Perseverance- 3rd Grade

Resource	Medium	Annotation/Rationale	Resource Limitations/Comments
Williams, Mary (2005). Brothers in hope: The story of the lost boys of Sudan. New York: Lee & Low Books.	Picture Book	Every spread has depicts struggle that the boys overcome. Though the characters are roughly the students' ages, they are dealing with extreme circumstances and surviving.	Very long, will have to be 2-3 read-alouds. Possibly the after-recess book- but then, how to deal with showing pictures? Will need to give background on country/war.
Kraus, Robert (1971). Leo the late bloomer. New York: Young Readers Press Inc.	Picture Book	Message: Perseverance takes time, you meet success on YOUR schedule. Will do in conjunction with a quick write or another reader response that allows students to reflect on something they have already accomplished.	Message is strong, but is text too "babyish" for 3 rd grade? Doesn't really show Leo persevering- more just the before and after.
Chumbawamba, Tubthumping (I Get Knocked Down). Available: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LODkVkpaVQA (8 sec-27 sec)	Song	The refrain of this song ("I get knocked down, but I get up again. You're never going to keep me down") seems to fit right in with persevering, especially when people say you can't. I am hoping it will be a theme song for the unit. I will play the youtube (predownloaded) version I have included here so students can read the lyrics as they listen.	I don't want to play the whole song because the rest seems irrelevant. Possible connection to "pump up" musicmusic that inspires us to keep going when we are discouraged.
Christina Aguilera, Fighter. Available: http://www.youtube.com/wat ch?v=RBOJpIwF47Y (1:00- 1:22).	Song	Same as above, will only play refrain about the singer becoming stronger, working harder, etc in the face of despair. Possible Week 2 theme song?	I don't want to play the whole song because the rest seems irrelevant (about a breakup) Possible connection to "pump up" musicmusic that inspires us to keep going when we are discouraged.
Hoffman, Mary and Binch, Caroline (1991). <i>Amazing</i> <i>Grace</i> . New York: Dial Books for Young Readers	Picture Book	Message: Persevering when the issue at hand is important to you, regardless of what others say. Possible Segway book to civil rights issue, as there is a racist comment made by a character in this book. Also shows how family can support you in your perseverance and give you the "pick up" you need.	
Souci, Robert (1998). A weave of words. New York: Scholastic	Picture Book- Folktale	Message: People need to have a reason for persevering (i.e. main character wanted to learn how to read and write so the weaver's daughter would marry him). This also fulfills a Common Core requirement of dealing with folktales.	A bit of a stretch to perseverance. Is there a better folk or fairy tale to use?

		Finally, it is an Armenian story and I think it is important to routinely include literature from other cultures.	
Former Student (TBD)	Live Person	Not sure who yet, but want to bring someone in Middle School who was in Ms. Arafin's class and persevered through third grade/PSSAs and constructed responses. Alternatively, maybe one of my Penn Mentor's former students who is now in high school or college (harder to coordinate logistically).	Always a risk when someone else gets in front of the class- can/should I ask for presentation notes beforehand? Will also need to explicitly instruct my students on how to treat a guest speaker- give them something to listen for (how he/she persevered)?
NBA (?) player's story of perseverance	TBD	Students tend to get excited when figures from pop culture are part of lessons, so I hope this will capture their attention.	