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Office of Secondary Education  
Spring 2021

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### MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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# acknowledgments:

To ensure this list truly represented various backgrounds, cultures, and beliefs, a diverse group was required in order to collaborate and create this project. We would like to thank the following team members for their work.

From the Mississippi Department of Education, we would like to acknowledge:

Amy Baker	Tiffany Nickleberry
Jasmine Bell	Kimberly Petermann
Natalie Breithaupt	Kasey Rather
Sandra Elliott	LaTondra Robinson
Aimee Hawkins	Christine Spell
Molly Henderson	Missaha Thompson
Nicole Hunter	Melanie Watkins
Stephanie Mollett	Delphony Williams

We would also like to extend thanks to public school counselors who helped with the Social Emotional Learning review and the selection of titles to support SEL. We would like to thank parents, including foster parents, who reviewed for appropriateness and who suggested additional titles for consideration. Lastly, we would like to thank the various groups of Mississippi public school teachers, librarians, and administrators who assisted us in both rating and identifying the titles chosen for this list and for providing feedback throughout the development process.

Thanks to their assistance with this project, we are confident that we are providing Mississippi educators, parents, and students with a resource that will equip them to be college, career, and culturally ready.

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# introduction:

“Words are not just words. They are the nexus-the interface-between communication and thought. When we read, it is through words that we build, refine, and modify our knowledge” Marilyn Jager Adams (2009, p. 180).

Mississippi strives to develop college- and career-ready students by building their capacity to make meaning of the world around them through reading. For students to become well-rounded readers and citizens, they need to engage with high-quality, rigorous texts that represent varying cultures, genres, and facets of the human experience.

This resource intends to equip educators to make purposeful instructional decisions around the Mississippi College- and Career-Readiness Standards while promoting literacy that purposefully builds on a reader’s knowledge. This resource also provides students with texts that will serve as “mirrors, windows, and sliding glass doors.” Mirrors reflect texts where students can see themselves in the characters and events, while windows apply to texts that allow students to look out into the larger world and experience cultures, life experiences, and communities different from their own. Sliding glass doors refer to texts that not only introduce students to stories different from their own but encourage them to walk through and move forward, acting in an attempt to change the narrative.

Through a collaborative process, Mississippi teachers, administrators, parents, counselors, and librarians contributed to the creation of this list; consideration of individual texts and their potential for intertextuality through pairing was a factor in title selection.

The opportunities and applications for this resource are varied; therefore, teacher guidance and review are essential to providing students with appropriate and balanced reading choices that will ultimately foster increased independent reading and stamina. This resource is best utilized in conjunction with an MDE adopted [High-Quality Instructional Materials](#).

While appropriate within the context of the text, titles may contain content or topics that may require additional conversations. Administrators, teachers, counselors, librarians, and families should make informed decisions regarding text selections, and if a text for consideration is not familiar, please review the book prior to use. Teachers and librarians can use the [Reading Assignment Approval Form](#) if necessary, but it is not required for reading assignments or assessments.

**RESOURCE** Adams, M. J. (2009). The challenge of advanced texts: The interdependence of reading and learning. In E. H. Hiebert (Ed.), *Reading more, reading better: Are American students reading enough of the right stuff?* (pp. 163–189). New York, NY: Guilford.

# methodology:

The books identified in this list were not chosen at random; to appear on this list, a title had to meet specific criteria as outlined by a rubric developed by a team composed of a librarian, literacy personnel, a college professor, and a high school English teacher. The specific components of the rubric helped the team identify whether a chosen text contained:

- ability to help students build knowledge,
- appropriate grade-level complexity,
- a balance of diverse characters, cultures, perspectives, orientations, races, and ages, and
- content specific topics addressed by the Mississippi College- and Career-Readiness Standards.

The formal rubric used in the book-identification process can be found in the appendices of this document.

In addition, the team made the decision to focus on identifying newer texts in the hope that the themes and characters would be more relatable to students. While newer texts were a priority, the team also recognized the importance of classic texts and made attempts to present traditional titles in newer formats, such as graphic novels, to make these texts appealing to the modern student. The team used resources such as the *Magnolia* book list, *Novelist*, *We Need Diverse Books*, *Common Sense Media*, and *Teaching Books* to help identify potential titles.

Selected texts were then presented to a panel composed of Mississippi educators and parents, including public school teachers, librarians, administrators, counselors, and literacy coaches. This panel reviewed each text thoroughly, using a second rubric to rate and/or categorize each title on the following criteria:

- Publication date,
- Bilingual or graphic formats,
- Award winner,
- Diversity or Social Emotional considerations,
- Grade-level appropriateness, and
- Connection to established booklist themes.

Once reviewed by the panel, additional considerations were made for a text's potential to promote culturally responsive learning, build content knowledge, and social and emotional development.

## CULTURAL RESPONSIVE TEACHING

an approach that emphasizes “using the cultural knowledge, prior experiences, frames of reference, and performance styles of ethnically diverse students to make learning encounters more relevant to and effective for them. - Geneva Gay

## SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

is the process through which children manage emotions, show empathy for others, maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions.

## the shifts:

The Mississippi College- and Career- Readiness Standards were designed to be robust and relevant to the real world, reflecting the knowledge and skills students need for success in college and careers and to compete in the global economy. In order for these standards to be truly met, they must be addressed under the umbrella of the three instructional shifts: text complexity, finding evidence, and building knowledge. These shifts serve as a framework for cultivating language comprehension in the classroom.

Through regular practice with complex texts and their academic language, students are able to meet the steady demands of the standards as they increase through the grade bands. This focus on grade-level (and above) complex text equips students to master not only the reading standards, but to grow in their language, speaking, and listening skills. This booklist allows students to experience new and exciting worlds through interactive read alouds and book studies of high-interest and high complexity text.

Reading, writing, and speaking must be grounded in evidence from texts. This emphasis on locating evidence, from both literary and informational text, require students to read carefully and grasp information, arguments, ideas and details based on evidence directly from the text. The complex texts included in this booklist allow countless opportunities for teachers to develop both text-dependent and text-specific questions that require students to locate evidence from the materials.

Building knowledge through content-rich nonfiction allows students to be immersed in information about the world and develop strong general knowledge and vocabulary. In K-5, meeting this shift requires a 50/50 balance between informational and literary reading with a heavy emphasis on content-rich nonfiction in history/social studies, sciences, technical studies, and the arts. For grades 6-12, this is the core of the work as the standards for literacy are embedded throughout other subject areas. *The Equipped Booklist* has a strong pairing of fiction and nonfiction, along with examples on creating knowledge-building text sets that allow for deep understanding of important information about the world.

## text complexity:

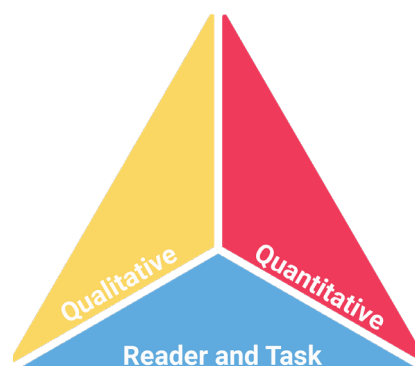
Within the considerations for text complexity, a key shift of the standards, there are three important elements to consider: quantitative elements, qualitative elements, and the reader and task. Each element is of equal importance during text selection for students. Below are details for how each element connects to the Equipped Booklist.

Through quantitative measures, a text is analyzed typically through a computer software based on items such as word length or frequency, sentence length, and text cohesion. For this booklist, Lexile measures were provided for each text when available. More information on Lexile levels can be found on the following page.

Qualitative features address four separate dimensions of text complexity. These include the meaning/purpose of the text, how the text is structured, the language used within the text, and the knowledge demands placed on students. Educators should carefully read through each text before presenting it to students to ensure appropriateness for the grade level and planned scaffolds to provide access for all.

The final element of text complexity considers the reader and task. This piece includes considerations of motivation, prior knowledge and experiences, and the overall purpose of interacting with the text.

For more information on identifying text complexity, visit <https://achievethecore.org/page/2725/text-complexity>.



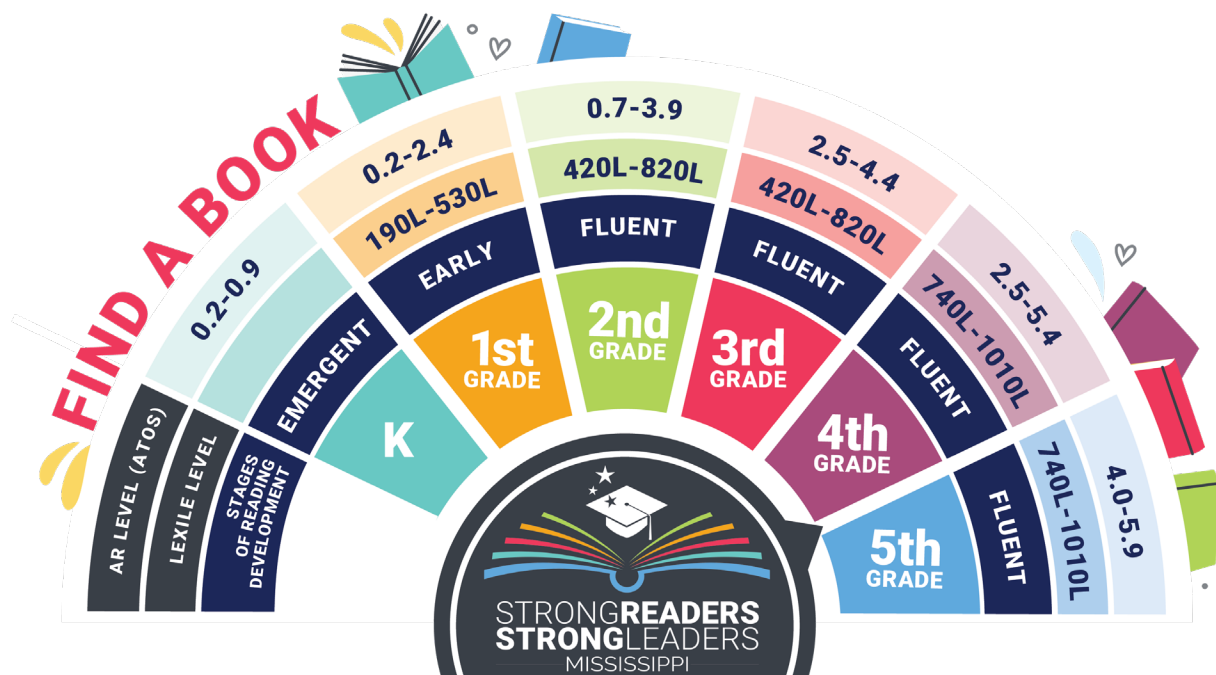
# lexile consideration:

Recently, Lexile levels have shifted, increasing in complexity at the lower grades. However, what has not shifted is the expectation that elementary students should be exposed to high-quality, rigorous text. Students need the opportunity to experience complex language and themes in authentic settings, both read independently and as part of a read-aloud experience. It is recommended that adults choose texts 1-3 grade levels higher than the child's independent reading level when selecting texts for read-aloud experiences.

## Implementation Help:

- Focus all students on the same rich, read-aloud anchor texts (as defined by the chart below) multiple times a week.
- Organize units around conceptually-related topics (and content-rich themes for literary texts) that build knowledge through anchor texts and volume of reading.
- Provide and adjust instructional scaffolds so every student can engage with the anchor texts, rather than restrict students to texts at their prescribed independent reading level. Scaffolds could include building knowledge about the topic of the text under study, providing access to texts read aloud, etc.

**RESOURCE** [achievethecore.org/content/upload/Supporting%20All%20Learners%20with%20Complex%20Text.pdf](https://achievethecore.org/content/upload/Supporting%20All%20Learners%20with%20Complex%20Text.pdf)



**RESOURCE** [strongreadersms.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Find-A-Book.pdf](https://strongreadersms.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Find-A-Book.pdf)

## **The Importance of Read-Alouds**

Reading aloud to students continues to be one of the most important activities for building knowledge, enriching vocabulary, exposing students to worlds beyond their own, and providing access to text for all. Typically, teachers should conduct read-alouds with text one to three grade levels above to allow for exposure to rich language and deep concepts. The Equipped Booklist will enable students to engage independently and explore new ideas and worlds with the classroom teacher through interactive read-alouds, even at the highest grade level. Educators must keep in mind the quantitative measures, qualitative features, and reader and task to make the best read-aloud decisions for their classroom instruction.

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## **Wordless Picture Books and Picture Books**

Some books have no written text, therefore they have no assigned Lexile value. However, wordless picture books and picture books serve an important purpose in the Literacy classroom and for all learners.

In wordless picture books, the detailed illustrations tell the story. Teachers and parents can use these particular texts as a foundation for vocabulary development and language acquisition by guiding conversation around what students notice on each page. Students can be encouraged to write their own descriptions and narratives to accompany the images. Even though there are no written words, students can still be guided through the text using a close-reading lesson format to help them find the detail and nuance the illustrations provide.

In a similar way, picture books should be considered as appropriate for students in all elementary grades, as they frequently incorporate complex language and themes which are supported by the illustrations. Students can be guided through a picture walk prior to reading the text as a way to support their wonderings and introduce them to key vocabulary.

Wordless picture books and picture books are excellent resources to support deeper units of learning. Through visuals, they support student understanding of vocabulary, allow them to visualize the content and building of background knowledge.

# understanding the book lists:



## GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**BILINGUAL FORMAT:** a book that is available in multiple languages

**DIGITAL FORMAT:** a book that is available as an audio book or an ebook

**FICTION:** literature that describes imaginary events and people

**GRAPHIC FORMAT:** a book written in comic-strip format or illustrated features, or a wordless picture book

**LEXILE (L):** a measurement of the reading level of a text

**NONFICTION:** writing that is based on facts, real events or people, such as biography or history

## LEGEND

- Award Winner
- Bilingual Format(s) Available
- Digital Format Available
- Graphic Format: Wordless Picture Books, Graphic or Illustrated Books

## LEXILE CODES

**AD – ADULT DIRECTED:** Better when read aloud to a student rather than having the student read independently

**GN – GRAPHIC NOVEL:** Graphic novels or comic books

**HL – HIGH-LOW:** Content to engage older students who need materials that are less complex and at a lower reading level

**NA – NOT AVAILABLE:** Lexile level has not been assigned to the text

**NC – NON-CONFORMING:** Good for high-ability readers who still need age-appropriate content



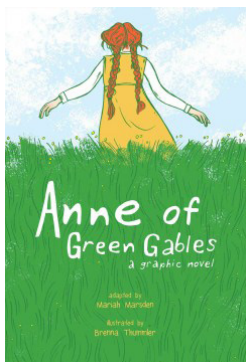
3rd GRADE

# book lists:



## BUILDING KNOWLEDGE TOPIC

### CLASSIC TALES



#### Anne of Green Gables

By: Mariah Marsden (2017)

A graphic novel adaptation of the classic novel about Anne, an eleven-year-old orphan, who is sent by mistake to live with a lonely, middle-aged brother and sister on a Prince Edward Island farm. **F** 231pgs

LEXILE: GN500L

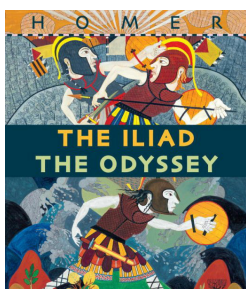


#### Tom's Midnight Garden

By: Philippa Pearce (2018)

When Tom's brother gets sick, Tom's shipped off to spend what he's sure will be a boring summer with his aunt and uncle in the country. But then Tom hears the old grandfather clock in the hall chime thirteen times, and he's transported back to an old garden where he meets a mysterious girl named Hatty. **F** 94pgs

LEXILE: GN510L



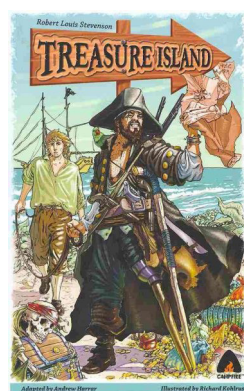
#### The Iliad/The Odyssey

By: Gillian Cross (2015)

Epic and thrilling, Homer's two age-old classics have been revisited countless times. Gillian Cross exquisite versions of Homer's classics introduce readers to Odysseus, Achilles, or Hector.

**F** 151pgs

LEXILE: 710L



#### Treasure Island

By: Andrew Harrar (2010)

A graphic novel adaptation of Stevenson's classic tale about Jim Hawkins, who finds a treasure map in the possessions of a dead man and embarks on a dangerous quest to find the treasure before the man's cohorts can find and kill him to get the map back.

**F** 84pgs

LEXILE: N/A



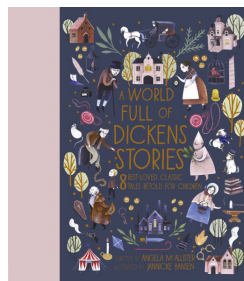
#### The Secret Garden

By: Mariah Marsden (2021)

Given new life as a graphic novel, *The Secret Garden* is more enchanting and relevant than ever before. At the back of the book, readers can learn about the life of Frances Hodgson Burnett and the history of British colonialism that contextualizes the original novel.

**F** N/A

LEXILE: N/A



#### A World Full of Dickens Stories

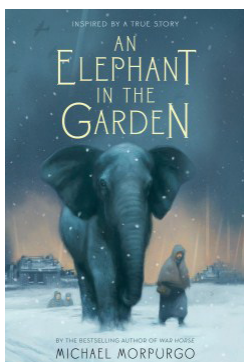
By: Angela McAllister (2020)

This book introduces children to eight of Dickens' greatest works, accompanied by beautiful, colorful illustrations that breathe new life into these timeless classics. A timeline at the back shows when each story was written, and gives facts about Dickens' life. **F** 127pgs

LEXILE: N/A

## BUILDING KNOWLEDGE TOPIC

### OVERCOMING CHALLENGES

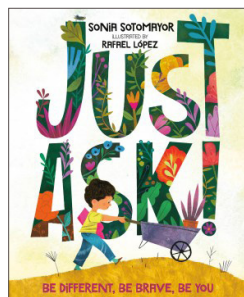


#### An Elephant in the Garden

By: Michael Morpurgo (2011)

Devastated to learn that an orphan elephant in the Dresden Zoo where their mother works is to be euthanized in anticipation of an upcoming bombing, Lizzie and Karl persuade the zoo director to let them keep the elephant in their garden. **F** 199pgs

LEXILE: 890L

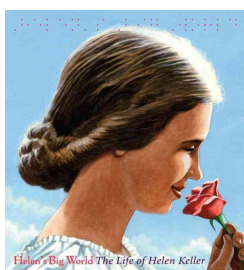


#### Just Ask!

By: Sonia Sotomayor (2019)

United States Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor celebrates the different abilities kids have. Using her own experiences, Justice Sotomayor writes about children with all sorts of challenges and looks at the special powers those kids have as well. **F** 32pgs

LEXILE: N/A



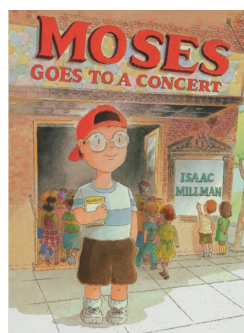
#### Helen's Big World

By: Doreen Rappaport (2012)

Presents a biography of Helen Keller, revealing how she overcame her blindness and deafness to learn to read and write. Also details Keller's social activism and how she changed America and the world.

**NF** 44pgs

LEXILE: AD770L

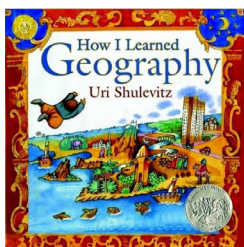


#### Moses Goes to a Concert

By: Isaac Millman (1998)

A story, told in part with American Sign Language, of a deaf boy and his classmates attending a concert. **F** 40pgs

LEXILE: AD670L



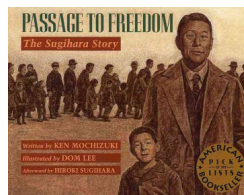
#### How I Learned Geography

By: Uri Shulevitz (2008)

Having fled from war in his troubled homeland, one young boy realizes how a map can transport him to exotic places while never leaving the room.

**F** 32pgs

LEXILE: AD660L



#### Passage to Freedom

By: Ken Mochizuki (1997)

Looks at the Japanese diplomat who used his powers - against the orders of his own government - to assist thousands of Jews in escaping the Nazis in Lithuania.

**NF** 32pgs

LEXILE: AD610L



# BUILDING KNOWLEDGE TOPIC

## POETRY

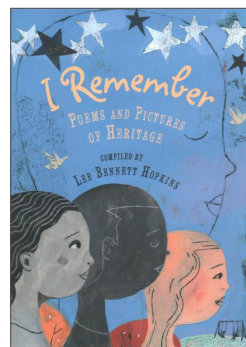


### Follow the Recipe

By: Marilyn Singer (2020)

Features a collection of poems with the word "recipe" in the title, discussing themes of food, traditional ingredients, actions associated with cooking, and life experiences. **F** 42pgs

LEXILE: N/A

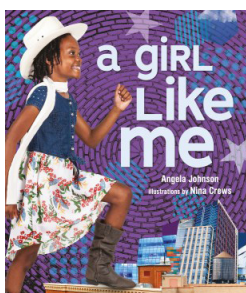


### I Remember

By: Lee Hopkins (2019)

*I Remember: Poems and Pictures of Heritage* brings together the work of fourteen award-winning poets and sixteen illustrators of diverse backgrounds who share aspects of their childhood experiences in honest portraits of what it was like for them growing up in the United States. **F** 56pgs

LEXILE: N/A

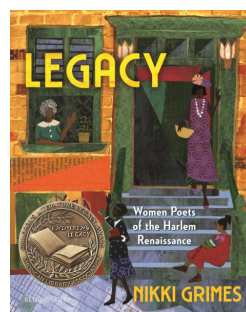


### A Girl Like Me

By: Angela Johnson (2020)

Features inspirational text encouraging girls to reject what other people say and to follow their dreams. Includes photocollage illustrations of a diverse group of girls. **F** 32pgs

LEXILE: 620L

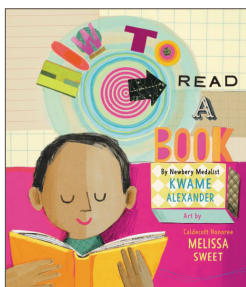


### Legacy

By: Nikki Grimes (2021)

A collection of original poems by author Nikki Grimes introducing readers to the lives and works of women poets of the Harlem Renaissance. Each poem is paired with full-color, original art by contemporary, female, African American illustrators **F** 134pgs

LEXILE: N/A

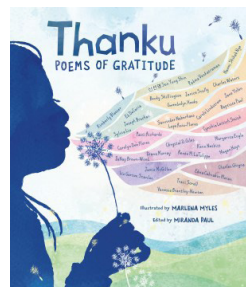


### How to Read a Book

By: Kwame Alexander (2019)

Suggests a method of reading that begins with planting oneself beneath a tree and leads to a book party one hopes will never end. **F** 36pgs

LEXILE: AD770L



### Thanku

By: Marlena Myles (2019)

This anthology brings together a diverse group of poets who express gratitude for everything from a puppy to hot cocoa to the sky itself. Each writer uses a different poetic form, and readers will encounter a concrete poem, a sonnet, a pantoum, a sijo, and much more. **F** 40pgs

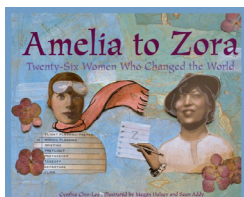
LEXILE: N/A





## BUILDING KNOWLEDGE TOPIC

### WOMEN LEADING THE CHANGE



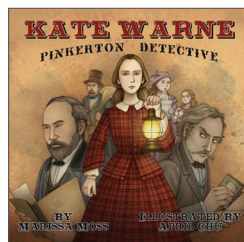
#### Amelia to Zora

By: Cynthia Chin-Lee (2005)

Presents brief, illustrated biographies of twenty-six women, one for each letter of the alphabet, who have made history in their various fields, including

naturalist Jane Goodall, missionary Mother Teresa, and democratic leader and political prisoner Aung San Suu Kyi. **NF** 32pgs

LEXILE: AD1040L



#### Kate Warne: Pinkerton Detective

By: Sandra Markle (2017)

When Kate Warne applied for a job with the Pinkerton Agency, Pinkerton assumed she wanted to cook or clean, but he agreed to try her out as an agent. Warne overcame stereotypes and social expectations by becoming the first female detective in the United States. **NF** 44pgs

LEXILE: 740L



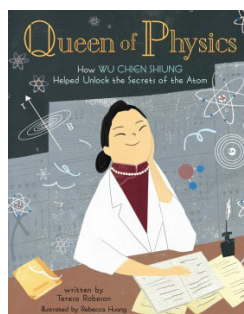
#### Eleanor, Quiet No More

By: Doreen Rappaport (2009)

Alone and lonely for much of her childhood, Eleanor found solace in books and in the life of her lively and independent mind. Her intellectual gifts and compassionate heart won her the admiration of many friends - and the love of her future husband, Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

**NF** 40pgs

LEXILE: AD670L



#### Queen of Physics

By: Teresa Robeson (2019)

When Wu Chien Shiung was born in China 100 years ago, girls did not attend school. But her parents named their daughter "Courageous Hero" and encouraged her love of science

**NF** 48pgs

LEXILE: 960L

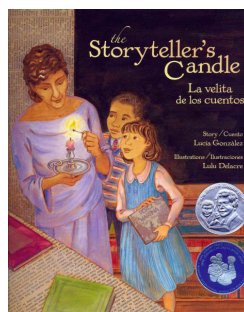


#### Irena's Jars of Secrets

By: Marcia Vaughan (2011)

In this astonishing book about a little-known hero, readers will learn about Irena Sendler, a Polish social worker who saved more than 2500 Jewish children from the Warsaw Ghetto during the Nazi occupation. **NF** 36pgs

LEXILE: 1040L



#### The Storyteller's Candle

By: Lucia M. Gonzalez (2008)

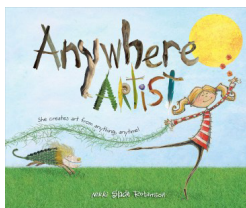
During the early days of the Great Depression, New York City's first Puerto Rican librarian, Pura Belpre, introduces the public library to immigrants living in El Barrio and hosts the neighborhood's first Three Kings' Day fiesta. **F** 30pgs

LEXILE: 730L



# BUILDING KNOWLEDGE ART TOPIC

## ART AND ARTISTS

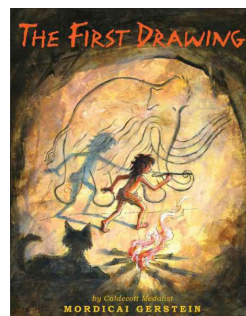


### Anywhere Artist

By: Nikkie Slade-Robinson (2018)

In delightful text and illustrations, an artist makes art from found objects and the world around her. This picture book celebrates creativity and will inspire readers to find art all around them, unleash their imaginations, and make their own artistic creations. **F 32pgs**

LEXILE: AD450L

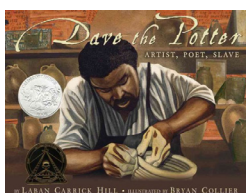


### The First Drawing

By: Mordcai Gerstein (2013)

Thirty thousand years ago, an imaginative child sees the shapes of animals in clouds and on the walls of the cave he shares with his family, but no one else can see them until he makes the world's first drawing. **F 40pgs**

LEXILE: N/A

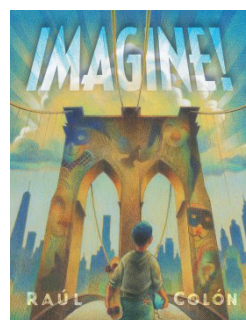


### Dave the Potter

By: Laban Hill (2010)

An award-winning celebration of an American hero who served as an extraordinary artist, poet, and potter living in South Carolina in the 1800s. He combined his superb artistry with deeply observant poetry, carved onto his pots, transcending the limitations he faced as a slave. **NF 32pgs**

LEXILE: AD1040L

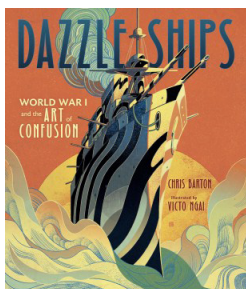


### Imagine

By: Raúl Colón (2018)

When a painting at the art museum he is visiting comes to life, a boy has an afternoon of adventure that changes how he views the world. **F 48pgs**

LEXILE: NP

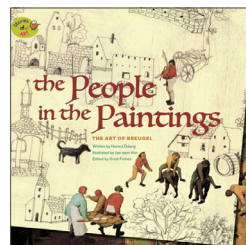


### Dazzle Ships: World War I and the Art of Confusion

By: Chris Barton (2017)

Desperate to protect ships from German torpedo attacks, British lieutenant-commander Norman Wilkinson proposed what became known as dazzle. These stunning patterns and colors were meant to confuse the enemy about a ship's speed and direction. **NF 38pgs**

LEXILE: 990L



### The People in the Paintings

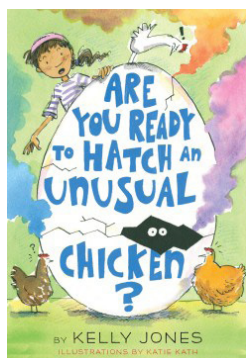
By: Haneul Ddang (2017)

Pieter Bruegel, a Netherlandish Renaissance painter, was famous for paintings of peasant scenes. Look at his paintings closely to discover the hidden stories and messages in his artwork. **NF 29pgs**

LEXILE: 620L

# BUILDING KNOWLEDGE SCIENCE TOPIC

## ALL ABOUT ANIMALS



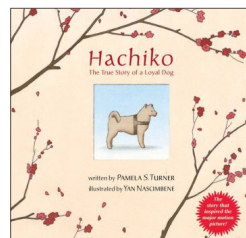
### Are You Ready to Hatch an Unusual Chicken?

By: Kelly Jones (2018)

Sophie Brown was just settling in to her new town and her new role as the keeper of some highly unusual chickens, chickens with secret superpowers.

**F** 310pgs

**LEXILE:** 840L



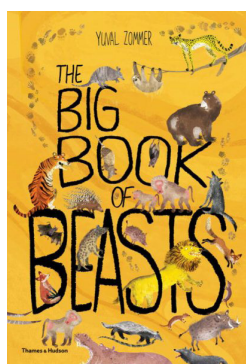
### Hachiko

By: Pamela S. Tuner (2004)

Imagine walking to the same place every day, to meet your best friend. Imagine watching hundreds of people pass by every morning and every afternoon. Imagine waiting, and waiting, and waiting.

**NF** 32pgs

**LEXILE:** AD830L



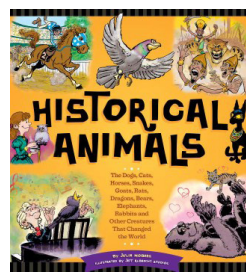
### The Big Book of Beasts

By: Yuval Zommer (2017)

The *Big Book of Beasts* approaches the world of beasts thematically, looking at mythical beasts, Ice Age beasts, beasts on your street, and how to save beasts in danger of extinction

**NF** 64pgs

**LEXILE:** N/A



### Historical Animals

By: Julia Moberg (2015)

Read about the Ethiopian goats that discovered the coffee bean, Marco Polo seeing dragons in China, and a dog named Boatswain that saved Napoleon's life.

**NF** 91pgs

**LEXILE:** 940L



### Fur, Feather, Fin: All of Us are Kin

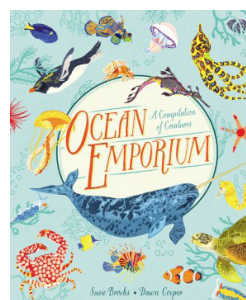
By: Diane Lang (2018)

There are so many wild and wonderful animals in our world. Some have fur, some have feathers,

some have fins, but all are connected. This fact-filled exploration of the diversity of the animal kingdom celebrates mammals, birds, insects, fish, reptiles, amphibians, and more!

**NF** 44pgs

**LEXILE:** AD590L



### Ocean Emporium

By: Susie Brooks (2019)

Beneath the ocean waves lies a web of life that ties together creatures great and small. Fan favorites like hermit crabs and great white sharks share space with mysterious bottom-dwellers like mimic octopuses and giant sea spiders in this gorgeous exploration of the sea.

**NF** 54pgs

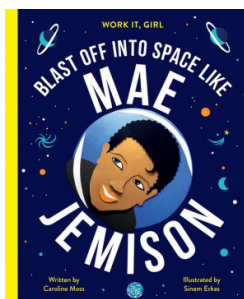
**LEXILE:** N/A





# BUILDING KNOWLEDGE SCIENCE TOPIC

## ASTRONOMY



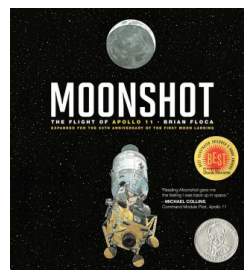
### Blast Off into Space Like Mae Jemison

By: Caroline Moss (2020)

When Mae Jemison was a little girl, she loved science, dancing, and dinosaurs. She watched the Apollo moon landings and wondered why none of the astronauts were women.

NF 56pgs

LEXILE: 850L

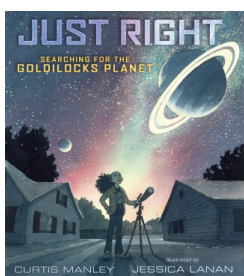


### Moonshot: The Flight of Apollo 11

By: Brian Floca (2019)

Here is a story of adventure and discovery - a story of leaving and returning during the summer of 1969, and a story of home, seen whole, from far away. NF 56pgs

LEXILE: 780L



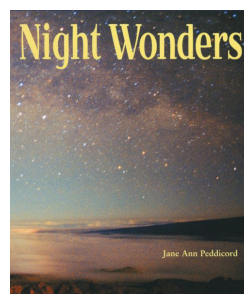
### Just Right

By: Curtis Manley (2019)

The use of a parallel visual narrative, which features a girl and her family visiting a planetarium, situates the images of possible other life-supporting worlds in that character's imagination.

F 42pgs

LEXILE: 1080L



### Night Wonders

By: Jane Peddicord (2005)

When you shine a flashlight into the night sky, the light speeds away from you at 186,000 miles per second. If the light escapes the Earth's atmosphere, it can soar through outer space and on to the stars. How would you like to stow aboard that flight? F 32pgs

LEXILE: N/A

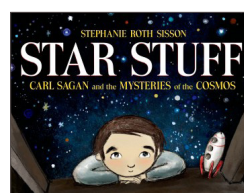


### Margaret and the Moon

By: Dean Robbins (2017)

*Margaret and the Moon* explores the childhood of one of the world's greatest computer female coders who helped put a man on the moon! NF 32pgs

LEXILE: 630L



### Star Stuff

By: Stephanie Sisson (2014)

*Star Stuff* follows Carl from his days star gazing from the bedroom window of his Brooklyn apartment, through his love of

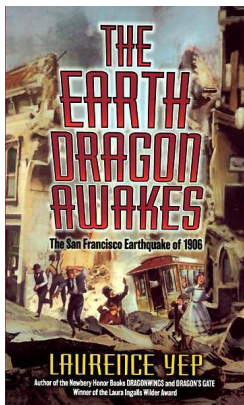
speculative science fiction novels, to his work as an internationally renowned scientist who worked on the Voyager missions exploring the farthest reaches of space. NF 31pgs

LEXILE: AD760L



# BUILDING KNOWLEDGE SCIENCE TOPIC

## EARTH'S COMPOSITION

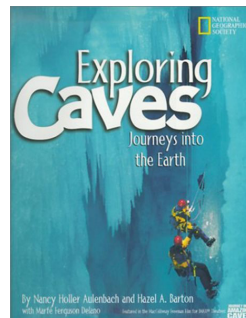


### The Earth Dragon Awakes

By: Laurence Yep (2008)

Eight-year-old Henry and nine-year-old Chin love to read about heroes in popular "penny dreadful" novels, until they both witness real courage while trying to survive the 1906 San Francisco earthquake. **F** 117pgs

LEXILE: 510L



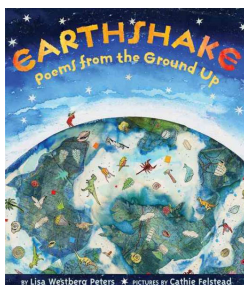
### Exploring Caves

By: Nancy Aulenbach (2001)

Two veteran cavers, accompanied by a film crew, guide readers through subterranean adventures in the ice caves of Greenland, underwater caves on Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula, and terrestrial caves in the United States.

**NF** 64pgs

LEXILE: N/A

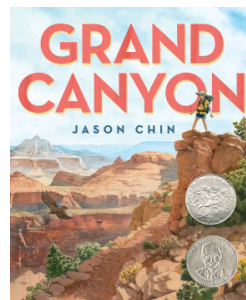


### Earthshake

By: Lisa Peters (2003)

Peters presents twenty-two poems about geology, including pieces on fossils, tectonic plates, lava and strata. An endnote provides information about the earth's surface and interior, various types of rocks, and how volcanoes, glaciers, and erosion modify the landscape. **F** 32pgs

LEXILE: NP



### Grand Canyon

By: Jason Chin (2017)

As a father and his daughter hike up and out of the Grand Canyon, their discoveries of different fossils at various layers of the canyon transport the girl back in time to the era in which that fossil was a living plant or animal. **NF** 48pgs

LEXILE: 1000L  



### Everest

By: Sangma Francis (2018)

There is so much more to this mountain than the brave mountaineers who climb it. Travel back to its ancient origins, learn about the flowers and plants that grow upon this great peak, and discover the rich history of religions, myths, and legends that surround this mountain.

**NF** 75pgs

LEXILE: N/A 



### Thunder Underground

By: Jane Yolen (2017)

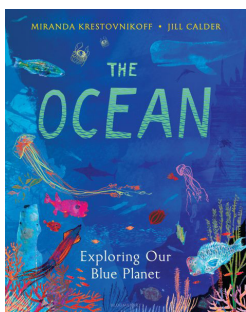
This collection of poems takes readers on an expedition underground, exploring everything from animal burrows and human creations, like subways, near the surface - to ancient cities and fossils, lower down - to caves, magma, and Earth's tectonic plates, deeper still below our feet. **F** 32pgs

LEXILE: 900L  



# BUILDING KNOWLEDGE SCIENCE TOPIC

## THE STORY OF WATER

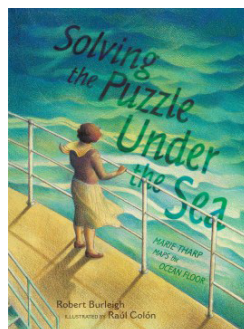


### The Ocean: Exploring the Blue Planet

By: Miranda Krestovnikoff (2020)

Oceans cover more than 70% of the world - and so much science is lurking underneath that water's surface. This book explores an incredible collection of narratives, featuring fascinating facts and stories about the world's deepest seas and oceans. **NF** 63pgs

LEXILE: N/A



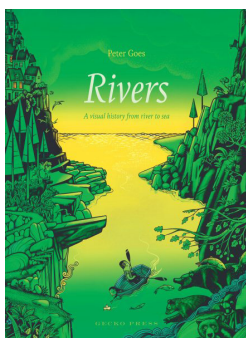
### Solving the Puzzle Under the Sea

By: Robert Burleigh (2016)

Marie Tharp was fascinated by the ocean. She also loved her father, a mapmaker. What if she could combine both these loves? What if she could map the ocean floor?

**NF** 40pgs

LEXILE: 750L



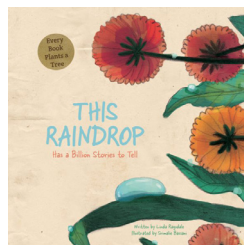
### Rivers

By: Peter Goes (2018)

Our seas and rivers tell a compelling story about our planet. Each illustration includes major events and historical figures connected with its river, but also favorite stories and icons.

**NF** 73pgs

LEXILE: IG1040L



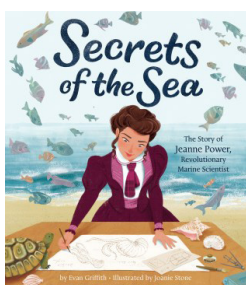
### This Raindrop

By: Linda Ragsdale (2020)

This beautiful tale explains how Earth has depended on the same water supply throughout its existence by flowing and falling all around us, fueling and forming much of what we have seen and used for millions of years.

**NF** 32pgs

LEXILE: 880L



### Secrets of the Sea

By: Evan Griffith (2021)

Chronicles the life of Jeanne Villepreux-Power, a French dressmaker turned marine biologist, and details how her desire to study marine life prompted her to invent the aquarium. **NF** 40pgs

LEXILE: NP



### What on Earth: Water

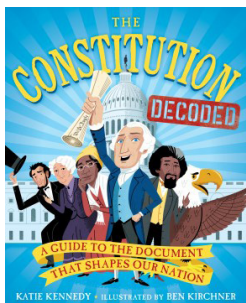
By: Isabel Thomas (2016)

Learn all about the water cycle and find out how water shapes our planet. Make a precipitation gauge or grow your own stalactite. Find out how important it is to conserve water and harness its energy. **NF** 63pgs

LEXILE: 740L

# BUILDING KNOWLEDGE SOCIAL STUDIES TOPIC

## GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

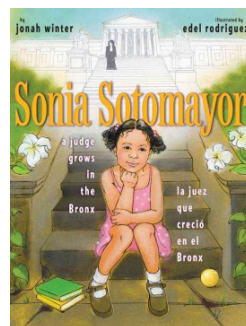


### The Constitution Decoded

By: Katie Kennedy (2020)

Presents an illustrated guide to the United States Constitution, explaining the original draft, the Bill of Rights, the twenty-seven amendments, and the declaration of independence. Provides text of the original drafts with notations that explain the meaning of each section. **NF** 204pgs

LEXILE: N/A

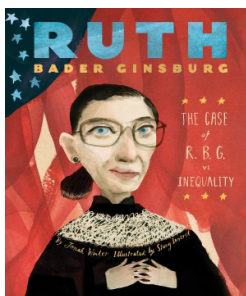


### Sonia Sotomayor: A Judge Grown in the Bronx

By: Jonah Winter (2009)

The story of Sonia Sotomayor, who rose up from a childhood of poverty and prejudice to become the first Latino to be nominated to the US Supreme Court. **NF** 34pgs

LEXILE: NC840L



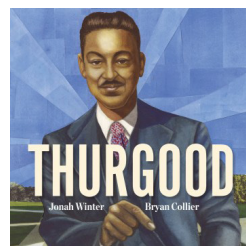
### Ruth Bader Ginsburg: The Case of Ruth and Inequality

By: Jonah Winter (2017)

Looks at the life of Ruth Ginsburg the second woman named to the United States Supreme Court.

**NF** 32pgs

LEXILE: 900L

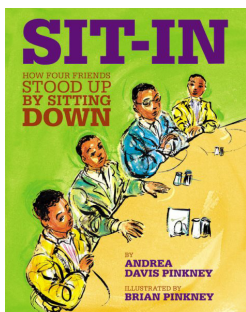


### Thurgood

By: Jonah Winter (2019)

Thurgood Marshall, the first black Justice on the Supreme Court and a giant of the Civil Rights Movement was a born lawyer - the loudest talker, funniest joke teller, and best arguer on the block. **NF** 40pgs

LEXILE: 950L



### Sit-In: How Four Friends Stood Up by Sitting Down

By: Andrea Pinkney (2010)

This picture book is a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the momentous Woolworth's lunch counter sit-in when four college students staged a peaceful protest that became a defining moment in the struggle for racial equality and the growing civil rights movement. **NF** 40pgs

LEXILE: AD600L



### Wilma's Way Home

By: Doreen Rappaport (2019)

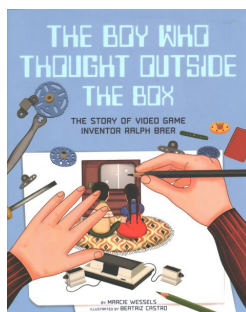
This biography of Cherokee girl Wilma Mankiller, highlights the events of her life that led to her becoming the first woman chief of the Cherokee Nation. **NF** 44pgs

LEXILE: 840L



# BUILDING KNOWLEDGE SOCIAL STUDIES TOPIC

## INVENTIONS



### The Boy Who Thought Outside the Box

By: Marcie Wessels (2020)

This picture-book biography of Ralph Baer, whose family fled Nazi Germany for the US, introduces kids to a great inventor and the birth of the first video game.

NF 48pgs

LEXILE: 740L

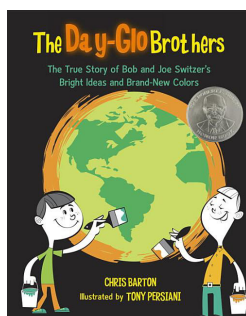


### The Marvelous Thing That Came from a Spring

By: Gilbert Ford (2016)

Did you know that the Slinky, one of the greatest toy sensations of the 20th century, has its origins in World War II? Naval engineer Richard James saw a torsion spring fall off a shelf above his desk one day. NF 34pgs

LEXILE: AD880L

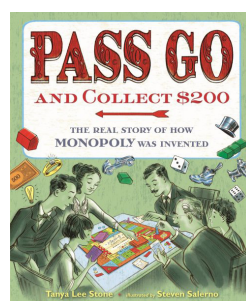


### The Day-Glo Brothers

By: Chris Barton (2009)

Joe and Bob Switzer were very different brothers. When an accident left Bob recovering in a darkened basement, the brothers began experimenting with ultraviolet light and fluorescent paints. Together they invented a whole new kind of color, one that glows with an extra-special intensity - Day-Glo. NF 42pgs

LEXILE: 990L

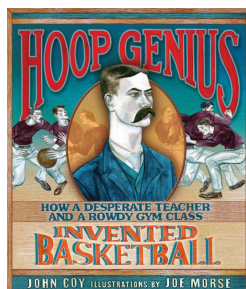


### Pass Go and Collect \$200

By: Tanya Lee Stone (2018)

Highlights Lizzie Magie's role in creating a game that represented the landlord-tenant relationship and improvements made by Charles Darrow that made it the game we know today. NF 34pgs

LEXILE: 930L

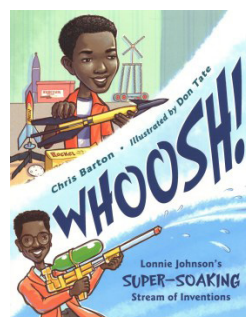


### Hoop Genius

By: John Coy (2013)

Taking over a rowdy gym class right before winter vacation is not something James Naismith wants to do at all. Naismith needs something new, exciting, and fast to keep the class happy, but saving this class is going to a genius. NF 36pgs

LEXILE: 880L



### Whoosh!

By: Chris Barton (2019)

While trying to create a new cooling system for air conditioners and refrigerators, Lonnie Johnson accidentally stumbled upon the mechanics that would lead to the invention of one of the top 20 toys of all time - the Super Soaker. NF 32pgs

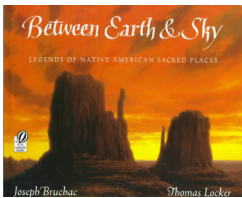
LEXILE: 820L





# BUILDING KNOWLEDGE SOCIAL STUDIES TOPIC

## NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURES AND REGIONS

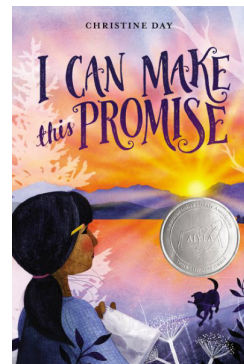


### Between Earth and Sky

By: Joseph Bruchac (1996)

Through the guidance of his uncle and the retelling of various Native American legends, a young boy learns that everything living and inanimate has its place, should be considered sacred, and given respect. **NF** 32pgs

**LEXILE:** AD780L



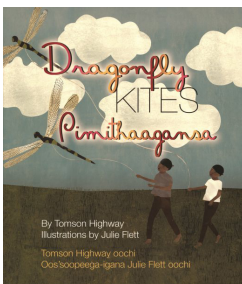
### I Can Make This Promise

By: Christine Day (2019)

When twelve-year-old Edie finds letters and photographs in her attic that change everything she thought she knew about her Native American mother's adoption, she realizes she has a lot to learn about her family's history and her own identity.

**F** 264pgs

**LEXILE:** HL610L

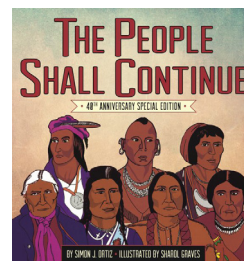


### Dragonfly Kites

By: Tomson Highway (2002)

Joe and Cody, two young Cree brothers, along with their parents and their little dog Ootsie, are spending the summer by one of the hundreds of lakes in northern Manitoba. While they have only each other for company, the boys are never bored. **F** 32pgs

**LEXILE:** 520L



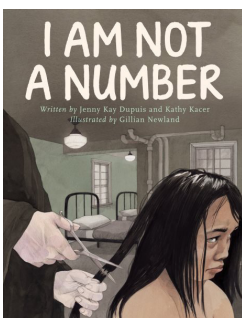
### The People Shall Continue

By: Simon J. Ortiz (1994)

Told in the rhythms of traditional oral narrative, this powerful telling of the history of the Native/ Indigenous peoples of North America recounts their story from Creation to the invasion and usurpation of Native lands.

**NF** 23pgs

**LEXILE:** 660L



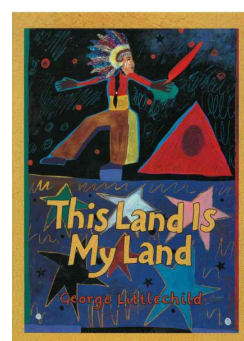
### I am Not a Number

By: Jenny Dupuis (2016)

A young First Nations girl is sent away to a residential school and is determined not to forget who she is and where she came from.

**F** 32pgs

**LEXILE:** 650L



### This Land is My Land

By: George Littlechild (1993)

Using text and his paintings, the author describes the experiences of Native Americans of North America in general as well as his experiences growing up as a Plains Cree Indian in Canada.

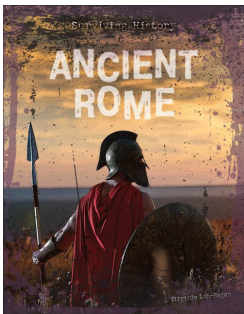
**NF** 30pgs

**LEXILE:** 790L



# BUILDING KNOWLEDGE SOCIAL STUDIES TOPIC

## ROMAN CIVILIZATION AND CULTURE

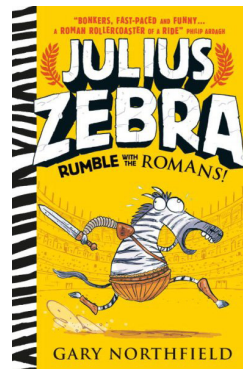


### Ancient Rome

By: Virginia Loh-Hagan (2021)

Provides questions in order for the reader to figure out if they would be able to survive in ancient Rome. Discusses gladiators, wars, diseases, and other dangerous disasters that affected ancient Romans. **NF** 32pgs

LEXILE: 500L



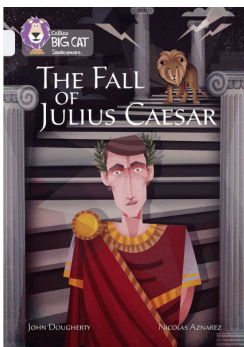
### Julius Zebra: Rumble with the Romans

By: Gary Northfield (2016)

When a zebra named Julius and his friends are captured and transported to the Roman Colosseum, they're forced to train to become gladiators. In order to regain their freedom, they'll have to win the love of the crowds.

**F** 288pgs

LEXILE: 670L

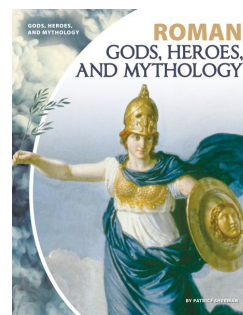


### The Fall of Julius Caesar

By: John Dougherty (2017)

An illustrated retelling of William Shakespeare's tragedy in which Cassius, fearing Julius Caesar's ambition, forms a conspiracy among Roman republicans including Caesar's trusted friend Brutus to assassinate him on the Ides of March. **F** 55pgs

LEXILE: 610L



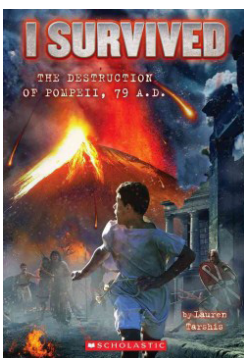
### Roman Gods, Heroes, and Mythology

By: Patrice Sherman (2019)

*Roman Gods, Heroes, and Mythology* explores the gods, heroes, creatures, and stories of Roman mythology, in addition to examining their influence today.

**NF** 48pgs

LEXILE: 810L



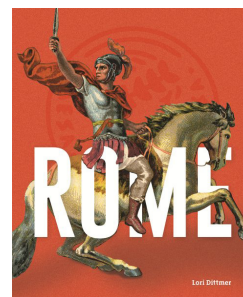
### I Survived the Destruction of Pompeii, A.D. 79

By: Lauren Tarshis (2014)

During the infamous eruption of Mount Vesuvius, one boy struggles to escape. Can he survive the most devastating disaster of ancient times?

**F** 95pgs

LEXILE: 700L



### Rome: Ancient Time

By: Lori Dittmer (2020)

This cultural overview of ancient Rome situates the reader within the society, describing key aspects of daily life, beliefs, and architectural accomplishments such as the Colosseum.

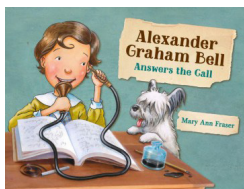
**NF** 24pgs

LEXILE: 570L



# BUILDING KNOWLEDGE SOCIAL STUDIES TOPIC

## SCIENTIFIC ADVANCEMENTS



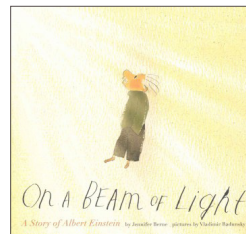
### Alexander Graham Bell Answers the Call

By: Mary Ann Fraser (2017)

Well before Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone, Aleck (as his family called him) was a curious boy, interested in how and why he was able to hear the world all around him.

NF 32pgs

LEXILE: 820L

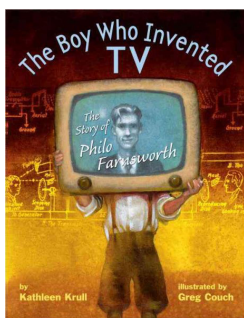


### On a Beam of Light

By: Jennifer Berne (2013)

From a boy endlessly fascinated by the wonders around him, Albert Einstein ultimately grows into a man of genius recognized the world over for profoundly illuminating our understanding of the universe. NF 51pgs

LEXILE: AD680L

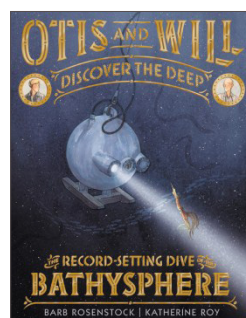


### The Boy Who Invented TV

By: Kathleen Krull (2009)

Plowing a potato field in 1920, a 14-year-old farm boy from Idaho, turned a brainstorm into reality by transmitting the world's first television image. NF 34pgs

LEXILE: 860L



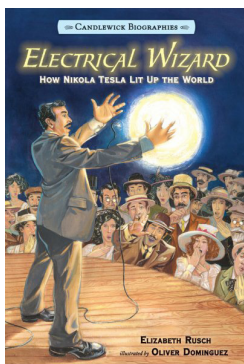
### Otis and Will Discover

By: Barb Rosenstock (2018)

Presents the illustrated story of Otis Barton and William Beebe, who collaborated in the 1930s on a submersible that could take them deeper in the ocean than anyone had gone before, and see life never before discovered.

NF 40pgs

LEXILE: 620L

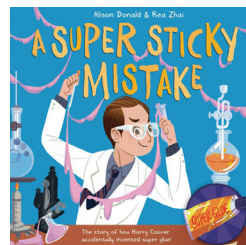


### Electrical Wizard

By: Elizabeth Rusch (2013)

A biography of Serbian-American scientist Nikola Tesla, whose early fascination with electricity caused him to go on to invent many devices that helped bring electricity to American households and, eventually, the rest of the world. NF 39pgs

LEXILE: 840L



### A Super Sticky Mistake

By: Alison Donald (2020)

Illustrated children's book presents a biography of chemist Harry Coover and his accidental invention of super glue.

NF 32pgs

LEXILE: N/A





# BUILDING KNOWLEDGE SOCIAL STUDIES TOPIC

## THIRTEEN COLONIES



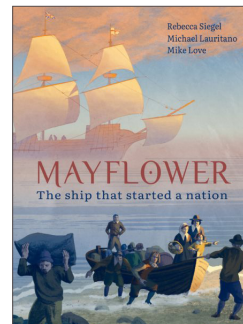
### The Dreadful, Smelly Colonies

By: Elizabeth Raum (2010)

From moldy food and dirt covered clothes to poisonous pests and extreme weather, American colonists did not have the easiest lives. Items that we take for granted like deodorant and soap were no where to be found.

NF 32pgs

LEXILE: 810L



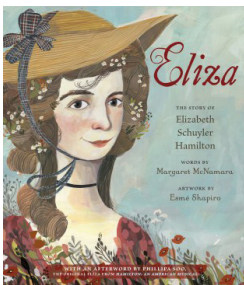
### Mayflower

By: Rebecca Siegel (2020)

Showcases pilgrims lives aboard ship at sea, the hardships of setting up a colony in the "New World," conflicts with Native American Indians, and how the "Mayflower" eventually left the New World for an unknown fate.

NF 64pgs

LEXILE: 840L

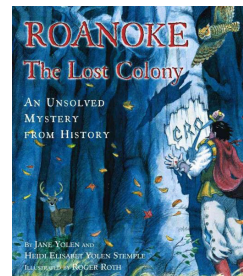


### Eliza

By: Margaret McNamara (2018)

Describes Eliza's early years as the child of a wealthy, influential family in New York, her unexpected relationship with Hamilton, their family, and after his death, the work she did in preserving his memory and legacy. NF 41pgs

LEXILE: AD1100L



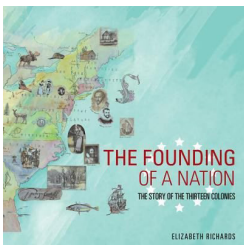
### Roanoke: The Lost Colony

By: Jane Yolen (2003)

John White returned to the colony of Roanoke in 1590 with fresh supplies from England only to discover the colony had almost totally vanished, and to this very day no one knows for sure what happened to the people.

F 32pgs

LEXILE: 850L

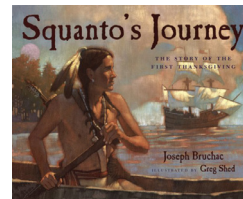


### The Founding of a Nation

By: Elizabeth Richards (2017)

Introduces colonists from the early beginnings of the thirteen colonies, discussing how each colony came to be, with an introduction covering the Magna Carta. NF 47pgs

LEXILE: N/A



### Squanto's Journey

By: Joseph Bruchac (2000)

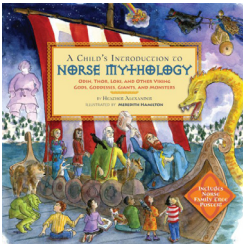
In 1620 an English ship called the Mayflower landed on the shores inhabited by the Pokanoket, and it was Squanto who welcomed the newcomers and taught them how

to survive. When a good harvest was gathered, the people feasted together - a tradition that continues almost four hundred years later. NF 32pgs

LEXILE: 750L

# BUILDING KNOWLEDGE SOCIAL STUDIES TOPIC

## VIKING CIVILIZATION AND CULTURE

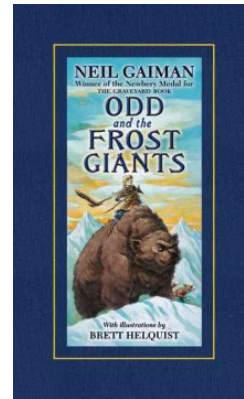


### A Child's Introduction to Norse Mythology

By: Heather Alexander (2018)

Packed with action, intrigue, trickery, and love, A Child's Introduction to Norse Mythology acquaints kids with the original North Germanic and Scandinavian folklore behind characters like Thor and Loki, plus other gods, goddesses, giants, dwarves, and more. **F** 96pgs

LEXILE: N/A

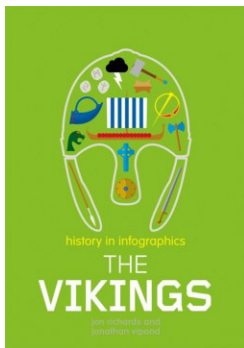


### Odd and the Frost Giants

By: Neil Gaiman (2009)

An unlucky twelve-year-old Norwegian boy named Odd leads the Norse gods Loki, Thor, and Odin in an attempt to outwit evil Frost Giants who have taken over Asgard. **F** 117pgs

LEXILE: 820L

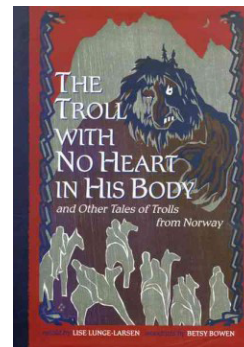


### History in Infographics: Vikings

By: Jon Richards (2021)

History in Infographics: The Vikings allows children to explore the Viking era like never before, finding out how people lived, what they ate, what they wore, how they were ruled and the gods they worshipped. **NF** 32pgs

LEXILE: N/A



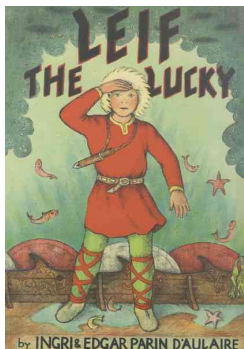
### The Troll with No Heart in His Body

By: Lise Lunge-Larsen (2013)

A collection of nine Norwegian folk tales centering around trolls who trick humans and animals. Each tale is illustrated with Norwegian woodcut images.

**F** 92pgs

LEXILE: 830L



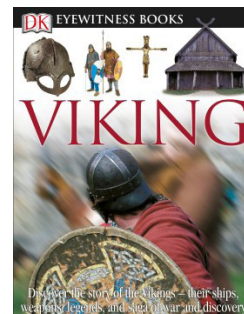
### Leif the Lucky

By: Infi d'Aulaire (2014)

Provides a biography of Viking explorer Leif, Erik the Red's son, who sails to Greenland with his family to settle down, and has many exciting and dangerous adventures, including Leif's journey to North America.

**NF** 60pgs

LEXILE: N/A



### Viking

By: Susan Margeson (2010)

Explores the world of the Vikings with numerous photographs of Viking artifacts. Examines a warship, weapons, a fort, homes, farming, games, and burials.

**NF** 72pgs

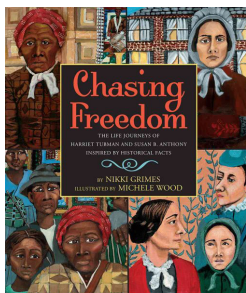
LEXILE: IG920L





# BUILDING KNOWLEDGE SOCIAL STUDIES TOPIC

## VOTING IN AMERICA

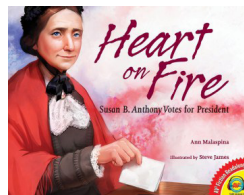


### Chasing Freedom

By: Nikki Grimes (2015)

Nikki Grimes set out to imagine the conversation that might occur between African American abolitionist Harriet Tubman, and white suffragist and abolitionist Susan B. Anthony, if they could sit down together over tea and discuss their extraordinary lives. **F** 53pgs

LEXILE: 960L  

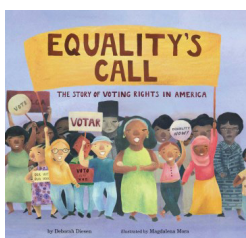


### Heart on Fire

By: Ann Malaspina (2015)

Showcases Susan B. Anthony's illegal voting in the presidential election of 1872 and examines how her subsequent arrest and trial helped shape the suffrage movement. **NF** 32pgs

LEXILE: N/A  



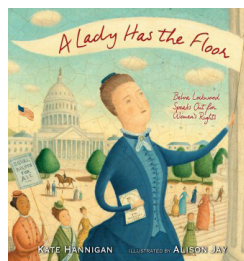
### Equality's Call

By: Deborah Diesen (2020)

The founders of the United States declared that consent of the governed was a key part of their plan for the new nation. This unflinching and inspiring history of voting rights looks

back at the activists who answered equality's call, working tirelessly to secure the right for all to vote, and it also looks forward to the future and the work that still needs to be done. **NF** 42pgs

LEXILE: AD640L 





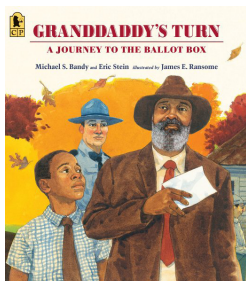
### A Lady Has the Floor

By: Kate Hannigan (2018)

Activist Belva Lockwood never stopped asking herself the question Are women not worth the same as men? She had big dreams and didn't let anyone stand in her way--not her father, her law school, or even the U.S. Supreme Court.

She fought for equality for women in the classroom, in the courtroom, and in politics. **NF** 32pgs

LEXILE: 780L  

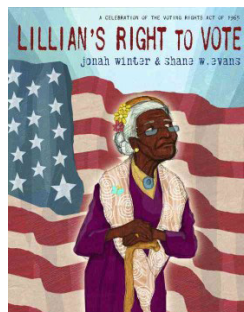


### Granddaddy's Turn

By: Michael S. Bandy (2015)

A young boy witnesses his proud, hardworking grandfather dress in his best suit and go to town, so that he can vote for the first time. **F** 32pgs



LEXILE: AD600L  



### Lillian's Right to Vote

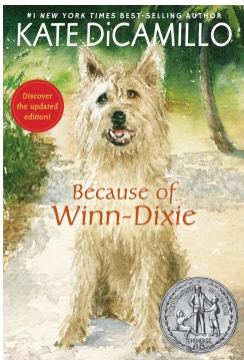
By: Jonah Winter (2015)

As an elderly woman, Lillian recalls that her great-great-grandparents were sold as slaves in front of a courthouse where only rich white men were allowed to vote, then the long fight that led to her right - and determination - to cast her ballot since the Voting Rights Act gave every American the right to vote. **F** 34pgs

LEXILE: AD1030L  

# BUILDING KNOWLEDGE SOCIAL EMOTIONAL TOPIC

## SELF-AWARENESS

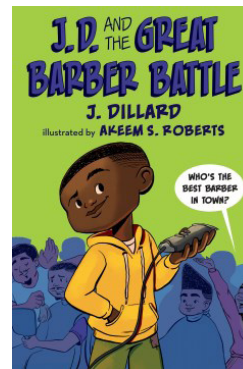


### Because of Winn-Dixie

By: Kate DiCamillo (2000)

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. **F** 182pgs

LEXILE: 670L

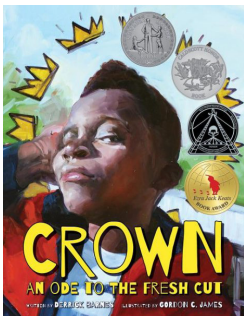


### J.D. and the Great Barber Battle

By: J. Dillard (2021)

After a disastrous home haircut by his mother, an eight-year-old J.D. takes matters into his own hands. Soon he has clients coming to him for haircuts and Henry, Jr., the local barber, notices his lack of customers. The stage is set for a great barber battle in Meridian, Mississippi! **F** 126pgs

LEXILE: N/A

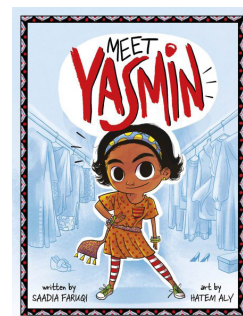


### Crown: An Ode to a Fresh Cut

By: Derrick Barnes (2017)

Celebrates the magnificent feeling that comes from walking out of a barber shop with newly-cut hair. **F** 32pgs

LEXILE: 700L



### Meet Yasmin!

By: Saadia Faruqi (2018)

Pakistani American, Yasmin, learns to cope with the small problems of school and home, while gaining confidence in her own skills and creative abilities. **F** 96pgs

LEXILE: 530L

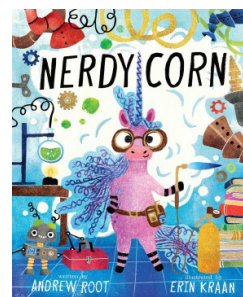


### Five Things About Ava Andrews

By: Margaret Dilloway (2020)

Struggling with the dual challenges of an anxiety disorder and a heart condition, a nearly friendless girl learns to manage her shyness through an improv class before discovering her voice as an activist. **F** 288pgs

LEXILE: N/A



### NerdyCORN

By: Andrew Root (2021)

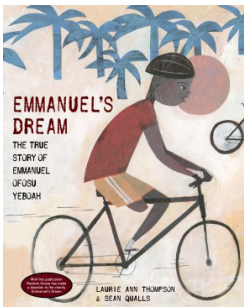
Fern is a smart, creative unicorn who prefers building robots to jumping through shimmering rainbows. Even though Fern is a good friend and always willing to help others, the other unicorns tease her and call her a nerdyunicorn. **F** 40pgs

LEXILE: N/A



# BUILDING KNOWLEDGE SOCIAL EMOTIONAL TOPIC

## SELF-MANAGEMENT

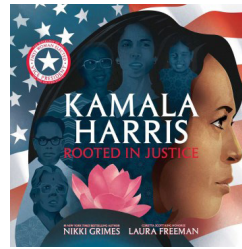


### Emmanuel's Dream

By: Laurie Ann Thompson (2015)

This is the true story of Emmanuel Yeboah. Born in Ghana in 1977 with a deformed leg, he became the personification of courage, strength - mental and physical - and determination even as a child. **NF** 40pgs

LEXILE: AD770L



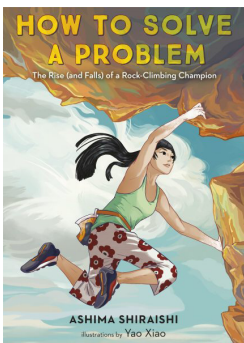
### Kamala Harris: Rooted in Justice

By: Nikki Grimes (2020)

When Kamala Harris was young, she often accompanied her parents to civil rights marches - so many, in fact, that when her mother asked a frustrated Kamala what she wanted, the young girl responded with: "Freedom!"

**NF** 40pgs

LEXILE: AD890L



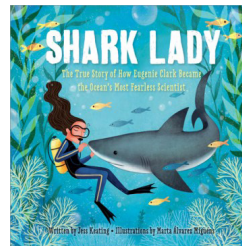
### How to Solve a Problem

By: Ashima Shiraishi (2020)

Describes solving a complex problem in terms of rock climbing, which may include false starts, breaking the challenge into smaller parts, and always being thoughtful and persistent.

**NF** 33pgs

LEXILE: AD650L

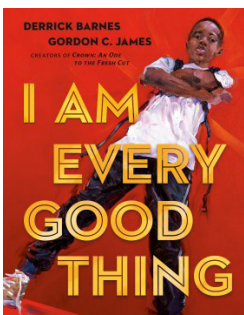


### Shark Lady

By: Jess Keating (2017)

At 9 years old, Eugenie Clark developed an unexpected passion for sharks after a visit to the Battery Park Aquarium in New York City. Despite many obstacles in her path, Eugenie was able to study the creatures she loved so much. **NF** 32pgs

LEXILE: 730L



### I Am Every Good Thing

By: Derrick Barnes (2020)

The confident narrator of this book is proud of everything that makes him who he is. He's got big plans, and no doubt he'll see them through - as he's creative, adventurous, smart, funny, and a good friend. Sometimes he falls, but he always gets back up.

**F** 32pgs

LEXILE: N/A



### The World is Not a Rectangle

By: Jeanette Winter (2017)

Get to know Zaha Hadid in this nonfiction picture book about the famed architect's life and her triumph over adversity. **NF** 56pgs

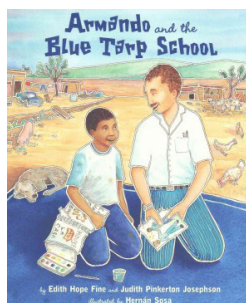
LEXILE: 760L





# BUILDING KNOWLEDGE SOCIAL EMOTIONAL TOPIC

## SOCIAL AWARENESS

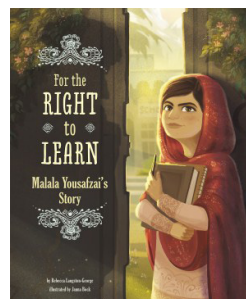


### Armando and the Blue Tarp School

By: Edith Fine (2007)

Armando and his father are trash-pickers in Tijuana, Mexico, but when Señor David brings his "school" - a blue tarp set down near the garbage dump - to their neighborhood, Armando's father decides that he must attend classes and learn. **F** 32pgs

LEXILE: AD560L



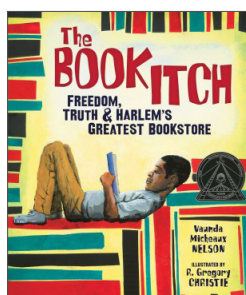
### For the Right to Learn

By: Rebecca Langston-George (2017)

She grew up in a world where women were supposed to be quiet, but Malala Yousafzai refused to be silent. This powerful true story shows how one brave girl can make a difference.

**NF** 40pgs

LEXILE: 720L

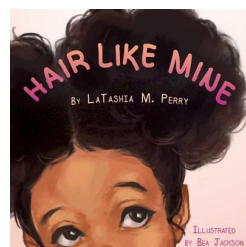


### The Book Itch

By: Vaunda Nelson (2015)

Relates the story of the National Memorial African Bookstore, founded in Harlem by Louis Michaux in 1939, as seen from the perspective of Louis Michaux Jr., who met famous men like Muhammad Ali and Malcolm X while helping there. **F** 32pgs

LEXILE: 630L

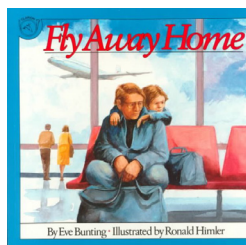


### Hair Like Mine

By: LaTashia Perry (2015)

A young girl questions why no one else has hair like hers, until her mother points out that God doesn't make two people exactly alike. **NF** 29pgs

LEXILE: 560L



### Fly Away, Home

By: Eve Bunting

A homeless boy who lives in an airport with his father, moving from terminal to terminal and trying not to be noticed, is given hope when he sees a trapped bird find its freedom. **F** 32pgs

LEXILE: 580L



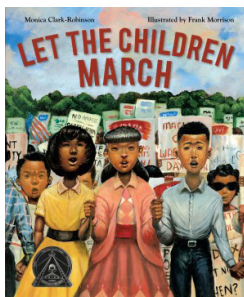
### Just Under the Clouds

By: Melissa Sarno (2018)

Since her father's death, Cora, twelve, longs for a permanent home for herself, her sister with special needs, and their mother while navigating middle school and studying trees using her father's field notes. **F** 240pgs

LEXILE: 710L



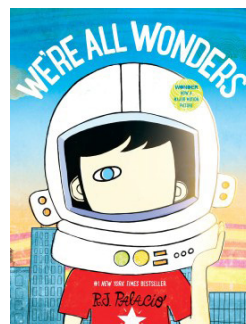


### Let the Children March

By: Monica Clark-Robinson (2018)

Under the leadership of Dr. Martin Luther King, children and teenagers march against segregation in Birmingham, Alabama, in 1963. **F** 40pgs

LEXILE: 650L

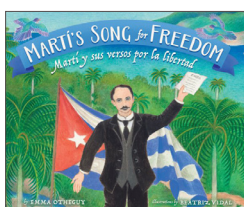


### We're All Wonders

By: R.J. Palacio (2017)

Augie enjoys the company of his dog, Daisy, and using his imagination, but painfully endures the taunts of his peers because of his facial deformity. **F** 32pgs

LEXILE: AD370L



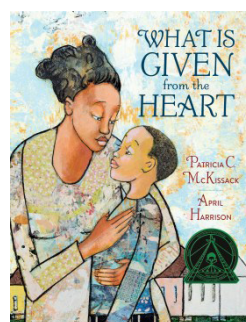
### Marti's Song for Freedom

By: Emma Otheguy (2017)

As a young boy, Jose Marti traveled to the countryside of Cuba and fell in love with the natural beauty of the land. During

this trip, he also witnessed the cruelties of slavery on sugar plantations and began to fight for the abolishment of slavery and Cuban independence from Spain through his writing. **NF** 32pgs

LEXILE: 1000L

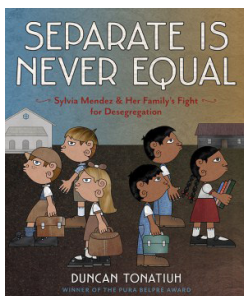


### What is Given from the Heart

By: Patricia McKissack (2019)

Despite their own poverty since Daddy died, Mama tells nine-year-old James Otis they need to help Sarah, whose family lost everything in a fire. **F** 40pgs

LEXILE: AD600L

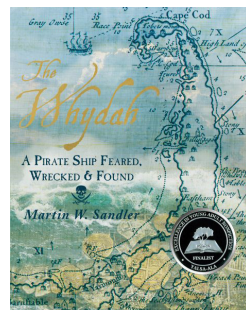


### Separate is Never Equal

By: Duncan Tonatiuh (2014)

Almost 10 years before Brown vs. Board of Education, Sylvia Mendez and her parents helped end school segregation in California. Their success eventually brought an end to the era of segregated education in California. **NF** 40pgs

LEXILE: AD870L



### The Whydah

By: Martin Sandler (2017)

The exciting true story of the captaincy, wreck, and discovery of the Whydah - the only pirate ship ever found - and the incredible mysteries it revealed. **NF** 170pgs

LEXILE: 1270L



# BUILDING KNOWLEDGE SOCIAL EMOTIONAL TOPIC

## RELATIONSHIP SKILLS



### Big Foot and Little Foot

By: Ellen Potter (2018)

Hugo is a young Sasquatch who longs for adventure. Boone is a young boy who longs to see a Sasquatch. When their worlds collide, they become the unlikely pair of best friends.

F 136pgs

LEXILE: 700L



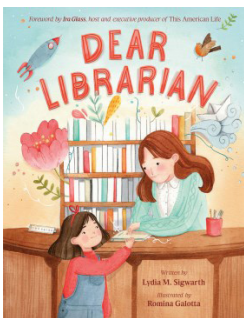
### Digging for Words

By: Angela Kunkel (2020)

This book details a biography of José Alberto Gutiérrez, a Columbian garbage collector who collected books he found in the trash and a built a library. In a parallel narrative, a young boy, also named José, dreams of Saturdays when he can visit Paradise, Gutiérrez's library.

F 34pgs

LEXILE: AD730L



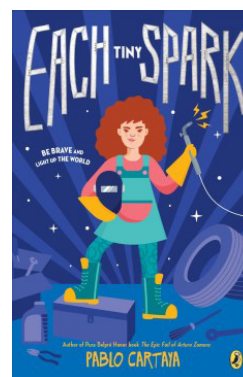
### Dear Librarian

By: Lydia Sigwarth (2021)

When Lydia was five years old, she and her family had to hop from Grandma's house to Aunt Linda's house to Cousin Alice's house. Then one day, everything changed when Lydia's mom took her to a new place - not a house, but the library.

F 40pgs

LEXILE: N/A

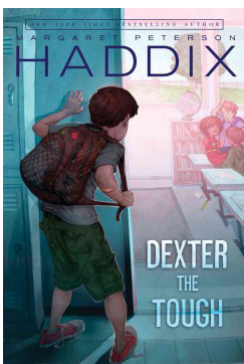


### Each Tiny Spark

By: Pablo Cartaya (2019)

Sixth-grader Emilia Torres struggles with ADHD, her controlling abuela, her mother's work commitments, her father's distance after returning from deployment, evolving friendships, and a conflict over school redistricting.

LEXILE: 680L



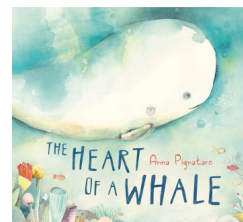
### Dexter the Tough

By: Margaret Haddix (2007)

A sympathetic teacher and her writing assignment help fourth-grader Dexter deal with being the new kid in school after he punches a kid on the first day.

F 141pgs

LEXILE: 690L



### The Heart of a Whale

By: Ann Pignataro (2020)

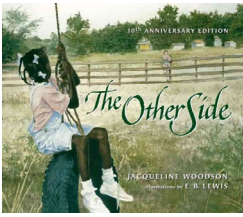
Whale's song spreads through the ocean, calming the sea creatures and offering them happiness and peace. But though Whale's song comforts others, he cannot handle his own loneliness. That's when the other sea creatures band together to repay the kindness.

F 32pgs

LEXILE: N/A





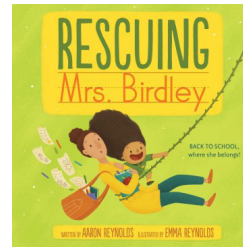


### The Other Side

By: Jacqueline Woodson (2001)

Two girls, one white and one black, gradually get to know each other as they sit on the fence that divides their town. **F** 32pgs

LEXILE: AD490L



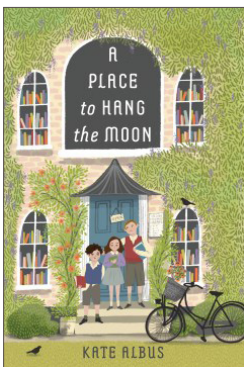
### Rescuing Mrs. Birdley

By: Aaron Reynolds (2020)

A young girl named Miranda Montgomery has fallen in love with the "Nature Joe Animal Show". One day, Miranda sees her own teacher, Mrs. Birdley, not in her classroom but in a

grocery store. Certain that her teacher is lost and in need of help, Miranda sets her traps and lays her plans to capture Mrs. Birdley and return her to her classroom. **F** 34pgs

LEXILE: AD710L

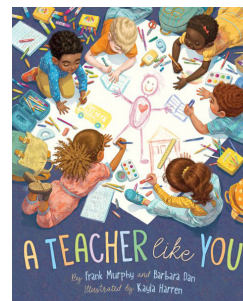


### A Place to Hang the Moon

By: Kate Albus (2021)

In World War II England, orphaned siblings William, Edmund, and Anna are evacuated from London to live in the countryside, where they bounce from home to home in search of someone willing to adopt them permanently. **F** 309pgs

LEXILE: N/A

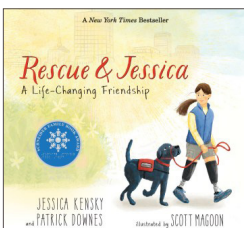


### A Teacher Like You

By: Frank Murphy (2021)

Teachers have the power to change the life of a child with every new school day. Whether they're discovering math or reading, practicing a new instrument or a new sport, or learning about our wonderful, diverse world, students can count on the kindness, innovation, and patience of a teacher. **F** 26pgs

LEXILE: N/A



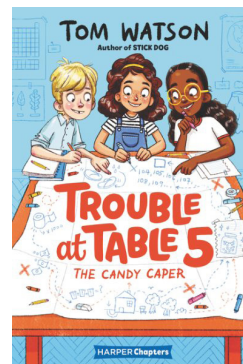
### Rescue and Jessica

By: Jessica Kensky (2018)

Rescue the dog is at first disappointed when he receives the news he is to become a service dog. He had thought he would be a Seeing Eye dog - but, when he meets Jessica, a

girl whose life turned out very different than she thought it would, too, Rescue realizes he can still be a seeing eye dog. He can help Jessica see a future for herself. **F** 32pgs

LEXILE: AD550L



### Trouble at Table 5

By: Tom Watson (2020)

Molly sometimes gets things stuck in her head. When she sees a jar of candy on Principal Shelton's desk, she becomes obsessed with figuring out how many candies are in the jar. Her two best friends, Simon and Rosie, are ready to help, even if it means detention.

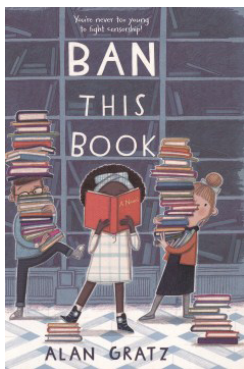
**F** 84pgs

LEXILE: N/A



# BUILDING KNOWLEDGE SOCIAL EMOTIONAL TOPIC

## RESPONSIBLE-DECISION MAKING SKILLS

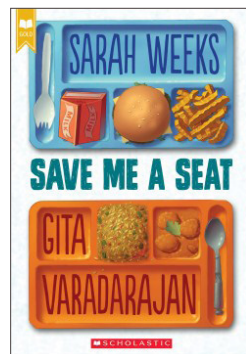


### Ban This Book

By: Alan Gratz (2018)

Amy Anne is shy and soft-spoken, but don't mess with her when it comes to her favorite book in the whole world. Amy Anne and her lieutenants wage a battle for the books - as they start a secret banned books locker library, make up ridiculous reasons to ban every single book in the library to make a point, and take a stand against censorship. **F** 255pgs

LEXILE: 690L 





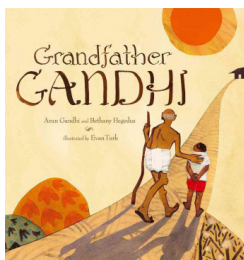
### Save Me a Seat

By: Sarah Weeks (2018)

Ravi has just moved to the United States from India and has always been at the top of his class; Joe has lived in the same town his whole life and has learning problems - but when their lives intersect in the first week of fifth grade they are brought together by a common enemy and the need to take control of their lives.

**F** 216pgs

LEXILE: 780L  



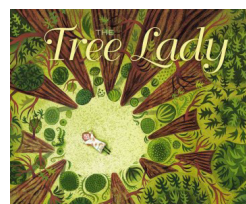
### Grandfather Gandhi

By: Arun Gandhi (2014)

Arun Gandhi, the grandson of Mahatma Gandhi, shares a story from his childhood describing how he learned to control his anger the way his peaceful and revered grandfather did.

**NF** 40pgs

LEXILE: AD600L  



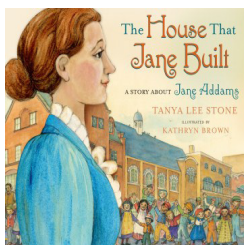
### Tree Lady

By: H. Joseph Hopkins (2013)

Unearth the true story of green-thumbed pioneer and activist Kate Sessions, who helped San Diego grow from a dry desert town into a lush, leafy city known for its gorgeous parks and gardens.

**NF** 32pgs

LEXILE: 760L  



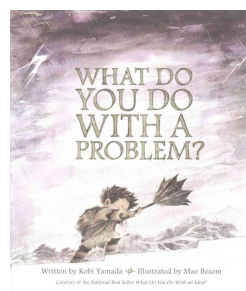
### The House that Jane Built

By: Tanya Lee Stone (2015)

This is the story of Jane Addams, the first American woman to receive the Nobel Peace Prize, who transformed a poor neighborhood in Chicago by opening up her house as a community center.

**NF** 32pgs

LEXILE: 810L  



### What Do You Do with a Problem?

By: Kobi Yamada (2018)

This is the story of a persistent problem and the child who isn't so sure what to make of it. The longer he avoids the problem, the bigger it seems to get. But when the child finally musters up the courage to face it, the problem turns out to be something quite different indeed.

**F** 36pgs

LEXILE: AD500L  



# appendix a

## TEXT SETS

# CREATING TEXT SETS

## TEMPLATE

Text sets are collections of resources from different genre, media, and levels of reading difficulty that are designed to be supportive of the learning of readers with a range of experiences and interests. A text-set collection focuses on one concept or topic and can include includes multiple genres such as books, charts and maps, informational pamphlets, poetry and songs, photographs, non-fiction books, almanacs or encyclopedias.

**BOOK TITLE**

**AUTHOR**

**GRADE LEVEL**

**TOPIC**

**TEXT SET SUMMARY**

**MS-CCR Standards**

[www.mdek12.org/OAE/college-and-career-readiness-standards](http://www.mdek12.org/OAE/college-and-career-readiness-standards)

**Cross-Content Standards Connection**

**Anchor Text**

**Elements of the Unit/Lesson Plan**

How do the resources connect to the standards or to the lesson plan?

## Adult Intellectual Prep Resources

Include below any resources to support teacher intellectual preparation around this topic. What might we, as adults, need to know about this topic to meaningfully engage students?

## Elements of the Unit/Lesson Plan

How do the resources connect to the standards or to the lesson plan?

## Text Set Resources

Include between 4 and 7 resources per text set. Each text set should include at least one multimedia resource (e.g., interactive website, video, photographs). Consider how you will obtain each resource in the set to support students' working from the least complex texts to the most complex texts.

## Elements of the Unit/Lesson Plan

How do the resources connect to the standards or to the lesson plan?

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

## Additional Information on Each Resource in the Set

Consider carefully how non-dominant identities are highlighted throughout the text or resource (including representation of culture, race, gender, sexual orientation and/or abilities). Also consider whether those identities are explored in an authentic and relevant way, or whether this resource includes harmful stereotypes, generalizations, non-authentic stories, or discriminatory content.

1

Text or Resource Description	Resource Type	Genre	Lexile (if applicable) <sup>1</sup> On grade level? <sup>2</sup>	Available in bilingual format? <sup>3</sup>

2

Text or Resource Description	Resource Type	Genre	Lexile (if applicable) <sup>1</sup> On grade level? <sup>2</sup>	Available in bilingual format? <sup>3</sup>

3

Text or Resource Description	Resource Type	Genre	Lexile (if applicable) <sup>1</sup> On grade level? <sup>2</sup>	Available in bilingual format? <sup>3</sup>

4

Text or Resource Description	Resource Type	Genre	Lexile (if applicable) <sup>1</sup> On grade level? <sup>2</sup>	Available in bilingual format? <sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> If Lexile is unavailable, consider using a tool like (<https://hub.lexile.com/analyzer>) to get an estimated Lexile level.

<sup>2</sup> Text complexity quantitative bands ([https://achievethecore.org/content/upload/CCSS\\_Grade\\_Bands\\_and\\_Quantitative\\_Measures%20updated%202015.pdf](https://achievethecore.org/content/upload/CCSS_Grade_Bands_and_Quantitative_Measures%20updated%202015.pdf)) for college- and career-ready aligned work. Texts included in text sets can represent a range of below, on, and above grade-level texts.

<sup>3</sup> Note if resource is available in any other language(s), including closed captioning or translated version(s)

5

Text or Resource Description	Resource Type	Genre	Lexile (if applicable) <sup>1</sup> On grade level? <sup>2</sup>	Available in bilingual format? <sup>3</sup>

6

Text or Resource Description	Resource Type	Genre	Lexile (if applicable) <sup>1</sup> On grade level? <sup>2</sup>	Available in bilingual format? <sup>3</sup>

7

Text or Resource Description	Resource Type	Genre	Lexile (if applicable) <sup>1</sup> On grade level? <sup>2</sup>	Available in bilingual format? <sup>3</sup>

Activities to Capture Knowledge and Vocabulary Growth Throughout the Set

Sample Writing Closing Tasks

# **appendix b**

## **READING STRATEGIES**

## READING STRATEGIES TO CONSIDER



### PICTURE WALK (Grades K - 3)

[www.greatschools.org/gk/videos/picture-walk-video-2](http://www.greatschools.org/gk/videos/picture-walk-video-2)

A picture walk is a pre-reading strategy that provides students with an entry point into the text. By first experiencing and discussing the text's images, students are able to develop their own wonderings and expectations about what is to come.

ELA / Literacy Lessons > Close Reading Model Lessons

### Close Reading Model Lessons

These close reading lessons all focus on texts of appropriate complexity for the grade level. The questions and tasks included are meant to serve as examples of the kinds of questions and tasks that can be built into lessons to foster the skills necessary for students to engage deeply with text and improve reading comprehension. The resources below explain what makes a text complex and how to identify and create text-dependent and text-specific questions to promote student understanding.

### CLOSE READING (Grades K - 5)

[achievethecore.org/page/2734/close-reading-model-lessons](http://achievethecore.org/page/2734/close-reading-model-lessons)

Close Reading is a method for tackling complex text that allows for multiple exposures with a different focus during each read. The goal of this strategy is to help students dig deeply into the text's rich vocabulary and complex meaning while making connections to the text.

### Wonder Novel Study

Innovation in Teaching Competition | Innovation in Teaching: Unit Plans

During this unit, students use the novel *Wonder*, fiction and nonfiction texts, and other media to explore literary concepts, including point of view, character development, figurative language, setting, plot, mood, and tone. Students also practice analyzing literary elements, making predictions, and supporting their thoughts with evidence from the text. At the end of the unit, students apply their knowledge of these literary elements to create a document exploring the themes of bullying, peer pressure and fitting in.

### NOVEL STUDY (Grades 2 - 5)

[www.gpb.org/innovation-in-teaching/wonder-novel-study](http://www.gpb.org/innovation-in-teaching/wonder-novel-study)

A novel study allows students to deeply interact with the language and meaning of a chapter book while giving them the opportunity to engage with the text, their peers, and their world.



### STRONG READERS, STRONG LEADERS (Grades PK - 5)

[strongreadersms.com](http://strongreadersms.com)

The Strong Readers, Strong Leaders website introduces families to grade-level resources and activities that help children become strong readers and leaders.

# **appendix c**

## **READING ASSIGNMENT APPROVAL FORMS**



# READING ASSIGNMENT

## BOOK APPROVAL LETTER

Dear Families/Guardians,

As part of the \_\_\_\_\_ [school name] \_\_\_\_\_ [class], each student is expected to read or listen to a book related to \_\_\_\_\_ [curriculum unit] from a list of pre-approved titles. They are responsible for reading or listening to the book and completing a series of assignments related to it for \_\_\_\_\_ [time period], which includes \_\_\_\_\_ [types of assignments/assessments].

- ☐ **Teacher Assigned Book:** The primary objective of this assignment is to allow students to choose and read or listen to books that interest them that connect to the curriculum unit. We want your student to feel as though he or she is reading or listening to material that is interesting to him or her but is also challenging. However, because each parent/guardian feels differently about what is appropriate for their own child, \_\_\_\_\_ [school name] requires all students to have their book approved first by you. Please see the attached document for a brief summary of each novel.
  
- ☐ **Student Selected Book (from a list of pre-approved titles):** The primary objective of this assignment is to allow students to exercise choice and read or listen to books that interest them while connecting to the curriculum unit. We want your student to feel as though he or she is reading or listening to material that is interesting to him or her but is also challenging. However, because each parent/guardian feels differently about what is appropriate for their own child, \_\_\_\_\_ [school name] requires all students to have their book approved first by you. Please see the attached document for a brief summary of each novel.

When you are approving your student's reading, please look it over to ensure that you feel the content of the novel is appropriate for your student. If you have objections, have your student choose another book; if the book was assigned, discuss the title with the teacher. Please have a discussion with your student about what types of books and topics you feel are appropriate and instruct them not to select books that contain topics that you would not want them to read or hear. Once you have approved the book, please sign the attached book approval form.

If you have any questions about this project, please feel free to contact \_\_\_\_\_ [teacher's name] at \_\_\_\_\_ [teacher's contact information].

# READING ASSIGNMENT

## BOOK APPROVAL FORM

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Book Title \_\_\_\_\_

Author \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Pages: \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, am aware that my child will be reading or listening to the above named book in connection with the curriculum unit during this nine weeks.

I understand that this book was

- ☐ assigned by the teacher and that by signing this form, I give my student permission to read or listen to this book. I understand I am approving the content of this book, and the teacher will approve the book for level appropriateness.
- ☐ selected by my child and that by signing this form, I give my student permission to read or listen to this book. I understand I am approving the content of this book, and the teacher will approve the book for level appropriateness.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Approval Date

# appendix d

## EVALUATION TOOLS

# BUILDING KNOWLEDGE BOOK LIST EVALUATION

This evaluation tool will help teachers and librarians with their final selections for diversity, equity, and high-quality books for instruction and for student-choice reading.

BOOK TITLE

AUTHOR

GRADE LEVEL

THEME/TOPIC

1

**Rate the book on its publication date.**

*Use the scale below.*

- 1: 40 years or older
- 2: 30-39 years old
- 3: 20-29 years old
- 4: 10-19 years old
- 5: 10 years or newer

2

**Rate the book based on the appropriateness of the Lexile Level.**

*Use the scale below.*

- 1: Too easy/hard to read for grade level
- 2: Below grade level
- 3: At grade level
- 4: Above grade level

3

**Rate the book based on the additional factors.**

*Use the scale below.*

- Additional factors: Award Winner, Bilingual Format, Graphic Novel Format, and Digital Format*
- 1: One additional factor
  - 2: Two additional factors
  - 3: Three additional factors
  - 4: Four additional factors



4

**The book celebrates diverse characters and/or written by an author of color.***Use the scale below.*

- 1: Not diverse in terms of cultural, race, gender, sexual orientation, disability OR contains diversity but includes harmful stereotypes, generalizations, not-authentic stories, or discriminatory content about a group of people.
- 2: Contains some diversity but may misrepresent or generalize a group of people.
- 3: Explores diversity in an authentic and relevant way.
- 4: Truly explores and celebrates the diversity.

5

**The book is directly connected to other Social Emotional MS CCR Standards.***Use the scale below.*

- 1: Vaguely connected to the Social Emotional MS CCR standards.
- 2: Closely connected to at least one Social Emotional MS CCR standard.
- 3: Closely connected to multiple Social Emotional MS CCR standards.

6

**The book is directly connected to English Language Arts MS College- and Career-Readiness (MS CCR) Standards.***Use the scale below.*

- 1: Vaguely connected to the English MS CCR standards.
- 2: Closely connected to at least one English MS CCR standard.
- 3: Closely connected to multiple English MS CCR standards.

7

**The book is directly connected to other MS CCR Standards.***Use the scale below.*

- 1: Vaguely connected to other MS CCR standards.
- 2: Closely connected to at least one other MS CCR standard.
- 3: Closely connected to multiple other MS CCR standards.

**TOTAL**

**Write at least two sentences why the book should be added to the classroom or school libraries and/or to instruction.**

# SCHOOL/CLASSROOM LIBRARY COLLECTION QUESTIONNAIRE

Use the following questions as a guide to analyze the school or classroom library and determine where there are strengths and where there are gaps in the collection.

1	<b>The library contains multiple books that include...</b>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
	Non-human, anthropomorphic main characters (e.g., talking animals, talking trucks, talking vegetables, imaginary or science fiction creatures, etc.)					

2	<b>The library contains numerous books that include...</b>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
	Main characters of color or different nationality/ethnicity					
	Main characters with different types of gender identity and gender expression					
	Feature a range of family structures and family configurations					
	Explore different socioeconomic backgrounds					
	Explore religious diversity					
	Main characters with disabilities					

3	<b>The library contains numerous books that...</b>	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
	Are written or illustrated by a person of color or of different nationality/ethnicity					
	Are set in a different country or geographic setting (urban, rural, suburban) during the present time					
	Teach about immigration to the United States beyond the Ellis Island-narrative					
	Teach about Black/African-American contributions to the United States beyond the Civil Rights Movement					
	Feature diversity throughout the year, not just in heritage and observance months (e.g., Black History Month, Native American History Month)					

<b>4</b>	<b>The majority of books featuring people of color or different nationality/ethnicity people...</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Neither</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
	Are only about issues of race, prejudice, or discrimination					
	Are only culturally specific (e.g., flags, food, festivals)					
	Are only culturally neutral or contain incidental diversity					
	Are non-authentic stories about a group of people					
	Contain harmful stereotypes or discriminatory content about a group of people					
	Contain inaccurate/outdated information or makes generalizations about a group of people					

<b>5</b>	<b>The library contains multiple books that support...</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Neither</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
	MS-CCR English Standards					
	MS-CCR Social Studies Standards					
	MS-CCR Science Standards					
	MS-CCR Social Emotional Standards					

<b>6</b>	<b>The library reflects...</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Neither</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>
	The diversity of my students and the community in which we live (e.g., gender, race, family structure, language, culture, socioeconomic background, etc.)					

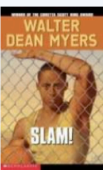
**RESOURCE** [https://www.leeandlow.com/uploads/loaded\\_document/408/Classroom-Library-Questionnaire\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.leeandlow.com/uploads/loaded_document/408/Classroom-Library-Questionnaire_FINAL.pdf)

# **appendix e**

## **RESOURCES TO SUPPORT STUDENT READING**



# BOOK INFORMATION AND SUPPORT MATERIALS



**Slam!**

Author(s): [Walter Dean Myers](#) | Age Range: N/A | Copyright: 1996  
Language: English | Page Count: 272 | ISBN: 9780590000000

Greg "Slam" Harris can do it all on the basketball court, and he knows it's all the way to the top. But his failing grades and volatile temper are before him. Slam's going one-on-one with his future, and it's a showdown he can't win.

Categories: [Hobbies, Sports & Outdoors](#), [Real Life](#), [Fiction, Non-fiction & Poetry](#)


Tags: Personal and social issues: racism

Vocabulary: Find a Book selects up to 10 words from the text that have been identified by the user to help inform instruction.

Indicators: ducky, nipper, refs, stoops, edit, fouls, busting, ducky

• **Lexile: Find a Book** (Grades K - 12)  
[hub.lexile.com/find-a-book/search](http://hub.lexile.com/find-a-book/search)

Search for books based on Lexile codes, which provides information on the book's intended usage, or find books that are easy to decode or have a lot of patterning to help beginning readers.



**The year the maps changed (Apr 2020),**

Author: [Binks, Danielle](#)

Ages 9-12 | Fiction

**Description:**  
'I was eleven when everything started and twelve by the end. But further than that.' Sorrento, Victoria - 1999 Fred's family is a mess, father, Luca, ever since. But now Pop's had to go away; Luca's girl are having a baby of their own. More and more it feels like a land spinning out of control, a crisis from the other side of it comes crashing on an isolated headland not far from Sorrento, their fate by an extraordinary year that will change them all. A middle-grade coming of age story.

**Book Appeal Terms:** [Definition of Appeal Terms](#)

**Genre:** Australian fiction; Coming-of-age stories; Realistic fiction

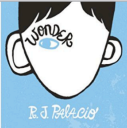
**Themes:** Coping with death; Immigrant experiences; Meet the fa

**Tone:** Angst-filled

Popularity: ★☆☆☆☆

• **Novelist: MAGNOLIA** (Grades K - 12)  
[magnolia.msstate.edu](http://magnolia.msstate.edu)

A complete suite of book-finding tools for librarians, teachers, and readers. Database contains book lists, curricular connections, and author read-alikes. See your school librarian for passcode.



**Wonder**

Written by [R.J. Palacio](#)

The story of August "Auggie" Pullman, who was born with a rare facial deformity called Treacher Collins Syndrome and a cleft palate. After being home-schooled for years, he begins school at Beecher Prep. He finds friends in Jack, Charlotte, and Summer, but he must learn to deal with bullying, betrayal, and misunderstandings.

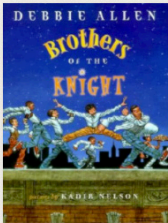
**Support Materials**

- Wonder: Word Search**  
After reading Wonder by R. J. Palacio use this printable and interactive Word Search puzzle to...
- Wonder: Crisis Cross**  
After reading Wonder by R. J. Palacio use this printable and interactive Crisis Cross puzzle to...
- Wonder**  
Prepared by Susan Goye, this educator's guide to Wonder by R. J. Palacio provides cross-curricular...
- Wonder: Book Trailer**  
Book trailer video of Wonder. Created by Random...

Age Range: 8 - 12 years  
Genre: Fiction  
Copyright Year: 2012  
Page Count: 320  
Publisher: Knopf Books for Young Readers  
Grade Level: 3rd - 7th  
ISBN: 9780375869020

• **Reading is Fundamental Educator Resources** (Grades K - 12)  
[www.rif.org/literacy-central/educators](http://www.rif.org/literacy-central/educators)

Online support materials aligned to hundreds of children's book titles and much more.



**Book Descriptions**

for [Brothers of the Knight](#) by Debbie Allen

**From Cooperative Child**

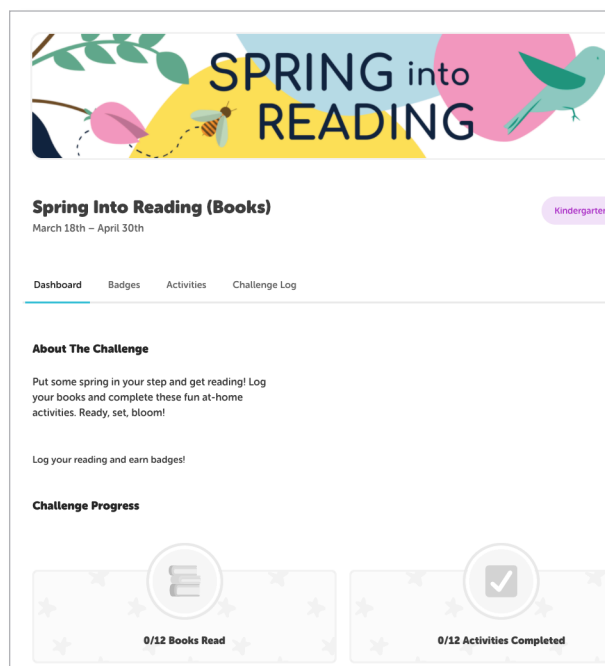
A funny modern retelling of "The Twelve Days of Christmas" as a stage version that was performed at Kennedy Center about the twelve boisterous sons of the Reverend and then blame the wear and tear on their shrewish housekeepers are unable to keep up with the more than a match for the twelve high-stepping detail and whimsy to an appealing urban folk

Add to Reading List | Share this Page

• **Teaching Books** (Grades K - 12)  
[www.teachingbooks.net](http://www.teachingbooks.net)

An online database that can be used by teachers, students, librarians, and families to explore children's books and young adult literature and their authors.

# READING TRACKERS



## • Beanbright Reading Tracker

(Grades K - 12)

[www.beanbright.com](http://www.beanbright.com)

Beanbright helps facilitate reading challenges and gain more data on students' free-choice reading.

READING GROUP			
Mr. Bellew's Book Club			
Name	Grade	At Grade Level?	Student Reading Proficiency
Mason A	7th	At Level	6th grade AT LEVEL 7TH
Grady B	5th	Above	4th grade ABOVE 5TH
Wendi C	2nd	At Level	1st grade AT LEVEL 2ND
Sally D	4th	Below	3rd grade BELOW 4TH
Vijay E	6th	Below	5th grade BELOW 6TH
Jerry F	Pre-K	At Level	AT LEVEL

## • Reading is Fundamental Reading Tracker (Grades K - 8)

[www.rif.org/literacy-central/literacy-tracker](http://www.rif.org/literacy-central/literacy-tracker)

Literacy Tracker Tool allows teachers to check in on students' reading progress throughout the year and helps students find "just right" books to develop their skills.

## EDUCATOR AND SCHOOL LIBRARIAN RESOURCES

### **Día: Children's Book Day** (Grades K - 8)

[dia.ala.org](http://dia.ala.org)

Día is a nationally recognized initiative that emphasizes the importance of literacy for all children from all backgrounds. It is a daily commitment to linking children and their families to diverse books, languages and cultures.

### **First Book: The Stories for All Project** (Grades K - 12)

[firstbook.org/the-need/the-stories-for-all-project](http://firstbook.org/the-need/the-stories-for-all-project)

The Stories for All Project curates new, relevant, high-quality books representing diverse characters, voices, and life circumstances and makes them available and affordable to educators supporting kids in need.

### **Lexile by Chapter Guides**

(Grades K - 12)

[lexile.com/educators/tools-to-support-reading-at-school/tools-to-help-teach-a-book/lexile-chapter-guides](http://lexile.com/educators/tools-to-support-reading-at-school/tools-to-help-teach-a-book/lexile-chapter-guides)

Books vary in text complexity, chapters within each book can vary as well. When teaching a book in class, Lexile by Chapter Guides can help better plan instruction.

### **Lexile PowerV Vocabulary Tool**

(Grades 5 – 12)

[lexile.com/educators/tools-to-support-reading-at-school/tools-to-help-teach-a-book/lexile-powerv-vocabulary-tool](http://lexile.com/educators/tools-to-support-reading-at-school/tools-to-help-teach-a-book/lexile-powerv-vocabulary-tool)

More than 125,000 books in Find a Book include a vocabulary tool that identifies up to 10 challenging words that are important for students to know.

### **Match Fishtank** (Grades K - 12)

[www.matchfishtank.org/curriculum/english-language-arts](http://www.matchfishtank.org/curriculum/english-language-arts)

Through this site, teachers can explore and draw from full courses or individual units, lessons, or assessments. All the resources support rigorous, standards-driven instruction to support vocabulary, writing, and reading skills.

## **Novel Engineering** (Grades K - 8)

[www.novelengineering.org](http://www.novelengineering.org)

Students use existing classroom literature – stories, novels, and expository texts – as the basis for engineering design challenges that help them identify problems, design realistic solutions, and engage in the Engineering Design Process while reinforcing their literacy skills.

## **Read Across America** (Grades K - 12)

[www.nea.org/professional-excellence/student-engagement/read-across-america](http://www.nea.org/professional-excellence/student-engagement/read-across-america)

Launched in 1998 by the National Education Association (NEA) and guided by a committee of educators. This year-round program focuses on motivating children and teens to read through events, partnerships, and reading resources that are about everyone, for everyone.

## **Reading is Fundamental** (Grades K - 12)

[www.rif.org/literacy-central](http://www.rif.org/literacy-central)

The digital library hosts over 10,000 resources directly tied to the books teachers, caregivers and community partners turn to everyday. Organize all of your book resources in one place, create and share book lists, find helpful reading tips and strategies and track student reading progress.