The Mississippi State Board of Education, the Mississippi Department of Education, the Mississippi School for the Arts, the Mississippi School for the Blind, the Mississippi School for the Deaf, and the Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science do not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, religion, national origin, age, or disability in the provision of educational programs and services or employment opportunities and benefits. The following office has been designated to handle inquiries and complaints regarding the non-discrimination policies of the above mentioned entities: Director, Office of Human Resources, Mississippi Department of Education, 359 North West Street, P.O. Box 771, Suite 203, Jackson, MS 39205-0771, (601)359-3511.

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
359 North West Street
P. O. Box 771
Jackson, Mississippi 39205-0771
(601) 359-2586
www.mdek12.org
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
- Jasmine Bell
- Natalie Breithaupt
- Coretta Doss
- Sandra Elliott
- Aimee Hawkins
- Molly Henderson
- Nicole Hunter
- Stephanie Mollett
- Tiffany Nickleberry
- Kimberly Petermann
- Kasey Rather
- LaTondra Robinson
- Christine Spell
- Missaha Thompson
- Melanie Watkins
- Delphony Williams

We would also like to extend thanks to the various groups of Mississippi public school teachers, librarians, and administrators who assisted us in both rating and identifying the final 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.
table of contents:

Introduction .................................................................................................................. 5

Methodology .................................................................................................................. 6

Lexile vs. Literacy .......................................................................................................... 8

Graphic Novels .............................................................................................................. 9

Understanding the Book Lists ....................................................................................... 11

Fiction Book List ........................................................................................................... 12

Nonfiction Book List .................................................................................................... 16

Appendices .................................................................................................................... 19
  Appendix A: Themes & Pairings ................................................................................. 19
  Appendix B: Novel Study Check List ......................................................................... 24
  Appendix C: Reading Assignment Approval Forms .................................................. 27
  Appendix D: Evaluation Tools .................................................................................... 30
  Appendix E: Resources to Support Student Reading ................................................ 36
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 students that are not only college and career ready but also culturally ready. This resource intends to equip educators to make purposeful instructional decisions around the Mississippi College- and Career-Readiness standards while promoting literacy that acknowledges a variety of text types. This resource also provides students with texts that will serve as “mirrors, windows, and sliding glass doors.” Mirrors refer to 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.

For students to become well-rounded readers, they need to engage with high-quality, rigorous texts that represent varying cultures, genres, and facets of the human experience.

Through a collaborative process, Mississippi teachers, administrators, parents, 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.

While appropriate within the context of the text, titles may contain language and content that may require additional conversations. Administrators, teachers, and families should make informed decisions regarding text selections, and if a text for consideration is not familiar, please review the book first.

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:

- Appropriate grade-level complexity,
- A balance of diverse characters, cultures, perspectives, orientations, races, and ages, and
- Relativity to 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. 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, and Common Sense Media to help identify potential titles. A minimum of thirty-six fiction and thirty-six nonfiction titles were selected for each grade with the intention of narrowing down the list and potentially pairing titles.

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

- Publication date (newer texts received higher scores),
- Whether the text was available in bilingual or graphic novel formats,
- Whether the text was an award winner,
- Whether the text contained diversity, and if the diverse group or culture was appropriately represented (texts were scored higher if the author of the text belonged to the same diverse group), and
- Whether or not the text was appropriate for the suggested grade due to language and content presented in the text.

CULTURAL RESPONSIVENESS is the ability to learn from and relate respectfully with people of your own culture as well as those from other cultures.
As the panel reviewed each text, they also provided their reasoning as to why a text should or should not remain on the final list based on their various experiences and potential interactions with the texts in their own classrooms, buildings, and homes.

The final list presented in this document offers Mississippi teachers, parents, and students with titles that are fresh, approachable, diverse, and directly linked to multiple Mississippi College-and Career-Readiness Standards. In addition, most titles are also recipients of one or more book awards, including the Coretta Scott King award, the Newbery and Caldecott awards, the Magnolia Book awards, or the YALSA and ALA awards.
**lexile vs. literacy:**

Students and books are assigned a score on the Lexile scale, in which lower scores reflect easier readability for books and lower reading ability for students. The Lexile framework uses quantitative methods, based on individual words and sentence lengths to produce scores. However, the scores do not reflect factors such as maturity of themes, content, and language. According to the Lexile website, there is no direct correspondence between a specific Lexile measure and a specific grade level. Within any grade, there will be a range of readers and a range of reading materials in school libraries.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRADE LEVEL</th>
<th>PROFICIENT LEXILE LEVELS</th>
<th>ADVANCED LEXILE LEVELS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade 5</td>
<td>700-1000</td>
<td>1001-1700+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 6</td>
<td>800-1050</td>
<td>1051-1700+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 7</td>
<td>850-1100</td>
<td>1101-1700+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 8</td>
<td>900-1150</td>
<td>1151-1700+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 9</td>
<td>1000-1200</td>
<td>1201-1700+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 10</td>
<td>1025-1250</td>
<td>1251-1700+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 11</td>
<td>1050-1300</td>
<td>1301-1700+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade 12</td>
<td>1050-1300</td>
<td>1301-1700+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fiction and nonfiction books help students to understand the world around them and what they might be going through. Independent reading or student choice reading helps encourage children to enjoy reading on their own to improve comprehension, vocabulary, and fluency. When students have an opportunity to choose fiction or nonfiction reading materials, students have ownership in their education and make reading a priority.

Benefits of student choice reading:

- Engagement increases
- Stronger reading skills are developed
- Students are more actively involved in learning
- Students are more excited to share what they learn
- Build skills for future learning

**RESOURCES**  
graphic novels:

How Graphic Novels Can Turn Struggling or Reluctant Readers into STRONG READERS

Reading novels that support the College-and Career-Readiness Standards is important, but students cannot become lifelong readers if they do not open those books. As educators, we should encourage our students to read, even if the book has pictures.

There are several benefits to using Graphic Novels in English Language Arts (ELA) classrooms:

1. RICH IN TEXT
   Even though there is not much text to a graphic novel, they are still telling stories using dialogue and making students analyze what they see and comprehend. Every single graphic novel varies in the amount of text it has and how it is presented, but they are each their own ELA lesson.

2. DIVERSITY
   Graphic novels are diverse with a vast collection of characters that ALL students can respond to or react to. Representation matters for equipping ALL students to be culturally ready. It helps students determine how they connect with characters, settings, and cultures within what they read or see.

3. BRIDGE BOOKS
   Graphic novels will vary in terms of complexity. This format can be used as scaffolding where students can increase the reading level or confidence and move into more complex texts.

4. GATEWAY LITERATURE: Graphic novels can be used as a gateway that moves kids to those bigger and better novels that educators want students to read. Graphic novels engage students first and get them hooked, and then teachers can move students to more grade-level text.

Using Graphic Novels with English Learners (EL)

Graphic Novels can be essential to ELs as they can benefit from the clues that the pictures can provide to reinforce the story’s meaning, enhancing comprehension, and vocabulary. These types of literature can be used as high-quality supplemental instruction in all content areas. Additionally, graphic novels can help reinforce concepts in ELA, including plot structure and character development.

Here are four ways that graphic novels can benefit ELs:

1. **FIGURATIVE LANGUAGE**
   The illustrated panels of graphic novels provide visual information that gives helpful context to idioms, metaphors, and other figures of speech.

2. **COMPLEX, AGE-APPROPRIATE INTERESTS**
   Graphic novels support well-developed plots, storylines, and characters, so they can be used to teach complicated subjects that are appropriate for older students.

3. **PUNCTUATION AND EMPHASIS**
   The dialogue used in graphic novels uses frequent punctuation and the bolding of key terms to demonstrate how a phrase would be said aloud. The accompanying illustrations give additional visual clues to how dialogue should be read.

4. **UNFAMILIAR CULTURAL NORMS**
   Unlike text-only passages, the visuals show characters’ facial expressions, gestures, and positions to help reinforce cultural values and social issues.

## Understanding the Book Lists:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Book Title</th>
<th>Author (Publication Date)</th>
<th>Type of Text</th>
<th>Grade Level(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Amina’s Voice</strong></td>
<td>By: Hena Khan (2018)</td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td>5th Grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A Pakistani American Muslim girl struggles to stay true to her family’s vibrant culture while simultaneously blending in at school after tragedy strikes her community. 197 pgs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LEXILE: 800L</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Brendan Buckley’s Universe and Everything in It</strong></td>
<td>By: Sundee T. Fraizer (2007)</td>
<td>Fiction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Brendan, a biracial ten-year-old, applies his scientific problem-solving ability and newfound interest in rocks and minerals to connect with his white grandfather, and to learn why he and Brendan’s mother are estranged. 198 pgs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LEXILE: 630L</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Lexile Codes

- **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 NOVEL (GN)**: a book written in comic-strip format
- **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
- **STEAM**: an approach to teaching that includes Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics as access points for guiding student inquiry

### Adult Directed 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

### Glossary of Terms

- **Award Winner**
- **Bilingual Format(s) Available**
- **Curriculum Connection: Social Studies**
- **Curriculum Connection: STEAM and Health Sciences**
- **Graphic Novel Format Available**
- **Digital Format Available**
fiction:

BOOK LIST

9-12th GRADE
All American Boys
By: Jason Reynolds (2015)
When a quick stop at the corner store suddenly escalates into police brutality, high school classmates Rashad (who is African American) and Quinn (who is white) are linked and altered by the violence—Rashad as victim and Quinn as a witness. 316pgs
LEXILE: HL770L

All the Light We Cannot See
By: Anthony Doerr (2014)
A blind French girl and a German boy’s paths collide in occupied France as both try to survive the devastation of World War II. Deftly interweaving the lives of Marie-Laure and Werner, he illuminates the ways, against all odds, people try to be good to one another. 531pgs
LEXILE: 880L

Animal Farm
By: George Orwell (1945)
A political satire in which the animals take over running the farm but find their Utopian state turning into a dictatorship. 113pgs
LEXILE: 1170L

As I Lay Dying: The Corrected Text
By: William Faulkner (1990)
Describes a family’s struggle to get their mother properly buried, while they encounter catastrophes of flood and fire, as well as the chaos of their feelings. 267pgs
LEXILE: 870L

Beowulf
By: NA (NA)
A man seeks to prove himself as a hero. A monster seeks silence in his territory. A warrior seeks to avenge her murdered son. A dragon ends it all. 165pgs
LEXILE: 1070L

The Book Thief
By: Markus Zusak (2006)
Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II, Death relates the story of Liesel—a young German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding, as well as their neighbors. 552pgs
LEXILE: 730L

The Boy in the Black Suit
By: Jason Reynolds (2015)
Soon after his mother’s death, Matt takes a job at a funeral home in his tough Brooklyn neighborhood and, while attending and assisting with funerals, begins to accept her death and his responsibilities as a man. 255pgs
LEXILE: HL760L

Butterfly Yellow
By: Thanhha Lai (2019)
In the final days of the Vietnam War, Hang takes her little brother, Linh, to the airport, determined to find a way to safety in America. In a split second, Linh is ripped from her arms—and Hang is left behind in the war-torn country. 284pgs
LEXILE: NA
9-12th Grade

**Candide**
By: Voltaire (1759)
In the story of the trials and travails of the youthful Candide, his mentor Dr. Pangloss, and a host of other characters, Voltaire mercilessly satirizes and exposes romance, science, philosophy, religion, and government. 144pgs
LEXILE: NA

**Code of Honor**
By: Alan Gratz (2015)
When Iranian American, Kamran Smith, learns that his big brother, Darius, has been labeled a terrorist, he sets out to piece together the codes and clues that will save his brother’s life and his country from a deadly terrorist attack. 278pgs
LEXILE: HL660L

**The Canterbury Tales**
By: Geoffrey Chaucer (NA)
The pilgrims come from all ranks of society, and the resulting collection gives us a set of characters so vivid that they have often been taken as portraits from real life, and a series of stories as hilarious in their comedy as they are affecting in their tragedy. 504pgs
LEXILE: NA

**Dear Martin**
By: Nic Stone (2017)
Justyce McAllister is a good kid, an honor student, and always there to help a friend—but none of that matters to the police officer who just put him in handcuffs. Despite leaving his rough neighborhood behind, he can’t escape the scorn of his former peers or the ridicule of his new classmates. 224pgs
LEXILE: HL720L

**Challenger Deep**
By: Neal Shusterman (2016)
Georgina is homeless and living out of a car, so she plans an elaborate scheme to kidnap a dog in order to get the reward money. What happens next is the last thing she expected. 208pgs
LEXILE: HL800L

**Eleanor and Park**
By: Rainbow Rowell (2016)
Set over one school year in 1986, this is the story of two star-crossed misfits—smart enough to know that first love seldom lasts, but brave and desperate enough to try. 366pgs
LEXILE: HL580L

**Children of Blood and Bone**
By: Tomi Adeyemi (2018)
Seventeen-year-old Zélie, her older brother Tzain, and rogue princess Amari fight to restore magic to the land and activate a new generation of magi, but they are ruthlessly pursued by the crown prince, who believes the return of magic will mean the end of the monarchy. 531pgs
LEXILE: HL670L

**Every Moment After**
By: Joseph Moldover (2019)
After high school graduation, best friends Matt and Cole strive to put behind them the school shooting they survived in first grade and begin to live. 364pgs
LEXILE: HL700L
Fahrenheit 451
By: Ray Bradbury (1951)
A totalitarian regime has ordered all books to be destroyed, but one of the book burners, Guy Montag, suddenly realizes their merit.
159pgs
LEXILE: 890L

The Great Gatsby
By: F. Scott Fitzgerald (1925)
Tell the tragic love story of Gatsby and Daisy Buchanan, a dashing, enigmatic millionaire obsessed with an elusive, spoiled young woman.
180pgs
LEXILE: 1010L

The Fault in Our Stars
By: John Green (2012)
Sixteen-year-old Hazel, a stage IV thyroid cancer patient, has accepted her terminal diagnosis until a chance meeting with a boy at cancer support group forces her to reexamine her perspective on love, loss, and life.
318pgs
LEXILE: 850L

The Hate U Give
By: Angie Thomas (2017)
After witnessing her friend’s death at the hands of a police officer, Starr Carter’s life is complicated when the police and a local drug lord try to intimidate her to learn what happened the night Kahlil died.
444pgs
LEXILE: HL590L

Frankenstein
By: Mary Shelley (1818)
A monster assembled by a scientist from parts of dead bodies develops a mind of his own as he learns to loathe himself and hate his creator.
273pgs
LEXILE: 1040L

The Help
By: Kathryn Stockett (2016)
In Jackson, Mississippi, in 1962, some lines are not crossed. With the civil rights movement exploding all around them, three women start a campaign of their own, forever changing a town and the way women view one another.
640pgs
LEXILE: 730L

Gabi, a Girl in Pieces
By: Isabel Quintero (2014)
Gabi wants a lot of things. She wishes she wasn’t fat. She hopes her father wasn’t addicted to meth. But in the middle of her whirling twirling world, the thing she unexpectedly finds is poetry.
284pgs
LEXILE: HL820L

The House on Mango Street
By: Sandra Cisneros (1984)
Esperanza is a young girl growing up in the Latino section of Chicago, not wanting to belong to her rundown neighborhood. Esperanza finds the power within herself to become who she wants to be.
110pgs
LEXILE: 870L
House of Purple Cedar
By: Tim Tingle (2014)
Skullyville, a once-thriving Choctaw community, was destroyed by land-grabbers, culminating in the arson on New Year’s Eve, 1896, of New Hope Academy for Girls. Twenty Choctaw girls died, but Rose escaped. 326pgs
LEXILE: 860L

How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents
By: Julia Alvarez (1991)
Forced to flee their native Caribbean island after an attempted coup, the Garcias—Carlos, Laura, and their four daughters—must learn a new way of life in the Bronx, while trying to cling to the old ways that they loved. 286pgs
LEXILE: 950L

If Beale Street Could Talk
By: James Baldwin (1974)
Their love sustains a young African American couple in their struggle against injustice and racial oppression. 197pgs
LEXILE: NA

If I Was Your Girl
By: Meredith Russo (2018)
Amanda Hardy only wants to fit in at her new school, but she is keeping a big secret, so when she falls for Grant, guarded Amanda finds herself yearning to share with him everything about herself, including her previous life as Andrew. 313pgs
LEXILE: HL770L

The Impossible Knife of Memory
By: Laurie Halse Anderson (2015)
Hayley Kincaid and her father move back to their hometown to try a ‘normal’ life, but the horrors he saw in the war threaten to destroy their lives. 391pgs
LEXILE: 720L

Impossible Music
By: Sean Williams (2019)
Devastated by a stroke that causes him to lose his hearing, a teen musician resists transition therapy before a tough new friend challenges him to create a new music form that helps him better understand his relationship to the hearing world. 310pgs
LEXILE: HL820L

Internment
By: Samira Ahmed (2020)
A terrifying, futuristic United States where Muslim Americans are forced into internment camps and seventeen-year-old Layla Amin must lead a revolution against complicit silence. 389pgs
LEXILE: NA

Jackpot
By: Nic Stone (2019)
When Rico sells a jackpot-winning lotto ticket, she thinks maybe her luck will finally change, but only if she and her popular and wildly wealthy classmate, Zan, can find the ticket holder who hasn’t claimed the prize. 343pgs
LEXILE: HL670L
The Joy Luck Club
By: Amy Tan (1990)
Presents the alternating stories of four Chinese women in pre-1949 China and their American-born daughters in California. 329pgs
LEXILE: 930L

Lord of the Flies
By: William Golding (1954)
Left to their own devices, a group of boys is deserted on an island where they enjoy life without adult supervision. However, as time passes, the boys begin to create their way of living that soon turns deadly. 182pgs
LEXILE: 770L

Jubilee
By: Margaret Walker (1966)
The fortunes of a girl, first as a slave during the Civil War and then as a woman freed by the Emancipation Proclamation. 504pgs
LEXILE: 1090L

The Marrow Thieves
By: Cherie Dimaline (2017)
The indigenous people of North America are being hunted and harvested for their bone marrow, which carries the key to recovering something the rest of the population has lost: the ability to dream. 234pgs
LEXILE: HL590L

The Jungle
By: Upton Sinclair (1906)
Jurgis Rudkus, a Lithuanian immigrant, lured by appealing advertisements, comes to Chicago to make money in the stockyards, but the reality is different from what he expects. 475pgs
LEXILE: 1140L

Metamorphoses
By: Ovid (NA)
Divided into 15 books dealing with the creation of the world, earth, its phenomena, and a host of Greek myths and legends, Ovid’s book has ingrained itself into the collective mind of Western culture, sparking an infinite number of imitations and spin-off works to the present day. 367pgs
LEXILE: NA

Little Brother
By: Cory Doctorow (2008)
Interrogated for days by the Department of Homeland Security in the aftermath of a major terrorist attack on San Francisco, Marcus is released into a police state and decides to use his expertise in computer hacking to set things right. 284pgs
LEXILE: HL820L

Miss E.
By: Brian Herberger (2016)
In 1967, Bets’s life was in transition—her family moves to California, and her father goes to serve in the Vietnam War. All the while, Bets is faced with her conflicting feelings about the war her father is fighting in. 250pgs
LEXILE: 870L
Never Fall Down: A Boy Soldier’s Story of Survival  
By: Patricia McCormick (2012)  
Cambodian child soldier Arn Chorn-Pond defied the odds and used all of his courage and wits to survive the murderous regime of the Khmer Rouge. 216pgs  
LEXILE: 710L

The New David Espinoza  
By: Fred Aceves (2020)  
Obsessed with the idea that he is not muscular enough and tired of being bullied, David, age seventeen, begins using steroids, endangering his relationships with family and friends. 323pgs  
LEXILE: NA

No True Believers  
By: Rabiah York Lumbard (2020)  
High school senior Salma Bakioui, who has a connective tissue disorder, faces prejudice and hidden danger, especially after being framed for a Muslim terrorist act she did not commit. 294pgs  
LEXILE: HL620L

#NotYourPrincess: Voices of Native American Women  
By: Lisa Charleyboy and Mary Beth Leatherdale (2017)  
#NotYourPrincess features the works of Native American women, including artists, athletes, entrepreneurs, and college students. Each has a unique way of expressing her view on life as an Indigenous woman in the U.S. today. 112pgs  
LEXILE: 910L

Of Mice and Men  
By: John Steinbeck (1937)  
The tragic story of two itinerant ranch hands on the run—one is the lifelong companion to the other, a developmentally disabled man. 107pgs  
LEXILE: 630L

The Old Man and the Sea  
By: Ernest Hemingway (2014)  
Santiago is a Cuban fisherman who encounters a giant marlin in the Gulf Stream, and the battle for his catch becomes one of survival against a band of marauding sharks. 38pgs  
LEXILE: GN940L

Orphan, Monster, Spy  
By: Matt Killeen (2019)  
After her mother is shot at a checkpoint, Sarah, a Jewish teenager, agrees to help the resistance by posing as the daughter of a wealthy Nazi to gain access to the blueprints of a bomb that could destroy Western Europe. 423 pgs  
LEXILE: HL670L

Out of Darkness  
By: Ashley Hope Perez (2015)  
Loosely based on a school explosion that took place in New London, Texas, in 1937, this is the story of two teenagers: Naomi, who is Mexican, and Wash, who is black, and their dealings with race, segregation, love, and the forces that destroy people. 408pgs  
LEXILE: HL660L
Patron Saints of Nothing
By: Randy Ribay (2020)
A compelling coming-of-age story about grief, guilt, and the risks a Filipino-American teenager takes to uncover the truth about his cousin’s murder. 352pgs
LEXILE: 840L

The Poet X
By: Elizabeth Acevedo (2019)
Xiomara Batista feels unheard and unable to hide in her Harlem neighborhood. Ever since her body grew into curves, she has learned to let her fists and her fierceness do the talking. 348pgs
LEXILE: HL800L

The Pecan Man
By: Cassie Dandridge Selleck (2012)
In 1976, widow Ora Lee Beckworth hired Eddie, a homeless African American man nicknamed the Pecan Man, to mow her lawn. When the police chief’s son is murdered, Eddie is falsely arrested and sent to prison for life. Twenty-five years later, Ora tells the truth about what happened. 318pgs
LEXILE: 850L

Red Badge of Courage
By: Stephen Crane (2006)
Henry Fleming, a young Union soldier, struggles with his conflicting emotions about violence, death, and the nature of bravery in this ironic, skeptical account of the Civil War. 88pgs
LEXILE: GN890L

Pride
By: Ibi Aanu Zoboi (2018)
In a timely update of Jane Austen’s Pride and Prejudice, critically acclaimed author Ibi Zoboi skilfully balances cultural identity, class, and gentrification against the powerful magic of first love in her vibrant reimagining of this beloved classic. 304pgs
LEXILE: HL760L

Salt to the Sea
By: Ruta Sepetys (2017)
As World War II draws to a close, refugees try to escape the war’s final dangers, only to find themselves aboard a ship with a target on its hull. 418pgs
LEXILE: HL560L

Pride and Prejudice
By: Jane Austen (1831)
In early nineteenth-century England, a spirited young woman copes with the courtship of a snobbish gentleman as well as the romantic entanglements of her four sisters. 434pgs
LEXILE: 1070L

The Scarlet Letter
By: Nathaniel Hawthorne (1850)
Classic tale about Hester, her lover, their child, and Hester’s husband, and the effect of sin on the mind and spirit of these characters. 326pgs
LEXILE: NA
The Secret Life of Bees
By: Sue Monk Kidd (2002)
After her “stand-in mother,” a bold black woman named Rosaleen, insults the three biggest racists in town, Lily Owens joins Rosaleen on a journey to Tiburon, South Carolina, where they are taken in by three black, bee-keeping sisters. 302pgs
LEXILE: 840L

Their Eyes Were Watching God
By: Zora Neale Hurston (1937)
When Janie Starks returns home, she seeks identity and independence as the small southern black community buzzes with gossip about the outcome of her affair with a younger man. 219pgs
LEXILE: 890L

To Kill a Mockingbird
By: Harper Lee (1960)
In the South, defending a black man is a faux pax. The main character learns this lesson at a young age when her father defends a black man accused of a crime. 324pgs
LEXILE: 840L

The Tortilla Curtain
By: T.C. Boyle (2011)
The lives of two very different couples—wealthy Los Angeles liberals Delaney and Kyra Mossbacher, and Candido and America Rincon, a pair of undocumented Mexican immigrants—suddenly collide, in a story that unfolds from the shifting viewpoints of the various characters. 366pgs
LEXILE: 1210L

Watch Us Rise
By: Renee Watson (2020)
Jasmine and Chelsea are best friends on a mission. Sick of the way that young women are treated at their ‘progressive’ New York City high school, they decide to start a Women’s Right’s Club. One problem - no one shows up. That won’t stop them, though! 360pgs
LEXILE: HL800L

Their Eyes Were Watching God
By: Zora Neale Hurston (1937)
When Janie Starks returns home, she seeks identity and independence as the small southern black community buzzes with gossip about the outcome of her affair with a younger man. 219pgs
LEXILE: 890L

What I Carry
By: Jennifer Longo (2020)
In her final year in foster care, seventeen-year-old Muir tries to survive her senior year before aging out of the system. 322pgs
LEXILE: HL690L

When You Ask Me Where I’m Going
By: Jasmin Kaur (2019)
The six sections of the book explore what it means to be a young woman living in a world that doesn’t always hear her and tells the story of Kiran as she flees a history of trauma and raises her daughter, Sahaara, while living undocumented in North America. 244pgs
LEXILE: NA

You Bring the Distant Near
By: Mitali Perkins (1984)
From 1965 through the present, an Indian American family adjusts to life in New York City, alternately fending off and welcoming challenges to their traditions. 320pgs
LEXILE: HL720L
nonfiction:

BOOK LIST

9-12th GRADE
1968: Today’s Authors Explore a Year of Rebellion, Revolution, and Change
Published By: Candlewick Press (2018)

Presents a collection of nonfiction stories, including a memoir, personal essay, narrative, and travel writing that looks at the year of 1968. 198pgs
LEXILE: 1100L

30 Activists Under 30 Who are Changing the World
By: Shirley R. Steinberg (2019)

This inspirational resource allows students to see how their peers are changing the world. 274pgs
LEXILE: NA

The 57 Bus: A True Story of Two Teenagers and the Crime That Changed Their Lives
By: Dashka Slater (2017)

If it weren’t for the 57 bus, Sasha and Richard would never have met. Both were high school students from Oakland, California, one of the most diverse cities in the country, but they inhabited different worlds. 305pgs
LEXILE: 930L

Accused!: The Trials of the Scottsboro Boys
By: Larry Dane Brimner (2019)

This account tells the story of the Scottsboro Boys, nine African American teenagers who, when riding the rails during the Great Depression, found their lives destroyed after being falsely accused. 189pgs
LEXILE: NA

Americanized: Rebel Without a Green Card
By: Sara Saedi (2019)

In San Jose, California, in the 1990s, teenage Sara keeps a diary of life as an Iranian American and her discovery that she and her family entered as undocumented immigrants. 291pgs
LEXILE: 1030L

The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin
By: Benjamin Franklin (1868)

Statesman Benjamin Franklin recalls his life, from his youth as a rebellious runaway apprentice to a successful leader, printer, journalist, social and political reformer, scientist, and philosopher. 136pgs
LEXILE: NA

The Autobiography of Medgar Evers
By: Medgar Wiley Evers (2005)

Presents a collection of the papers, essays, and letters of Medgar Evers, a hero of the American civil rights movement who was murdered in 1963 by white supremacists. 352pgs
LEXILE: NA

Black and White Airmen: Their True History
By: John Fleischman (2007)

Presents the true story of two men—one African American, the other white—who lived in the same Ohio neighborhood, went to the same school, joined the Army Air Corps in 1941, and finally became close friends nearly sixty years later. 160pgs
LEXILE: 1050L
Blacklisted!: Hollywood, the Cold War, and the First Amendment
By: Larry Dane Brimner (2018)
Highlights the experiences of nineteen men from the film industry who were called before the House of Representatives’ Committee on Un-American Activities, all nineteen insisting that these trials violated their First Amendment rights. 171pgs
LEXILE: 1230L

Boots on the Ground: America’s War in Vietnam
By: Elizabeth Partridge (2018)
It provides the personal stories of an American nurse, six American soldiers, and one Vietnamese refugee to explore the history and ramifications of the Vietnam War. 213pgs
LEXILE: 960L

The Burning Tigris
By: Peter Balakian (2003)
Presents a study of the Armenian genocide, which began in the 1890s when Sultan Abdul Hamid II ordered the massacre of Armenians, and discusses the American response to the crisis and its implications for genocides in the twenty-first century. 528pgs
LEXILE: 1400L

Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee
By: Dee Alexander Brown (1970)
Traces the white man’s conquest of the Indians of the American West, emphasizing the causes, events, and effects of the significant Indian Wars leading to the symbolic end of Indian freedom at Wounded Knee. 544pgs
LEXILE: 1160L

A Cave in the Clouds: A Young Woman’s Escape from ISIS
By: Badeeah Hassan Ahmed (2019)
Badeeah Hassan, a Yazidi woman from Iraq, relates her story of captivity and escape from ISIS. 234pgs
LEXILE: HL750L

Charles and Emma
By: Deborah Heiligman (2009)
A biography of English naturalist Charles Darwin provides an account of the personality behind the evolutionary theory and the effect of his work on his personal life, such as his relationship with his religious wife. 268pgs
LEXILE: 1020L

Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice
By: Phillip Hoose (2011)
Because Claudette Colvin was considered too emotional to be the “face” of the bus boycott, the importance of Colvin’s actions was lost. However, she later testified in a federal lawsuit that helped end discrimination on public transportation. 150pgs
LEXILE: 1000L

Code Girls
By: Liza Mundy (2019)
More than ten thousand women served as codebreakers during World War II, recruited by the U.S. Army and Navy. While their brothers and boyfriends took up arms, these women moved to the nation’s capital to learn the top-secret art of code breaking. 320pgs
LEXILE: 1050L
The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America
By: Richard Rothstein (2017)
Explores the history of America’s housing policy, as well as the racial divide and discriminatory patterns that continue to this day. 368pgs
LEXILE: NA

Dead Inside: A True Story
By: Cyndy Etler (2018)
Cyndy Etler recounts her sixteen months living in a drug rehabilitation facility, after having run away at the age of fourteen. 289pgs
LEXILE: HL640L

Come On In, America: The United States in World War I
By: Linda Barrett Osborne (2017)
Explores why and how the United States joined World War I, and how it changed American history. 170pgs
LEXILE: 1100L

Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania
By: Erik Larson (2016)
Chronicles the last and fatal voyage of the Lusitania, moving between events on the luxury ocean liner as it returned to its homeport of Liverpool from New York City to those on the German submarine U-20. 452pgs
LEXILE: 1190L

Coming of Age in Mississippi
By: Anne Moody (1968)
The unforgettable memoir of a woman at the front lines of the civil rights movement—a harrowing account of black life in the rural South and a powerful affirmation of one person’s ability to affect change. 424pgs
LEXILE: 870L

The Disappearing Spoon
By: Sam Kean (2002)
Examines the stories behind the creation of the periodic table, focusing on the history of gold, carbon, silicon, and neon. 391pgs
LEXILE: 1300L

The Day the World Went Nuclear
By: Bill O’Reilly (2017)
Explores America’s decision to drop nuclear bombs on Japan in 1944. Black-and-white photographs help tell the story of significant figures, notable events, and the process by which the decision was made. 302pgs
LEXILE: 1130L

Dispatches From Pluto: Lost and Found in the Mississippi Delta
By: Richard Grant (2015)
Englishman Richard Grant writes about his first year of living in a home on the Mississippi Delta, describing life in the country, race relations in Mississippi, and how the Delta became home. 302pgs
LEXILE: NA
Every Falling Star
By: Sungju Lee (2016)
The memoir of Sungju, who grew up in North Korea and, at the age of twelve, was forced to live on the streets after his parents disappeared. Finally, after years of being homeless and living with a gang, Sungju is reunited with his maternal grandparents and, eventually, his father. 328pgs
LEXILE: 880L

Fake Politics
By: Jason Bisnoff (2019)
Tells the stories of how grassroots campaigns have transformed political activism into a veiled lobbying effort by the rich and the powerful like big tobacco, news media outlets, and the oil industry. 203pgs
LEXILE: NA

Fault Lines in the Constitution
By: Cynthia Levinson (2019)
It looks at the history of the writing of the United States Constitution, discussing that the nation is still suffering from the consequences of disputes and decisions made in 1787, as the new government was being created. 271pgs
LEXILE: 1120L

Freedom Summer
By: Susan Goldman Rubin (2015)
Introduces the efforts of student volunteers who traveled to Mississippi in 1964 to encourage African Americans to exercise their right to vote and discusses the violent resistance they faced from supporters of segregation. 120pgs
LEXILE: 980L

Getting Away With Murder: The True Story of the Emmett Till Case
By: Chris Crowe (2003)
Presents an accurate account of the murder of fourteen-year-old Emmett Till in Mississippi in 1955. 144pgs
LEXILE: 1210L

The Grand Escape
By: Neal Bascomb (2018)
Tells the true story of Allied soldiers in WWI who pulled off a daring escape from Germany’s most notorious prison camp, Holzminden. Includes historical photographs and diagrams of the escape. 275pgs
LEXILE: 1070L

Hey, Kiddo
By: Jarrett Krosoczka (2018)
Hey, Kiddo is a profoundly important memoir about growing up in a family grappling with addiction and finding the art that helps you survive. 294pgs
LEXILE: GN510L

Hidden Figures
By: Margot Lee Shetterly (2016)
Long before John Glenn and Neil Armstrong, there was a group of black female mathematicians who were called “human computers,” who used pencils, slide rules, and adding machines to find the numbers NASA needed to launch rockets, and later astronauts, into space! 231pgs
LEXILE: 1120L
I Am Scout: The Biography of Harper Lee  
By: Charles J. Shields (2015)
Harper Lee’s life and achievements are explored through her Southern upbringing, education, family, writing “To Kill a Mockingbird,” and her association with Truman Capote. 246pgs
LEXILE: 1120L

In Cold Blood  
By: Truman Capote (1965)
As Truman Capote reconstructs the murder and the investigation that led to the capture, trial, and execution of the killers, he generates both mesmerizing suspense and astonishing empathy. 384pgs
LEXILE: 1040L

I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings  
By: Maya Angelou (1969)
Angelou chronicles her early life, in 1930s rural Arkansas, including her rape at the age of five, her years of muteness, and the strength she gained from her grandmother and Mrs. Bertha Flowers, a respected African American woman in her town. 304pgs
LEXILE: 1010L

In the Country We Love: My Family Divided  
By: Diane Guerrero (2017)
The television actress recalls the day her parents were detained and deported when she was 14, and how she was able to remain in the country, finish her education, and build a successful acting career. 261pgs
LEXILE: HL780L

The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks  
By: Rebecca Skloot (2010)
Have you ever heard the term HeLa cells? This book illustrates how a poor Southern woman left a mark on science that changed the field of medicine forever. 310pgs
LEXILE: 1140L

An Indigenous Peoples’ History of the United States for Young People  
By: Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz (2019)
A history of the United States for young people told from the perspective of Indigenous peoples, revealing how Native Americans, for centuries, actively resisted expansion of the U.S. empire. 270pgs
LEXILE: 1220L

Imprisoned  
By: Martin Sandler (2013)
Examines the American internment of Japanese Americans and immigrants in concentration camps during World War II and the struggle of internees to rebuild their lives after they were freed at the end of the war. 176pgs
LEXILE: 1240L

It’s Trevor Noah: Born a Crime  
By: Trevor Noah (2020)
Trevor Noah shares his remarkable story of growing up in South Africa with a black South African mother and a white European father at a time when it was against the law for a mixed-race child to exist. 294pgs
LEXILE: 780L
Just Mercy: Adapted for Young Adults
By: Bryan Stevenson (2018)

Bryan Stevenson details from his personal experience his many challenges and efforts as a lawyer and social advocate, especially on behalf of America’s most marginalized people. 277pgs
LEXILE: 1040L 🌈 🌈

The Last Lecture
By: Randy Pausch (2008)

Computer science professor Randy Pausch, who has been diagnosed with terminal cancer, discusses how to overcome obstacles in one’s life and achieve one’s dreams. 206pgs
LEXILE: NA 🌈 🌈 🌈

Laughing at My Nightmare
By: Shane Burcaw (2014)

Shane Burcaw describes the challenges he faces as a twenty-one-year-old with spinal muscular atrophy. From awkward handshakes to having a girlfriend and everything in between, Shane handles his situation with humor and a “you-only-live-once” perspective on life. 250pgs
LEXILE: 1110L 🌈 🌈 🌈 🌈

Malcolm X: By Any Means Necessary
By: Walter Dean Myers (1993)

Traces the life of the controversial African American leader, describes his involvement with the Nation of Islam, and looks at his speeches and assassination. 210pgs
LEXILE: 1050L 🌈 🌈 🌈

Modern HERstory: Stories of Women and Nonbinary People Rewriting History
By: Blair Imani (2008)

An illustrated and informative primer on the progressive social change movements of the last 60 years as told through the stories of 60 diverse female and non-binary leaders in those movements, from the Civil Rights Movement and Stonewall riots through today. 195pgs
LEXILE: NA 🌈 🌈

Native Son
By: Richard Wright (1940)

Trapped in the poverty-stricken ghetto of Chicago’s South Side, a young African American man finds release only in acts of violence. 504pgs
LEXILE: 700L 🌈 🌈 🌈

Night
By: Elie Wiesel (1956)

This autobiography depicts life as a Jewish teenager in concentration camps. Wiesel shares the horrifying experiences of the Holocaust and its effects on him. 115pgs
LEXILE: 590L 🌈 🌈 🌈

A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier
By: Ishmael Beah (2007)

Beah describes his experiences after he was driven from his home by the war in Sierra Leone and picked up by the government army at the age of thirteen, serving as a soldier for three years before being removed from fighting by UNICEF. 229pgs
LEXILE: 920L 🌈 🌈
**Notorious RBG:**
*The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg*
*By: Irin Carmon (2015)*

Profiles the life of feminist pioneer and Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and her fight for gender equality and civil rights. 199pgs

**LEXILE:** 1030L  🍂 🍁

---

**One Person, No Vote:**
*How Not All Voters are Treated Equally*
*By: Carol Anderson (2019)*

Chronicles the rollbacks to African American participation in the vote since the 2013 Supreme Court decision that eviscerated the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

276pgs

**LEXILE:** NA 🍂 🍁

---

**One Writer’s Beginning**
*By: Eudora Welty (1983)*

The autobiography of the fiction writer Eudora Welty whose honors include the Pulitzer Prize and the American Book Award for fiction.

104pgs

**LEXILE:** 1130L 🍂 🍁

---

**The Radium Girls:**
*The Dark Story of America’s Shining Women*
*By: Kate Moore (2017)*

Explores the story of radium poisoning to young American women during WWI from the paint used on watch dials, and the ensuing legal consequences that occurred as a result of these work health hazards.

477pgs

**LEXILE:** 980L 🍂 🍁 🍂 🍂

---

**Stuck in Neutral**
*By: Terry Trueman (2000)*

Fourteen-year-old Shawn McDaniel, who has severe cerebral palsy and cannot function, relates his perceptions of his life, his family, and his condition, especially as he believes his father is planning to kill him.

114pgs

**LEXILE:** 820L 🍂 🍁 🍂 🍂

---

**Same Kind of Different as Me**
*By: Ron Hall (2018)*

Hollywood art dealer Ron Hall and former Louisiana indentured servant Denver Moore reflect on their lives and the friendship that was established between them thanks to the volunteer work of Ron’s late wife at Union Gospel Mission in Fort Worth, Texas.

245pgs

**LEXILE:** 1010L 🍂 🍁 🍂 🍂

---

**Tell Them We Remember**
*By: Susan Bachrach (1994)*

Presents the story of the Holocaust and shows how it affected the lives of innocent people throughout Europe, using print artifacts and taped histories from the collections of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.

109pgs

**LEXILE:** 1190L 🍂 🍁 🍂 🍂

---

**There Was a Country:**
*A Memoir*
*By: Chinua Achebe (2013)*

Chronicles the life of Chinua Achebe, a Nigerian author, and recounts his experiences of Nigeria’s birth as a nation, his upbringing as a man and a writer, and his time as an ambassador during the Biafran War.

333pgs

**LEXILE:** NA 🍂

---

**equipped:** Mississippi Book Lists for ALL 28
To Tell the Truth Freely: The Life of Ida B. Wells
By: Mia Bay (2009)
Examines the life and legacy of women’s rights advocate, anti-lynching crusader, and journalist Ida B. Wells, from her birth to slaves in Mississippi in 1862 to her death in Chicago in 1931. 374pgs
LEXILE: NA

Undecided: Navigating Life and Learning After High School
By: Genevieve Morgan (2014)
Offers vocational guidance and activities to high school graduates who are undecided about a career path, discussing the various available options, including training programs, community college, military service, four-year universities, and gap years. 256pgs
LEXILE: 870L

Vote! Women’s Fight for Access to the Ballot Box
By: Coral Celeste Frazer (2020)
In this timely book, readers can see how the 70-year-long fight for women’s suffrage was hard-won by leaders such as Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, and others. Learn how their success led to the civil rights and feminist movements of the mid- and late twentieth century. 120pgs
LEXILE: 1080L

Warriors Don’t Cry: A Searing Memoir of the Battle to Integrate Little Rock’s Central High
By: Melba Beals (1994)
In this compelling autobiographical account by one of the Civil Rights Movement’s most influential figures, Beals explores not only the power of racism but also the ideas of justice and identity. 312pgs
LEXILE: 1000L

Why We Can’t Wait
By: Martin Luther King, Jr. (1963)
An integral part of the Civil Rights Movement, Dr. King offers an analysis of the importance of the movement. 240pgs
LEXILE: 1200L

Vote! Women’s Fight for Access to the Ballot Box
By: Coral Celeste Frazer (2020)
In this timely book, readers can see how the 70-year-long fight for women’s suffrage was hard-won by leaders such as Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, and others. Learn how their success led to the civil rights and feminist movements of the mid- and late twentieth century. 120pgs
LEXILE: 1080L

Write Your Way In: Crafting an Unforgettable College Admissions Essay
By: Rachel Toor (2017)
College-bound students will learn how to make their essays stand out from an experienced college admissions officer and writing teacher. 164pgs
LEXILE: NA
appendix a
THEMES & PAIRINGS
## MAIN THEME: Civil Rights

### SUB-THEME: Civil Rights in Mississippi

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCHOR TEXT</th>
<th>FICTION PAIRINGS</th>
<th>NONFICTION PAIRINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **The Autobiography of Medgar Evers: A Hero’s Life and Legacy Revealed* Through His Writings, Letters, and Speeches** | The Help*  
By: Kathryn Stockett  
LEXILE: 730L | 640pgs | 2016  
Coming of Age in Mississippi*  
By: Anne Moody  
LEXILE: 870L | 424pgs | 1968  
Freedom Summer: The 1964 Struggle for Civil Rights in Mississippi*  
By: Susan Goldman Rubin  
LEXILE: 870L | 424pgs | 1968 |

### SUB-THEME: Civil Rights Leaders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCHOR TEXT</th>
<th>FICTION PAIRINGS</th>
<th>NONFICTION PAIRINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice**  
By: Phillip Hoose  
LEXILE: 1000L | 150pgs | 2011  
NOTE: Connects to Mississippi Exemplar Units and Lessons:  
English Language Arts- English I |
| **Hidden Figures: The Untold Story of Four African-American Women Who Helped Launch Our Nation Into Space**  
By: Margot Lee Shetterly  
LEXILE: 1120L | 231pgs | 2016 |
| **Why We Can’t Wait**  
By: Martin Luther King, Jr.  
LEXILE: 1200L | 240pgs | 1963 |
| **Five Smooth Stones**  
By: Ann Fairbaim  
LEXILE: NA | 756pgs | 2009 |
| **A Letter From Birmingham Jail**  
By: Martin Luther King, Jr.  
LEXILE: NA | 59pgs | 1990 |
| **Malcolm X: By Any Means Necessary***  
By: Walter Dean Myers  
LEXILE: 1050L | 210pgs | 1993 |

*Equipped Book List text
### SUB-THEME: Civil Rights in Action

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCHOR TEXT</th>
<th>FICTION PAIRINGS</th>
<th>NONFICTION PAIRINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>If Beale Street Could Talk</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: James Baldwin&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: NA</td>
<td><strong>If You Come Softly</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Jacqueline Woodson&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: NA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Out of Darkness</strong>*&lt;br&gt;By: Ashley Hope Perez&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: HL660L</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>To Kill a Mockingbird</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Harper Lee&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 870L</td>
<td><strong>I Kill the Mockingbird</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Paul Acampora&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 640L</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>The Pecan Man</strong>*&lt;br&gt;By: Cassie Danridge&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: NA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Small Great Things</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Jodi Picoult&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: HL800L</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>A Time to Kill</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: John Grisham&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 770L</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### MAIN THEME: College- and Career-Readiness

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCHOR TEXT</th>
<th>FICTION PAIRINGS</th>
<th>NONFICTION PAIRINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>30 Activists Under 30 Who Are Changing the World</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Shirley R. Steinberg&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: NA</td>
<td><strong>Be a Changemaker: How to Start Something That Matters</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Laurie Ann Thompson&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 1130L</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>The Last Lecture</strong>*&lt;br&gt;By: Randy Pausch&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: NA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>The Playbook: 52 Rules to Aim, Shoot, and Score in This Game Called Life</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Kwame Alexander&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 970L</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Equipped Book List text*
### SUB-THEME: Life After High School

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCHOR TEXT</th>
<th>FICTION PAIRINGS</th>
<th>NONFICTION PAIRINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Undecided: Navigating Life and Learning After High School</strong>  &lt;br/&gt; By: Genevieve Morgan  &lt;br/&gt; LEXILE: NA</td>
<td>256pgs</td>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Writer Your Way In: Crafting an Unforgettable College Admissions Essay</strong>  &lt;br/&gt; By: Rachel Toor  &lt;br/&gt; LEXILE: NA</td>
<td>164pgs</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thank You for Coming to My TED Talk: A Teen Guide to Public Speaking</strong>  &lt;br/&gt; By: Chris Anderson  &lt;br/&gt; LEXILE: 990L</td>
<td>152pgs</td>
<td>2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### MAIN THEME: Contemporary African American Equality

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCHOR TEXT</th>
<th>FICTION PAIRINGS</th>
<th>NONFICTION PAIRINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>All American Boys</strong>  &lt;br/&gt; By: Jason Boys  &lt;br/&gt; LEXILE: HL770L</td>
<td>316pgs</td>
<td>2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dispatches From Pluto: Lost and Found in the Mississippi Delta</strong>  &lt;br/&gt; By: Richard Grant  &lt;br/&gt; LEXILE: NA</td>
<td>302pgs</td>
<td>2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Hate U Give</strong>  &lt;br/&gt; By: Angie Thomas  &lt;br/&gt; LEXILE: HL590L</td>
<td>444pgs</td>
<td>2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Just Mercy: Adapted for Young Adults: A True Story of the Fight for Justice</strong>*  &lt;br/&gt; By: Bryan Stevenson  &lt;br/&gt; LEXILE: 1040L</td>
<td>277pgs</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Equipped Book List text*
### MAIN THEME: Coping with Grief and Loss

#### SUB-THEME: Coping with the Loss of a Parent

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCHOR TEXT</th>
<th>FICTION PAIRINGS</th>
<th>NONFICTION PAIRINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>As I Lay Dying: The Corrected Text</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: William Faulkner&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 870L</td>
<td><strong>Dig</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: A.S. King&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: NA</td>
<td><strong>Corpses, Coffins, and Crypts</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Penny Colman&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 1190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Don’t Forget Me</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Victoria Stevens&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 720L</td>
<td><strong>Ostrich Boys</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Keith Gray&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 630L</td>
<td><strong>Depression Era: A Historical Exploration of Literature</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Aaron Barlow&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### SUB-THEME: Coping with the Loss of a Friend

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCHOR TEXT</th>
<th>FICTION PAIRINGS</th>
<th>NONFICTION PAIRINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Boy in the Black Suit</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Jason Reynolds&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: HL760L</td>
<td><strong>Clap When You Land</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Elizabeth Acevedo&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: NA</td>
<td><strong>The Fault in Our Stars</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: John Green&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 850L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>How to Make Friends With the Dark</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Kathleen Glasgow&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: HL690L</td>
<td><strong>A Raisin in the Sun</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Lorraine Hansberry&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: NA</td>
<td><strong>Dancing at the Pity Party</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Tyler Feder&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

*Equipped Book List text*
### MAIN THEME: Crime and Justice

#### SUB-THEME: True Crimes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCHOR TEXT</th>
<th>FICTION PAIRINGS</th>
<th>NONFICTION PAIRINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>The 57 Bus: A True Story of Two Teenagers That Changed Their Lives</em>&lt;br&gt;By: Dashka Slater&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 930L</td>
<td>Native Son*&lt;br&gt;By: Richard Wright&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 700L</td>
<td>Getting Away With Murder: The True Story of the Emmett Till Case*&lt;br&gt;By: Chris Cowe&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 1210L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Sing, Unburied Sing&lt;br&gt;By: Jesmyn Ward&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 840L</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>In Cold Blood</em>&lt;br&gt;By: Truman Capote&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 1040L</td>
<td>18 Tiny Deaths: The Untold Story of Frances Glessner Lee and the Invention of Modern Forensics&lt;br&gt;By: Bruce Goldfarb&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: NA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### SUB-THEME: Teen Violence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCHOR TEXT</th>
<th>FICTION PAIRINGS</th>
<th>NONFICTION PAIRINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>We Say #NeverAgain: Reporting by the Parkland Student Journalists</em>&lt;br&gt;Published By: Crown Publisher&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 1100L</td>
<td>Every Moment After*&lt;br&gt;By: Joseph Moldover&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: HL700L</td>
<td>Glimmer of Hope: How Tragedy Sparked a Movement&lt;br&gt;Published By: Razorbill/Dutton&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 990L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>How it Feels to Float&lt;br&gt;By: Helena Fox&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: HL630L</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### MAIN THEME: Emigration/Immigration

#### SUB-THEME: Asian American

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCHOR TEXT</th>
<th>FICTION PAIRINGS</th>
<th>NONFICTION PAIRINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>Butterfly Yellow</em>&lt;br&gt;By: Thanhha Lai&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: NA</td>
<td>Cold White Sun&lt;br&gt;By: Sue Farreel Holler&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: HL620L</td>
<td>Almost American Girl: An Illustrated Memoir&lt;br&gt;By: Robin Ha&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Equipped Book List text*
## SUB-THEME: Latino American

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCHOR TEXT</th>
<th>FICTION PAIRINGS</th>
<th>NONFICTION PAIRINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents**  
By: Julia Alvarez  
LEXILE: 950L | 286pgs | 1991 | **Dominicana**  
By: Angie Cruz  
LEXILE: NA | 322pgs | 2019 |
| **The Poet X**  
By: Elizabeth Acevedo  
LEXILE: HL800L | 348pgs | 2019 | **In the Country We Love: My Family Divided**  
By: Diane Guerrero  
LEXILE: HL780L | 261pgs | 2017 |
| **Americanized: Rebel Without a Green Card**  
By: Sara Saedi  
LEXILE: 1030L | 291pgs | 2019 | **Sanctuary Somewhere**  
By: Brenna Dimming  
LEXILE: 630L | 190pgs | 2019 |
| **When You Ask Me Where I’m Going**  
By: Jasmin Kaur  
LEXILE: NA | 244pgs | 2019 | **Outcasts United: The Story of a Refugee Soccer Team That Changed a Town**  
By: Warren St. John  
LEXILE: 980L | 226pgs | 2013 |
| **With a Star in My Hand: Ruben Dario, Poetry Hero**  
Published By: Antheneum  
By: Alia Malek  
LEXILE: NA | 305pgs | 2009 |

*Equipped Book List text*
# MAIN THEME: Family Structure

## SUB-THEME: Growing Up in a Non-Traditional Family

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCHOR TEXT</th>
<th>FICTION PAIRINGS</th>
<th>NONFICTION PAIRINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **The Secret Life of Bees**  
By: Sue Monk Kidd  
LEXILE: 840L | **Hey Kiddo**  
By: Jarrett Krosoczka  
LEXILE: GN510L | |
| **What I Carry**  
By: Jennifer Longo  
LEXILE: HL690L | **Fostergirls**  
By: Liane Shaw  
LEXILE: NA | **Waiting for Still Water**  
By: Susan White  
LEXILE: NA |

## SUB-THEME: Growing Up in a Mixed Race Family

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCHOR TEXT</th>
<th>FICTION PAIRINGS</th>
<th>NONFICTION PAIRINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **It’s Trevor Noah: Born a Crime: Stories From a South African Childhood**  
By: Trevor Noah  
LEXILE: 780L | **Patron Saints of Nothing**  
By: Randy Ribay  
LEXILE: 840L | **The Color of Water: A Black Man’s Tribute to His White Mother**  
By: James McBride  
LEXILE: 1140L | |
| **Red at the Bone**  
By: Jacqueline Woodson  
LEXILE: NA | **Master Harold and the Boys**  
By: Athol Fugard  
LEXILE: NA | |

## SUB-THEME: Growing Up in a Different Culture

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCHOR TEXT</th>
<th>FICTION PAIRINGS</th>
<th>NONFICTION PAIRINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **The Joy Luck Club**  
By: Amy Tan  
LEXILE: 930L | **The Astonishing Color of After**  
By: Emily X.R. Pan  
LEXILE: HL670L | **In the Key of Nira Ghani**  
By: Natasha Deen  
LEXILE: NA | |
| **Darius the Great Is Not Okay**  
By: Adib Khorram  
LEXILE: HL710L | **You Bring the Distant Near**  
By: Mitali Perkins  
LEXILE: HL720L | **The Love and Lies of Rukhsana Ali**  
By: Sabina Khan  
LEXILE: 690L | |

*Equipped Book List text*
### MAIN THEME: Government and Civics

#### SUB-THEME: Trailblazers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCHOR TEXT</th>
<th>FICTION PAIRINGS</th>
<th>NONFICTION PAIRINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Irin Carmon&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 1030L</td>
<td>199pgs</td>
<td>2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### SUB-THEME: Constitution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCHOR TEXT</th>
<th>FICTION PAIRINGS</th>
<th>NONFICTION PAIRINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Blacklisted!: Hollywood, the Cold War, and the First Amendment</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Larry Dane Brimner&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 1230L</td>
<td>171pgs</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Crucible</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Arthur Miller&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: NA</td>
<td>142pgs</td>
<td>1952</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Equipped Book List text*
# Sub-theme: Digital Citizenship

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Anchor Text</th>
<th>Fiction Pairings</th>
<th>Nonfiction Pairings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Little Brother</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Cory Doctorow&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 900L</td>
<td><a href="#">Little Brother</a> <strong>382pgs</strong></td>
<td><a href="#">Surveillance and Your Right to Privacy</a> <strong>2008</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="#">By: Cathleen Smith</a> <strong>2018</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# Sub-theme: Politics and the Media

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Anchor Text</th>
<th>Fiction Pairings</th>
<th>Nonfiction Pairings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fake Politics: How Corporate and Government Groups Create and Maintain a Monopoly on Truth</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Jason Bisnoff&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: NA</td>
<td><a href="#">Fake Politics: How Corporate and Government Groups Create and Maintain a Monopoly on Truth</a> <strong>2019</strong></td>
<td><a href="#">Fake News: Separating Truth From Fiction</a> <strong>2019</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="#">By: Michael Miller</a> <strong>2019</strong></td>
<td><a href="#">By: Sandra Donovan</a> <strong>2019</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="#">By: Sandra Donovan</a> <strong>2016</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# Sub-theme: Political Satire

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Anchor Text</th>
<th>Fiction Pairings</th>
<th>Nonfiction Pairings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Animal Farm</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: George Orwell&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 1170L</td>
<td><a href="#">Animal Farm</a> <strong>1945</strong></td>
<td><a href="#">Brave New World</a> <strong>1945</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="#">By: Aldous Huxley</a> <strong>1932</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# Sub-theme: Social Issues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Anchor Text</th>
<th>Fiction Pairings</th>
<th>Nonfiction Pairings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Jungle</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Upton Sinclair&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 1170L</td>
<td><a href="#">The Jungle</a> <strong>1906</strong></td>
<td><a href="#">Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the All-American Meal</a> <strong>2012</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="#">By: Eric Schlosser</a> <strong>2012</strong></td>
<td><a href="#">By: Kathryn Gay</a> <strong>2013</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="#">By: Candy J. Cooper</a> <strong>2020</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Equipped Book List text*
### SUB-THEME: Voting Rights

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCHOR TEXT</th>
<th>FICTION PAIRINGS</th>
<th>NONFICTION PAIRINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>One Person, No Vote: How Not All Voters Are Treated Equally</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Carol Anderson&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: NA</td>
<td><strong>The Voting Booth</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Brandy Colbert&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: NA</td>
<td><strong>Drawing the Vote: An Illustrated Guide to Voting in America</strong>&lt;br&gt;Published By: Abrams Comicarts&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>**304pgs</td>
<td>2020**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Equipped Book List text*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAIN THEME: Historical Event or Time Period</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUB-THEME: Puritans</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ANCHOR TEXT</strong></td>
<td><strong>FICTION PAIRINGS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Scarlet Letter</td>
<td>The Minister’s Daughter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By: Nathaniel Hawthorne</td>
<td>By: Julie Hearn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wicked Girls: A Novel of the Salem Witch Trials</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By: Stephanie Hemphill</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEXILE: 700L</td>
<td>408pgs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>SUB-THEME: Westward Expansion and Native Americans</strong></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ANCHOR TEXT</strong></td>
<td><strong>FICTION PAIRINGS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An Indigenous Peoples’ History of the United States for Young People</td>
<td>#NotYourPrincess: Voices of Native American Women*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By: Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz</td>
<td>By: Lisa Charleyboy and Mary Beth Leatherdale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House of Purple Cedar*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By: Tim Tingle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEXILE: 860L</td>
<td>326pgs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By: Dee Alexander Brown</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEXILE: 1160L</td>
<td>544pgs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dreaming in Indian: Contemporary Native Voice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By: Lisa Charleyboy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEXILE: 1040L</td>
<td>128pgs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>SUB-THEME: The Civil War</strong></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ANCHOR TEXT</strong></td>
<td><strong>FICTION PAIRINGS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jubilee</td>
<td>The Red Badge of Courage*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By: Margaret Walker</td>
<td>By: Stephen Crane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shiloh</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By: Shelby Foote</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEXILE: NA</td>
<td>226pgs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>SUB-THEME: The Roaring 1920s</strong></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ANCHOR TEXT</strong></td>
<td><strong>FICTION PAIRINGS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Great Gatsby</td>
<td>The Summer Prince</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By: F. Scott Fitzgerald</td>
<td>By: Alaya Dawn Johnson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Equipped Book List text*
## MAIN THEME: Overcoming Adversity

### SUB-THEME: Stories of Self Identity or Belonging

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCHOR TEXT</th>
<th>FICTION PAIRINGS</th>
<th>NONFICTION PAIRINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Candide**  
By: Voltaire  
LEXILE: NA | **The Lie Tree**  
By: Frances Hardinge  
LEXILE: 860L | **Mary’s Monster: Love, Madness, and How Mary Shelley Created Frankenstein**  
By: Lita Judge  
LEXILE: 1070L |
|               | **Lexile: NA  | 144pgs  | 1759** | **1818** | **Mary’s Monster: Love, Madness, and How Mary Shelley Created Frankenstein**  
By: Lita Judge  
LEXILE: 1070L | **Lexile: 860L  | 377pgs  | 2016** |
| **Frankenstein**  
By: Mary Shelley  
LEXILE: 1040L | **The Lie Tree**  
By: Frances Hardinge  
LEXILE: 860L | **Mary’s Monster: Love, Madness, and How Mary Shelley Created Frankenstein**  
By: Lita Judge  
LEXILE: 1070L |
|               | **Lexile: 1040L  | 243pgs  | 1818** | **Lexile: 1070L  | 312pgs  | 2018** | **The Strange True Tale of Frankenstein’s Creator Mary Shelley**  
By: Catherine Reef  
LEXILE: 1010L |
| **The House on Mango Street**  
By: Sandra Cisneros  
LEXILE: 870L | **Gabi, a Girl in Pieces**  
By: Isabel Quintero  
LEXILE: HL820L | **The New David Espinoza**  
By: Fred Aceves  
LEXILE: NA |
|               | **Lexile: 284pgs  | 1984** | **Lexile: 284pgs  | 2014** | **Lexile: 323pgs  | 2020** |
| **If I Was Your Girl**  
By: Meredith Russo  
LEXILE: HL770L | **Eleanor and Park**  
By: Rainbow Rowell  
LEXILE: HL580L | **Love and Other Curses**  
By: Michael Thomas Ford  
LEXILE: NA |
|               | **Lexile: 313pgs  | 2018** | **Lexile: 336pgs  | 2016** | **Lexile: 345pgs  | 2019** |
| **Metamorphoses**  
By: Ovid  
LEXILE: NA | **Lovely War**  
By: Julie Berry  
LEXILE: 850L | **Feathered Serpent, Dark Heart of Sky: Myths of Mexico**  
By: David Bowles  
LEXILE: 1010L |
|               | **Lexile: NA  | 367pgs  | NA** | **Lexile: 468pgs  | 2020** | **Lexile: 300pgs  | 2018** |
|               | **Lexile: NA  | 1916** | **Lexile: NA  | 240pgs  | 1916** | **Lexile: GN910L  | 246pgs  | 2019** |
| **Julius Caesar**  
By: William Shakespeare  
LEXILE: NA | **Pygmalion**  
By: George Bernard Shaw  
LEXILE: NA | **Mythology**  
By: Edith Hamilton  
LEXILE: NA |
|               | **Lexile: NA  | 345pgs  | 1916** | **Lexile: NA  | 495pgs  | 1942** | **Lexile: NA  | 495pgs  | 1942** |

*Equipped Book List text*
### SUB-THEME: Stories of Survival

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCHOR TEXT</th>
<th>FICTION PAIRINGS</th>
<th>NONFICTION PAIRINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Beowulf</strong></td>
<td><strong>Grendel's Guide to Love and War</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By: NA</td>
<td>By: A.E. Kaplan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEXILE: NA</td>
<td>LEXILE: HL700L</td>
<td>312pgs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>165pgs</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Children of Blood and Bone</strong></td>
<td><strong>Girl in the Blue Coat</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By: Tomi Adeyemi</td>
<td>By: Monica Hesse</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEXILE: HL670L</td>
<td>LEXILE: 720L</td>
<td>301pgs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>531pgs</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tamar</strong></td>
<td><strong>The Lottery</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By: Mal Peet</td>
<td>By: Shirley Jackson</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEXILE: 780L</td>
<td>LEXILE: NA</td>
<td>306pgs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>424pgs</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lord of the Flies</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dreaming in Cuba</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By: William Golding</td>
<td>By: Cristina Garcia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEXILE: 770L</td>
<td>LEXILE: 940L</td>
<td>245pgs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>182pgs</td>
<td>1954</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38pgs</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Old Man and the Sea</strong></td>
<td><strong>I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By: Ernest Hemingway</td>
<td>By: Maya Angelou</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEXILE: GN940L</td>
<td>LEXILE: 1010L</td>
<td>304pgs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38pgs</td>
<td>2014</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>304pgs</td>
<td>1969</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings</strong></td>
<td><strong>Gather Together in My Name</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By: Maya Angelou</td>
<td>By: Maya Angelou</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEXILE: 1010L</td>
<td>LEXILE: 800L</td>
<td>214pgs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>304pgs</td>
<td>1969</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NOTE:</strong> Connects to Mississippi Exemplar Units and Lessons: English Language Arts- English 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Equipped Book List text*
### MAIN THEME: Living with Disabilities

#### SUB-THEME: Mental Health

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCHOR TEXT</th>
<th>FICTION PAIRINGS</th>
<th>NONFICTION PAIRINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Challenger Deep</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Neal Shusterman&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: HL800L</td>
<td><strong>The Glass Menagerie</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Tennessee Williams&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: NA</td>
<td><strong>(Don’t) Call Me Crazy: 33 Voices Start the Conversation About Mental Health</strong>&lt;br&gt;Published By: Algonquin Young Readers&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>This Is My Brain in Love</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: I.W. Gregorio&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: NA</td>
<td><strong>No Man’s Land</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: S.T. Underdahl&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: NA</td>
<td><strong>Heads Up: Changing Minds on Mental Health</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Melanie Siebert&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: NA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### SUB-THEME: Physical Handicaps

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCHOR TEXT</th>
<th>FICTION PAIRINGS</th>
<th>NONFICTION PAIRINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Impossible Music</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Sean Williams&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: HL820L</td>
<td><strong>The Silence Between Us</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Alison Gervais&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 940L</td>
<td><strong>Stuck in Neutral</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Terry Trueman&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 820L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>You’re Welcome, Universe</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Whitney Gardner&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: HL610L</td>
<td><strong>Laughing at My Nightmare</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Shane Burcaw&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 1110L</td>
<td><strong>Love From A to Z</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: S.K. Ali&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: HL740L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>No True Belivers</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Rabiah York Lumbard&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: HL620L</td>
<td><strong>Love From A to Z</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: S.K. Ali&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: HL740L</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Equipped Book List text*
**SUB-THEME: Substance Abuse**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCHOR TEXT</th>
<th>FICTION PAIRINGS</th>
<th>NONFICTION PAIRINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Dead Inside: A True Story**  
By: Cyndy Etler  
LEXILE: HL640L | 289pgs | 2018 | **Teens Talk About Drugs and Alcohol**  
Published By: Rosen Publishing  
LEXILE: NA | 64pgs | 2018 |

---

**MAIN THEME: Science - Fact or Fiction?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCHOR TEXT</th>
<th>FICTION PAIRINGS</th>
<th>NONFICTION PAIRINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Charles and Emma: The Darwin's Leap of Faith**  
By: Deborah Heiligman  
By: Peter Sis  
LEXILE: 950L | 32pgs | 2016 |
| **The Disappearing Spoon: and Other True Tales of Madness, Love, and the History of the World From the Periodic Table of the Elements**  
By: Sam Kean  
LEXILE: 1300L | 391pgs | 2010 | **The Huma Genome Mapping the Blueprint Human Life**  
By: Carla Mooney  
LEXILE: 1110L | 119pgs | 2020 |
| **The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks**  
By: Rebecca Skloot  
LEXILE: 1140L | 310pgs | 2010 | **Rosalind Franklin: The Dark Lady of DNA**  
By: Brenda Maddox  
LEXILE: NA | 380pgs | 2003 |
| **The Marrow Thieves**  
By: Cherie Dimaline  
LEXILE: HL810L | 234pgs | 2017 | **Sold**  
By: Patricia McCormick  
LEXILE: 820L | 263pgs | 2006 |

*Equipped Book List text*
### MAIN THEME: Social Classes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCHOR TEXT</th>
<th>FICTION PAIRINGS</th>
<th>NONFICTION PAIRINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Canterbury Tales</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Geoffrey Chaucer&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: NA</td>
<td>Anna and the Swallow Man&lt;br&gt;By: Gavriel Savit&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 1160L</td>
<td>Taking Hold: From Migrant Childhood to Columbia University&lt;br&gt;By: Francisco Jimenez&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 1060L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Undocument: A Worker’s Fight</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Duncan Tonatiuh&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Jackpot</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Nic Stone&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: HL670L</td>
<td>When the Ground is Hard&lt;br&gt;By: Malla Nunn&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 830L</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Of Mice and Men</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: John Steinbeck&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 630L</td>
<td></td>
<td>Same Kind of Different as Me*&lt;br&gt;By: Ron Hall, Denver Moore, Lynn Vincent&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 1010L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Tortilla Curtain</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: T.C. Boyle&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 1210L</td>
<td></td>
<td>The Firefly Letters: A Suffragette’s Journey to Cuba&lt;br&gt;By: Margarita Engle&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: NC1230L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pride and Prejudice</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Jane Austen&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: 1070L</td>
<td>A Doll’s House&lt;br&gt;By: Henrik Ibsen&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: NA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Pride</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: Ibi Aaun Zoboi&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: HL760L</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Romeo and Juliet</strong>&lt;br&gt;By: William Shakespeare&lt;br&gt;LEXILE: NA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Equipped Book List text*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAIN THEME: Women Leaders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ANCHOR TEXT</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **A Cave in the Clouds: A Young Woman’s Escape From ISIS**  
By: Badeeah Hassan Ahmed  
LEXILE: HL750L | **My Book of Life**  
By: Angel Martine Leavitt  
LEXILE: 990L |  |
| **Lucky One**  
By: Lori Rader-Day  
LEXILE: NA |  |  |
| **One Writer’s Beginnings**  
By: Eudora Welty  
LEXILE: 1130L | **Modern HERstory: Stories of Women and Nonbinary People Rewriting History**  
By: John Steinbeck  
LEXILE: 630L | **I am Scout: The Biography of Harper Lee**  
By: Charles J. Shields  
LEXILE: 1120L |  |
| **Watch Us Rise**  
By: Renee Watson  
LEXILE: HL800L | **Brazen: Rebel Ladies Who Rocked the World**  
By: Penelope Bagieu  
LEXILE: GN770L | **Wonder Women**  
By: Sam Maggs  
LEXILE: NA |  |
| **Their Eyes Were Watching God**  
By: Zora Neale Hurston  
LEXILE: 890L | **A Girl Like That**  
By: Tanaz Bhathena  
LEXILE: 890L |  |
| **Between Sisters**  
By: Adwoa Badoe  
LEXILE: 690L |  |  |
| **To Tell the Truth Freely: The Life of Ida B. Wells**  
By: Mia Bay  
LEXILE: NA | **Ida B. Wells-Barnett: Suffragette and Social Activist**  
By: Naomi E. Jones  
LEXILE: NA |  |

**NOTE:** Connects to Mississippi Exemplar Units and Lessons: English Language Arts- English I

*Equipped Book List text*
## MAIN THEME: World at War

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Anchor Text</th>
<th>Fiction Pairings</th>
<th>Nonfiction Pairings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Code of Honor</strong></td>
<td>Internment*</td>
<td>Every Falling Star: The True Story of How I Survived and Escaped North Korea*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By: Alan Gratz</td>
<td>By: Samira Ahmed</td>
<td>By: Sungju Lee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>How Dare the Sun Rise: Memoirs of a War Child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>By: Sandra Uwiringiyimana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>LEXILE: HL790L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>There Was a Country: A Memoir*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By: Ishmael Beah</td>
<td></td>
<td>By: Chinua Achebe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEXILE: 920L</td>
<td>229pgs</td>
<td>2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Things Fall Apart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>By: Chinua Achebe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>LEXILE: 890L</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## SUB-THEME: Vietnam War

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Anchor Text</th>
<th>Fiction Pairings</th>
<th>Nonfiction Pairings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Boots on the Ground: America’s War in Vietnam</strong></td>
<td>Miss E.*</td>
<td>1968: Today’s Authors Explore a Year of Rebellion, Revolution, and Change*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By: Elizabeth Partridge</td>
<td>By: Brian Herberger</td>
<td>Published By: Candlewick Press</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEXILE: 960L</td>
<td>213pgs</td>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Never Fall Down: A Boy Soldier’s Story of Survival*</td>
<td>The Best We Could Do: An Illustrated Memoir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>By: Patricia McCormick</td>
<td>By: Thi Bui</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LEXILE: 710L</td>
<td>213pgs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Captured: an American Prisoner of War in North Vietnam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>By: Alvin Townley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>LEXILE: 800L</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## 9-12th Grade

### SUB-THEME: World War I

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCHOR TEXT</th>
<th>FICTION PAIRINGS</th>
<th>NONFICTION PAIRINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| The Burning Tigris: The Armenian Genocide and America's Response  
By: Elizabeth Partridge  
LEXILE: 960L | 213pgs | 2018 | Deogratias: A Tale of Rwanda  
By: Jean-Phillippe Stassen  
LEXILE: GN580L  | 78pgs | 2018 |
| Come On In, America: The United States in World War I  
By: Linda Barrett Osborne  
By: Neal Bascomb  
LEXILE: 1070L  | 275pgs | 2018 |

### SUB-THEME: Holocaust

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCHOR TEXT</th>
<th>FICTION PAIRINGS</th>
<th>NONFICTION PAIRINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| The Book Thief  
By: Markus Zusak  
LEXILE: 730L | 552pgs | 2006 | The Librarian of Auschwitz  
By: Antonio Iturbe  
LEXILE: 940L | 423pgs | 2017 |
| Night  
By: Elie Wiesel  
LEXILE: 590L | 115pgs | 1956 | Between Shades of Gray  
By: Ruta Sepetys  
LEXILE: 490L | 344pgs | 2012 |
| Orphan, Monster, Spy  
By: Matt Killen  
LEXILE: 900L | 382pgs | 2008 | Flowers in the Gutter  
By: KR Gaddy  
LEXILE: 301 | 112pgs | 2020 |
| Tell Them We Remember: The Story of the Holocaust  
By: Susan Bachrach  
LEXILE: 1100L | 170pgs | 2017 | Beyond Courage  
By: Doreen Rappaport  
LEXILE: 1030L | 228pgs | 2012 |
| | Briar Rose: A Novel of the Holocaust  
By: Jane Yolen  
LEXILE: NA | 284pgs | 2019 | Courage and Defiance  
By: Deborah Hopkinson  
LEXILE: 1040L | 339pgs | 2016 |
| | A Light in the Darkness: Janusz Korczak, His orphans, and the Holocaust  
By: Albert Marrin  
LEXILE: 1010L | 388pgs | 2019 |

*Equipped Book List text*
## SUB-THEME: World War II

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANCHOR TEXT</th>
<th>FICTION PAIRINGS</th>
<th>NONFICTION PAIRINGS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>All the Light We Cannot See</strong></td>
<td><strong>Enigma Game</strong></td>
<td><strong>The Mad Game:</strong> Growing Up in a Warzone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By: Anthony Doerr</td>
<td>By: Elizabeth Wein</td>
<td>By: J.L. Powers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Private Peaceful</strong></td>
<td><strong>Salt to the Sea</strong>*</td>
<td><strong>Stolen Voices: Young People’s War Diaries</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By: Michael Morpurgo</td>
<td>By: Ruta Sepetys</td>
<td>By: Zlata Filipovic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Black and White Airmen:</strong> Their True History</td>
<td><strong>The Mad Game:</strong> Growing Up in a Warzone</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By: John Fleischman</td>
<td></td>
<td>By: J.L. Powers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Code Girls: The True Story</strong></td>
<td><strong>Standing Up Against Hate:</strong> How Black Women in the Army Helped Changed the Course of WWII</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of the American Women Who Secretly Broke Codes in World War II</td>
<td><strong>Dreaming in Code: Ada Byron Lovelace, Computer Pioneer</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By: Liza Mundy</td>
<td>By: Emily Arnold McCully</td>
<td>By: Mary Cronk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEXILE: 1050L  ⏞  320pgs</td>
<td>2019</td>
<td>LEXILE: 1120L  ⏞  196pgs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>The Day the World Went Nuclear:</strong> Dropping the Atom Bomb and the End of World War II in the Pacific**</td>
<td><strong>Bomb: The Race to Build and Steal the World’s Most Dangerous Weapon</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By: Bill O’Reilly</td>
<td>By: Steve Sheinkin</td>
<td>By: Mary Cronk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEXILE: 1130L  ⏞  302pgs</td>
<td>2017</td>
<td>LEXILE: 1110L  ⏞  167pgs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dead Wake: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania</strong></td>
<td><strong>The Watch that Ends the Night</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dear Miss Breed: True Stories of the Japanese American Incarceration During WWII and a Librarian Who Made a Difference</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By: Erik Larson</td>
<td>By: Allan Wolf</td>
<td>By: Joanne Oppenheim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEXILE: 1190L  ⏞  452pgs</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>LEXILE: 1040L  ⏞  287pgs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Imprisoned:</strong> The Betrayal of Japanese Americans During World War II**</td>
<td><strong>Dear Miss Breed: True Stories of the Japanese American Incarceration During WWII and a Librarian Who Made a Difference</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>By: Martin Sandler</td>
<td></td>
<td>By: Joanne Oppenheim</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Equipped Book List text*
appendix b

NOVEL STUDY CHECKLIST
CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE NOVEL STUDY
CHECKLIST

The following checklist will ensure that the proposed novel studies reflect a more culturally responsive nature as well as lead to more student-centered learning. Teachers will use the form to include the elements of the unit/lesson plan that support the indicators.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUMMARY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elements of the Unit/Lesson Plan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Incorporating culturally-responsive novels and supportive learning materials

- Building strong personal voice in various diverse characteristics through novel selection
- Building strong personal voice in various diverse characteristics through high-quality learning materials that support the novel study
- Valuing various diverse characteristics habitually through novel studies, rather than on special occasions

2. Developing student-centered learning by using a system of collaboration and communication

- Consistently combining individual and group efforts and accountability for task performance
- Creating classroom climates and opportunities for collaborative composing, revising, and editing tasks
- Using a system of peer response to encourage high-quality learning
### Utilizing cross-curricular topics to build on student learning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elements of the Unit/Lesson Plan</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Using topics or subjects that connect across the grade-level curriculum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connecting novels and supportive learning materials to enhance students’ learning experience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analyzing how other diverse characteristics connect to other curriculum topics outside the novel study</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### List all resources that will be used for the novel study:
appendix c
READING ASSIGNMENT APPROVAL FORMS
Dear Parents/Guardians,

As part of the [school name] [class], each student is expected to read a novel related to [curriculum unit] from a list of pre-approved titles. They are responsible for reading 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 books that interest them that connect to the curriculum unit. We want your student to feel as though he or she is reading 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 books that interest them while connecting to the curriculum unit. We want your student to feel as though he or she is reading 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 or language that you would not want them to read. 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].
BOOK APPROVAL FORM

Student Name  

Book Title  

Author  Number of Pages: ________

I, ____________________________, am aware that my child will be reading 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 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 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
EQUITY BOOK LIST
EVALUATION

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BOOK TITLE</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AUTHOR</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GRADE LEVEL</th>
<th>THEME/TOPIC</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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
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.

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.

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.

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
DIVERSITY QUESTIONNAIRE

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

1. **The school library contains multiple books that include...**

|                      | Strongly Agree | Agree | Neither | Disagree | Strongly Disagree |
|----------------------|----------------|-------|98.png|156.png314.png|472.png|
| Non-human, anthropomorphic main characters (e.g., talking animals, talking trucks, talking vegetables, imaginary or science fiction creatures, etc.) | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 |

2. **The school library contains numerous books that include...**

|                      | Strongly Agree | Agree | Neither | Disagree | Strongly Disagree |
|----------------------|----------------|-------|98.png|156.png314.png|472.png|
| Main characters of color or different nationality/ethnicity | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Main characters with different types of gender identity and gender expression | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Main characters with disabilities | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 |

3. **The school library contains numerous books that...**

|                      | Strongly Agree | Agree | Neither | Disagree | Strongly Disagree |
|----------------------|----------------|-------|98.png156.png314.png472.png|529.png|614.png|
| Are written or illustrated by a person of color or of different nationality/ethnicity | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Feature a person of color or different nationality/ethnicity on the cover | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Feature contemporary diverse characters and storylines | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Feature a range of family structures and family configurations | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Are written or illustrated by a person of color or of different nationality/ethnicity | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Feature a person of color or different nationality/ethnicity on the cover | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Feature contemporary diverse characters and storylines | 2 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
### The school library contains numerous books that...

| Feature a range of family structures and family configurations | Strongly Agree | Agree | Neither | Disagree | Strongly Disagree |
| Feature characters with different types of gender identity and gender expression | | | | | |
| Are set in a different country during the present time | | | | | |
| Are reflective of my students’ cultures and heritages | | | | | |
| Explore different socioeconomic backgrounds | | | | | |
| Explore religious diversity | | | | | |
| Are set in different geographic settings (urban, rural, suburban) | | | | | |
| Are written in languages meaningful to my students’ backgrounds or the community in which they live (e.g., Spanish, Chinese, Arabic) | | | | | |
| 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) | | | | | |

### The majority of books featuring people of color or different nationality/ethnicity people...

| Are only about issues of race, prejudice, or discrimination | Strongly Agree | Agree | Neither | Disagree | Strongly Disagree |
| Are only culturally specific (e.g., flags, food, festivals) | | | | | |
| Are only culturally neutral or contain incidental diversity | | | | | |
The majority of books featuring people of color or different nationality/ethnicity people...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Neither</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contain harmful stereotypes about a group of people</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contain inaccurate/outdated information about a group of people</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contain generalizations about a group of people</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contain misrepresentations of a group of people</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contain discriminatory content about a group of people</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-authentic stories about a group of people</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The school library reflects...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Strongly Agree</th>
<th>Agree</th>
<th>Neither</th>
<th>Disagree</th>
<th>Strongly Disagree</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The diversity of my students and the community in which we live (e.g., gender, race, family structure, language, culture, socioeconomic background, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

appendix e
RESOURCES TO SUPPORT STUDENT READING
BOOK INFORMATION AND SUPPORT MATERIALS

- **Lexile: Find a Book** (Grades 5 – 12)
  

  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.

- **Novelist: MAGNOLIA** (Grades 5 – 12)
  
  [https://magnolia.msstate.edu/](https://magnolia.msstate.edu/)


- **Reading is Fundamental Educator Resources** (Grades 5 – 12)
  
  [https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/educators](https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/educators)

  Online support materials aligned to hundreds of children’s book titles and much more.
Beanbright Reading Tracker
(Grades 5 – 12)
https://www.beanbright.com/
Beanbright helps facilitate reading challenges and gain more data on students’ free-choice reading.
A Guide to Using Graphic Novels with Children and Teens (Grades 5 – 12)

Graphic novels are books written and illustrated in the style of a comic book. The format includes text, images, word balloons, sound effects, and panels. This guide will help teachers and school librarians learn how to incorporate graphic novels into classroom and library lesson plans.

Connect Your Students with Books (Grades 5 – 12)
https://lexile.com/educators/tools-to-support-reading-at-school/strategies-support-readers-level/connect-students-books/

Lexile provides information on connecting students with books at the right level of challenge.

Match Fishtank (Grades 5 – 12)
https://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.

Lexile by Chapter Guides (Grades 5 – 12)

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)

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.