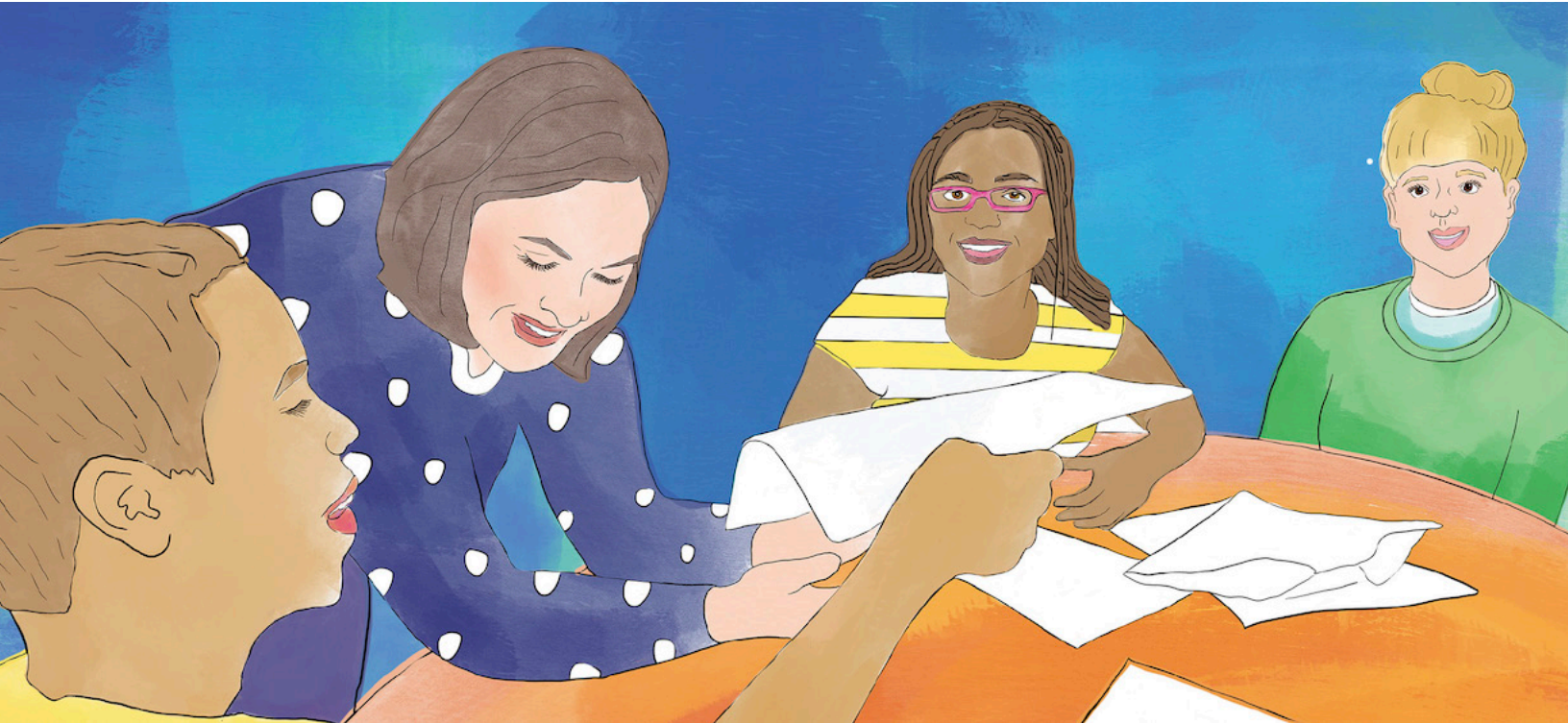


DIFFERENTIATED READING LIST

Provided by Dr. Katie McKnight's Engaging Learners



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Dr. Katie McKnight*

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DIFFERENTIATED READING LIST EXAMPLES

GRADE 6

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.

DIFFERENTIATED READING LIST EXAMPLES

GRADE 6

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. The works listed were researched, vetted and chosen by the Chapters Group, a leading provider of hardcover and paperback literature as well as textbooks. More selections and materials are available at the **Chapters Group website at chaptersgroup.com**.

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

GRADE 6

Sixth Grade		
Topic: World Cultures Fiction		
Essential Question: What qualities make someone a hero?		
<i>Text Complexity</i>	<i>Book Title</i>	<i>Author</i>
6th-9th grade	The Odyssey	Gareth Hinds
2nd-6th grade	The Magic Pomegranate: A Jewish Folktale	Peninnah Schram
5th-7th grade	Adventures of the Greek Heroes	Anne Wiseman and Mollie McLean
4th-8th grade	The Adventures of Hercules	Martin Powell
5th-8th grade	African Myths and Legends	Catherine Chambers
5th-8th grade	Ancient Maya	Barbara A. Somervill
6th-9th grade	Beowulf: The Graphic Novel	Gareth Hinds
2nd-6th grade	Bokuden and the Bully: A Japanese Folktale	Stephen Krensky
5th-8th grade	Egyptian Myths and Legends	Fiona Macdonald
2nd-6th grade	Greek Myths	Deborah Lock
3rd-7th grade	Hard as Nails in Myths and Legends	Tracey Turner
5th-8th grade	Norse Myths and Legends	Anita Ganeri
1st-6th grade	The Earth Under Sky Bear's Feet: Native American Poems of the Land	Joseph Bruchac
2nd-6th grade	The Gods and Goddesses of Olympus	Aliki

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DIFFERENTIATED READING LIST EXAMPLES

GRADE 6

Sixth Grade <i>Topic: Exploration Non-Fiction</i>		
Essential Question: How have new discoveries changed the way we live?		
<i>Text Complexity</i>	<i>Book Title</i>	<i>Author</i>
3rd-6th grade	Ancient Egypt: Beyond the Pyramids	Kathleen W. Deady
5th-8th grade	Lewis and Clark: Opening the American West	Ellen Rodger
2nd-6th grade	Leif Eriksson	Shannon Knudsen
6th-12th grade	No Summit out of Sight: The True Story of the Youngest Person to Climb the Seven Summits	Jordan Romero
6th-10th grade	Out of Bounds: Seven Stories of Conflict and Hope	Beverley Naidoo
5th-8th grade	Robert Peary vs. Frederick Cook: Race to the North Pole	Ellis Roxburgh
3rd-6th grade	Sylvia Earle: Ocean Explorer	Dennis Fertig
3rd-7th grade	Who Was Jacques Cousteau?	Nico Medina
3rd-7th grade	Who Was King Tut?	Roberta Edwards

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DIFFERENTIATED READING LIST EXAMPLES

GRADE 6

Sixth Grade <i>Topic: Historical Fiction</i>		
Essential Question: How have people changed since the eras in these works?		
<i>Text Complexity</i>	<i>Book Title</i>	<i>Author</i>
6th-10th grade	All My Noble Dreams and Then What Happens	Gloria Whelan
5th-8th grade	The Aztec News	Philip Steele
3rd-7th grade	Ancient Rome	Eye Wonder
5th-8th grade	The Roman News	Andrew Langley
5th-9th grade	Is It Night or Day?: A Novel of Immigration and Survival, 1938-1942	Fern Schumer Chapman
5th-7th grade	Serafina and the Black Cloak	Robert Beatty
3rd-6th grade	Where the Mountain Meets the Moon	Grace Lin
2nd-6th grade	Your Life as an Explorer on a Viking Ship	Thomas Kingsley Troupe

DIFFERENTIATED READING LIST EXAMPLES

GRADE 6

Sixth Grade		
<i>Topic: Space and Exploration Non-Fiction</i>		
<i>Essential Question: How can we prepare for the challenges of the 21st century?</i>		
<i>Text Complexity</i>	<i>Book Title</i>	<i>Author</i>
5th-8th grade	22nd Century: Future of Space	Stephanie Kuligowski
3rd-6th grade	Destination Earth	Tom Jackson
4th-6th grade	Destined for Space: Our Story of Exploration	Don Nardo
3rd-7th grade	How Do Scientists Explore Space?	Robert Snedden
3rd-7th grade	Mission to Mars	Eve Hartman
3rd-7th grade	Terrors of the Deep	Deborah Lock
3rd-6th grade	Communication (The Science Behind)	Casey Rand
3rd-7th grade	The Ultimate Adventure Atlas of Earth	National Geographic Kids
3rd-6th grade	Water is Precious	Kate McAllan
4th-7th grade	Why Is There Life on Earth?	Andrew Solway

DIFFERENTIATED READING LIST EXAMPLES

GRADE 6

Sixth Grade		
Topic: Technology and Society Non-Fiction		
Essential Question: How do great scientists find inspiration?		
<i>Text Complexity</i>	<i>Book Title</i>	<i>Author</i>
3rd-7th grade	125 Cool Inventions: Supersmart Machines and Wacky Gadgets You Never Knew You Wanted!	National Geographic Kids
4th-7th grade	Ancient Science: 40 Time-Traveling, World-Exploring, History-Making Activities for Kids	Jim Wiese
4th-6th grade	Batman Science: The Real-World Science Behind Batman's Gear	Tammy Enz
2nd-6th grade	Could a Robot Make My Dinner?	Kay Barnham
2nd-6th grade	Crime-Fighting Devices	Robert Snedden
3rd-7th grade	How Come?: Every Kid's Science Questions Explained	Kathy Wollard
1st-6th grade	I Wonder Why Zippers Have Teeth	Barbara Taylor
5th-7th grade	Inside Biosphere 2: Earth Science Under Glass	Mary Kay Carson
3rd-6th grade	Isaac Newton and the Laws of Motion	Andrea Gianopoulos
3rd-6th grade	Jonas Salk and the Polio Vaccine	Katherine Krohn
6th-10th grade	Modern Medicine	Chris Oxlade
4th-7th grade	Steve Jobs	Nick Hunter
3rd-6th grade	Steve Jobs, Steve Wozniak, and the Personal Computer	Donald B. Lemke
6th-10th grade	The Impact of Technology in Sports	Matthew
1st-6th grade	The Water Cycle at Work	Rebecca Olien
3rd-6th grade	What Did the Ancient Egyptians Do For Me?	Patrick Catel

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DIFFERENTIATED READING LIST EXAMPLES

GRADE 6

Sixth Grade <i>Topic: Exploration Fiction</i>		
Essential Question: How can we help the people around us find courage?		
<i>Text Complexity</i>	<i>Book Title</i>	<i>Author</i>
5th-7th grade	Brown Girl Dreaming	Jacqueline Woodson
5th-7th grade	The City of Ember	Jeanne DuPrau
2nd-6th grade	Dark Day in the Deep Sea	Mary Pope Osborne
2nd-6th grade	El Deafo	Cece Bell
3rd-7th grade	Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library	Chris Grabenstein
2nd-6th grade	Island of the Blue Dolphins	Scott O'Dell
6th-12th grade	Life of Pi	Yann Martel
3rd-7th grade	Shiloh	Phyllis Reynolds Naylor
5th-8th grade	Warriors: The New Prophecy #4: Starlight	Erin Hunter
4th-6th grade	Story Thieves	James Riley
5th-8th grade	The Tiger Rising	Kate DiCamillo
4th-8th grade	20,000 Leagues Under the Sea	Jules Verne
3rd-6th grade	The Cricket in Times Square	George Selden
4th-7th grade	From the Mixed-Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler	E.L. Konigsburg

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DIFFERENTIATED READING LIST EXAMPLES

GRADE 6

6th-12th grade	Ender's Game	Orson Scott Card
6th-12th grade	In Real Life	Lawrence Tabak
3rd-6th grade	Lunch Money	Andrew Clements
6th-9th grade	The Glass Sentence	S.E. Grove
3rd-7th grade	The Hunt for Dark Infinity	James Dashner
5th-8th grade	The Journal of Curious Letters	James Dashner

DIFFERENTIATED READING LIST EXAMPLES

GRADE 6

Sixth Grade <i>Topic: Earth Systems Non-Fiction</i>		
Essential Question: What is fragile about the world we live in?		
<i>Text Complexity</i>	<i>Book Title</i>	<i>Author</i>
5th-8th grade	A Long Walk to Water	Linda Sue Park
5th-8th grade	An Inconvenient Truth: The Crisis of Global Warming	Al Gore
5th-8th grade	Are Humans Damaging the Atmosphere	Catherine Chambers
1st-6th grade	Earth Smart	National Geographic Learning
4th-6th grade	How Harmful are Fossil Fuels?	Catherine Chambers
3rd-7th grade	Conservation (The Impact of Environmentalism)	Jen Green
1st-6th grade	Many Biomes, One Earth	Sneed B. Collard III
4th-6th grade	One Well: The Story of Water on Earth	Rochelle Strauss
4th-8th grade	Saving the Ghost of the Mountain: An Expedition Among Snow Leopards in Mongolia	Sy Montgomery
4th-8th grade	Creative Commons	Emily Puckett Rodgers
4th-7th grade	The Science of a Nuclear Plant Explosion	Meg Marquardt
2nd-6th grade	What If There Were No Sea Otters?: A Book About the Ocean Ecosystem	Suzanne Slade

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DIFFERENTIATED READING LIST EXAMPLES

GRADE 6

3rd-8th grade	Elizabeth Cady Stanton: Women's Rights Pioneer	Connie Colwell Miller
5th-8th grade	Our Country's Presidents: All You Need to Know About the Presidents, From George Washington to Barack Obama	Ann Bausum
2nd-6th grade	The Story of George Washington Carver	Eva Moore
1st-6th grade	Mary McLeod Bethune	Eloise Greenfield
1st-6th grade	Nelson Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom	Chris van Wyk
3rd-8th grade	Elizabeth Cady Stanton: Women's Rights Pioneer	Connie Colwell Miller
5th-8th grade	Our Country's Presidents: All You Need to Know About the Presidents, From George Washington to Barack Obama	Ann Bausum
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