

Unit 1 Independent Reading List

Suggestions for Independent Reading

This list, divided into the categories of **Literature** and **Nonfiction/Informational Text**, comprises titles related to the themes and content of the unit. For your independent reading, you can select from this wide array of titles, which have been chosen based on complexity and interest. You can also do your own research and select titles that intrigue you.

Unit 1: The Choices We Make		
Literature		
Author	Title	Lexile
Alexie, Sherman	<i>War Dances</i>	790L
Anaya, Rudolfo	<i>Bless Me, Ultima</i>	840L
Cooper, Susan	<i>The Dark Is Rising (series)</i>	920L
Graves, Robert	<i>Greek Gods and Heroes</i>	990L
Hamilton, Virginia	<i>The People Could Fly: American Black Folktales</i>	660L
Hesse, Karen	<i>Witness</i>	N/A
Hidier, Tanuja Desai	<i>Born Confused</i>	890L
Hijuelos, Oscar	<i>Dark Dude</i>	980L
Hinds, Gareth	<i>The Odyssey</i>	N/A
Hurston, Zora Neale	<i>Mules and Men</i>	1020L
Jeffrey, Gary	<i>African Myths</i>	N/A
Lewis, C.S.	<i>The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe</i>	940L
Myers, Walter Dean	<i>The Greatest: Muhammad Ali</i>	N/A
Park, Linda Sue	<i>Seesaw Girl</i>	810L
Pierce, Tamora	<i>Trickster's Choice (Daughter of the Lioness, Book 1)</i>	790L
Riordan, Rick	<i>The Red Pyramid</i>	650L
Rosenberg, Donna	<i>World Mythology: An Anthology of Great Myths and Epics</i>	1030L
Snzai, N.H.	<i>Shooting Kabul</i>	800L
Soto, Gary	<i>Novio Boy</i>	N/A
Whelan, Gloria	<i>Homeless Bird</i>	800L
Nonfiction/Informational Text		
Author	Title	Lexile
Dumas, Firoozeh	<i>Funny in Farsi: A Memoir of Growing Up Iranian in America</i>	1030L
Hickam, Homer	<i>Rocket Boys/October Sky</i>	900L
Jiang, Ji-Li	<i>Red Scarf Girl: A Memoir of the Cultural Revolution</i>	780L
Jimenez, Francisco	<i>Breaking Through</i>	750L
Kehret, Peg	<i>Small Steps: The Year I Got Polio</i>	890L
Keller, Helen	<i>The Story of My Life</i>	1150L
Paulsen, Gary	<i>Eastern Sun, Winter Moon: An Autobiographical Odyssey</i>	1080L
Santiago, Esmeralda	<i>When I Was Puerto Rican</i>	1020L

Unit 2 Independent Reading List

Suggestions for Independent Reading

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Unit 2: What Influences My Choices?		
Literature		
Author	Title	Lexile
Cisneros, Sandra	<i>The House on Mango Street</i>	870L
DeJesus, John	<i>Taco</i>	N/A
Yang, Dori Jones	<i>Daughter of Xanadu</i>	780L
Nonfiction/Informational Text		
Author	Title	Lexile
Bausum, Ann	<i>Denied, Detained, Deported: Stories from the Dark Side of American Immigration</i>	1170L
Carson, Rachel	<i>The Sea Around Us</i>	N/A
Chin-Lee, Cynthia	<i>AKira to Zoltan: 26 Men Who Changed the World</i>	N/A
Chin-Lee, Cynthia	<i>Amelia to Zora: 26 Women Who Changed the World</i>	N/A
D’Aluisio, Faith and Peter Menzel	<i>What the World Eats</i>	1150L
Engle, Margarita	<i>The Lightening Dreamer: Cuba’s Greatest Abolitionists</i>	N/A
Graydon, Shari	<i>Made You Look: How Advertising Works and Why You Should Know</i>	N/A
Hesse, Karen	<i>Aleutian Sparrow</i>	N/A
Hoose, Phillip	<i>We Were There Too! Young People in U.S. History</i>	950L
Hurley, Michael	<i>World’s Greatest Olympians</i>	960L
Lasky, Kathryn	<i>John Muir: America’s First Environmentalist</i>	1050L
Lemke, Donald	<i>Investigating the Scientific Method with Max Axiom, Super Scientist</i>	760L
Pollan, Michael	<i>The Omnivore’s Dilemma: The Secrets Behind What You Eat (Young Reader’s edition)</i>	930L
Schlosser, Eric	<i>Fast Food Nation</i>	1240L
Schlosser, Eric and Wilson, Charles,	<i>Chew on This: Everything You Don’t Want to Know About Fast Food</i>	N/A
Sivertsen, Linda and Josh Sivertsen	<i>Generation Green: The Ultimate Teen Guide to Living an Eco-Friendly Life</i>	N/A
Waters, Alice	<i>Edible Schoolyard: A Universal Idea</i>	N/A

Unit 3 Independent Reading List

Suggestions for Independent Reading

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Unit 3: Choices and Consequences		
Literature		
Author	Title	Lexile
Alvarez, Julia	<i>Return to Sender</i>	890L
Na, An	<i>A Step from Heaven</i>	670L
Nye, Naomi Shihab	<i>19 Varieties of Gazelle: Poems of the Middle East</i>	970L
Peacock, Carol Antionette	<i>Red Thread Sisters</i>	700L
Perkins, Mitali	<i>Bamboo People</i>	680L
Sanchez, Alex	<i>Bait</i>	630L
Nonfiction/Informational Text		
Author	Title	Lexile
Douglas, Gabrielle	<i>Grace, Gold, and Glory My Leap of Faith</i>	N/A
Gandhi, Mohandas	<i>Autobiography: The Story of My Experiments with Truth</i>	1010L
Gregory, Josh	<i>Cesar Chavez</i>	930L
Greitens, Eric	<i>The Warrior's Heart: Becoming a Man of Compassion and Courage</i>	910L
Herman, Gail	<i>Who Was Jackie Robinson?</i>	670L
Keller, Helen	<i>The Story of My Life</i>	1150L
King Jr., Martin Luther	<i>The Autobiography of Martin Luther King, Jr.</i>	N/A
Leighton, Ralph and Feynman, Richard	<i>Surely You're Joking, Mr. Feynman!</i>	N/A
Mandela, Nelson	<i>Long Walk to Freedom</i>	1120L
McGrayne, Sharon Bertsch	<i>Nobel Prize Women in Science</i>	N/A
O'Connor, Sandra Day and H. Alan Day	<i>Lazy B: Growing up on a Cattle Ranch in the American Southwest</i>	N/A
Obama, Barack	<i>Dreams from My Father</i>	N/A
Ottaviani, Jim	<i>Feynman (Graphic Novel)</i>	620L
Petry, Ann	<i>Harriet Tubman: Conductor on the Underground Railroad</i>	1000L
Playfoot, Janet N.	<i>My Life for the Poor, Mother Teresa of Calcutta</i>	N/A
Vansant, Wayne	<i>Gettysburg: The History of America's Most Famous Battle and Turning Point</i>	N/A
Wiesel, Elie	<i>Night</i>	570L
Yen Mah, Adeline	<i>Chinese Cinderella</i>	960L
Yousafzai, Malala	<i>I Am Malala</i>	1000L

Unit 4 Independent Reading List

Suggestions for Independent Reading

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Unit 4: How We Choose to Act		
Literature		
Author	Title	Lexile
Alexander, Elizabeth and Marilyn Nelson	<i>Miss Crandall's School for Young Ladies and Little Misses of Color: Poems</i>	N/A
Ballard, Robert	<i>Pieces of Me: Who do I Want to Be</i>	N/A
Belloc, Hillaire	<i>Cautionary Tales for Children</i>	N/A
Collins, Billy	<i>180 More: Extraordinary Poems for Everyday</i>	N/A
Collins, Billy	<i>The Spoken Word Revolution: Slam, Hip Hop & the Poetry of a New Generation</i>	N/A
Dickinson, Emily	<i>I'm Nobody. Who Are You?</i>	N/A
Fletcher, Ralph	<i>Relatively Speaking: Poems About Family</i>	N/A
George, Kristine O'Connell	<i>Swimming Upstream: Middle School Poems</i>	N/A
Gibson, William	<i>The Miracle Worker</i>	N/A
Hansberry, Lorraine	<i>A Raisin in the Sun</i>	N/A
Hesse, Karen	<i>Out of the Dust</i>	N/A
Hughes, Langston	<i>The Collected Poems of Langston Hughes</i>	N/A
Janeczko, Paul B	<i>Stone Bench in an Empty Park</i>	N/A
Kadohata, Cynthia	<i>A Million Shades of Gray</i>	700L
Lamb, Charles and Mary	<i>Tales from Shakespeare</i>	1330L
Miller, Kate	<i>Poems in Black & White</i>	N/A
Mora, Pat	<i>My Own True Name: New and Selected Poems for Young Adults</i>	N/A
Nye, Naomi Shihab	<i>Honeybee: Poems & Short Prose</i>	N/A
Park, Linda Sue	<i>Tap Dancing on the Roof: Sijo (Poems)</i>	N/A
Poe, Edgar Allan	<i>The Raven and Other Poems and Stories; Collected Works of Edgar Allan Poe Vol. 1: Poems</i>	N/A
Shakespeare, William	<i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>	N/A
Shakespeare, William	<i>Macbeth</i>	N/A
Shakespeare, William	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i>	N/A
Shakespeare, William	<i>Twelfth Night</i>	N/A
Sidman, Joyce	<i>This Is Just to Say: Poems of Apology and Forgiveness</i>	N/A
Smith, Charles R	<i>Rimshots: Basketball Pix, Rolls, and Rhythms</i>	N/A
Sparknotes	<i>No Fear Shakespeare Graphic Novels</i>	N/A
Venkatraman, Padma	<i>Climbing the Stairs</i>	750L
Wong, Janet S.	<i>Suitcase of Seaweed</i>	N/A
Zusak, Markus	<i>The Book Thief</i>	730L

Nonfiction/Informational Text

Author	Title	Lexile
MacLeod, Elizabeth	<i>Helen Keller</i>	960L
Santiago, Esmerelda	<i>When I Was Puerto Rican</i>	1020L
Somervill, Barbara A.	<i>Actor (Cool Arts Careers)</i>	860L
Turnbull, Stephanie	<i>Acting Skills</i>	890L