

Seyda Arslancil

Chapter 7

# Authentic Writing Activity

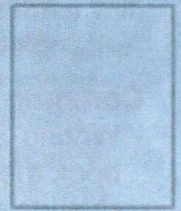
Directions: Write a postcard to the author of *The Legend of Bluebonnet*, Tomie dePaolo. Answer the two questions on the postcard.



Dear,

Did you like what the Great Spirits did to end the drought and famine? Yes or No?

What would you have given to the Great Spirits as your favorite possession?



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**Essential Question Alignment:****Chapter 7:**

- How much power should people have, and how can they use it justly?
- How can those seemingly little power have a say in society?

These essential questions connect to this book and to the authentic writing assignment, because from what the students learned from the book and the activity. They take away the idea that people don't have as much power when they have high powered rulers above them, like the Great Spirits. They only look down and do what they are told. Even those with little power can make a great change to society and their people. After the sacrifice that She-Who-Is-Alone, who represents the little girl in the story with her doll, makes to the Great Spirits, the people honored her act and that is how the Texas bluebonnet came to be.

**Common Core Alignment:**

- **Writing Standards:** Write opinion pieces in which they introduce the topic or name the book they are writing about, state an opinion, supply a reason for the opinion, and provide some sense of closure for Grade 1.

This common core aspect connects to this authentic writing assignment, because grade 1 students will introduce the name of the book which is also written for them in the directions for students that might need guidance in writing it. Also, they will state their opinion for the first question on the postcard, as yes or no. Then, they will reason and write what they would've given to the Great Spirits as their most cherished possession.