

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
EL Curriculum Core Texts- All Schools 6-8th Grade			
Bud, not Buddy	Speare	Ten-year-old Bud, a motherless boy living in Flint, Michigan, during the Great Depression, escapes a bad foster home and sets out in search of the man he believes to be his father—the renowned bandleader, H.E. Calloway of Grand Rapids.	EL Core Text 6th Grade
Dragonwings	Yep, Laurence	Moon shadow is eight years old when he sails from China to join his father, Windrider, in America. Windrider lives in San Francisco and makes his living doing laundry. Father and son have never met. But Moon Shadow grows to love and respect his father and to believe in his wonderful dream.	EL Core Text 6th Grade
Frightful's Mountain	George, Jean Craighead	Sam Gibley has been told that it is illegal to harbor an endangered bird, so when his beloved falcon, Frightful, comes home, he has to let her go. But Frightful doesn't know how to live alone in the wild. She can't feed herself, mate, brood chicks, or migrate. Frightful struggles to survive and learns to enjoy her new freedom. But she feels a bond with Sam that can never be broken, and more than anything else, she wants to return to him.	EL Core Text 6th Grade
Percy Jackson and the Lightening Thief	Riordan, Rick	Percy Jackson is a good kid, but he can't seem to focus on his schoolwork or control his temper. And lately, being away at boarding school is only getting worse. When Percy's mom finds out, she knows it's time that he knew the truth about where he came from. She sends Percy to Camp Half Blood, a summer camp for demigods, where he learns that the father he never knew is Poseidon, God of the Sea. Soon a mystery unfolds and together with his friends, Percy sets out on a quest across the United States to reach the gates of the Underworld and prevent a catastrophic war between the gods.	EL Core Text 6th Grade
A Long Walk to Water	Park, Linda Sue	A Long Walk to Water begins as two stories, told in alternating sections, about a girl in Sudan in 2008 and a boy in Sudan in 1985. The girl, Nya, is fetching water from a pond that is two hours' walk from her home: she makes two trips to the pond every day. The boy, Salva, becomes one of the "lost boys" of Sudan, refugees who cover the African continent on foot as they search for their families and for a safe place to stay. Enduring every hardship from loneliness to attack by armed rebels to contact with killer lions and crocodiles, Salva is a survivor, and his story goes on to intersect with Nya's in an astonishing and moving way.	EL Core Text 7th Grade
Lyddie	Paterson	Impoverished Vermont farm girl Lyddie Worthen is determined to gain her independence by becoming a factory worker in Lowell, Massachusetts in the 1840s.	EL Core Text 7th Grade

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass	Douglass, Freder	This classic of American literature, a dramatic autobiography of the early life of an American slave, was first published in 1845, when its author had just achieved his freedom. It is a story that shocked the world with its first-hand account of the horrors of slavery. The book was an incredible success. It sold over thirty thousand copies and was an international bestseller. His eloquence gives a clear indication of the powerful principles that led Douglas to become the first great African-American leader in the United States.	EL Core Text 7th Grade
Inside Out and Back Again	Lai, Thanhha	Inspired by the author's childhood experience as a refugee—fleeing Vietnam after the Fall of Saigon and immigrating to Alabama—this coming-of-age debut novel told in verse has been celebrated for its touching child's-eye view of family and immigration. Hà has only ever known Saigon: the thrills of its markets, the joy of its traditions, and the warmth of her friends close by. But now the Vietnam War has reached her home. Hà and her family are forced to flee as Saigon falls, and they board a ship headed toward hope—toward America.	EL core text 8th grade
Omnivore's Dilemma: Young Reader's Edition	Pollen, Michael	“What’s for dinner?” seemed like a simple question—until journalist and supermarket detective Michael Pollan delved behind the scenes. From fast food and big organic to small farms and old-fashioned hunting and gathering, this young readers’ adaptation of Pollan’s famous food-chain exploration encourages kids to consider the personal and global health implications of their food choices	EL Core text 8th grade
To Kill a Mockingbird	Lee, Harper	To Kill a Mockingbird has earned many distinctions since its original publication in 1960. It has won the Pulitzer Prize, been translated into more than 40 languages, sold more than 30 million copies worldwide, and been made into an enormously popular movie. Recently, librarians across the country gave the book the highest of honors by voting it the best novel of the century (Library Journal). Through the young eyes of Scout and Jem Finch, Harper Lee explores the irrationality of adult attitudes toward race and class in the Deep South of the 1930s. The conscience of a town steeped in prejudice, violence, and hypocrisy is pricked by the stamina and quiet heroism of one mans struggle for justice, but the weight of history will only tolerate so much. Use of the N-word.	EL Core text 8th grade

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Unbroken	Hillenbrand, Laura	In boyhood, Louis Zamperini was an incorrigible delinquent. As a teenager, he channeled his defiance into running, discovering a prodigious talent that had carried him to the Berlin Olympics. But when World War II began, the athlete became an airman, embarking on a journey that led to a doomed flight on a May afternoon in 1943. When his Army Air Forces bomber crashed into the Pacific Ocean, against all odds, Zamperini survived, adrift on a foundering life raft. Ahead of Zamperini lay thousands of miles of open ocean, leaping sharks, thirst and starvation, enemy aircraft, and, beyond, a trial even greater. Driven to the limits of endurance, Zamperini would answer desperation with ingenuity; suffering with hope, resolve, and humor; brutality with rebellion. His fate, whether triumph or tragedy, would be suspended on the fraying wire of his will. Unbroken is an unforgettable testament to the resilience of the human mind, body, and spirit.	EL Core text 8th grade
PBL Schools- Taf, Woodmont, Nautilus			
Hidden Figures- Young Adult Version	Shetterly, Margot Lee	The uplifting, amazing true story—a New York Times bestseller. This edition of Margot Lee Shetterly’s acclaimed book is perfect for young readers. It is the powerful story of four African-American female mathematicians at NASA who helped achieve some of the greatest moments in our space program. Now a major motion picture starring Taraji P. Henson, Octavia Spencer, Janelle Monae, Kirsten Dunst, and Kevin Costner. Before John Glenn orbited the earth, or Neil Armstrong walked on the moon, a group of dedicated female mathematicians known as “human computers” used pencils, slide rules, and adding machines to calculate the numbers that would launch rockets, and astronauts, into space. This book brings to life the stories of Dorothy Vaughan, Mary Jackson, Katherine Johnson, and Christine Darden, who lived through the Civil Rights era, the Space Race, the Cold War, and the movement for gender equality, and whose work forever changed the face of NASA and the country.	PBL Schools 5th Grade

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
The Hate U Give	Thomas, Angie	Sixteen-year-old Starr Carter moves between two worlds: the poor neighborhood where she lives and the fancy suburban prep school she attends. The uneasy balance between these worlds is shattered when Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Khalil was unarmed. Soon afterward, his death is a national headline. Some are calling him a thug, maybe even a drug dealer and a gangbanger. Protesters are taking to the streets in Khalil's name. Some cops and the local drug lord try to intimidate Starr and her family. What everyone wants to know is: what really went down that night? And the only person alive who can answer that is Starr. But what Starr does—or does not—say could upend her community. It could also endanger her life.	PBL Schools 8th Grade
Supplemental or Choice All Schools			
Aani and the Tree Huggers	Atkins, Jeannine	Based on an actual event, this book illustrates the power of ordinary people to make changes in their world. Loggers arrive in Aani's village to cut down a nearby forest that the community relies on for fuel and the fauna rely on for shelter. In a bold act of passive resistance, Aani and her friends cause the developers to rethink their plans.	Supplemental or Choice
Abel's Island	Steig, William	One summer day, newlywed mice Abel and Amanda are out for a picnic in the woods when they are caught in a sudden storm—a “full-fledged, screaming hurricane” to be precise. As they take refuge in a cave, a wind scoops up Amanda's scarf, and Abel foolishly lunges from safety to retrieve it. So begins the ensuing adventures of this rather foppish mouse as he comes head to head with nature. A Newbery Honor Book.	Supplemental or Choice
Abracadabra Kid	Fleishman	This is the autobiography of the Newberry Award-winning children's author who set out from childhood to be a magician.	Supplemental or Choice
Absolutely True Story...How I Visited Yellowstone Park with the Terrible Rupes	Roberts	What they thought would be a dream vacation turns into a nightmare for twelve-year-old Lewis and his twin sister Alison when they accompany their irresponsible new neighbors on a trip to Yellowstone Park and are chased by two mysterious men.	Supplemental or Choice
Acquaintance with Darkness, An	Rinaldi, Ann	Like many of Ann Rinaldi's wonderful historical novels, this book takes a defining moment in American history and makes it accessible to students. This story uses the assassination of Abraham Lincoln as a way to help students solve a mystery and explore the tumultuous political times of post-Civil War life.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Across Five Aprils	Hunt, Irene	A critic maintains: "Brilliant characterization, a telling sense of story, an uncanny ability to balance fact and fiction, and compassionate, graceful writing mark Hunt's small but distinguished body of work." With Across Five Aprils, Hunt established herself as one of the greatest historical novelists, proving that she can write for both adult and children audiences. With her faith in "courage, love, and mercy," Hunt wrote her books to emphasize this faith.	Supplemental or Choice
Adam of the Road	Vining, Elizabeth Gray	The adventures of eleven-year-old Adam as he travels the open roads of thirteenth-century England searching for his missing father, a minstrel, and his stolen red spaniel, Nick. Along the way he encounters rich merchants, priests, farmers, and thieves.	Supplemental or Choice
Adventures of Tom Sawyer	Twain	In The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, Twain recalls his own boyhood experiences and those of his schoolmates—a humorous perspective of carefree days.	Supplemental or Choice
African Mask, The	Rupert, Janet E	Rupert has modeled an imaginative tale set in the city-state of Ife 900 years ago. Layo, a 12-year-old Yoruba girl, comes from a village of potters. Exceptionally talented, she longs to be able to work the clay as her elders do and to be feed from the menial, apprentice-like tasks that young women must perform. She is concerned not only with how to use her growing abilities in spite of the restraints place on her by her age, but also faces the prospect of betrothal. When she travels to Ife to live and work with her grandmother, a potter of legendary ability, she faces challenges that test her as a person. The author is careful to stay true to her protagonist's rich culture, depicting its treatment of women, family structure, deep respect for crafts and craftspeople, business acumen, religious beliefs, and complex system of slavery. Readers will not only find this novel enjoyable, but will also come away from it with a greater knowledge of the Yoruba.	Supplemental or Choice
All Quiet on the Western Front	Remarque, Erich Mari	Paul Baumer enlisted with his classmates in the German army of World War I. Youthful, enthusiastic, they become soldiers. But despite what they have learned, they break into pieces under the first bombardment in the trenches. And as horrible war plods on year after year, Paul holds fast to a single vow: to fight against the principles of hate that meaninglessly pits young men of the same generation but different uniforms against each other--if only he can come out of the war alive. Depictions of war.	Supplemental or Choice
Almost Starring Skinnybones	Park	Irrepressible twelve-year-old Alex is convinced that he will be a star and impress his schoolmates when, as the winner of a cat food essay contest, he is asked to make a commercial for national television.	Supplemental or Choice
Among the Hidden	Haddix	In a future where the Population Police enforce the law limiting a family to only two children, Luke has lived all his twelve years in isolation and fear on his family's farm, until another "third" convinces him that the government is wrong.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Amos Fortune	Yates, Elizabeth	Amos, born the son of a king of Africa, was fifteen years old when he was captured by slave traders and brought to Massachusetts. Although his freedom was taken he never lost his dignity, courage, dream of being free, and some day buying his freedom.	Supplemental or Choice
Anklet for a Princess: A Cinderella Story from India	Brucker, Meredith Babeaux	Believed to have been preserved in India's oral tradition for 1,000 years, this Cinderella story is complete with a hungry, ragged girl, a kindly Godfather who bestows sparkling gifts and a handsome prince.	Supplemental or Choice
Anne of Green Gables	Montgomery	Anne, an eleven-year-old orphan, is sent by mistake to live with a lonely, middle-aged brother and sister on a Prince Edward Island farm and proceeds to make an indelible impression on everyone around her.	Supplemental or Choice
Anthony & Cleopatra	Shakespeare	A very involved tragedy which embodies the love story of its characters and has rapid shifts in geographical locations. Cleopatra is considered one of Shakespeare's more complex female characters. It contains very descriptive language and the use of hyperbole is quite evident.	Supplemental or Choice
April Morning	Fast, Howard	This book tells the story of a teenage boy named Adam Cooper, and his involvement in the battle of Lexington. At first no one in the village of Lexington believes that the British are coming to fight. But when they kill Adam's father and many of his friends, he flees. After he has gained control of himself, he goes out with his cousin and helps win one of the most famous battles during the American Revolution.	Supplemental or Choice
Around the World in 80 Days	Verne, Jules	The eccentric English gentleman Phileas Fogg accepts a challenge to circle the globe in no more than 80 days—an incredible feat for the Victorian age. Exotic locales, seemingly insurmountable obstacles, and comic relief (chiefly supplied by Fogg's loyal valet, Passepartout) provide a fantastic blend of adventure, entertainment, and suspense.	Supplemental or Choice
Atalanta and the Arcadian Beast	Yolen, Jane	The story of Atalanta, a young orphan raised by bears in the woods of Arcadia. Her quiet life in the woods is interrupted when a beast begins to terrorize the countryside. Atlanta proves herself as a warrior and valued member of society while learning a lot about life and her own destiny.	Supplemental or Choice
Autobiography of Martin Luther King Jr., The	King	He was a husband, a father, a preacher – the preeminent leader of a movement that continues to transform America and the world. Martin Luther King, Jr., was one of the twentieth century's most influential men and lived one of its most extraordinary lives. Now, in a special volume commissioned and authorized by his family, here is the life and times of Martin Luther King, Jr., drawn from a comprehensive collection of writings, recordings, and documentary materials, many of which have never before been made public.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Banner in the Sky	Ullman, James Ramsey	The Citadel – it stands unconquered, the last great summit of the Alps. Only one man has ever dared to approach the top, and that man died in his pursuit. He was Josef Matt, Rudi Matt’s father. At sixteen, Rudi is determined to pay tribute to the man he never knew, and complete the quest that claimed his father’s life. And so, taking his father’s red shirt as a flag, he heads off to face the earth’s most challenging peak.	Supplemental or Choice
Beauty: A Retelling of the Story of Beauty and the Beast	McKinley, Robin	A retelling of the classic tale Beauty and the Beast that elicits the familiar magical charm, but is more believable and complex than the traditional story. In this version, Beauty is not as beautiful as her older sisters, who are both lovely and kind. Here, in fact, Beauty has no confidence in her appearance but takes pride in her own intelligence, her love of learning and books, and her talent in riding. She is the most competent of the three sisters, which proves essential when they are forced to retire to the country because of their father’s financial ruin.	Supplemental or Choice
Because of Winn-Dixie	DiCamillo	Ten-year-old India Opal Buloni describes her first summer in the town of Naomi, Florida, and all the good things that happen to her because of her big ugly dog Winn-Dixie.	Supplemental or Choice
Becoming Naomi Leon	Ryan, Pam Munoz	For Naomi Soledad Leon Outlaw, Gram and her little brother, Owen, life at Avocado Acres Trailer Rancho is happy and peaceful. That is, until Naomi and Owen’s mother reappears after seven years, stirring up all sorts of questions—and a whole lot of trouble. Soon Naomi finds herself on a whirlwind journey in a last-ditch effort to keep her family together. ALA Notable Children’s Book. ALA Schneider Family Book Award. Book Sense Book of the Year Honor Book. 2004 Parents’ Choice Silver Honor Award.	Supplemental or Choice
Bedouin’s Gazelle	Temple, Frances	Two cousins, Atiyah and Halima, betrothed at birth are separated by distance and Bedouin conflict. Their love for one another overcomes political manipulation and desert traditions in 1302.	Supplemental or Choice
Beowulf		This is the longest surviving Anglo-Saxon epic poem set in the sixth century of what is now Denmark and southwestern Sweden. It tells the story of a lonely and isolated hero who comes to save a kingdom from a monster Grendel. Both pagan and Christian elements are present in a section of the poem. Violence	Supplemental or Choice
Big Wave, The	Buck, Pearl S.	This is a story about Kino who lives on a farm on a mountainside in Japan and his friend Jiya who lives in the fishing village on the beach. When a big wave hits and Jiya loses his family he must learn to overcome his sorrow and appreciate life.	Supplemental or Choice
Bless the Beasts and the Children	Swarthout	They were the castaway offspring of parents who were too busy. They were rejects until Cotton pulled them together on a fantastic mission to strike one final blow in the battle to save themselves.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Blubber	Blume, Judy	When overweight Linda gives an oral report on whales, the cruel and power-wielding class leader, Wendy, starts calling her "Blubber." The name-calling escalates into more intense bullying and humiliation. The novel's narrator, Jill, is a full participant from the start. Over time, though, she comes to question everyone's behavior, including her own. Finally, she challenges Wendy's power and learns that there are consequences, as well as rewards, to taking a stand.	Supplemental or Choice
Blue Heron	Avi	While spending the month of August on the Massachusetts shore with her father, stepmother, and their new baby, almost thirteen-year-old Maggie finds beauty in and draws strength from a great blue heron, even as the family around her unravels.	Supplemental or Choice
Bone from a Dry Sea, A	Dickinson, Peter	There are really two parallel stories told in this book, and they are separated by a couple of million years. In the present, a young teenager named Vinny has convinced her mother to let her spend summer vacation with her father in Africa. Her father, Sam, is working in an archeological site in Africa without much success. Vinny turns out to be his good luck charm. Flip back to the past and we see a teenager called Li that is half-ape, half-human that thinks way beyond her time. Each chapter goes back and forth between past and present.	Supplemental or Choice
Bone Wars, The	Lasky, Kathryn	This sweeping historical adventure deals with an action-packed period of American history—the late 1800s in the Badlands of Montana. It is a period which includes legendary historical figures, a period of Indian heroes, and a period of discoveries of gold and scientific treasures. All of this is woven together with the story of two lonely teenagers from totally different cultures and social backgrounds who are caught up in the turmoil of the times and whose ideas of fairness bring them together.	Supplemental or Choice
Breadwinner, The	Ellis, Deborah	Imagine living in a country in which women and girls are not allowed to leave the house without a man. Imagine having to wear clothes that cover every part of your body, including your face, whenever you go out. This is life in Afghanistan, where the Taliban, members of an extreme religious group, run most of the country.	Supplemental or Choice
Brian's Winter	Paulsen	Instead of being rescued from a plane crash, as in the author's book Hatchet, this story portrays what would have happened to Brian had he been forced to survive a winter in the wilderness with only his survival pack and hatchet.	Supplemental or Choice
Bridge to Terabithia	Paterson, Katherine	Jess Aarons' greatest ambition is to be the fastest runner in the fifth grade. He's been practicing all summer and can't wait to see his classmates' faces when he beats them all. But on the first day of school, a new kid, a new girl, boldly crosses over to the boys' side of the playground and outruns everyone.	Supplemental or Choice



Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Bronze Bow, The	Speare, Elizabeth George	The scene is Jerusalem at the time of Christ, the characters vividly real, the story gripping. After witnessing his father's crucifixion by the Roman soldiers, hatred and revenge consume Daniel. He continually hears of the teachings of Jesus as well as the pull of caring for a disturbed sister.	Supplemental or Choice
Burger Wuss	Anderson	Hoping to lose his loser image, Anthony plans revenge on a bully, which results in a war between two competing fast-food restaurants, Burger Queen and O'Dermott's	Supplemental or Choice
Cages	Kehret	After losing an acting role and fighting with her alcoholic stepfather, Kit is arrested for shoplifting and ordered to work as part of her sentence at an animal shelter.	Supplemental or Choice
Call it Courage	Sperry	This is the inspiring story of a youth who overcomes his fear of the sea and proves his courage to himself and his tribe.	Supplemental or Choice
Call of the Wild, The	London, Jack	First published in 1903, The Call of the Wild is regarded as Jack London's masterpiece. Based on London's experiences as a gold prospector in the Canadian wilderness and his ideas about nature and the struggle for existence, The Call of the Wild is a tale about unbreakable spirit and the fight for survival in the frozen Alaskan Klondike. This story has some scenes of dogs fighting and people being cruel to the dogs.	Supplemental or Choice
Can of Worms	Mackel	Bullied and unhappy at school, thirteen-year-old Mike, who has always thought that he might be an alien, sends a distress call into space asking to be rescued from the ignorance and cruelty of his life on Earth.	Supplemental or Choice
Canterbury Tales, The	Chaucer, Geoffrey	Written in Middle English, this is a collection of stories written in the fourteenth century and told by a crowd of pilgrims on their way to visit a shrine at Canterbury Cathedral. The tales are considered one of the most influential works in Western literature. May have offensive material for some.	Supplemental or Choice
Captive, The	O'Dell, Scott	As part of a Spanish expedition to the New World, a Jesuit seminarian witnesses the enslavement and exploitation of the Mayas and his own seduction by greed and ambition.	Supplemental or Choice
Catherine Called Birdy	Cushman, Karen	Catherine, the spirited daughter of English knight, keeps a journal of her life as a young girl in Medieval England. She recounts her tale of a typical life a fourteen year old in 1290. Her stories of the mundane house life are supplemented with tales of love, would be marriage, religion, and home remedies.	Supplemental or Choice
Cay, The	Taylor, Theodore	Philip, and a boat hand, Timothy, get stranded on an island when their ship, the Hato, is sunk by a torpedo. Philip and the old man don't get along but they must find a way to work together to survive.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Chain of Fire	Naidoo, Beverly	The South African government is forcing Naledi and the other villagers to move to a new location: a "homeland" of iron huts and barren soil. And it seems that no one is willing to resist. No one, that is, except Naledi's friend Taolo, whose family has often spoken out against apartheid. Taolo gives Naledi the strength to fight, and with his help, she and her schoolmates organize an anti-removal march through the village. But the right of free expression is not a liberty granted to the young protesters, and the police instigate a reign of terror on the villagers. Naledi and Taolo's chain of fiery resistance cannot be broken, though. With each new crisis, it grows ever stronger and burns ever brighter.	Supplemental or Choice
Cheaper by the Dozen	Gilbreth, Frank B.	What do you get when you mix a blunt-talking, famous efficiency-expert father and a brilliant, compassionate psychologist mother with twelve rambunctious offspring of various sizes? You get one of America's all-time best-loved memoirs! The hilarious story of growing up Gilbreth has already delighted generations of readers -- and it remains as joyous and exuberant as ever. Laugh along with the adventures of the large, irrepressible family unit that redefined the term -- and proved the old adage, the more the merrier ... and scarier!	Supplemental or Choice
Child of the Owl	Yep, Laurence	I can't remember when Barney's story began but all my life I'd heard this story about how a little girl and her father were going to hit it big one of these days....I knew more about race horses than I knew about myself -- I mean myself as a Chinese. Race horses aren't any help when Barney lands in the hospital and Casey is sent to live with Paw-Paw -- her maternal grandmother-in San Francisco's Chinatown. She's not prepared for the Chinese school, the crowds, the noise, the small room she has to share with Paw-Paw -- and she's not prepared for missing Barney.	Supplemental or Choice
Children of the River	Crew, Linda	Sundara is a Cambodian refugee in Portland who learns how to live in two cultures. It is a very powerful book with vivid images such as the death of a baby.	Supplemental or Choice
Chinese Cinderella	Mah, Adeline Yen	After her mother dies giving birth to her, Adeline's affluent, powerful family considers her bad luck. Life does not get any easier when her father remarries. She and her siblings are subjected to their stepmother's disdain, while her half brother and half sister are thoroughly spoiled. Although Adeline wins prizes at school, they are not what she really yearns for—the love and understanding of her family. It is a story of her painful childhood and her courage and ultimate triumph over despair.	Supplemental or Choice
Chinese Cinderella: The True Story of an Unwanted Daughter	Mah, Adeline Yen	A riveting memoir of a girl's painful coming-of-age in a wealthy Chinese family during the 1940s In Chinese Cinderella, Adeline Yen Mah returns to her roots to tell the story of her painful childhood and her ultimate triumph and courage in the face of despair.	Supplemental or Choice
Christmas Carol, A	Dickens, Charles	A miser learns the true meaning of Christmas when three ghostly visitors review his past and foretell his future.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Circuit, The	Jimenez, Francisco	Stories follow a migrant family through their circuit, from picking cotton and strawberries to topping carrots—and back again—over a number of years. As it moves from one labor camp to the next the little family of four grows into ten. Impermanence and poverty define their life. But with faith, hope, and back-breaking work, the family endures.	Supplemental or Choice
City of Ember	DePrau	In the year 241, twelve-year-old Lina trades jobs on Assignment Day to be a messenger, to run to new places in her decaying but beloved city, perhaps even to glimpse Unknown Regions.	Supplemental or Choice
Clay Marble, The	Ho, Minfong	The faces of the Cambodian children haunted me long after I stopped working on the Thai Khmer border. I had done so terribly little for them, when so much more remained to be done. I felt frustrated, sad, helpless, angry. More important, I also found that I missed them--these tough, tender refugee kids. And so I wrote about them, to try and tell them how I admired them, and missed them. -- Minfong Ho In this novel, a book watches through a keyhole as a young girl undresses.	Supplemental or Choice
Come Morning	Guccione, Leslie Davis	Freedom Newcastle, 12, knows his father, Nehemiah, is a conductor on the Underground Railroad. He wants to be included in the clandestine activities, but is told over and over, "ignorance'll keep you safe." Then, when the man is arrested by patrollers, Free must accept responsibility for leading a family of runaway slaves to safety and he realizes that he has romanticized Nehemiah's involvement. As he leads this family to the next station, he realizes how courageous his father is and grows to respect the abolitionists' commitment to freedom for all people. This is a fast-moving book with excellent characterization. The story is based on fact and will be useful to students studying the Civil War era. Gr 4-7	Supplemental or Choice
Conch Bearer, The	Banerjee, Divakaruni Chitra	In India, twelve year old Anand is given a magical conch shell to protect from people who want to use the shell for evil. He goes on a journey and learns the true meaning of "magic" along the way.	Supplemental or Choice
Coraline	Gaiman	Looking for excitement, Coraline ventures through a mysterious door into a world that is similar, yet disturbingly different from her own, where she must challenge a gruesome entity in order to save herself, her parents, and the souls of three others.	Supplemental or Choice
Corn Grows Ripe, The	Rhoades, Dorothy	Twelve year old Tigre a Mayan boy has to shoulder the work or harvesting and planting when his father is injured in an accident.	Supplemental or Choice
Corn Raid: A Story of the Jamestown Settlement	Collier, James Lincoln	An unlikely friendship between two boys, an indentured servant and a Native American, reveals much about life in colonial American as well as friendships in all times.	Supplemental or Choice
Court of the Stone Children	Cameron	Aided by the journal of a young woman who lived in nineteenth-century France, Nina solves a murder mystery dormant since the time of Napoleon.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Cousins	Hamilton	Concerned that her grandmother may die, Cammy is overwhelmed by the accidental death of another relative.	Supplemental or Choice
Crispin and the Cross of Lead	Avi	Crispin, an orphan in fourteenth century Medieval England tries to escape the men who want him dead for a crime he did not commit. On his journey he befriends Bear, a minstrel who teaches him the trade, and find out the real reason the men want him dead; his noble blood.	Supplemental or Choice
Crossing, The	Paulsen, Gary	Manny Bustos is an orphan, scrabbling for survival on the streets of Juárez, Mexico. He sleeps in a cardboard box and fights with boys bigger and older than him for the coins American tourists through off the bridge between El Paso, Texas, and his town. Across the border, Sergeant Robert S. Locke, Vietnam vet and Army prefect, searches for a way to forget the painful memories. On the night Manny dares the crossing, through the muddy shallows of the Rio Grande, past searchlights and border patrol, in the hopes of a better life, the two meet in an explosive encounter that fills the night with tension and endless possibilities.	Supplemental or Choice
Danger Zone	Klass	When Jimmy Doyle joins a predominantly black “Teen Dream Team” that will be representing the United States in an international basketball tournament in Rome, he makes some unexpected discoveries about prejudice, racism, and politics.	Supplemental or Choice
Dark is Rising	Cooper	On his eleventh birthday, Will Stanton discovers that he is the last of the Old Ones, destined to seek the six magical Signs that will enable the Old Ones to triumph over the evil forces of the Dark.	Supplemental or Choice
Dark Stairs	Byars	Young detective Herculeah Jones solves a mysterious situation.	Supplemental or Choice
Day No Pigs Would Die, A	Peck, Robert Newton	Robert Peck recalls a year in his life on a Vermont farm in the early 1900s. After leaving school in the middle of the day Robert helps a cow give birth. For his help he is given a sow pig by the neighbor. Growing up and becoming a man while being the only boy in his family, Robert's father says it is his last winter and Robert must learn the ways of the farm. Some graphic depictions of farm life- mating of the animals and slaughter.	Supplemental or Choice
Deep-Sea Explorer: The Story of Robert Ballard Discoverer of the Titanic	Archbold, Rick	This is a readable, exciting portrait of the scientist/explorer who discovered the Titanic, the Bismarck, and shipwrecks from the Battle of Guadalcanal. The book chronicles Ballard's childhood in San Diego, describing both his early fascination with the sea and his strong family relationships. Ballard's academic and research failures, as well as his successes are described, and his refusal to give up in the face of personal trauma. Ballard's initial scientific work—seeking evidence of plate tectonic activity on the ocean floor—was not enough for the intensely driven and creative man. His desire for new frontiers led him into deep-sea exploration and the discoveries of famous shipwrecks. Illustrated with underwater photographs.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Define Normal	Peters	When Antonia agrees to meet with Jasmine as a peer counselor, she never dreams that this girl with the black lipstick and pierced eyebrow will become a good friend and will help her deal with the serious problems she faces at home.	Supplemental or Choice
Diary of Anne Frank	Frank, Anne	How would you feel if you were cooped up for years inside with you only true companion-your diary? Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl is the true story of a young Jewish girl hiding away for years from the Nazis. Her experience was filled with, fright, annoyance, hardships, romance and the feeling inside that she might never be free again.	Supplemental or Choice
Dogsong	Paulsen, Gary	Something is bothering Russel Susskit. He hates waking up to the sound of his father's coughing, the smell of diesel oil, the noise of snow machines starting up. Only Oogruk, the shaman who owns the last team of dogs in the village, understands Russel's longing for the old ways and the songs that celebrated them. But Oogruk cannot give Russel the answers he seeks; the old man can only prepare him for what he must do alone. Driven by a strange, powerful dream of a long-ago self and by a burning desire to find his own song, Russel takes Oogruk's dogs on an epic journey of self-discovery that will change his life forever. A Newbery Honor Book; An ALA Best Book for Young Adult; An ALA Notable Book; A School Library Journal Best Book	Supplemental or Choice
Downriver	Hobbs, Wil	No adults, no permit, no river map. Just some "borrowed" gear from Discovery Unlimited, the outdoor education program Jessie and her new companions have just ditched. Jessie and the others are having the time of their lives floating beneath sheer red walls, exploring unknown caves and dangerous waterfalls, and plunging through the Grand Canyon's roaring rapids. No one, including Troy, who emerges as the group's magnetic and ultimately frightening leader, can foresee the challenges and conflicts. What will be the consequences of their reckless adventure?	Supplemental or Choice
Dracula	Stoker, Bram	This is an epistolary novel, one told as a series of diary entries and letters, which covers a multitude of themes during Victorian times. The novel combines much of the ancient lore of vampires and give it a perceptible feeling in the Count.	Supplemental or Choice
Dragon Bait	Vande Velde	A fantasy about a young girl who is unjustly condemned as a witch.	Supplemental or Choice
Dragon's Gate	Yep, Laurence	In 1867 Otter travels from his village in China to San Francisco—the land of the Golden Mountain. His dream is to learn all he can, take the technology back to China and free it from the Manchu invaders. Otter boards a machine that will change his life—a machine that would make his homeland strong. A train for which he would open the Dragon's Gate.	Supplemental or Choice
East of the Sun, West of the Moon	Asbjornsen	A girl travels east of the sun and west of the moon to free her beloved prince from a magic spell.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Edge of Two Worlds	Jones	Calvin Harper, the only survivor of a Comanche massacre, while on his way east to law school, meets Sequoyah, a Cherokee Indian in search of the origins of his people. Although Calvin fears and mistrusts the old Indian, he joins him in his curious quest.	Supplemental or Choice
Egypt Game, The	Snyder, Silpha Keatley	Six neighborhood children meet after school and on weekends to re-enact a game about ancient Egypt. They gather in a deserted storage yard behind an antique shop. Strange things happen which create intrigue, suspense and humor.	Supplemental or Choice
El Chino	Say	A biography of Bill Wong, a Chinese American who became a famous bullfighter in Spain.	Supplemental or Choice
Endless Steppe, The, Growing Up In Siberia	Hautzig, Esther	The author spent her years between ten and fourteen as a Polish deportee in a remote, impoverished Siberian village. Taken prisoner by the Russians in 1941 and shipped by cattle car to a forced-labor camp, Esther, her mother, and her grandmother managed to stay together and to keep each other alive through near starvation and arctic winters.	Supplemental or Choice
Endurance	Lansing, Alfred	In the summer of 1914, Sir Ernest Shackleton set off aboard the Endurance bound for the South Atlantic. The goal of his expedition was to cross the Antarctic overland, but more than a year later, and still half a continent away from the intended base, the Endurance was trapped in ice and eventually was crushed. For five months Shackleton and his crew survived on drifting ice packs in one of the most savage regions of the world before they were finally able to set sail again in one of the ship's lifeboats.	Supplemental or Choice
Escape From Home	Avi	Maura O'Connell and her brother Patrick escape Ireland's brutal poverty with only the belongings in their bundles and tickets for ocean passage.	Supplemental or Choice
Esperanza Rising	Ryan, Pam Munoz	Esperanza believed her life would be wonderful forever. She would always live on her family's ranch in Mexico. She would always have fancy dresses and a beautiful home filled with servants. Papa and Abuelita would always be with her. But a sudden tragedy shatters her world and forces Esperanza and Mama to flee to California, where they settle in a camp for Mexican farm workers. Esperanza isn't ready for the hard labor, financial struggles brought on by the Great Depression, and lack of acceptance she now faces. When Mama gets sick, and a strike for better working conditions threatens to uproot their new life, Esperanza must find a way to rise above her difficult circumstances—because Mama's life and her own depend on it.	Supplemental or Choice
Ethan Frome	Wharton, Edith	In nineteenth-century Starkfield, Massachusetts, a poor young farmer falls in love with the vivacious Mattie, cousin of his sickly, demanding wife, and starts a devastating chain of events. Adultery.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Eye of the Beholder	Hayes	Tyler and Lymie create their own sculptures as a joke and discard them near an artist's studio that the whole town is planning a festival for.	Supplemental or Choice
Fair Weather	Peck	In 1893, thirteen-year-old Rosie and members of her family travel from their Illinois farm to Chicago to visit Aunt Euterpe, and attend the World Columbian Exposition.	Supplemental or Choice
Family Apart	Nixon	When their mother can no longer support them, six siblings are sent by the Children's Aid Society of New York City to live with farm families in Missouri in 1860.	Supplemental or Choice
Farm Team	Weaver	With his father in jail and his mother working full-time, fourteen-year-old Billy Baggs finds himself in charge of running the family farm in northern Minnesota and having to give up the thing he loves most—baseball.	Supplemental or Choice
Fifth of March, The	Rinaldi, Ann	The story of Rachel Marsh, an indentured servant during the American Revolution, and her search for her place in this emerging nation lives in the house of John Adams and meets Revolutionary figures and witnesses the Boston Massacre.	Supplemental or Choice
Fight for Life	Anderson	With the help of her veterinarian grandmother and the other volunteers at the Wild at Heart Animal Clinic, eleven-year-old Maggie rescues sick puppies from an illegal puppy mill.	Supplemental or Choice
Fighting Ground, The	Avi	Thirteen-year-old Jonathan desperately wants to fight in the Revolutionary War and his father keeps discouraging him. Finally he sneaks away and joins a troop fighting against the Hessians. Quickly, he is put to the test and comes to some conclusions about war and his role in it.	Supplemental or Choice
Finding Buck McHenry	Slote	Eleven-year-old Jason, believing the school custodian Mack Henry to be Buck McHenry, a famous pitcher from the old Negro League, tries to enlist him as a coach for his Little League team by revealing his identity to the world.	Supplemental or Choice
First Horse I See	Keehn	Left in the care of her beloved Granddad following the death of her mother, Willojean tries to prove to her alcoholic father that she is able to train a special horse which had been abused.	Supplemental or Choice
Flash Fire	Cooney	It was California. People were used to mudslides, earthquakes, sinkholes, and even brushfires. But this fire had a life of its own, and it had no intention of being put out.	Supplemental or Choice
Flight of the Dragon Kyn	Fletcher	Could Kara call down dragons as she did birds? The fate of two kingdoms depends on her ability and what she decides to do with it.	Supplemental or Choice
Floating World, The	Kadohata, Cynthia	Olivia, the young narrator of this novel, and her Japanese-American family are constantly on the road. This book is about families, coming of age, guilt, memory, and about being Japanese-American in the United States in the mid-1950s.	Supplemental or Choice
For the Life of Laetitia	Hodge, Merle	The first in her family to attend secondary school, Laetitia Johnson must leave behind her beloved Caribbean village and move to town to live with a father she barely knows. This turns out to be just one of many difficult changes that Laetitia endures for the sake of her new life.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Frankenstein	Shelley, Mary Wollstonecraft	Written in 1816 when she was only 19, in a horror-writing contest suggested by Byron, Mary Shelley's novel of "the modern Prometheus" chillingly dramatized the dangerous potential of life created in the laboratory. A frightening creation myth for our own time, FRANKENSTEIN remains one of the greatest horror stories ever written, and an undisputed classic.	Supplemental or Choice
Freedom Train	Sterling, Dorothy	Born into slavery, young Harriet Tubman knew only hard work and hunger. Escape seemed impossible--certainly dangerous. Yet Harriet did escape North, by the secret route called the Underground Railroad. Harriet didn't forget her people. Again and again she risked her life to lead them on the same secret, dangerous journey.	Supplemental or Choice
Friends, The	Yumoto, Kazumi	Kiyama and his friend Kawabe and Yamashita become curious about death when Yamashita's grandmother dies. They wonder what a dead body looks like and whether the dead person becomes a ghost. They hope to see death firsthand by spying on an old man who looks as if he will die soon. But while they watch the old man, he watches them. Soon this mutual fascination turns into a friendship that will change their lives forever.	Supplemental or Choice
Frindle	Clements	When Nick Allen decides to turn his fifth-grade teacher's love of the dictionary around on her, he cleverly invents a new word and begins a chain of events that quickly moves beyond his control.	Supplemental or Choice
From the Mixed up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Franweiler	Konigsburg	Claudia and her brother Jamie run away from home and take up residence in the Metropolitan Museum of Art.	Supplemental or Choice
Gathering Blue	Lowry, Lois	Similar to The Giver with a future society. Kira, newly orphaned and lame from birth, is taken from the turmoil of the village to live in the grand Council Edifice because of her skill at embroidery. There she is given the task of restoring the historical pictures sewn on the robe worn at the annual Ruin Song Gathering, a solemn day-long performance of the story of their world's past. Down the hall lives Thomas the Carver, a young boy who works on the intricate symbols carved on the Singer's staff, and a tiny girl who is being trained as the next Singer. Over the three artists hovers the menace of authority, seemingly kind but suffocating to their creativity, and the dark secret at the heart of the Ruin Song. With the help of a cheerful waif called Matt and his little dog, Kira at last finds the way to the plant that will allow her to create the missing color--blue--and, symbolically, to find the courage to shape the future by following her art wherever it may lead.	Supplemental or Choice
Gift of the Magi and other stories	Henry, O.	This is a nice variety of stories. O. Henry is an excellent short story writing – it's amazing how we can fully engulf ourselves within these stories which are no more than ten pages long.	Supplemental or Choice



Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Girl in Blue	Rinaldi, Ann	Once more a young lady finds herself in the middle of an American conflict in this novel of the Civil War by prolific novelist Ann Rinaldi. This time with little to lose but her life, a young woman decides to disguise herself as a Union Soldier and strike out into the world to help the cause of her family and country. We learn about life during the war and women's place in the mid-19th century world.	Supplemental or Choice
Girl Named Disaster	Farmer, Nancy	For Nhamo, an 11-year-old Shona girl living in Mozambique in 1981, life is filled with the traditions of her village people. When family circumstances, angozi (angry spirit), and a cholera epidemic force her into a horrible marriage, she flees with only her grandmother's blessings, some gold nuggets, and many survival skills. Still, what should have been a two-day boat trip across the border to her father's family in Zimbabwe spans a year. As we follow her journey, we learn about her culture.	Supplemental or Choice
Girl Son, The	Neuberger, Anne E.	Induk Pahk's mother disguises her as a boy so that she can send her to school, a privilege denied to girls in early 20th century Korea. This inspirational story about the value of education is based on the childhood experiences of a woman who went on to become a teacher.	Supplemental or Choice
Giver, The	Lowry, Lois	Jonas lives in a perfect world. There is no war, no poverty, and no choices. When Jonas turns twelve he is singled out to receive special training to hold the memories: memories of war, of pain, of color, of choices.	Supplemental or Choice
Golden Goblet, The	McGraw, Eloise Jarvis	Ranofer, a young Egyptian who longs to be a goldsmith, discovers that his evil half brother is a thief and sets out on an adventure to prove his brother's guilt.	Supplemental or Choice
Great Expectations	Dickens, Charles	The protagonist Pip is led into making grave mistakes based on several false expectations. Through suffering and disappointment, he eventually realizes his true self-worth and lives a fulfilling life.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Great Fire	Murphy	Thirty-one hours of terror, over 100,000 people were forced to flee the flames. You will meet some of the people who were there and learn more about the Great Fire of Chicago on October 8, 1871.	Supplemental or Choice
Group of One, A	Gilmore, Rachna	Just trying to fit in as a “regular Canadian,” Tara is the daughter of Indian immigrants. When her grandmother tells her the story of the family’s role in the Quit India movement of 1942, Tara claims her ancestral history and reassesses personal assumptions.	Supplemental or Choice
Hamlet	Shakespeare	This is a tragedy involving the unyielding hunt by a prince for his father’s murderer. Many powerful confrontations occur within this tragedy and during, prior to, and after these exchanges, one explores the depths of human emotion. May have offensive material.	Supplemental or Choice
Harris and Me	Paulsen	Sent to live with relatives on their farm because of his unhappy home life, an eleven-year-old city boy meets his distant cousin Harris and is given an introduction to a whole new world.	Supplemental or Choice
Hatchet	Paulsen	After a plane crash, thirteen-year-old Brian spends 54 days in the wilderness, learning to survive initially with only the aid of a hatchet given to him by his mother, and learning also to survive his parents’ divorce.	Supplemental or Choice
Hawk’s Hill	Eckert, Allan W.	Ben is a six year old when in 1870 he wanders away from home in Hawk’s Hill and disappears without a trace. This is a story of how he survives by bonding with a female badger.	Supplemental or Choice
Heartlight	Barron	An astronomer and a woman are hurled into a dazzling cross-galactic adventure.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Her Daughter's Eyes	Inclan, Jessica	Kate Phillips is a 17 years old who is unmarried and pregnant. Kate and her younger sister Tyler's mother died two years before, and their father is now choosing to spend his time with his new girlfriend. The girls secretly deliver the baby at home by themselves. When their secret is finally discovered, their lives are twisted into an emotional roller coaster. Their father has to fight to regain custody of his two daughters, and Baby Deirdre. There are conflicts in the novel dealing with teenage pregnancy, loss of a mother, and the battle to hold on to something loved.	Supplemental or Choice
Hero and the Clown	McKinley	A return to the kingdom of Damar where the girl-warrior, Arien, wields the power of the Blue Sword.	Supplemental or Choice
Hoot	Hiaasen, Carl	Roy Eberhardt is the new kid--again. This time around it's Trace Middle School in humid Coconut Grove, Florida. But it's still the same old routine: table by himself at lunch, no real friends, and thick-headed bullies like Dana Matherson pushing him around. But if it wasn't for Dana Matherson mashing his face against the school bus window that one day, he might never have seen the tow-headed running boy. And if he had never seen the running boy, he might never have met tall, tough, bully-beating Beatrice. And if he had never met Beatrice, he might never have discovered the burrowing owls living in the lot on the corner of East Oriole Avenue. And if he had never discovered the owls, he probably would have missed out on the adventure of a lifetime. Apparently, bullies do serve a greater purpose in the scope of the universe. Because if it wasn't for Dana Matherson...	Supplemental or Choice
House of Dies Drear	Hamilton, Virginia	A huge old house with secret tunnels, a cantankerous caretaker, and buried treasure – a dream-come true for 13-year-old Thomas. The fact that it's reputedly haunted only adds to its appeal. As soon as the family moves in, Thomas senses something strange about the Civil War era house, which used to be a critical stop on the Underground Railroad. With the help of his father, he learns about the abolitionists and escaping slaves who kept the Underground Railroad running. While on his own, he explores the hidden passageways in and under the house, piecing clues together in an increasingly dangerous quest for the truth about the past.	Supplemental or Choice
Human Comedy	Saroyan	This captivating novel tells the story of a gentle California community during World War II.	Supplemental or Choice
I Heard the Owl Call My Name	Craven, Margaret	A quiet, graceful testimonial to a vanishing way of life, this book was Margaret Craven's first book, written when she was sixty-nine. It tells of a young vicar named Mark, sent to a remote Kwakiutl village not knowing he has less than three years to live. In the village, Mark comes to understand the Kwakiutl Indians around him and sees how their traditions are being destroyed through the influence of white men. Mild violence, alcohol abuse, criticism of western culture and American policy.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
I Heart the Owl Call My Name	Craven, Margaret	This heartwarming novel is about a young priest who participates in the life of an Indian village, where he learns the meaning of life and death.	Supplemental or Choice
I Rode a Horse of Milk White Jade	D. Wilson	Oyuna tells her granddaughter the story of how love for her horse enabled her to win a race and bring good luck to her family living in Mongolia in the time of Kublai Khan.	Supplemental or Choice
In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson	Lord	In 1947, a Chinese child comes to Brooklyn, where she starts to feel at home and makes friends when she discovers baseball and the Brooklyn Dodgers.	Supplemental or Choice
Inside the Walls of Troy	McLaren, Clemence	Unfortunately for Helen, she's the most beautiful woman in the world. Not that she cares about her beauty; she'd rather be riding horses. But lots of other people do care, especially men. King Theseus steals her away from her family. She's a treasure that's better than gold, than horses, than goods--her father will pay anything to get her back. She marries and survives the marriage bed. Then Helen falls in love, and it's not with her husband. She falls in love with a prince named Paris from the city Troy. Paris is Helen's true love and they run away from Helen's husband's home in Sparta, where Paris is a guest, to Paris's family's home in Troy. Then the history begins...	Supplemental or Choice
Iron Heel	London, Jack	The Iron Heel is a major work of dystopian fiction, the product of London's Socialism, about a fascist-capitalist tyranny in the United States in the 20th century and its struggle with the enslaved proletariat. As such it is an important ancestor to Zamyatin's We and Orwell's 1984.	Supplemental or Choice
Ishi: Last of His Tribe	Kroeber, Theodora	Non-fiction. "Ishi is a bit of an ancient and primitive world come alive in our own time, a window through which we can experience the spiritual symmetries of the Indian way, and learn the strengths of an earlier era." ---Stewart Udall, former U. S. Secretary of the Interior.	Supplemental or Choice
Island of the Blue Dolphins	O'Dell, Scott	Inspired by the real-life story of a 12-year-old American Indian girl, Karana, this book tells the story of a remarkable young woman who, during the evacuation of Ghalas-at (an island off the coast of California), jumped ship to stay with her young brother who had been abandoned on the island. A Newbery Medal winner; and in 1976 the Children's Literature Association named one of the 10 best American children's books of the past 200 years. Violence.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Jack London, A Biography	Dyer, Daniel	While researching Jack London, biographer Daniel Dryer uncovered an amazing truth that London's real life was just as rich and exciting as the stories and characters he created. Equally adept in writing as he was at thrill-seeking, London left school at age eleven to begin his lifelong courtship of adventure. He worked as a seal hunter, an oyster pirate, and a factory worker. And by the time of the Klondike gold rush, he was well on his way to becoming one of the world's most popular writers. This comprehensive biography takes the reader into the mind and life of this memorable author.	Supplemental or Choice
Jacob Have I Loved	Patterson, Katherine	Jacob have I loved... Esau have I hated . . . Sara Louise Bradshaw is sick and tired of her beautiful twin Caroline. Ever since they were born, Caroline has been the pretty one, the talented one, the better sister. Even now, Caroline seems to take everything: Louise's friends, their parents' love, her dreams for the future. For once in her life, Louise wants to be the special one. But in order to do that, she must first figure out who she is . . . and find a way to make a place for herself outside her sister's shadow.	Supplemental or Choice
James Printer: A novel of Rebellion	Jacobs, Paul Samuel	This novel tells the fictionalized story of James Printer, a printer's apprentice who lived in Massachusetts during the late 1600's. James was sent to live with Stephen Green who was a master printer. James was an excellent student and as a young man, his skills were almost equal that of the teacher. In 1675 James finds himself in a very precarious situation. The Indian chief known as King Philip has declared war on the English. King Philip has demanded that James return to the Indians to fight against the English. How can James take up arms against the people who raised him and against the society that he feels he belongs in? How could the once-friendly English neighbors now look at him as if he had suddenly become less than human? Join James as he tried to live peacefully in both worlds.	Supplemental or Choice
Jar of Dreams, A	Uchida, Yoshiko	The story of Rinco Tsujimura, an 11-year-old second generation Japanese-American growing up in California in the 1930's. Rinco resents being Japanese because her and her family are ridiculed. When Aunt Waka comes to visit from Japan, she teaches them to be proud of their unique heritage.	Supplemental or Choice
Jim Ugly	Fleishman	This story tells the adventures of twelve-year-old Jake Bannock and Jim Ugly, his father's part-mongrel, part-wolf dog, as they travel through the Old West trying to find out what really happened to Jake's actor father.	Supplemental or Choice
John Muir, Saving the Wilderness	Naden	A biography of John Muir, early proponent of wilderness preservation and founder of the Sierra Club.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Johnny Tremain	Forbes, Ester and Ward, Lynd	This story of a tragically injured young silversmith who ends up hip-deep in the American Revolution is inspiring, exciting, and sad. This novel takes you through his life by including adventure, loss, courage, and history in a wonderfully written, very dramatic package. Not appropriate for elementary students but mature 11-year-olds or older will find it a great adventure.	Supplemental or Choice
Journey Home	Uchida	After a Japanese American family is released from detention camp, they return to their town in California to build a new life.	Supplemental or Choice
Journey to Jo'Bury, A South African Story	Naidoo, Beverly	When their baby sister becomes dangerously ill, thirteen-year-old Nalidi and her younger brother make a journey of over 300 kilometers from their village to Johannesburg, where their mother works as a maid for a white family.	Supplemental or Choice
Jubilee Journey	Meyers, Carol	In this compelling continuation of the Jefferson family story (begun in White Lilacs), Emily Rose traces her family's history through three generations and countless troubles. She learns how racism and intolerance have affected her family in the past and watches with horror as her older brother faces them in the present. Through the wisdom and love of her great-grandmother, Emily Rose at last learns how to celebrate her black heritage.	Supplemental or Choice
Julia of the Wolves	George, Jean Craighead	To her small Eskimo village, she is known as Miyax; to her friend in San Francisco, she is Julie. When the village is no longer safe for her, Miyax runs away. But she soon finds herself lost in the Alaskan wilderness, without food, without even a compass to guide her. Slowly she is accepted by a pack of Arctic wolves, she grows to love them as though they were family.	Supplemental or Choice
Kidnap at the Catfish Café	Giff	Assisted by her cat Max, sixth grader Minnie starts up her new detective agency by trying to find a thief who will steal anything even a hot stove.	Supplemental or Choice
Killer Angels, The	Shaara, Michael	This novel reveals more about the Battle of Gettysburg than any piece of learned nonfiction on the same subject. Michael Shaara's account of the three most important days of the Civil War features deft characterizations of all of the main actors, including Lee, Longstreet, Pickett, Buford, and Hancock. The most inspiring figure in the book, however, is Col. Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain, whose 20th Maine regiment of volunteers held the Union's left flank on the second day of the battle. This unit's bravery at Little Round Top helped turned the tide of the war against the rebels. There are also plenty of maps, which convey a complete sense of what happened July 1-3, 1863. Violence	Supplemental or Choice
Knots in my Yo-Yo String	Spinelli	The author presents a humorous account of his childhood and youth in Norristown, Pennsylvania.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Land I Lost	Nhuong, Huynh Quang	The author recalls his youth and his people's way of life. One of the stories tells about an opium smoker. It is a book with both exotic and historical in context. Evidenced in this novel, courage and wit triumph, family bonds and customs are highly valued.	Supplemental or Choice
Les Miserables	Hugo	The story of Jean Valjean, jailed for 19 years for stealing bread and pursued by the police agent, Javert.	Supplemental or Choice
Letters from a Slave Girl	Lyons	A fictionalized version of the life of Harriet Jacobs is told in the form of letters that she might have written during her slavery in North Carolina and as she prepared for escape to the North in 1842	Supplemental or Choice
Light in the Forest	Richter, Conrad	True Son grew up as a Lenni Lenape Indian. But, fifteen-year-old True Son, was once called John Camera Butler, his real family was white so when the Indians signed a peace treaty they had to send him back to his real family. It was impossible for True Son to believe that his people were white and not Indian. He had learned to hate the white man. And now he learned to hate his new father, his new house, his new family. He hated the name John Butler.	Supplemental or Choice
Lightening Thief, The	Riordan, Rick	When Percy Jackson goes on a school field trip his life changes. His math teacher turns into a monster and tries to kill him but luckily his friend Grover saves him. Grover brings Percy to Camp Half Blood. The camp is for kids who are half human and half god. At camp Percy discovers that he has been framed for stealing the god Zeus' weapon of choice, his master lightening bolt. Percy must go on a quest with Grover and his new friend Annabeth to convince Zeus of his innocence and find and stop the Lightening Thief. It is the first book in the Percy Jackson & The Olympians series, which charts the adventures of modern day twelve-year-old Percy Jackson as he discovers he is a demigod, the son of a mortal woman and the Greek god Poseidon. Percy and his friends go on a quest to prevent an apocalyptic war between the Greek gods Zeus, Poseidon and Hades.	Supplemental or Choice
Lily's Crossing	Reilly, Patricia	Elizabeth Mollahan--the Lily of Lily's Crossing--lost her mom when she was little. Her father and a grandmother are her only family. Every summer the three of them flee sweaty New York City for a beach house in New York's Rockaways. This year though, Lily's father announces that he's enlisted in the Army; days later, he is gone. Alone with her grandmother, Lily sees a long lonely summer ahead. And then, Albert appears. A refugee from the Nazis, his family thrown to the winds, young Albert bears a grief and sadness of his own.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, The	Lewis, C.S.	This is the first book in a series of stories about a fictional land called Narnia. It begins in the country, in a strange old house. Four siblings, Peter, Susan, Edmund, and Lucy, have been sent to live with an unusual professor. While exploring his house, the four find an old wardrobe. Inside the wardrobe they discover the beginning of their magical adventure.	Supplemental or Choice
Locomotion	Woodson, Jacqueline	Prompted by his teacher, eleven year old Lonnie begins to write about his life in a series of poems in which he discusses his feelings about his friends, his foster mom, his little sister, and the death of his parents.	Supplemental or Choice
Long Claws: An arctic Adventure	Houston, James	Followed by a huge grizzly bear, an Eskimo brother and sister make a perilous trek across the storm-swept tundra to bring back a frozen caribou to their hungry family.	Supplemental or Choice
Long Way from Chicago, A	Peck, Richard	Joey and Mary Alice visit their grandma who lives in the countryside of Illinois. It seems that they stay with a different person every summer with Grandma's ever changing moods. Very mild violence (Grandma pulls a shotgun on some tricksters) and Grandma steals fish from in front of someone else's dock.	Supplemental or Choice
Lord of the Flies	Golding, William	William Golding's classic tale about a group of English schoolboys who are plane-wrecked on a deserted island is just as chilling and relevant today as when it was first published in 1954. The situation deteriorates as the trappings of civilization continue to fall away, until Ralph discovers that instead of being hunters, he and Piggy have become the hunted: "He forgot his words, his hunger and thirst, and became fear; hopeless fear on flying feet." Golding's gripping novel explores the boundary between human reason and animal instinct, all on the brutal playing field of adolescent competition. This book may contain violence.	Supplemental or Choice
Macbeth	Shakespeare	This tragedy opens with the sight of witches finishing a cabal and moves deeper into chaos, "fog and filthy air," murder, and dark mystery. Events transpire faster than the mind can conceive as Macbeth seizes power only to be destroyed by his blind ambition. Note: This play may contain offensive material.	Supplemental or Choice
Magickers, The	Drake, Emily	Jason and other campers at Camp Ravenwyng try to learn the mysteries of magic and find the hidden gate before the manna storm destroys them.	Supplemental or Choice
Mara, Daughter of the Nile	McGraw, Eloise Jarvis	Mara, a slave in Ancient Egypt, takes on the task of spying in the royal palace of Queen Hatshepsut to gain her freedom. Against her will Mara falls in love with her master, the man who is attempting to overthrow the queen. Romantic innuendos	Supplemental or Choice



Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Maroo of the Winter Caves	Turnbull, Ann	A survival story set at the end of the last Ice Age. When Maroo and her family become trapped on the Great Plains in blizzard conditions and little food, they have only one chance for survival: for Maroo and her younger brother to reach the winter camp and get help. When her brother Otak goes missing, Maroo is forced to make the most difficult of all decisions – to stay and search for her brother or to continue on to the camp in order to save the rest of her family. A gripping tale of survival as well as a vivid portrait of prehistoric people.	Supplemental or Choice
Mary, Bloody Mary	Myer, Carolyn	This is Mary's account of her life. Her father was the King of England Henry the VIII, her mother the unfortunate Queen Catherine of Aragon.	Supplemental or Choice
Matthew Henson: Arctic Explorer	Gilman	Follows the life of the black explorer who accompanied Robert Peary on the expedition to the North Pole.	Supplemental or Choice
Middleworld, Jaguar Stones Trilogy Book One	Voelkel, J & P	Max Murphy is the 14-year-old spoiled and self-centered son of archaeologists who are Ancient Maya experts. Although his parents believe he is headed for summer camp, his housekeeper instead sends him to visit his uncle in San Xavier where his mother and father have recently departed for a new project. Once there, Max discovers that they have disappeared under mysterious circumstances. He joins forces with Lola, a native girl whose ability to navigate the jungle and the rainforest prove invaluable. Max is drawn into a life-or-death battle to rescue his parents from the Ancient Maya underworld and save the country from coming under the rule of the 12 Lords of Death. Filled with suspense and intrigue, human sacrifice, smuggling, and secret doors and escape routes through pyramids Also included is illustrated information on the Maya's calendar, pronunciation, math, writing, and cosmology.	Supplemental or Choice
Midsummer Night's Dream, A	Shakespeare	This is a romantic comedy and satire on power and romance. Strange occurrences in a forest filled with fairies delight readers as their magic changes the romantic fate of two couples. Sexual innuendo.	Supplemental or Choice
Midwife's Apprentice, The	Cushman, Karen	The story of a young orphan, Alyce, who is transformed from a no one into a midwife's apprentice. She secretly learns the skills needed to be a midwife, even though her master Jane tries to hide them from her.	Supplemental or Choice
Million Dollar Kick	Gutman	Thirteen-year-old Whisper, who hates sports, is torn when she gets a chance to win a million dollars by kicking a goal against a local soccer hero.	Supplemental or Choice
Miracle's Boys	Woodson	Twelve-year-old Lafayette's close relationship with his older brother Charlie changes after Charlie is released from a detention home and blames Lafayette for the death of their mother.	Supplemental or Choice
Moon and I, The	Byars	While describing her humorous adventures with a black snake, Betsy Byars recounts childhood anecdotes and explains how she writes a book.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Morning Girl	Dorris, Michael	Set on a Bahamian Island in 1492, the simple routines of a Taino sister and brother are about to change.	Supplemental or Choice
Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh	O'Brien, Robert C.	Mrs. Frisby, a widowed mouse with four small children, is faced with a terrible problem. She must move her family to their summer quarters immediately, or face almost certain death. But her youngest son, Timothy, lies ill with pneumonia and must not be moved. Fortunately, she encounters the rats of NIMH, an extraordinary breed of highly intelligent creatures, who come up with a brilliant solution to her dilemma. And Mrs. Frisby in turn renders them a great service.	Supplemental or Choice
Muhammad Ali	Tessitore	A comprehensive biography of the only boxer crowned Heavyweight Champion of the World three times.	Supplemental or Choice
Music of the Dolphins, The	Hesse, Karen	Story of a girl who is raised by dolphins and studied by scientists. Her love for music gives her insight into the human world yet allows her to remain connected to her dolphin world.	Supplemental or Choice
My Brother Sam is Dead	Collier, James Lincoln	All his life, Time Meeker has looked up to his older brother Sam...until now. Sam becomes part of the New American Revolutionary Army and talks of defeating the British and becoming free. Not everyone in town wants to be part of this new America. Most in town are supporters of the English king, especially his brother and father.	Supplemental or Choice
My Home is Over Jordan	Forrester, Sandra	Forrester picks up the story of Maddie Henry that she began in Sound the Jubilee. Forced to abandon the home they had made in Roanoke when the white owners returned after the Civil War ended, the Henry family is seeking land that they can farm. Their path crosses that of another small band of former slaves who tell them of a nearby town where an enlightened plantation owner is willing to sell land to Negroes. A home of their own secured, the family finds that there are still plenty of white people who are only too ready to make life difficult, if not impossible, for them. Maddie herself has much to contend with as she tries to care for a wild orphan girl, considers a marriage proposal, and attempts to earn the money that will enable her to head north to Oberlin College. Forrester writes with a sure touch, working the historical threads neatly into her story and making Maddie come alive for readers. It is not necessary to have read the previous novel to enjoy this one, but readers are apt to like the heroine so much they will want to read the earlier book as well. Smoothly written and evocative of its time, this book will find a ready audience among history lovers. Gr 5-8	Supplemental or Choice
My Name is America: The Journal of Jedediah Barstow	Barstow, Jedediah	In the tradition of this acclaimed series, this novel follows the journey of a young man on the Oregon Trail. It is a wonderful introduction to the harsh life and rewards of moving westward.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
My Name is Aram	Saroyan	Book of 14 interconnected short stories by William Saroyan, published in 1940. The book consists of exuberant, often whimsical episodes in the imaginative life of young Aram Garoghlanian, an Armenian-American boy who is the author's alter ego.	Supplemental or Choice
My Side of the Mountain	George, Jean Craighead	Young Sam Gribbley decides to run away to the Catskill Mountains of upstate New York. He lives in a huge hollowed-out tree, with a falcon and a weasel for companions. Sam learns to live off the land, and grows up a little in the process. Finally blizzards, hunters, loneliness, and fear drive Sam back to city life. But his desire for freedom, independence, and adventure is stronger.	Supplemental or Choice
Mystery of Drear House, The	Hamilton, Virginia	The author returns to characters she created in The House of Dies Drear, the Small and Darrow families. Young Thomas Small and his family have moved into the home of Dies Drear, an abolitionist whose house was a major stop on the Underground Railroad. In the first book, the family discovered vast underground passages which led to a great treasure cavern beneath their property, containing gold and riches given to escaping slaves to help finance their trips to freedom. In this sequel, they learn more about Drear and his visitors, and they must decide what to do with the treasure, and how best to protect it (and themselves) from the sinister Darrows, who have searched for the treasure for years. Colorful and delightful characters, and an eerie and suspenseful mood throughout the novel. The plot is best understood by those familiar with the first book.	Supplemental or Choice
Night	Wiesel, Elie	An autobiographical narrative, in which the author describes his experiences in Nazi concentration camps. Weisel's relationship with his father is central to this horrific story of survival under the worst circumstances of western 20th century history. Depictions of war and torture.	Supplemental or Choice
Nightjohn	Paulsen, Gary	Imagine being beaten for learning to read, shackled and whipped for learning a few letters of the alphabet. Now, imagine a man brave enough to risk torture in order to teach others how to read; his name is Nightjohn, and he sneaks into the slave camps at night to teach other slaves how to read and write. Celebrated author Gary Paulsen writes a searing meditation on why the ability to read and write is radical, empowering, and so necessary to our freedom. These skills threaten our oppressors because they allow us to communicate--to learn the real status of our slavery and to seek liberation. In this tightly written, painful, joyous little novel is a key that may unlock the power of reading for even the most reluctant teens.	Supplemental or Choice
Nightmare Mountain	Kahret	Twelve-year-old Molly's visit to her aunt and uncle's llama ranch in the state of Washington leads her into unexpected danger and suspense.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
No More Dead Dogs	Korman	Eight-grade football hero Wallace is sentenced to detention attending rehearsals of the school play. He becomes wrapped up in the production and begins to suggest changes that improve not only the play but his life as well.	Supplemental or Choice
No Turning Back	Naidoo, Beverley	Post-apartheid South Africa is on the eve of its first democratic elections. In this time of unprecedented change, 12 year old Siphos finds his life changing as well. To escape his stepfather's abuse, he flees to the harsh world of Jo'burg's malunde, or homeless boys. So far, Siphos been lucky. He's learned the rules of the street without getting knifed. He's only had to spend one night in a garbage can. And he's found enough work to feed himself, sometimes twice a day. But for how long can Siphos continue to survive? How long before his luck runs out.	Supplemental or Choice
Number the Stars	Lowry, Lois	Annemarie and Ellen are friends growing up in Copenhagen during World War II. On the eve of Jewish New Year, most of the Jewish people, including Ellen's parents, flee the city. Ellen hides with Annemarie's family in the city and later goes with them to Uncle Henrik's farm near the sea. Here they become part of an elaborate plan to smuggle the Jews to Sweden, where they will be safe. The children are told little about what is going on. It is only after the war is over and many lives have been saved that the secrets can be told.	Supplemental or Choice
Numbering All the Bones	Rinaldi, Ann	Set in Andersonville Prison during the final year of the Civil War, Numbering All My Bones tells the story of an adolescent girl who was born into slavery. Through the inspiration of Clara Barton and her own selfless service, Eulinda "makes herself come true" when she learns the many meanings of freedom.	Supplemental or Choice
Odysseus and the Serpent Maze	Yolen, Jaen	Mara, a slave in Ancient Egypt, takes on the task of spying in the royal palace of Queen Hatshepsut to gain her freedom. Against her will Mara falls in love with her master, the man who is attempting to overthrow the queen. Romantic innuendos	Supplemental or Choice
Oliver Twist	Dickens, Charles	Oliver Twist's famous cry of the hear – "Please, sir, I want some more" – has resounded with generations of readers of all ages. The author poured his own youthful experience of Victorian London's unspeakable squalor into this realistic depiction of a spirited young innocent's unwilling but inevitable recruitment into a scabrous gang of thieves. Masterminded by the loathsome Fagin, the underworld crew features some of Dickens' most memorable characters, including the vicious Bill Sikes, gentle Nancy, and the juvenile pickpocket known as the Artful Dodger.	Supplemental or Choice
One-Eyed Cat	Fox	An eleven-year-old shoots a stray cat with his new air rifle, subsequently suffers from guilt, and eventually assumes responsibility for it.	Supplemental or Choice
Original Freddie Ackerman	Irwin	Twelve-year-old Trevor's summer with his two eccentric great-aunts on an island off the coast of Maine is alternately dreary and exciting and helps him discover what it feels like to be part of a real family.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Other Side of the Truth	Naidoo, Beverley	This is a gripping story of the hard life of native Nigerians in a contemporary world. Written by the acclaimed writer of Journey to Jo'berg, The Other Side of Truth follows a family living under the harsh conditions of current day Nigeria and their escape to London only to find more discrimination and hardship.	Supplemental or Choice
Other Voices, Other Vistas	Solomon, Barbara H.	A collection of twenty-five contemporary short stories from modern Africa, China, India, Japan and Latin America, Other Voices, Other Vistas distills the familiar universal human experience in a variety of unfamiliar settings.	Supplemental or Choice
Out of the Dust	Hesse, Karen	Like the Oklahoma dust bowl from which she came, 14-year-old narrator Billie Jo writes in sparse, free-floating verse. In this compelling, immediate journal, Billie Jo reveals the grim domestic realities of living during the years of constant dust storms: That hopes--like the crops--blow away in the night like skittering tumbleweeds. That trucks, tractors, even Billie Jo's beloved piano, can suddenly be buried beneath drifts of dust. Perhaps swallowing all that grit is what gives Billie Jo--our strong, endearing, rough-cut heroine--the stoic courage to face the death of her mother after a hideous accident that also leaves her piano-playing hands in pain and permanently scarred. Meanwhile, Billie Jo's silent, windblown father is literally decaying with grief and skin cancer before her very eyes. When she decides to flee the lingering ghosts and dust of her homestead and jump a train west, she discovers a simple but profound truth about herself and her plight.	Supplemental or Choice
Outside Passage	Scully, Julia	A memoir of an Alaskan childhood. In this stunning memoir, the author recounts her exotic childhood in Alaska, where a 'stark treeless landscape extends on and on in every direction.'	Supplemental or Choice
Outsiders	Hinton, S.E.	According to Ponyboy, there are two kinds of people in the world: greasers and socs. A soc (short for "social") has money, can get away with just about anything, and has an attitude longer than a limousine. A greaser, on the other hand, always lives on the outside and needs to watch his back. Ponyboy is a greaser, and he's always been proud of it, even willing to rumble against a gang of socs for the sake of his fellow greasers--until one terrible night when his friend Johnny kills a soc.	Supplemental or Choice
Pacific Crossing	Soto	Fourteen-year-old Mexican American Lincoln Mendoza spends a summer with a host family in Japan, encountering new experiences and making new friends	Supplemental or Choice
Parvana's Journey	Ellis, Deborah	Can four lost and frightened children find the means to survive in war-torn Afghanistan? In this sequel to the best-selling novel The Breadwinner young Parvana's resilience and resourcefulness are tested again and again, as she searches for her family in a country under siege.	Supplemental or Choice
Pet-Sitting Peril, The	Roberts	When Nick took on his pet-sitting job, he had no idea of the mysterious adventures that would come his way.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Pigman	Zindel, Paul	John Conlan and Lorraine Jensen are two teenagers that share about an experience too overwhelming to keep private. The two high-school sophomores come from constricting, unhappy homes. They form a friendship with each other and decide to do pranks. Unusual circumstances introduce them to a lonely old man with an awful secret. A friendship results, and together the three create a strange, unreal world. But the very energy which built this world soon works to destroy it, and John and Lorraine are left again with their own reality. The two high school sophomores tell of the tragic consequences of their friendship for a lonely man.	Supplemental or Choice
Pigman's Legacy	Zindel, Paul	The Pigman's Legacy is a book about two high school students who are trying to reconcile their failed efforts to save the Pigman by trying to help another old man. They meet this old man in the same old house where the Pigman lived. The three have adventurous times and grow to be close friends.	Supplemental or Choice
Pinballs, The	Byars, Betsy	Carlie, Harvey and Thomas J. meet when they come to a foster home to live together. The story of how they help each other and how they learn to let others help them. And who they really are, under all the hurts of their short, mess-up lives, might surprise you. An ALA Notable Children's book.	Supplemental or Choice
Place in the Sun, A	Rubalcaba, Jill	Senmut, son of a sculptor, accidentally kills a sacred dove and he is sentenced to work in the gold mines of Nubia. His skill at carving stone brings him to the attention of Ramses II, who frees him from his enslavement.	Supplemental or Choice
Pride & Prejudice	Austin, Jame	This is a comedy of manners and satire, on the ignorance of the people, which was a common theme of that time period (eighteenth century) with witty verbal sparring between Mr. Darcy and the prejudiced Elizabeth Bennett while they are courting.	Supplemental or Choice
Pyramus and Thisbe	James, Henry	This is a one-act farce about the romance between a young music teacher and a journalist who live in adjacent rooms in a boarding house. Burlesque fashion	Supplemental or Choice
Quest for the Pillars of Wealth	Prichard, J.J.	Despondent over their parents' pending separation due to financial problems, Gennie and Jeff Douglas encounter an ancient man named Mr. Mortimer. The old reveals three massive pillars, representing the three secrets for acquiring wealth. Gennie and Jeff must travel back through time to medieval England, Greece and Rome in order to unravel each of the pillars mysteries.	Supplemental or Choice
Rainbow People	Yep	This book contains a collection of twenty Chinese folk tales that were passed on by word of mouth for generations, as told by some old-timers newly settled in the United States.	Supplemental or Choice
Ramsey Scallop, The	Temple, Frances	In feudal England, fourteen-year-old Elenor finds that her betrothal to an ambitious lord's son launches her on a memorable pilgrimage to far-off Spain.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Ransom	Duncan, Lois	This book is about 5 kids who get kidnapped, and the parents have to pay the ransom of \$15,000 for EACH kid in order to get them back. Not only does it have mysteries, action, and suspense, but it has somewhat of romance and sadness. Two of the kids start to fall in love with each other after something extreme happens to one of them.	Supplemental or Choice
Rascal	North, Sterling and Schoenherr, John	In this delightful memoir, Sterling North recalls his year with Rascal--a very mischievous and resourceful raccoon. Sterling, a boy of 11, watches in amazement as this baby raccoon, barely the size of Sterling's hand, instinctively washes everything before eating it. Sterling knows that every night Rascal will sneak into the house by hooking his claws onto the back screen door and head straight for Sterling's bed! Virtually everywhere Sterling goes, Rascal is there, and life is filled with one adventure after another	Supplemental or Choice
Raven and Other Poems, The	Poe, Edgar Allen	This selection of Poe's poetry is a great introduction to one of the most widely read poets in American history.	Supplemental or Choice
Reaching Dustin	Grove	Sixth-grader Carly's assignment to interview a reclusive brooding classmate leads her to discover some of the events that have caused his antisocial behavior.	Supplemental or Choice
Red Pony	Steinbeck, John	Jody is a ten year old who lives on a farm with his parents and a horse expert, Billy Buck. One morning before Jody had to go to school; his father and Billy Buck brought him to a box stall in a barn, and was given the red pony. This novels themes are about American life on a farm, kids growing up, learning about life and death, and how to take care of animals.	Supplemental or Choice
Rice Without Rain	Ho, Minfong	The parched yellow fields outside the village where 17 year old Jinda lives are her family's only source of income. How can the rain-starved crop produce enough rice to fee them, much less pay the rent? Perhaps the strangers from the city are right about the need to change centuries-old traditions. But Jinda realizes that trusting the strangers could cause more troubles. Jinda heroically faces the challenge of holding on to who she is as the world around her revolves with never-ending change.	Supplemental or Choice
Ring of Endless Light	L'Engle, Madeleine	Vicky Austin, a middling-teenage girl, is confused by the whirl of events around her that are escalating beyond her control. Her grandfather is dying of an incurable disease, and she becomes frightened when he addresses her as her dead grandmother. She also cannot understand her feelings about a triangle of young men who find her attractive.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
River, The	Paulsen, Gary	"We want you to do it again." These words, spoken to Brian Robeson, will change his life. Two years earlier, Brian was stranded alone in the wilderness for fifty-four days with nothing but a small hatchet. Yet he survived. Now the government wants him to do it again -- to go back into the wilderness so that astronauts and the military can learn the survival techniques that kept Brian alive. This time he won't be alone: Derek Holtzer, a government psychologist, will accompany him to observe and take notes. But during a freak storm, Derek is hit by lightning and falls into a coma. Their radio transmitter is dead. Brian is afraid that Derek will die of dehydration unless he can get him to a doctor. His only hope is to build a raft and try to transport Derek a hundred miles down the river to a trading post -- if the map he has is accurate	Supplemental or Choice
Robinson Crusoe	DeFore, Daniel	The confinement of a man for the better part of his life on an island allows one to follow Crusoe through many changes of attitude and belief. He does then arrive at a spiritual place.	Supplemental or Choice
Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry	Taylor, Mildred D.	Surrounded by black sharecropper neighbors and white landowners, the family owned farm gives the Logans a sense of pride and dignity. Set during the Depression in the rural South, Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry personalizes an era of American history and shares its lessons.	Supplemental or Choice
Roughnecks	Cochrah	Travis Cody prepares for the final game of his high school football career, a rematch with his school's chief rival.	Supplemental or Choice
Rudolph W. Giuliani: America's Mayor	Freemont	Rudolph W. Giuliani: America's Mayor by Eleanor Fremont provides an account of the former New York City mayor's Brooklyn roots, his stint in Washington as the number three man in the Department of Justice and his tenure as U.S. Attorney in New York. Special attention is paid to Giuliani's role in the recovery efforts following September 11. Ages 10-14	Supplemental or Choice
Running out of Time	Haddix	When a diphtheria epidemic hits her 1840s village, thirteen-year-old Jessie discovers it is actually a 1996 tourist site under the observation of heartless scientists, and it is up to Jessie to escape the village and save the lives of dying children.	Supplemental or Choice
Sammy Keys & the Hollywood Mummy	VanDraamen	A Hollywood actress, who had been competing with Sammy's mother for an important role, is murdered, but thirteen-year-old Sammy and her friend, Marissa, are on the case.	Supplemental or Choice



Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Sarny	Paulsen, Gary	The Civil War is over, and Sarny has been released from the shackles of slavery. She's free, but what does that mean? This sequel to Gary Paulsen's acclaimed novel, Nightjohn, follows Sarny as she searches for her children after the war. Hope comes from surprising places, and soon Sarny finds herself in New Orleans, working, teaching, and building her life anew. Though the war is over, hatred and danger lurk around every corner, threatening her efforts to teach others to read. In Sarny, Paulsen creates a character that sparkles with heart and courage. His descriptions of her first days of freedom--her first lavender-scented bath, the sweet taste of canned peaches on bread--drip with immediacy. Sarny's story is so rich, so engaging that it's hard to say good-bye to her when the book is over. Readers will find themselves on the edges of their seats, asking, "... and then what happened, Mr. Paulsen?"	Supplemental or Choice
Schernoff Discoveries	Paulsen	Harold and his best friend, both hopeless geeks and social misfits, try to survive unusual science experiments and other dangers of junior high.	Supplemental or Choice
Scorpions	Meyers, Walter Dean	Jamal, who is pressured to become leader of the Scorpions gang, worries about school, family, and the rough kids on the street. When a fellow gang member gives him a gun, Jamal suddenly gains a new level of respect from his enemies. A realistic look at a boy who wants to do the right thing but gets caught up in the culture of violence. A Newberry Honor selection.	Supplemental or Choice
Secret Garden, The	Burnett, Frances Hodgson	<u>When orphaned Mary Lennox, lonely and sad, comes to live at her uncle's great house on the Yorkshire moors, she finds it full of secrets. At night, she hears the sound of crying down one of the long corridors. Outside, she meets Dickon, a magical boy who can charm and talk to animals. Then, one day, with the help of a friendly robin, Mary discovers the most mysterious wonder of all--a secret garden, walled and locked, which has been completely forgotten for years and years. Is everything in the garden dead, or can Mary bring it back to life?</u>	Supplemental or Choice
Secret of the Andes	Clark, Ann Nolan	Cusi, a modern Inca boy of Peru leaves his home high in the Andes to learn the mysterious secret of his ancient ancestors.	Supplemental or Choice
See Behind Trees	Dorris, Michael	Michael Dorris weaves the story of a Native American boy with poor eyesight whose journey with an old warriors helps him "see" the beauty and mystery of life.	Supplemental or Choice
Seesaw Girl	Park, Linda Sue	Jade Blossom can never go beyond her family's Inner Court. Every girl from a good family in 17th century Korea must stay home and learn to sew and work in the kitchen to prepare her for future life in her husband's Inner Court. Jade has other interests. She longs to take trips to the mountains and the marketplace. Jade won't stop thinking about the world beyond the high walls of her home. Then one day she secretly sets off to do what no girl her age has ever done before	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Seven Daughters and Seven Sons	Cohen	In an ancient Arab nation, one woman dares to be different. Buran cannot – Buran will not – sit quietly at home and wait to be married to the man her father chooses. Determined to use her skills and earn a fortune, she instead disguises herself as a boy and travels by camel caravan to a distant city. There, she maintains her masculine disguise and establishes a successful business. The city’s crown prince comes often to her shop, and soon Buran finds herself falling in love. But is she reveals to Mahmud that she is a woman, she will lose everything she has worked for.	Supplemental or Choice
Shabanu, Daughter of the Wind	Staples, Suzanne Fisher	Life is both sweet and cruel to strong-willed Shabanu, whose home is the windswept Cholistan Desert of Pakistan. The second daughter in a family with no sons, she’s been allowed freedoms forbidden to most Muslim girls. But when a tragic encounter with a wealthy and powerful landowner ruins the marriage plans of her older sister, Shabanu is called upon to sacrifice everything she’s dreamed of. Should she do what is necessary to uphold her family’s honor—or listen to the stirrings of her own heart? Coming of age sexual situations.	Supplemental or Choice
Shades of Gray	Reeder	At the end of the Civil War, twelve-year-old Will, having lost all his immediate family, reluctantly leaves his city home to live in the Virginia countryside with his aunt and uncle he considers “traitors” because they refused to take part in the war.	Supplemental or Choice
Shadow Spinner	Fletcher, Susan	Sharazad, wife of the sultan, must tell her husband stories to save her own life, but she has run out. Marjan uses her talents as a story teller to help Sharazad until she too runs out of stories. With the hope of saving Sharazad’s life Marjan risks her own and sneaks out of the harem in search of new stories.	Supplemental or Choice
Shane	Schaeffer	A mysterious drifting gunman helps the homesteaders break the power of the Wyoming cattlemen.	Supplemental or Choice
Shark Beneath the Reef	George, Jean Craighead	Like his father and grandfather before him, 14-year-old Toma Torres dreams of catching a great shark in the Sea of Cortez, although there are other things he should be thinking about. Toma’s family would like him to stay in school, but Toma’s knows he will be more help to them if he leaves school now to become a fisherman. Should he drop out?	Supplemental or Choice
Shimmy, Shimmy, Shimmy like My Sister Kate	Giovanni, Nikki	Images and sounds of the Harlem Renaissance shimmer in this anthology compiled by celebrated poet Nikki Giovanni.	Supplemental or Choice
Sign of the Beaver	Speare	A young boy in Maine, when rescued by an Indian chief and his grandson, must decide whether to spend the winter alone in the woods waiting for his family to return or move on to a new life with his new friends.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Sing Down the Moon	O'Dell, Scott	One lovely spring day, fourteen-year-old Bright Morning and her friend Running Bird take their sheep to pasture. The sky is clear blue against the red buttes of the Canyon de Chelly, and the fields and orchards of the Navahos promise a rich harvest. Bright Morning is happy as she gazes across the beautiful valley that is the home of her tribe. Happy until the barking of Black Dog disturbs her and she tums. It is then that she sees the Spanish slavers riding straight toward her. The Spanish slavers were an ever present threat to the Navajo way of life. This historical novel is about a young Navajo girl who is kidnapped and enslaved by Spaniards and then rescued by her husband-to-be.	Supplemental or Choice
Slam	Myers, Walter Dean	Basketball is my thing. I can hoop. Case closed. So begins this book. 17-year-old Greg Harris tells of the year in which he transfers to a magnet school for the arts, a more academically challenging, mostly white school. After being the hot shot star of his Harlem high school team, he has to learn to fit in and be a team player at his new school. He may not be able to do anything about the rest of his life--his relationships with his family and friends, his grandmother's illness, his scholastic difficulties, or what goes on in his Harlem neighborhood--but when he gets onto the basketball court, "Slam" feels in control."	Supplemental or Choice
Slave Dancer	Fox, Paula	Snatched from the docks of New Orleans, thirteen-year-old Jessie is thrown aboard a slave ship where he must play his fife so that captured slaves will "dance," to keep their muscles strong and their bodies profitable for their owners' use. Jessie is sickened as he witnesses the horrible practices of the slave trade. But even those horrors can't compare to the one final event awaiting Jessie's witness. Can the cruelty to his fellow human beings be stopped? And will it be too late when it finally does stop?	Supplemental or Choice
Slopes of War	Perez, Norah	Buck Summerhill, is a young soldier from West Virginia fighting in the Civil War. This is an account of the horrors he faces in the Battle of Gettysburg. One of the worst things he has to deal with is knowing that two of his cousins, will be fighting against him	Supplemental or Choice
Snow Treasure	McSwigna, Marie	An exciting and suspenseful tale of Norwegian children and their contributions to protecting their town's gold during the German occupation in 1940. Convinced that the Germans will try to steal their town's considerable wealth of gold bouillon , the townsmen decide that it must be moved. Since a group of adults can't move the gold without the German's finding out, they develop a daring plan to have teams of children carry the bouillon on their sleds down to the river where townsmen will load onto to a ship to the U.S.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
So Far From the Bamboo Grove	Watkins, Yoko Kawashima	Based on the author's own experiences, So Far from the Bamboo Grove tells the story of a World War II Korean family who is forced to leave their homeland and flee to Japan. The author's portrayal of the deprivations of wartime and the bonds of family love reveal a timeless tale.	Supplemental or Choice
SOS Titanic	Bunting, Eve	Only moments after 15-year-old Barry O'Neill boards the Titanic in Queenstown, Ireland, he learns that the ship narrowly missed a collision at Southampton – a bad omen. Barry, understandably, is on edge. When disaster strikes, the terrifying events are unfolded. Barry acts nobly, risking his own life to save Pegeen, a girl from steerage class with whom he has fallen love and her brother. A well-wrought historical fiction, but lest anyone forget, a brief afterward reminds readers of the horrifying and very real toll of the tragedy.	Supplemental or Choice
Sound the Jubilee	Forrester, Sandra	Growing up on a plantation in North Carolina, Maddie is owned by the McCarthas. She works in the Big House with her mother and sister, while her father, Titus, is foreman of the field hands. Her family's opportunity for freedom comes unexpectedly. Fearing the approach of Yankee troops, Mrs. McCartha retreats to her summer home on Nags Head, an island off the coast, taking Maddie's family with her. That move puts them directly in the path of the invading army, and they are able to escape to the "contraband" camp on nearby Roanoke Island. There they are given their freedom, as well as land and jobs. Although living at first in unhealthy conditions and at the mercy of the Yankee army, they are sheltered from the worst of the war years. Forrester has created a feisty, intelligent character in Maddie; she's someone readers will enjoy getting to know. The author's use of a modified dialect adds substance to her characterizations. The story moves along smoothly and quickly and involves readers; it will help them better understand the Civil War era and the complicated issues of the time. A great deal of detail is incorporated into the narrative about the community on Roanoke Island. Sure to be popular with history buffs and fans of historical novels. Gr 6-9	Supplemental or Choice
Sounder	Armstrong	A landmark in children's literature, winner of the 1970 Newbery Medal, and the basis of an acclaimed film, Sounder traces the keen sorrow and the abiding faith of a poor African-American boy in the 19th-century South. The boy's father is a sharecropper, struggling to feed his family in hard times. Night after night, he and his great coon dog, Sounder, return to the cabin empty-handed. Then, one morning, almost like a miracle, a sweet-smelling ham is cooking in the family's kitchen. At last the family will have a good meal. But that night, an angry sheriff and his deputies come, and the boy's life will never be the same.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Stargirl	Spinelli, Jerry	Leo doesn't know what to make of the new girl in his school. Stargirl is like no one he has ever met. Stargirl touches his life through her courage and her journey to discover who she is. Deals with peer pressure and wanting to fit in.	Supplemental or Choice
Steal Away	Armstrong, Jennifer	In the fall of 1896 elderly Susannah McKnight coaxes her granddaughter Mary to travel with her to Canada to visit someone Mary regards as an "old slave woman." Mary's vision of Bethlehem Reid is shattered, however, when she hears an amazing story of undying friendship and courage. As young girls Susannah and Bethlehem helped each other escape to the North: for Bethlehem, freedom; for Susannah, a return to the home she loved. Rich and emotionally resonant, this compelling, true story is told in compassionate, lush language; delighting not only in its poetic imagery and uncompromising clarity of expression but in the suspense and adventure of the girls' flight to personal liberty. Bethlehem and Susannah's friendship, born of circumstance and necessity, is never sentimentalized but remains fierce and heartbreaking to the last. This powerful, moving and thought-provoking narrative is sure to stay with readers long after it is finished. Ages 8-12.	Supplemental or Choice
Step from Heaven, A	Na, An	When she is five, Young Ju Park and her family move from Korea to California. During the flight, they climb so far into the sky she concludes they are on their way to Heaven, that Heaven must be in America. Heaven is also where her grandfather is. When she learns the distinction, she is so disappointed she wants to go home to her grandmother. Trying to console his niece, Uncle Tim suggests that maybe America can be "a step from Heaven." Life in America, however, presents problems for Young Ju's family. Her father becomes depressed, angry, and violent. Jobs are scarce and money is even scarcer. When her brother is born, Young Ju experiences firsthand her father's sexism as he confers favored status upon the boy who will continue to carry the Park name. In a wrenching climactic scene, her father beats her mother so severely that Young Ju calls the police. Soon afterward, her father goes away and the family begins to heal.	Supplemental or Choice
Stone Fox (ELL)	Reynolds, John	Little Willy's grandfather is sick and it's up to Willy to save their farm from tax collectors. Their only hope is the prize money from the National Dogsled Race. But a lot of other people want to win the race, too, including Stone Fox, who has never lost a race in his life.	Supplemental or Choice
Story of the Treasure Seekers	Nesbit	When their father's business fails, the six Bastable children decide to restore the family fortunes.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Strider	Cleary, Beverly	14-year-old Leigh Botts is dealing with his parents' divorce, concern about his father's sincerity and stability, and insecurities about his own identify and popularity. Leigh and his friend Barry find an abandoned pooch (Strider) on the beach and decide to try "joint custody." It is not the perfect arrangement., and eventually the two boys work through the tensions that threaten their friendship. At the same time Leigh and his father develop a new understanding.	Supplemental or Choice
Striking Out	Weaver	Billy wants to play high school baseball, but his father needs Billy's help on their dairy farm.	Supplemental or Choice
Sukey and the Mermaid	San Souci, Robert D	Weary of the unreasonable demands of Mister Jones, her new stepfather, Sukey escapes to the water's edge, where she meets "a beautiful, brown-skinned, black-eyed mermaid"--Mama Jo--who befriends and comforts her and each day gives her a gold coin. Mister Jones drinks up most of the money; eventually, he tries to capture the mermaid, who escapes and takes Sukey to her undersea kingdom. Homesick, Sukey bargains for a chance to go home and is also given a dowry and the promise of a fine husband, to be named Dembo. Wicked Mister Jones steals the dowry and kills Dembo; but Mama Jo appears one last time to bring him back to life. A careful note explains that this eventful, richly complex story was based on a folktale from the Sea Islands of South Carolina, as well as on Caribbean and West African sources.	Supplemental or Choice
Summer of My German Soldier	Greene, Bette	This is an extraordinary novel about an unlikely friendship between a Jewish girl and a young German soldier during World War II.	Supplemental or Choice
Summer of the Swans	Byars, Betsy	Sara's 14th summer was turning out to be the most confusing of her life. Up until then, things has flowed smoothly. Now, she wanted to fly away from everything - her beautiful older sister, her bossy Aunty Willie, her remote father and herself. This book won the John Newberry medal.	Supplemental or Choice
Susanna of the Alamo	Jakes	This story relates the experiences of the Texas woman who, along with her baby, survived the 1836 massacre at the Alamo.	Supplemental or Choice
Swimming Upstream: Middle School Poems	George, Kristine O'Connell	From hall passes to pop quizzes, Kristine O'Connell George's collection of poems addresses the middle school experience with wit and wisdom.	Supplemental or Choice
Swiss Family Robinson	Wyss	When a Swiss family is stranded on a tropical island, they remain optimistic and inventive. With what they salvage from the wrecked ship and the island's resources, they adapt to their new life.	Supplemental or Choice
Sydney, Herself	Rodowsky	A sophomore develops elaborate fantasies for her English class journal.	Supplemental or Choice
Tai Chi Morning	Grimes, Nikki	Poet Nikki Grimes traveled in China with a group of performing artists in 1988. Tai Chi Morning is her collection of poetic snapshots of this journey.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Taking Sides	Soto, Gary	Fourteen-year-old Lincoln Mendoza, an aspiring basketball player, must come to terms with his divided loyalties when he moves from the Hispanic inner city to a white, suburban neighborhood.	Supplemental or Choice
Taking Terrie Mueller	Mazer, Norma Fox	Fourteen-year-old Terri remembers only life with her father, but then she discovers that he kidnapped her from her mother after a divorce and that her mother is still alive. She eventually has to make the choice of living with her mother or living with her father.	Supplemental or Choice
Tales of Real Escape	Dowswell, Paul	It not only has some of the prison escapes like from Alcatraz, Colditz, the escape of Winston Churchill, it also has Turban, the black woman who freed a huge number of slaves in America, the Berlin wall, Houdini, the guy who can escape from any kind of locks, straitjacket. and more of course. It tells of how they escaped, their methods used, a lot of colorful pictures of tools the captured used, and also maps showing the location of the prisons and where prisoners and slaves were held.	Supplemental or Choice
Tangerine	Bloor, Edward	Middle-schooler Paul moves with his family from a comfortable, familiar life in suburban Houston to the middle of a new cookie-cutter community of Tangerine, Fla., steeped in class distinction, ecological inconsistency and convoluted values. A soccer goalkeeper who is legally blind, he can see much better than his parents when it comes to dealing with the deep-seated issues affecting his family and neighbors.	Supplemental or Choice
Tempest, The	Shakespeare	Prospero uses magic to raise a tempest at sea and wreck the ship of his enemies. Will he exact revenge when the survivors come ashore?	Supplemental or Choice
Terra Incognita	Metikosh, Anne	This young adult historical novel, set in the early seventeenth century, tells the story of Madeleine Hebert and her brother Philippe who travel to New France to join their father after their mother dies in France. On arriving in Quebec City, they learn that their father with Pregiment de Carignan, is at Michilimackinac, and possibly ill. When Philippe decides to go in search of their father by persuading Gabriel, a coureur de bois, to take him to Michilimackinac, Madeleine refuses to stay behind. With the help of her brother, she cuts off her long hair and disguises herself as a boy. An then begins a series of adventures as the threesome make the long canoe trip from Montreal up the Ottawa, over the height of land and down to Lake Huron and Michilimackinac. For a young girl it is an arduous trek, but Madeleine shows her high spirit and independence over the long days of paddling and the grueling portages. At a welcoming Huron village, Madeleine discovers something of the Native way of life and that the land is far from being a terra incognita to the original inhabitants. In writing this historical novel. Metikosh has done a superb job of recreating history as it might have been experienced by a young woman.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Things Not Seen	Clements, Andrew	It is a Tuesday morning in February , and Bobby Phillips gets up, as usual. There is one thing different about that day. Bobby wakes up invisible. Follow Bobby and his family as they deal with an invisible son and all the problems that this causes.	Supplemental or Choice
Thirteen Moons on Turtle's Back: A Native American Year in Moons	Bruchac, Joseph and London, Jonathan	An Abenaki native elder shows his grandson the pattern of the thirteen sections on a turtle shell and explains that they reflect the thirteen moons of an annual cycle. The moon poems that follow express reverence for nature's beauty from the mythology of thirteen Native American tribal nations.	Supplemental or Choice
Time Machine	Wells	An incredible invention enables the Time Traveler to reach year 802701.	Supplemental or Choice
To Be a Slave	Lester, Julius	A compilation, selected from various sources and arranged chronologically, of the reminiscences of slaves and ex-slaves about their experiences from the leaving of Africa through the Civil War and into the early twentieth century. This particular novel contains the "n" word.	Supplemental or Choice
Tonight by Sea	Temple, Frances	In order to live, they had to leave Haiti. That's what Paulie's uncle says her family and she must do. Since forever, Paulie has run in and out of the little houses nestled under the palms, near the beach. But now the little houses are gone. Their wood has been made into boats used to escape Haiti. But, Paulie wants to stay and fight – to change Haiti into a better place to live.	Supplemental or Choice
Touching Spirit Bear	Mikaelsen, Ben	Within Cole Matthews lie anger, rage and hate. Cole has been stealing and fighting for years. This time he caught Alex Driscall in the, parking lot and smashed his head against the sidewalk. Now, Alex may have permanent brain damage and Cole is in the Biggest trouble of his life. Cole is offered Circle Justice: a system based on Native American traditions that attempts to provide healing for the criminal offender, the victim and the, community. With prison as his only alternative, Cole plays along. He says he wants to repent, but in his heart Cole blames his alcoholic mom his, abusive dad, wimpy Alex -- everyone but himself -- for his situation.	Supplemental or Choice
Transall Saga	Paulsen	While backpacking in the desert, Mark falls into a tube of blue light and is transported into a more primitive world, where he must use his knowledge and skills to survive.	Supplemental or Choice
Travels with Charley	Steinbeck	This is a chronicle of the trip that John Steinbeck and his poodle, Charley, embarked on in September, 1960, across America.	Supplemental or Choice



Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Treasure Island	Stevenson, Robert Louis	Jim Hawkins is an 1880's English boy, who lives along the English coast in his father's inn, the Admiral Benbow. He has a perfectly normal life, until the mysterious Billy Bones comes to stay at the inn. Then, Billy dies after a fight with a strange caller. Among his possessions, Jim finds an old treasure map. Along with the Squire Trelawney and Doctor Livesey, Jim sails off to Treasure Island. Unfortunately, the crew of the ship they go on is not as trustworthy as first thought. Jim discovers that they are really pirates, and soon he and the few honest men on board are made victims of a mutiny. Now, they must embark on a quest to get to the treasure before the crew and to stay alive in the process.	Supplemental or Choice
True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle	Avi	In 1832 a girl boards a ship bound for America. Charlotte is a very proper girl returning from boarding school in England to meet up with her father. As land disappears from sight Charlotte discovers she is the only passenger on board and the crew is planning a mutiny.	Supplemental or Choice
True North	Lasky, Kathryn	The story of 14 year old Afrika who is fleeing the South by following the North Star, and Lucy of Boston who works with others in her family on the Underground Railroad. The lives of Lucy and Afrika draw closer and closer; together they will make a break for freedom and fight to keep each other on the right course: true north.	Supplemental or Choice
Trumpeter of Krakow, The	Kelly, Eric	A Polish family in the Middle Ages guards a great secret treasure and a boy's memory of an earlier trumpeter of Krakow makes it possible for him to save his father. Newbery Medal winner.	Supplemental or Choice
Tuck Everlasting	Babbit, Natalie	Winnie Foster wishes for nothing more than an adventure to liven-up her dull day. When she stumbles onto the secret of the Tuck family, her life and theirs are altered forever.	Supplemental or Choice
Twisted Summer	Roberts	Fourteen-year-old Cici hopes for a romantic summer at the beach but instead finds herself trying to solve a murder which had occurred there the previous year.	Supplemental or Choice
Ugly American, The	Lederer	Twenty-two short stories comprise this famous bestseller that changed American diplomatic history.	Supplemental or Choice
Uncle Tom's Cabin	Stowe, Harriet Beecher	An international bestseller that sold more than 300,000 copies when it first appeared in 1852, Uncle Tom's Cabin was dismissed by some as abolitionist propaganda; yet Tolstoy deemed it a great work of literature "flowing from love of God and man." Today, however, Harriet Beecher Stowe's stirring indictment of slavery is often confused with garish dramatizations that flourished for decades after the Civil War: productions that relied heavily on melodramatic simplifications of character totally alien to the original. Thus "Uncle Tom" has become a pejorative term for a subservient black, whereas Uncle Tom in the book is a man who, under the most inhumane of circumstances, never loses his human dignity.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Voice on the Radio, The	Cooney, Caroline B.	Janie Johnson first saw her face on a milk carton one year ago. Reeve Shields, her boyfriend, is now a college freshman and dreams of being a talk-show DJ. As he stares at the microphone in the control room of the campus radio station, the story of Janie's kidnapping at the age of three begins to slide out of his mouth and into the airwaves of Boston. Janie, in the meantime, is trying to recover from six months of nonstop confusion in her life, having recently learned about her past. When she accompanies her newfound sister and brother on a trip to visit colleges (and see her boyfriend) in Boston, Reeve's voice on the radio makes their tumultuous lives veer in a completely new direction.	Supplemental or Choice
Voyage of the Frog	Paulsen	When David goes out on his sailboat to scatter his recently deceased uncle's ashes to the wind, he is caught in a fierce storm and must survive many days on his own as he works out his feelings about life and his uncle.	Supplemental or Choice
Waiting for the Rain	Gordon, Sheila	Tengo and Frikkie are childhood friends. Tengo is a black "boy" who works on the farm that Frikkie will one day inherit. They live in conflicting worlds, but their friendship was formed when they were too young to know about lines that must not be crossed. The boys find their relationship in crisis as tension mounts in South Africa. As Tengo commits himself to the cause of change, Frikkie tries to preserve life as it has always been. Can the 2 hold on to the friendship that began before the turmoil shattered their dreams?	Supplemental or Choice
Walk Two Moons	Creech, Sharon	Thirteen year old Sal travels across the country with her grandparents following the trail her mother took after she left them without even an explanation. Her grandparents are fun eccentric people who ask her to tell them a story as they travel. Sal's story is a long tale about herself and her best friend whose mother has also left her family. Throughout the book the real trip and the story Sal tells are intermingled.	Supplemental or Choice
Wanderer, The	Creech, Sharon	Why does Sophie talk about Grandpa Bompie when she is adopted? Her cousins Cody and Brian will find out when they journey across the Atlantic Ocean on a boat with their fathers, an uncle and Sophie. Discover the secrets of Sophie and watch the family relations develop.	Supplemental or Choice
War Between the Classes	Miklowitz	Amy Sumoto decides to sabotage a game at school that was supposed to make students aware of class and racial prejudice but became merely a humiliating exercise.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Washington Square	James, Henry	When timid and plain Catherine Sloper acquires a dashing and determined suitor, her father, convinced that the young man is nothing more than a fortune-hunter, decides to put a stop to their romance. Torn between her desire to win her father's love and approval and her passion for the first man who has ever declared his love for her, Catherine faces an agonizing dilemma, and becomes all too aware of the restrictions that others seek to place on her freedom. James's masterly novel deftly interweaves the public and private faces of nineteenth-century New York society; it is also a deeply moving study of innocence destroyed.	Supplemental or Choice
Watsons Go to Birmingham, 1963, The	Curtis, Christopher Paul	A wonderful middle-grade novel narrated by Kenny, 9, about his middle-class black family, the Weird Watsons of Flint, Michigan. When Kenny's 13-year-old brother, Byron, gets to be too much trouble, they head South to Birmingham to visit Grandma, the one person who can shape him up. And they happen to be in Birmingham when Grandma's church is blown up.	Supplemental or Choice
Wave, The	Strasser, Todd	The Wave is based on a true incident that occurred in a high school history class in Palo Alto, California, in 1969. The powerful forces of group pressure that pervaded many historic movements such as Nazism are recreated in the classroom when history teacher Burt Ross introduces a "new" system to his students. And before long "The Wave," with its rules of "strength through discipline, community, and action, " sweeps from the classroom through the entire school.	Supplemental or Choice
Westing Game, The	Raskie, Ellen	This highly inventive mystery involves sixteen people who are invited to the reading of Samuel W. Westing's will. They could become millionaires, depending on how they play the tricky and dangerous Westing game, which involves blizzards, burglaries, and bombings. Ellen Raskin has entangled a remarkable cast of characters in a puzzle-knotted, word-twisting plot filled with humor, intrigue, and suspense.	Supplemental or Choice
What Would Joey Do	Gantos	Joey tries to keep his life from degenerating into total chaos when his mother sends him to be home-schooled with a hostile blind girl, his divorced parents cannot stop fighting, and his grandmother is dying of emphysema.	Supplemental or Choice
When Legends Die	Borland, Hal	When his father killed another brave, Thomas Black Bull and his parents sought refuge in the wilderness. There they took up life as it had been in the old days, hunting and fishing, battling for survival. But an accident claimed the father's life and the grieving mother died shortly afterward. Left alone, the young Indian boy vowed never to return to the white man's world, to the alien laws that had condemned his father.	Supplemental or Choice
When My Name Was Keoko	Park, Linda Sue	Told from the points of view of a sister and brother, When My Name Was Keoko is set in Japanese occupied Korea during World War II. With tenacity and courage these young people remain true to the values of their family and Korean heritage.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Where Angels Glide at Dawn	Carlson & Ventura	An anthology of stories about the past, characterized by wild geography, violent history, beautiful myths, legends, and people moved by their great passions.	Supplemental or Choice
Where the Red Fern Grows	Rawls, Wilson	Billy, Old Dan and Little Ann -- a Boy and His Two Dogs...A loving threesome, they ranged the dark hills and river bottoms of Cherokee country. Old Dan had the brawn, Little Ann had the brains -- and Billy had the will to train them to be the finest hunting team in the valley. Glory and victory were coming to them, but sadness waited too. And close by was the strange and wonderful power that's only found...An exciting tale of love and adventure you'll never forget.	Supplemental or Choice
Whipping Boy, The (ELL)	Freschman, Sid	Jemmy, once a poor boy living in the streets, now lives in a castle. As the whipping boy, he bears the punishment when Prince Brat misbehaves, for it is forbidden to spank, thrash, or whack the heir to the throne. The two boys have nothing in common and even less reason to like one another. But when they find themselves taken hostage after running away, they are left with no choice but to trust each other.	Supplemental or Choice
Whirligig	Fleischman	While traveling to each corner of the country to build a whirligig in memory of the girl whose death he causes, sixteen-year-old Brent finds forgiveness and atonement.	Supplemental or Choice
White Fang	London, Jack	This classic tale tells of a savage dog's transformation through love.	Supplemental or Choice
White Mountains, The	Christopher, John	A science fiction novel about three boys' quest for freedom. A mysterious race of robots, known as tripods, have taken over Earth and suppressed human history and individuality. No one knows what they are or where they come from. These tripods "cap" humans when they are twelve. The capping ritual is viewed as a rite of passage into adulthood, but in actuality the caps control humans by suppressing curiosity and individuality. One boy discovers the truth, and sets out on a quest for freedom. Two other boys join him on his journey to the White Mountains, where they hope find the rebel humans who are working to overcome the tripods.	Supplemental or Choice
Windcatcher	Avi	During a summer visit to his grandmother's home in Connecticut, a young boy learns to sail, discovers a sunken treasure, and wards off greedy treasure hunters.	Supplemental or Choice
Wishes, Kisses and Pigs	Hearne	After eleven-year-old Louise makes a wish on the first evening star and her brother turns into a pig, she uses wishes, kisses, and spells to try to put things right again.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Witch of Blackbird Pond, The	Speare, Elizabeth George	Forced to leave her sunny Caribbean home for the bleak Connecticut Colony, Kit Tyler is filled with trepidation. What this spirited teenager doesn't count on is how her aunt and uncle's stern Puritan community will view her. In the colonies of 1687, a girl who swims, wears silk and satin gowns, and talks back to her elders is not only headstrong, but she is in grave danger of being regarded as a witch. When Kit befriends an old Quaker woman known as the Witch of Blackbird Pond, it is more than the ascetics can take. Soon Kit is defending her life. Who can she count on as she confronts these angry and suspicious townspeople? A Newbery Medal winner and ALA Notable Children's Book.	Supplemental or Choice
Within Reach: Everest Story	Pfetzer	The author describes how he spent his teenage years climbing mountains in the United States, South America, Africa, and Asia.	Supplemental or Choice
Worst Worst Best School Year Ever	Robinson	The many readers who have laughed out loud at Robinson's uproarious 1972 novel, The Best Christmas Pageant Ever, will enthusiastically welcome the return of the six cigar-smoking Herdman kids. These six waste no time bending rules: they break them outright. While the original story centered on the church Christmas pageant, the sequel has a broader focus, paving the way for more varied misadventures, virtually all of which the Heremans craftily orchestrate. Among the dastardly deeds are the siblings' kidnapping of a bald baby, whose head they "tattoo" and show to other kids for a fee; their attempt to wash their cat (which is "missing one eye and part of an ear and most of its tail and all of whatever good nature it ever had") in a Laundromat machine; and their ingenious sabotage of the school's Fire Safety Day observance. In one of the funniest scenes, cunning Imogene Herdman comes to the rescue of a boy whose head (thanks to Imogene's brother) is stuck in a bike rack: she flattens his prominent ears with Scotch tape and slathers his head with margarine so it slides through the bars.	Supplemental or Choice
Wrinkle in Time	L'Engle	Meg Murry and her family receive a surprise visit from an unearthly stranger out of another dimension in time.	Supplemental or Choice
Young Painter, A: The Life and Paintings of Wang Yani – China's Extraordinary Young Artist	Zhensun, Sheng	From the age of three, Wang Yani has shown a remarkable feeling for color and design. Her creative brushwork in the free form style of Chinese art was recognized by art experts by the time she was four years old. Her work has been shown in museums and galleries around the world and has even been featured on a Chinese postage stamp. Now 16, she has advanced from animal and plant themes to more sophisticated subjects, but always with an extraordinary sense of balance and grace.	Supplemental or Choice

Middle School Core and Supplementary Reading List

Title	Author	Content	Program Use
Z for Zachariah	O'Brien, Robert C.	Post-nuclear war setting in which the main character is alone in the world. She deals with her solitude by continuing with her routines until a stranger comes along to threaten not only her life but her dreams. A character tries to rape her but she escapes.	Supplemental or Choice
Zlata's Diary	Fillipovic	A young girl's diary records the destruction of her city during the war in Yugoslavia.	Supplemental or Choice