Young Hoosier Book Award
Picture Book Evaluation Form
Submitted by Elaine Loftus, Deborah Reynolds

Trombone Shorty

AUTHOR: Troy “Trombone Shorty” Andrews
ILLUSTRATOR: Brian Collier
PUBLISHER: Abrams Books for Young Readers
COPYRIGHT DATE: 2015
ART MEDIUM: Pen and ink, watercolor, and collage
GENRE: Nonfiction, Autobiography

BOOK SUMMARY: Troy Andrews (Trombone Shorty) shares his experiences growing up in New Orleans that shaped him into the Grammy Award nominated jazz musician he is today.

BOOK TALK: “Where y’at?” This is the New Orleans’ way of saying hello. Troy Andrews, who grew up in New Orleans wants his readers to know that. Troy comes from a family of musicians and wants to be one himself. Troy and his friends find resourceful ways to play music in their neighborhood. Read the book to find out how Troy gets the nickname - Trombone Shorty!

CHALLENGING WORDS:
Mardi Gras  Bo Diddley
trumpet  y’at
trombone
saxophone
tuba
gumbo
style
Jazz
heritage

AUTHOR BIO: Troy Michael Andrews (Trombone Shorty) was born in New Orleans in 1986. He grew up in a well-know musical family and got his first trombone when he was four. It was twice his size! Andrews is the founder of the Trombone Shorty Foundation is to preserve the musical history of New Orleans.
Website: http://www.tromboneshorty.com/

ILLUSTRATOR BIO: Brian Collier grew up in rural Maryland but now lives and works in upstate New York with his family. He began painting at age 15 and graduated with honors from the Pratt Institute in New York. He has illustrated many children’s books. His illustrations have won multiple Caldecott Honor awards as well as the Coretta Scott King Honor award. He has won the Coretta Scott King award six times.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:
1. A biography is a story about a person’s life. Why is Trombone Shorty called an autobiography?
2. How did Trombone Shorty’s older brother James, mentored him?
3. Is New Orleans the same or different from where you live?
4. How did Troy and his friends make music if they didn’t have any instruments?
5. Why did Trombone Shorty want to play the trombone?