

The Use of Trade Books  
Prepared by the  
District 36 Language Arts Committee  
2000-2001

Grade Level Instructional Trade Books

Winnetka teachers have long believed in the value of quality literature relevant to the curriculum. Our goal is to develop literacy through appropriate materials reflecting children's reading and interest levels. Hence, the creation of this list.

The purpose of this list is to inform district teachers within grade levels and across the K-8 continuum of commonly used materials. The list is an evolving document to be reviewed and updated annually to reflect curricular changes and new literature.

In order to maximize the instructional impact of these materials, the expectation is that teachers will avoid using books listed by a higher grade level. Additionally, when choosing literature beyond these lists, please be respectful of the large curricular emphases at other grade levels. To enhance an understanding of curricular connections, we have attached a K-8 curriculum overview.

## Literature Genres and Themes Covered At Grade Levels

### **Kindergarten:**

Animal Communities: birds, butterflies, chipmunks  
Holidays and celebrations  
Nursery rhymes/Fairy tales  
Seeds, plants, trees

### **First Grade:**

The farm  
Family history  
Martin Luther King and the Civil Rights Movement  
Important historical figures  
Seeds, germination, and plant growth  
Fish, aquaria, and guppies

### **Second Grade:**

The Winnetka community  
Space  
Life cycles of plants and animals  
The family farm

### **Third Grade:**

Native Americans  
Native American legends  
Explorers  
American colonies  
Pioneers (Westward expansion and settlement)  
Tall tales  
Pioneer Journals  
Early Chicago  
North American animals

### **Fourth Grade:**

Indigenous peoples of Central and South America  
Mythology  
Mayan Legends  
Immigration  
African American History  
Ecosystems & Decomposition  
Hydroponics  
Earth Science

### **Fifth Grade:**

Asia  
Africa  
Asian and African folktales, myths, short stories, and novels  
Inventions  
The Human Body: muscular, skeletal, and reproductive systems

*Created: 5/7/01*

*Revised 4/21/06*

**Sixth Grade:**

Mythology of Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, and Rome  
Medieval legends (King Arthur tales)  
Ecosystems  
Water and carbon dioxide/oxygen cycles

**Seventh Grade:**

Democracy and decision making  
The American Revolution  
Westward Expansion  
The Civil War  
Slavery  
Immigration  
The Industrial Revolution  
Chicago  
Cells  
Systems of the body  
Human development

**Eighth Grade:**

Government and politics  
The Constitution  
The Spanish-American War  
The Progressive Era  
World War I  
The Great Depression  
World War II  
The Holocaust  
The Cold War  
The Vietnam War  
The Sixties (civil rights)  
Chemistry  
Physics  
Science and technology

Trade Books

Grade Level: 1

<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>
Charlotte's Web	White
Seven Kisses in a Row	MacLachlan
*The Stories Julian Tells	Cameron
The BFG	Dahl
Charlie and the Chocolate Factory	Dahl
Mr. Popper's Penguins	Atwater
Ramona The Pest	Cleary
*My Father's Dragon (series)	Gannett
The Story of Ruby Bridges	Coles
The Important Book	Brown
James and the Giant Peach	Dahl
A Mouse Called Wolf	King-Smith
Bunnicula	Howe

**\* This book appears on more than one list. Please consult with building colleagues before using.**

Created: May 2001

Revised: April 2006

Trade Books

Grade Level: 2

<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>
Farthest Away Mountain	Banks
How Big is a Foot?	Myller
*My Father's Dragon	Gannett
*The Stories Julian Tells	Cameron
Arthur books	Brown
Nate the Great books	Sharmat
Gooney Bird Green	Lowry
Chalkbox Kid	Bulla
Louis Braille: the Boy Who Invented Books for the Blind	Davidson
Min Pins	Dahl
Alexander Who Used to Be Rich Last Sunday	Viorst
Frog & Toad books	Lobel

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Created: May 2001

Revised: April 2006

Trade Books

Grade Level: 3

<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>
Sarah Plain & Tall	MacLachan
The Legend of the Bluebonnet	de Paola
Buffalo Woman	Goble
Sarah Morton's Day	Waters
Samuel Eaton's Day	Waters
A Lion to Guard Us	Bulla
The Discovery of the Americas	Maestro
Tapenum's Day	Waters
Encounter	Yolen
Follow the Dream	Sis
Sign of the Beaver	George

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Created: May 2001

Revised: April 2006

Trade Books

Grade Level: 4

<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>
*The Orphan of Ellis Island	Woodruff
*The Watsons Go to Birmingham -1963	Curtis
Letters from Rifka	Hess
Earthquake Terror	Kehret
May Field Crossing	Nelson
*Love That Dog	Creech
Belle Teal	Martin
Music of the Dolphins	Hesse
Esperanza Rising	Ryan
The Tiger Rising	DiCamillo
Motel of the Mysteries	Macaulay
The Landry News	Clements
Turn Homeward Hannalee	Beatty
Bright Freedom's Song	Houston
Racing the Sun	Pitts

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Created: May 2001

Revised: April 2006

Trade Books

Grade Level: 5

<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>
*Bridge to Terabithia	Patterson
Tuck Everlasting	Babbitt
Where the Red Fern Grows	Rawls
Maniac Magee	Spinelli
Waiting for the Rain	Gordon
Number the Stars	Lowry
Walk Two Moons	Creech
Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of Nimh	Bernstein
The Ghost of Tokaido Inn	Hoobler
Breadwinner	Ellis
Star Spangled Secret	Kimball
The Golden Mountain Chronicles	Yep
The Good Dog	Avi
No Turning Back	Naidoo
Petey	Mikaelsen
Midnight Magic	Avi

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Created: May 2001

Revised: April 2006

Trade Books

Grade Level: 6

<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>
The Girl Who Owned a City	Nelson
The Golden Goblet	McGraw
A Murder For Her Majesty	Hilgartner
A Day No Pigs Would Die	Peck
Crispin: The Cross of Lead	Avi
Star Girl	Spinelli
Woodson	Paulsen
Tangerine	Bloor
Among the Hidden	Haddix
Gathering Blue	Lowry
Secret Garden	Burnett

Anthologies of Short Stories

- Bruce Coville's Strange Worlds
- Bruce Coville's Alien Visitors

Trade Books

Grade Level: 7

<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>
Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry	Taylor
Slake's Limbo	Holman
Soldier's Heart	Paulsen
The Pearl	Steinbeck
The Giver	Lowry
The Light in the Forest	Richter
Boy	Dahl
The Miracle Worker	Gibson
The Diary of Anne Frank	Frank
Shane	Schaefer
Flowers For Algernon	Keyes
Beowulf	Sirallier
Holes	Sacher
Winterdance: The Fine Madness of Running the Iditarod	Paulsen
Frederick Douglass' Slave Diaries	Douglass

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Trade Books

Grade Level: 8

<u>Title</u>	<u>Author</u>
Of Mice & Men	Steinbeck
Night	Wiesel
A Raisin in the Sun	Hansberry
There Are No Children Here	Kotlowitz
All Quiet on the Western Front	Remarque
Animal Farm	Orwell
The Moon is Down	Steinbeck
Friedrich	Richter
To Kill a Mocking Bird	Lee
Into Thin Air	Krakauer

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