

LITERATURE CIRCLE BOOKS

Staying Fat for Sarah Byrnes by Chris Crutcher (2003) relates to students as they explore themes related to what it means to be an outsider, how body image impacts our relationships and personal view of self, and what it means to deal with an abusive relationship.

Ender's Game by Orson Scott Card (2010) offers students an opportunity to explore a science-fiction world and explore themes about the universe including how cultures address potential threats, how socialization may influence leaders and groups, and the role of fiction versus reality in understanding society.

The Hunchback of Notre-Dame by Victor Hugo (1892) provides students an opportunity to read a text that is considered more classical and a challenging read. Through this work, students are able to wrestle with ideas about the historical and cultural impact on entertainment and beauty, as well as the manner with which different societal groups interact with outsiders and those of a different social status.

Monster by Walter Dean Myers (2004) gives students an opportunity to explore not only content of what it means to be assumed guilty based on race and economic assumptions but also the way in which storytelling impacts our understanding of texts, as this piece is written in a multigenre format with a focus on screenplay writing. Additionally, students can explore the roles of stereotyping and justice in society.

The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time by Mark Haddon (2004) affords students an opportunity to embrace a mystery from the perspective of a character with Asperger's syndrome. Through reading this novel, students consider what it means to have differences and how society learns to accept differences or not.

The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins (2008) leads students through an instant classic of dystopian literature that provides them the opportunity to explore issues such as government decisions and control, speaking out against injustice, and societal conformity or rebellion when placed in situations against belief systems.

Jumping Off to Freedom by Anilú Bernardo (1996) explores the challenge of individuals who feel the need to escape their homeland for the opportunity for freedom. Through this text, students can explore what it means to live in desperation and fear that pushes one to face the dangers of death in the escape.

Snow in August by Pete Hamill (2013) provides students an opportunity to explore differing cultural experiences based on ethnic and religious beliefs, as well as how people with different beliefs learn to respond to one another during challenging times.

Al Capone Does My Shirts by Gennifer Choldenko (2004) explores the impact of prison on a culture, as well as the theme of understanding; some people experience the world differently, such as a character with autism, and the book is set in a time period when not much is known about such individuals. This book offers students a unique perspective on diversity.

If I Should Die Before I Wake by Han Nolan (2003) challenges students to think about the role of belonging and what it means to survive on a journey moving between different sides in a war-torn culture. This book explores the role of a Nazi protagonist who changes her perspective to see herself as a Jewish girl.

Down the Rabbit Hole by Peter Abrahams (2006) takes students through a mystery compelled by missing shoes. This novel plays on not only the impact of our time and place but also what it means to tell stories, and how pieces of a story fit together, as well as what it means to solve a mystery.

Many Waters by Madeleine L'Engle (2007) provides students an opportunity to explore the intertwining of fantasy, religion, and science. It prompts questions about reality and illusion, coming-of-age moments for different cultures, stereotypes, and the unconscious and conscious level of thinking.

Mother Earth Father Sky by Sue Harrison (2013) explores the role of love and loss in a time that is described as prehistory. Through this text, students question the role of history and its beginnings, as well as the impact of timeless concepts that impact human life.

Doomsday Book by Connie Willis (1993) introduces students to questions related to the role of time and historical impacts on culture. This science-fiction novel explores themes about progress and identity, and switches narrators, thus bringing in different perspectives.

Welcome to the ARK by Stephanie Tolan (2009) raises questions about violence, the role of outsiders, and the role and impact of labels within cultures. It also shares stories of characters with special abilities and ways in which they can use these abilities to combat terrorism. This book is written in a multigenre format.

Retrieved from the companion website for *Research Writing Rewired: Lessons That Ground Students' Digital Learning* by Dawn Reed and Troy Hicks. Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin, www.corwin.com. Copyright © 2016 by Corwin. All rights reserved. Reproduction authorized only for the local school site or nonprofit organization that has purchased this book.