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Period 4&6

Living Like weasels connection

I read the short story *Living Like Weasels* by Annie Dillard, this story is about a girl who is talking about the mysteries of weasels and starts imagining what it would be like to be a weasel and put yourself in their world. I think while reading the text a lot of details stood out to me and I felt I could understand what the author was writing but sometimes it took a second before I could understand. I think this possibly impacts the story and makes it more interesting for the reader. “What goes on in his brain the rest of the time? What does a weasel think about? He won't say. His journal is tracked in clay, a spray of feathers, mouse blood and bone: uncollected, unconnected, loose-leaf, and blown.” I think that this passage expresses how the writing stands out to me because I feel the author is letting the reader into her brain through the writing and I also think it allows the reader to empathize because everyone has had to consider possibilities. And I usually question what I see and notice around me so I felt connected to the text when the author was expressing how she wanted to know what it would be like to live like a weasel. I also think that the author is using questions and this makes her seem more human and makes her seem more reliable.

I noticed the use of a lot of figurative and descriptive language throughout the story as the author is trying to express her feelings and experiences. I think to accurately explain this story there had to be metaphors and similes because she has a very unique experience that not many people have gone through. So she had to find a different way to describe her experience in a way the reader can relate to. “His face was fierce, small and pointed as a lizard's; he would have made a good arrowhead. There was just a dot of the chin, maybe two brown hairs' worth, and then the pure white fur began that spread down his underside. He had two black eyes I didn't see, any more than you see a window.” I thought this passage was a good example of the writer's figurative language. I noticed the use of a simile when the author was describing the weasel and I connected to this because even if I've never seen a weasel the author is showing me a different way to picture what she experienced. And I noticed she does this throughout the story and it builds onto the description and illusion of the story.

The writer of this short story is Annie Dillard and I like the way she formats the story. I think the intro has a good hook and format because she starts with a story about weasels and then after she introduced herself and I think this introduction was really helpful because It makes me trust the reader more and I felt like it also provided me with an opportunity to get to know her and how she thinks better. This story is written in the first person and I think this helps the reader better understand the author's point of view and bring the reader in the story with her. “This is yielding, not fighting. A weasel doesn't "attack" anything; a weasel lives as he's meant to, yielding at every moment to the perfect freedom of single necessity.” I chose this passage because when I was reading it, it drew me. I felt like I was able to look into the author's brain for a second and understand what she was thinking. I also think this passage is a good example of her limited interior monologue. Throughout the story, she asks a lot of questions about facts or stories she quotes and this makes it seem like she wants to learn more about weasels. And when I read this passage I thought it had a wondering or questioning tone and the limited knowledge made her feel more reliable.