Overview
This lesson uses the postmodern picture books to engage students in a deep analysis of writer's craft. Macaulay's book, *Black and White*, presents four separate story lines that playfully interact with each other throughout the text. Students explore ways in which authors use words and illustrations to create unexpected plots and connections within a text. Students also study relationships between words and illustrations represented in the text.

Objective
Students will

- Explore unfamiliar text formats
- Interpret multiple meanings from a text
- Analyze writer's craft and writing techniques
- Discuss relationships between literacy and artistic techniques

Materials
- 12 X 18 white paper
- scissors
- glue

Standards
IRA/NCTE Standards

Procedure
- Divide students into four groups and have them read *Black and White* by David Macaulay. Assign each group a story line presented in the text.
- Provide directions for students to complete a plot summary based on the portion of the text that their group is reading. Students will use Zotero to find pictures to elaborate the story line.
- Each group will also record and analyze the setting and characters.
- Students will print off pictures found from web sites stored in Zotero and as a group they will continue their picture book story line.
- Once students are done completing their story line and analyzing *Black and White*, one student from each group will share with the class their extended story and plot summaries. The students will discuss how each story line is tied together.

Evaluation
Students will be evaluated on class participation and the elaboration of the picture book story line assigned.

Completion and Full Participation: Check Plus
Completion: Check
Did not participate or Complete project: Check Minus

http://www.readwritethink.org/lessons/lesson_view.asp?id=66