

Background Knowledge

Florida is committed to helping students build background knowledge, so much so that it is codified in statute. Giving students the opportunity to read nonfiction and literary texts that reinforce and scaffold what they are learning in their content areas will give them the schema to which they can tie new learning.

Civic Literacy Reading List

These civic-focused texts are the source of building background knowledge and vocabulary in the lower grades and a rich study in rhetoric, reasoning, and argumentation in the upper grades.

They are designed to reinforce civics instruction by providing quality texts to which students can apply their developing reading and reasoning skills.

FLORIDA'S B.E.S.T. STANDARDS: ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS



6th-8th Grade

Title	Author
<i>A Kids' Guide to the Bill of Rights: Curfews, Censorship and the 100-Pound Giant</i>	Krull, Kathleen
<i>Alexander Hamilton: The Outsider</i>	Fritz, Jean
<i>Democracy</i>	Hurwitz, Sue
<i>Explaining America: The Federalist</i>	Wills, Garry
<i>Government and Democracy</i>	Ogden, Charlie
<i>Letters from an American Farmer</i>	de Crèvecoeur, J. Hector St. John
<i>Lincoln: A Photobiography</i>	Freedman, Russell
<i>Miracle at Philadelphia: The Story of the Constitutional Convention May-September 1787</i>	Bowen, Catherine Drinker
<i>Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass</i>	Douglass, Frederick
<i>The Democratic Process</i>	Friedman, Mark
<i>The Rights of the Colonists</i>	Adams, Samuel
<i>Words We Live By: Your Annotated Guide to the Constitution</i>	Monk, Linda R.