates)

Library Journal

Book Links

Publisher's Weekly

Booklist

Kirkus Review

Wilson Library Catalog

English Journal (and other resources of the National Council of Teachers of English)

The Reading Teacher (International Reading Association)

Literature for Today's Young Adults