

Equipped Book List

How to use the lists and resources

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MISSISSIPPI
DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

2021-2022





1

ALL Students Proficient and Showing Growth in All Assessed Areas



2

EVERY Student Graduates from High School and is Ready for College and Career



3

EVERY Child Has Access to a High-Quality Early Childhood Program

EVERY School Has Effective Teachers and Leaders

4



EVERY Community Effectively Uses a World-Class Data System to Improve Student Outcomes

5



EVERY School and District is Rated “C” or Higher

6



VISION

To create a world-class educational system that gives students the knowledge and skills to be successful in college and the workforce, and to flourish as parents and citizens



MISSION

To provide leadership through the development of policy and accountability systems so that all students are prepared to compete in the global community



Children without basic literacy skills when they enter school are **3-4 times** more likely to drop out later.



Reading to a child in an interactive style raises his or her IQ by over **6 points**.



15 minutes per day of independent reading can equal **1 million+** words in a year.



Daily reading to children puts them almost **1 year** ahead of those who are not being read to.



Children who read 3,000 words per day will be in the **top 2%** of standardized tests.



Warm-Up Talk

How are books selected for your classroom or school library?

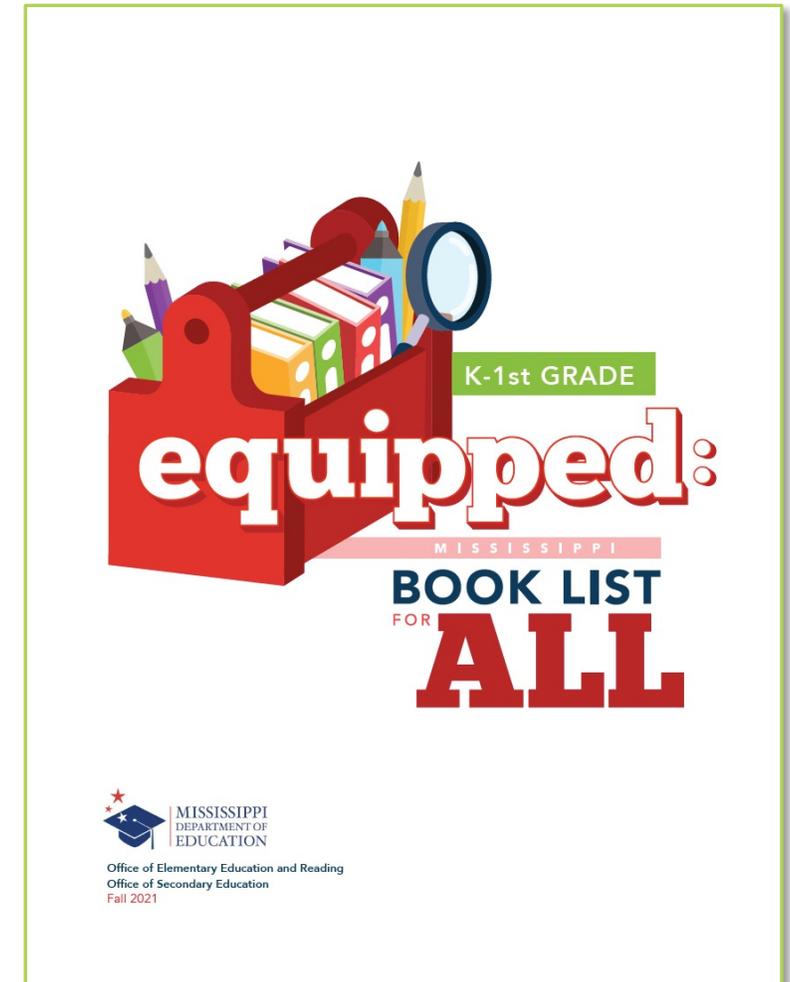


Introduction

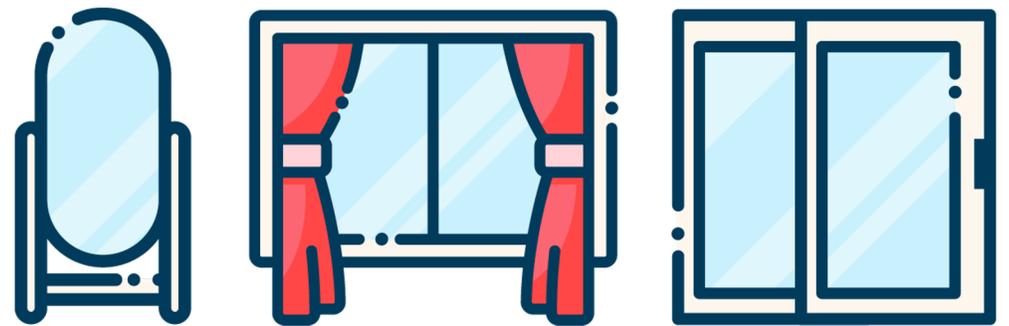
MS Equipped Book List for All



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 MS CCR Standards while promoting literacy that acknowledges a variety of text types.



Mirrors refer to texts where students can see themselves, while **windows** apply to texts that allow students to look out into life experiences different from their own. **Sliding glass doors** refer to texts that encourage students to walk through and move forward, acting to change the narrative.



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 and English High-Quality Instructional Curriculum

The team used **resources** such as Novelist, We Need Diverse Books, and Common Sense Media to help identify potential titles. 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

MS Equipped Book List for All

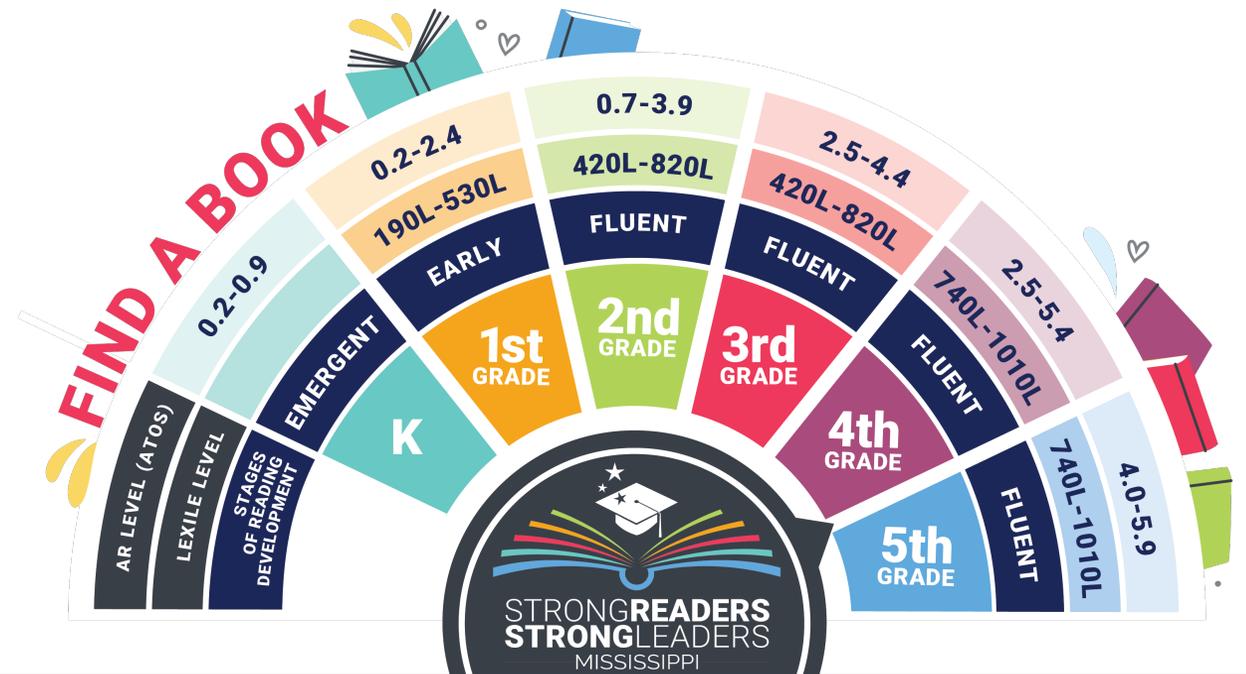




ACCESS FOR ALL STUDENTS

Recently, Lexile levels have **shifted**, increasing in complexity at the lower grades. However, what has not shifted is the expectation that elementary students should be **exposed** to high-quality, rigorous text.

Students need the **opportunity** to experience complex language and themes in authentic settings, both read independently and as part of a read-aloud experience.



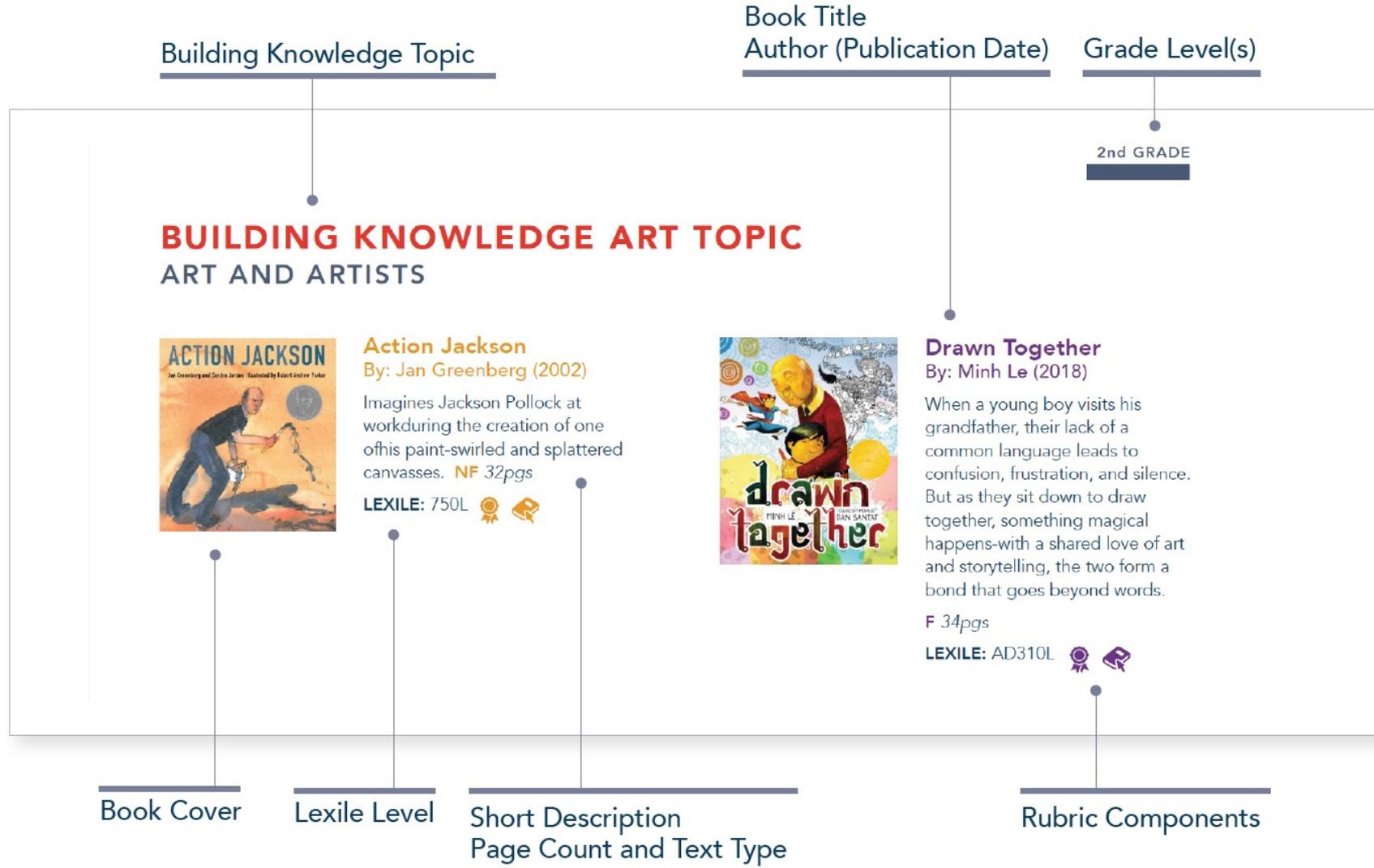
Students and books are assigned a score on the Lexile scale, in which **lower** scores reflect **easier** readability for books and **lower** reading ability for students. However, the scores **do not** reflect factors such as maturity of themes, content, and language.

GRADE LEVEL	PROFICIENT LEXILE LEVELS	ADVANCED LEXILE LEVELS
Grade 6	800-1050	1051-1700+
Grade 7	850-1100	1101-1700+
Grade 8	900-1150	1151-1700+
Grade 9	1000-1200	1201-1700+
Grade 10	1025-1250	1251-1700+
Grade 11	1050-1300	1301-1700+
Grade 12	1050-1300	1301-1700+

Book Lists

MS Equipped Book List for All





GLOSSARY OF TERMS

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

FICTION: literature that describes imaginary events and people

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

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

MULTILINGUAL: a book that is available in multiple languages

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



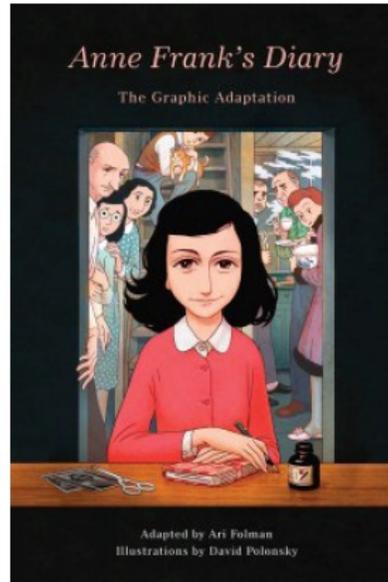
LEGEND

 Award Winner

 Digital Format Available

 Graphic Format:
Wordless Picture Books,
Graphic or Illustrated
Guide

 Multilingual
Available

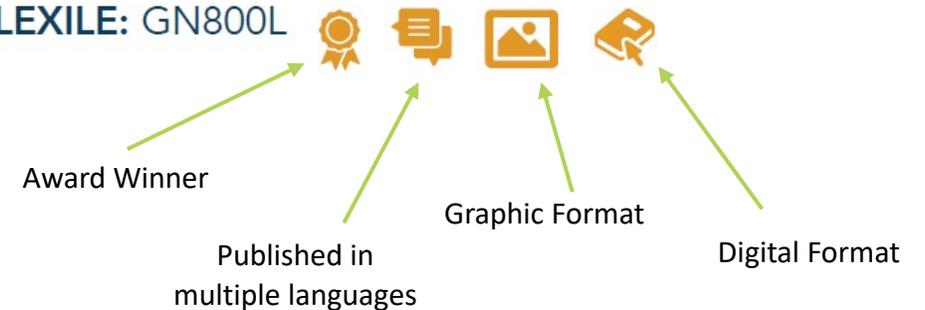


Anne Frank's Diary By: Ari Folman (2018)

Presents a graphic novel adaptation of *Anne Frank's Diary* that presents the journal of a Jewish girl in her early teens who describes both the joys and torments of daily life, as well as typical adolescent thoughts, throughout the two years spent in hiding with her family during the Nazi occupation of Holland.

NF 149pgs

LEXILE: GN800L



Resources

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CREATING TEXT SETS TEMPLATE

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

BOOK TITLE _____

AUTHOR _____

GRADE LEVEL _____ **TOPIC** _____

TEXT SET SUMMARY

MS CCR Standards www.mde12.org/CAE/college-and-career-readiness-standards **Cross-Content Standards Connection**

Anchor Text **Elements of the Unit/Lesson Plan**
How do the resources connect to the standards or to the lesson plan?

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Creating Text Sets

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Readings Strategies

READING STRATEGIES TO CONSIDER

PICTURE WALK (Grades K - 3)
www.greatschools.org/gt/videos/picture-walk-video-2
A picture walk is a pre-reading strategy that provides students with an entry point into the text. By first experiencing and discussing the text's images, students are able to develop their own wonderings and expectations about what is to come.

CLOSE READING (Grades K - 5)
achievethecore.org/page/2734/close-reading-model-lessons
Close Reading is a method for tackling complex text that allows for multiple exposures with a different focus during each read. The goal of this strategy is to help students dig deeply into the text's rich vocabulary and complex meaning while making connections to the text.

Wonder Novel Study
www.gpb.org/innovation-in-teaching/wonder-novel-study
A novel study allows students to deeply interact with the language and meaning of a chapter book while giving them the opportunity to engage with the text, their peers, and their world.

STRONG READERS, STRONG LEADERS (Grades PK - 5)
strongreadersms.com
The Strong Readers, Strong Leaders website introduces families to grade-level resources and activities that help children become strong readers and leaders.

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READING ASSIGNMENT
BOOK APPROVAL LETTER

Dear Families/Guardians,

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

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

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

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

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

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Book Approval Letter



Book List Evaluation

BUILDING KNOWLEDGE BOOK LIST
EVALUATION

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

BOOK TITLE _____

AUTHOR _____

GRADE LEVEL _____ **THEME/TOPIC** _____

1 Rate the book on its publication date.

Use the scale below.

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

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

Use the scale below.

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

3 Rate the book based on the additional factors.

Use the scale below.

Additional factors: Award Winner, Bilingual Format, Graphic Novel Format, and Digital Format

- 1: One additional factor
- 2: Two additional factors
- 3: Three additional factors
- 4: Four additional factors

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SCHOOL/CLASSROOM LIBRARY COLLECTION QUESTIONNAIRE

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

1 The library contains multiple books that include... Non-human, anthropomorphic main characters (e.g., talking animals, talking trucks, talking vegetables, imaginary or science fiction creatures, etc.)	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
2 The library contains numerous books that include... Main characters of color or different nationality/ethnicity Main characters with different types of gender identity and gender expression A range of family structures and family configurations Different socioeconomic backgrounds Religious diversity Main characters with disabilities	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
3 The library contains numerous books that... Are written or illustrated by a person of color or of different nationality/ethnicity Are set in a different country or geographic setting (urban, rural, suburban) during the present time Teach about immigration to the United States beyond the Ellis Island narrative Teach about Black/African-American contributions to the United States beyond the Civil Rights Movement Feature diversity throughout the year, not just in heritage and observance months (e.g., Black History Month, Native American History Month)	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

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Library Collection Questionnaire

Book Information

BOOK INFORMATION AND SUPPORT MATERIALS



→ **Lexile: Find a Book** (Grades K - 12)
hub.lexile.com/find-a-book/search
 Search for books based on Lexile codes, which provides information on the book's intended usage, or find books that are easy to decode or have a lot of patterning to help beginning readers.



→ **Novelist: MAGNOLIA** (Grades K - 12)
magnolia.msstate.edu
 A complete suite of book-finding tools for librarians, teachers, and readers. Database contains book lists, curricular connections, and author read-alikes. Use your school librarian for passcode.



→ **Reading is Fundamental Educator Resources** (Grades K - 12)
www.rif.org/literacy-central/educators
 Online support materials aligned to hundreds of children's book titles and much more.



→ **Teaching Books** (Grades K - 12)
www.teachingbooks.net
 An online database that can be used by teachers, students, librarians, and families to explore children's books and young adult literature and their authors.

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READING TRACKERS

→ **Beanbright Reading Tracker** (Grades K - 12)
www.beanbright.com
 Beanbright helps facilitate reading challenges and gain more data on students' free-choice reading.

→ **Reading is Fundamental Reading Tracker** (Grades K - 8)
www.rif.org/literacy-central/literacy-tracker
 Literacy Tracker Tool allows teachers to check in on students' reading progress throughout the year and helps students find "just right" books to develop their skills.

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Reading Trackers

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Teacher and School Librarian Resources

EDUCATOR AND SCHOOL LIBRARIAN RESOURCES

Dia: Children's Book Day (Grades K - 8)
dia.ala.org
 Dia is a nationally recognized initiative that emphasizes the importance of literacy for all children from all backgrounds. It is a daily commitment to linking children and their families to diverse books, languages, and cultures.

First Book: The Stories for All Project (Grades K - 12)
firstbook.org/the-need/the-stories-for-all-project
 The Stories for All Project curates new, relevant, high-quality books representing diverse characters, voices, and life circumstances and makes them available and affordable to educators supporting kids in need.

Lexile Analyzer (Grades K - 12)
hub.lexile.com/analyzer
 The Lexile Analyzer allows you to paste or type in text to receive a Lexile range and view text characteristics along with challenging words and their definitions. English and Spanish texts can be measured using this tool.

Lexile by Chapter Guides (Grades K - 12)
lexile.com/educators/tools-to-support-reading-at-school/tools-to-help-teach-a-book/lexile-chapter-guides
 Just as books vary in text complexity, chapters within each book can vary as well. When teaching a book in class, Lexile by Chapter Guides can help better plan instruction.

Lexile PowerV Vocabulary Tool (Grades 5 - 12)
lexile.com/educators/tools-to-support-reading-at-school/tools-to-help-teach-a-book/lexile-power-vocabulary-tool
 More than 125,000 books in Find a Book include a vocabulary tool that identifies up to 10 challenging words that are important for students to know.

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Website

MS Equipped Book List for All



Book Lists by Grade Level

Equipped Book List: Lists by Grade Level

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"Books are sometimes windows, offering views of worlds that may be real or imagined, familiar or strange. These windows are also sliding glass doors, and readers have only to walk through in imagination to become part of whatever world has been created and recreated by the author. When lighting conditions are just right, however, a window can also be a mirror. Literature transforms human experience and reflects it back to us, and in that reflection, we can see our own lives and experiences as part of the larger human experience. Reading, then, becomes a means of self-affirmation, and readers often seek their mirrors in books." (Rudine Sims Bishop, 1990)

While appropriate within the context of the unit or lesson, books, articles, and reading passages may contain language and content that will require additional review to ensure the selection is suitable for your students and instructional goals.

Click on the grade to view the booklist:



Additional Resources

Equipped Booklists: Resources

[Home](#) [Booklists](#) [Resources](#) [Training](#)

Achieve the Core: You have a list of culturally diverse texts. Now what?
Guidance on facilitating classroom lessons and discussions that push student thinking.

Book Connections - Text Complexity
Discover materials that deepen connections to the children's and young adult books read throughout resources such as book guides and activities, book trailers, and multi-leveled lesson plans.

Graphic Novels are Real Books!
This infographic explains the benefits of Graphic Novels. This type of book provides a sense of motivation and accomplishment for struggling and reluctant readers.

A Guide to Using Graphic Novels with Children and Teens
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.

Mirrors, Windows, and Sliding Glass Door article
Having diverse literature available helps to create a culture of understanding of each other, and provides powerful tools for teaching students about social justice. The need for high-quality books extends beyond the school library; English and social studies classrooms need access to a variety of texts to go beyond the single-story and celebrate cultural diversity.

Reading is Fundamental Educator Resources
Online support materials aligned to hundreds of children's book titles and much more.

Upcoming Trainings

Equipped Booklists: Training

[Home](#) [Booklists](#) [Resources](#) [Training](#)

- Coming Soon:** K-5 Equipped Booklist Introduction
- Coming Soon:** How to use the Equipped Tools
- Coming Soon:** Explanatory vs Narrative Nonfiction
- Coming Soon:** Novel Study and Text Sets
- Coming Soon:** Using Primary Sources





Wrap-Up Talk

How can *The Equipped Book List* help create a high-quality book collection?





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