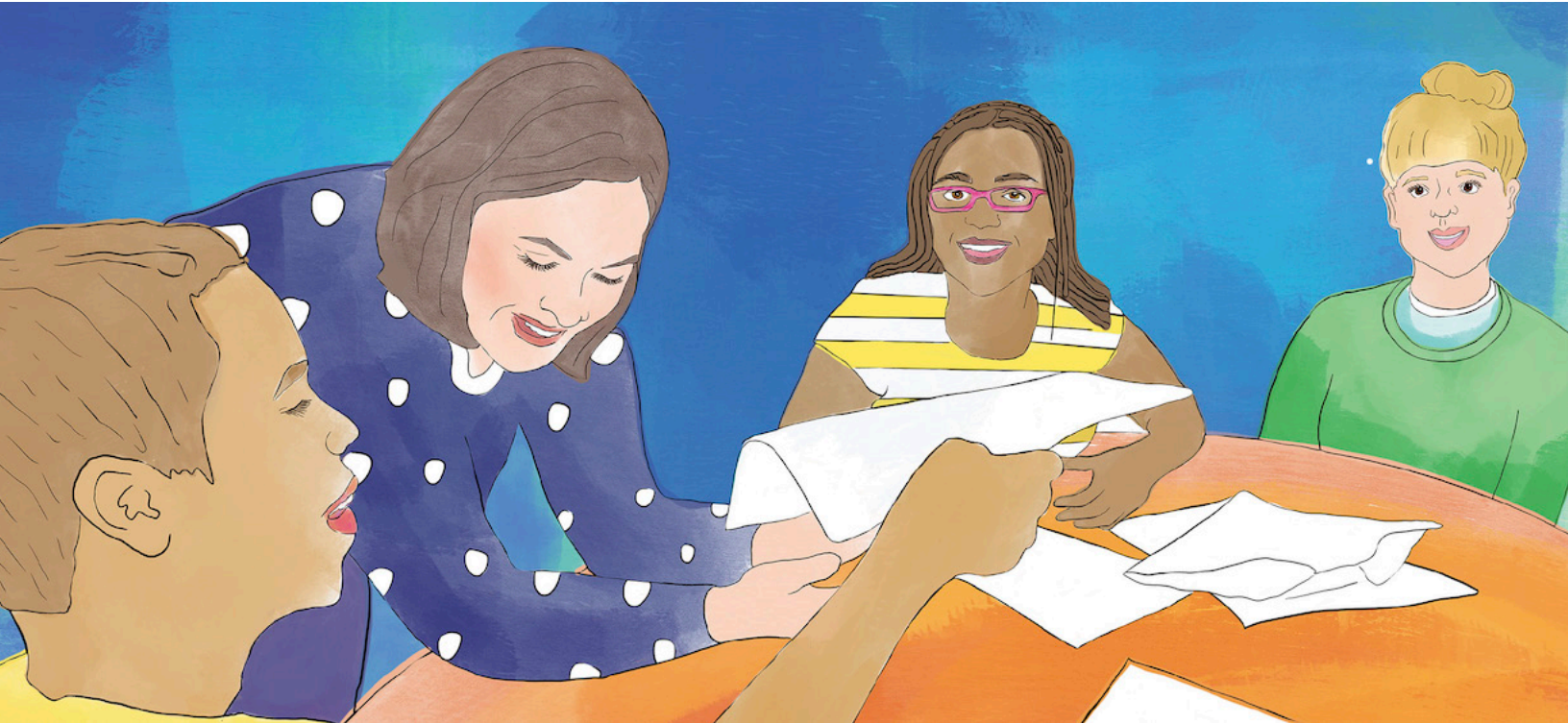


DIFFERENTIATED READING LIST

Provided by Dr. Katie McKnight's Engaging Learners



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Dr. Katie McKnight*

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DIFFERENTIATED READING LIST EXAMPLES

GRADES 9 - 10

Center(s)

Reading Together

Explanation of Reading Lists

Literacy and Learning Centers require you to divide your students into small groups. I recommend that you group students not based on ability, but based on the texts they choose. In other words, each student selects the text that most interests him/her, and is placed in a group with the other students who picked the same text. This doesn't mean anything goes! The teacher or curriculum director should supply a selection of texts that all address the same basic literary themes, cover the same content, or address the same essential question.

It's ok to start small. Work on adding one or two reading lists every year.

You'll see that giving students a choice in what to read brings about significant gains in their engagement, productivity, and growth. But maybe the greatest advantage of giving students a choice of reading material, is that students of varied ability levels and interests *all* have an opportunity to engage with their reading.

The **Text Complexity Model** has three equal components. Choosing which texts to include in your class reading lists means *you must do more than consider quantitative measures!*

The three components to consider are:

1. Quantitative Measures.

These factors are difficult or impossible for a person to evaluate efficiently so they are typically measured by computer software. Examples of quantitative measures include students' standardized test scores and a books' assigned Lexile scores.

2. Qualitative Dimensions.

These characteristics must be evaluated by a teacher. They include considering levels of meaning (for literary texts) or purpose (for informational texts), as well as structure, language conventionality and clarity, and knowledge demands.

3. Reader and Task Considerations.

This component is best evaluated by a teacher like you, who understands his or her students. It requires assessing the reader's motivation, knowledge, and experiences, as well as the assessing the purpose and complexity of a text.

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It helps to review examples of reading lists that other teachers have used effectively. Please use these examples as inspiration. Feel free to borrow what works and adapt as necessary to suit your needs and the needs of your students.

The book lists below represent a selection of fictional and non-fictional texts that are suitable for use with the Literacy and Learning Center model.

Explore the EngagingLearners.com website for other resources about differentiated reading (webinars, tips, etc.) to help you create your own reading lists.

Remember, coming up with reading lists is an on-going process. Even after you find a “perfect” booklist, realize that it may not be perfect forever. As you find new titles, as your school’s curriculum changes, and as student interests evolve, it’s likely you’ll want to make revisions and adjustments.

DIFFERENTIATED READING LIST EXAMPLES

GRADES 9 - 10

Ninth–Tenth Grade <i>Topic: Belonging</i>		
<i>Essential Question: How does being a part of any group define an individual?</i>		
<i>Text Complexity</i>	<i>Book Title</i>	<i>Author</i>
9th-12th grade	Wolves: Behavior, Ecology, and Conservation	L. David Mech and Luigi Boitani
5th-10th grade	Through a Window: My Thirty Years with the Chimpanzees of Gombe	Jane Goodall
6th-10th grade	Fly Girls: The Forgotten Women Airforce Service Pilots of WWII	P. O'Connell Pearson
9th-12th grade	Becoming Maria: Love and Chaos in the South Bronx	Sonia Manzano
9th-12th grade	Friday Night Lights	H.G. Bissinger
7th-10th grade	Lost Names: Scenes from a Korean Boyhood	Richard E. Kim
7th-9th grade	The Outsiders	S.E. Hinton
9th-12th grade	The Perks of Being a Wallflower	Stephen Chbosky
8th-11th grade	Cat's Eye	Margaret Atwood
8th-10th grade	Black Boy	Richard Wright

DIFFERENTIATED READING LIST EXAMPLES

GRADES 9 - 10

Ninth–Tenth Grade <i>Topic: Civic Duty</i>		
<i>Essential Question: How can an individual citizen influence governmental decision making?</i>		
<i>Text Complexity</i>	<i>Book Title</i>	<i>Author</i>
6th-9th grade	Voice of Freedom: Fannie Lou Hamer: The Spirit of the Civil Rights Movement	Carole Boston Weatherford
7th-11th grade	Wheels of Change: How Women Rode the Bicycle to Freedom (With a Few Flat Tires Along the Way)	Sue Macy
7th-10th grade	Farewell to Manzanar	Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston
10th-12th grade	Revolutionary Characters	Gordon Wood
9th-12th grade	My Dearest Friend: Letters of Abigail and John Adams	Abigail Adams & John Adams
7th-11th grade	The Gault Case: Legal Rights for Young People	Thomas J. Billitteri
5th-9th grade	Warriors Don't Cry	Melba Pattillo Beals
7th-12th grade	Miranda v. Arizona: An Individual's Rights When under Arrest	Sue Vader Hook
10th-12th grade	America's Constitution: A Biography	Akhil Reed Amar
8th-12th grade	Gideon's Trumpet	Anthony Lewis

DIFFERENTIATED READING LIST EXAMPLES

GRADES 9 - 10

Ninth–Tenth Grade <i>Topic: Inheritance</i>		
<i>Essential Question: How can we decide whether to follow or depart from our ancestors' examples?</i>		
<i>Text Complexity</i>	<i>Book Title</i>	<i>Author</i>
9th-12th grade	East of Eden	John Steinbeck
7th-11th grade	It Ain't All For Nothin'	Walter Dean Myers
8th-11th grade	Caramelo	Sandra Cisneros
9th-12th grade	The Poetry of Pablo Neruda	Pablo Neruda
9th-12th grade	The Joy Luck Club	Amy Tan
7th-10th grade	Yellow Raft in Blue Water	Michael Dorris
5th-9th grade	Gregor Mendel: Genetics Pioneer	Della Yannuzzi
8th-11th grade	What's in Your Genes?: From the Color of Your Eyes to the Length of Your Life, a Revealing Look at Your Genetic Traits	Katie McKissick
8th-11th grade	Extinction and Evolution: What Fossils Reveal About the History of Life	Niles Eldridge
6th-9th grade	U.S. History: People and Events: 1865-Present	George R. Lee
9th-12th grade	Evolving Animals: The Story of Our Kingdom	Wallace Arthur

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Ninth-Tenth Grade <i>Topic: Battling Disease</i>		
<i>Essential Question: What is a community's obligation to care for the sick and/or disabled?</i>		
<i>Text Complexity</i>	<i>Book Title</i>	<i>Author</i>
7th-10th grade	Owning It: Stories About Teens with Disabilities	ed. Donald R. Gallo
6th-9th grade	Deenie	Judy Blume
9th-12th grade	The Diary of a Superfluous Man	Ivan Turgenev
8th-11th grade	Before I Die	Jenny Downham
7th-10th grade	Deadly Invaders: Virus Outbreaks Around the World, from Marburn Fever to Avian Flu	Denise Grady
6th-10th grade	Invisible Enemies: Stories of Infectious Disease	Jeanette Farrell
9th-12th grade	The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat and Other Clinical Tales	Oliver Sacks
9th-12th grade	The Ghost Map: The Story of London's Most Terrifying Epidemic--and How It Changed Science, Cities, and the Modern World	Steven Johnson
6th-10th grade	Patient Zero: Solving the Mysteries of Deadly Epidemics	Marilee Peters
5th-9th grade	Invincible Microbe: Tuberculosis and the Never-Ending Search for a Cure	Jim Murphy and Alison Blank

DIFFERENTIATED READING LIST EXAMPLES

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Ninth–Tenth Grade <i>Topic: Ages of Exploration</i>		
<i>Essential Question: How do new discoveries change the way humans communicate?</i>		
<i>Text Complexity</i>	<i>Book Title</i>	<i>Author</i>
9th-12th grade	The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks	Rebecca Skloot
8th-12th grade	E=mc ² : A Biography of the World's Most Famous Equation	David Bodanis
10th-12th grade	Microbe Hunters	Paul de Kruif
6th-10th grade	Rosalind Franklin: DNA Discoverer	Tom Streissguth
8th-12th grade	The Right Stuff	Tom Wolfe
7th-11th grade	The Oregon Trail	Francis Parkman
10th-12th grade	The Endurance: Shackleton's Legendary Antarctic Expedition	Caroline Alexander
7th-11th grade	Women in Science: 50 Fearless Pioneers Who Changed the World	Rachel Ignotofsky
9th-12th grade	Masters of the Planet: The Search for Our Human Origins	Ian Tattersall
9th-12th grade	The Most Human Human: What Artificial Intelligence Teaches Us About Being Alive	Brian Christian
5th-9th grade	Breakthrough!: How Three People Saved "Blue Babies" and Changed Medicine Forever	Jim Murphy
9th-12th grade	The Road to There	Val Ross

DIFFERENTIATED READING LIST EXAMPLES

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Ninth–Tenth Grade <i>Topic: Founding New Enterprises</i>		
<i>Essential Question: What is the responsibility of a founder for the projects or organizations they begin?</i>		
<i>Text Complexity</i>	<i>Book Title</i>	<i>Author</i>
9th-12th grade	Elon Musk: Tesla, SpaceX, and the Quest for a Fantastic Future	Ashlee Vance
9th-12th grade	Made to Stick: Why Some Ideas Survive and Others Die	Chip and Dan Heath
8th-11th grade	Miracle At Philadelphia: The Story of the Constitutional Convention	Catherine Drinker Bowen
6th-9th grade	The Thing About Jellyfish	Ali Benjamin
10th-12th grade	Maya's Notebook	Isabel Allende
10th-12th grade	California: Land of New Beginnings	David Lavender
7th-10th grade	Twenty Years at Hull House	Jane Addams
8th-11th grade	Ada's Algorithm: How Lord Byron's Daughter Ada Lovelace Launched the Digital Age	James Essinger
7th-10th grade	Walk on Earth a Stranger	Rae Carson
9th-12th grade	The Tempest	William Shakespeare

DIFFERENTIATED READING LIST EXAMPLES

GRADES 9 - 10

Ninth–Tenth Grade <i>Topic: Poverty</i>		
<i>Essential Question: What must be done for the less fortunate?</i>		
<i>Text Complexity</i>	<i>Book Title</i>	<i>Author</i>
9th-12th grade	Oliver Twist	Charles Dickens
9th-12th grade	Nickel and Dime	Barbara Ehrenreich
10th-12th grade	The Bottom Billion: Why the Poorest Countries are Failing and What Can Be Done About It	Paul Collier
7th-10th grade	The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian	Sherman Alexie
7th-11th grade	Yours Truly	Annabel Pitcher
10th-12th grade	And Still We Rise: The Trials and Triumphs of Twelve Gifted Inner-City Students	Miles Corwin
7th-10th grade	Every Falling Star: The True Story of How I Survived and Escaped North Korea	Sungju Lee and Susan McClelland
7th-12th grade	Ten Mile River	Paul Griffin
9th-12th grade	\$2.00 a Day: Living on Almost Nothing in America	Kathryn Edin
10th-12th grade	Down and Out in Paris and London	George Orwell
9th-11th grade	A Tree Grows in Brooklyn	Betty Smith

DIFFERENTIATED READING LIST EXAMPLES

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Ninth–Tenth Grade <i>Topic: Sustainability</i>		
<i>Essential Question: Where can we find opportunities to balance present and future needs?</i>		
<i>Text Complexity</i>	<i>Book Title</i>	<i>Author</i>
6th-10th grade	Energy for Keeps: Creating Clean Energy from Renewable Resources	Marilyn Nemzer, Deborah Page, Anna Carter
5th-9th grade	Using STEM to Investigate Issues in Food Production	Barbara Sandall
7th-12th grade	Silent Spring	Rachel Carson
9th-12th grade	A Book of Bees	Sue Hubbell
9th-12th grade	Washed Up: The Curious Journeys of Flotsam and Jetsam	Skye Moody
6th-9th grade	John Muir: My Life With Nature	Joseph Cornell
6th-10th grade	To the Young Environmentalist	Linda Leuzzi
5th-9th grade	The Long Walk to Water	Linda Sue Park
7th-12th grade	The World Is Blue: How Our Fate and the Oceans Are One	Sylvia A. Earle
8th-11th grade	A Walk in the Woods	Bill Bryson

DIFFERENTIATED READING LIST EXAMPLES

GRADES 9 - 10

Ninth-Tenth Grade <i>Topic: Transportation and Travel</i>		
<i>Essential Question: Is traveling one of life's joys or just a means to an end?</i>		
<i>Text Complexity</i>	<i>Book Title</i>	<i>Author</i>
8th-10th grade	The Innocents Abroad	Mark Twain
9th-12th grade	Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail	Cheryl Strayed
9th-12th grade	Assassination Vacation	Sarah Vowell
5th-9th grade	The Thing About Luck	Cynthia Kadohata
9th-11th grade	What is the What	Dave Eggers
6th-9th grade	Caminar	Skila Brown
6th-10th grade	Around the World in Seventy-Two Days	Nellie Bly
10th-12th grade	The Lexus and the Olive Tree	Thomas L. Friedman
9th-12th grade	Fourteen: A Daughter's Memoir of Adventure, Sailing, and Survival	Leslie Johansen Nack
9th-12th grade	Train Wreck: The Forensics of Rail Disasters	George Bibel
8th-10th grade	The Story of the First Transcontinental Railroad: Its Projectors, Construction and History	W.F. Bailey