



**NBIS SUMMER READING**  
**GRADE LEVEL BOOK CHOICES AND ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS**

6th Grade Unit  
 Understanding People  
 Through Metaphor

Essential Questions

- Do all people share common needs and wants?
- Can people learn and benefit from diversity?

Book Choices

*Under the Same Sky*  
 By Cynthia DeFelice

*Project Mulberry*  
 By Linda Sue Park

*Ghost*  
 By Jason Reynolds

7th Grade Unit  
 Conflict and Labels

Essential Questions

- Why is there conflict?
- When faced with conflict, why do we sometimes choose violence, while at other times, peace?
- Why do we label others?

Book Choices

*The Misfits*  
 By James Howe

*Wonder*  
 By R.J. Palacio

*The Running Dream*  
 By Wendelin Van Draanen

*The Boy in the Striped Pajamas*  
 By John Boyne

8th Grade Unit  
 Fear

Essential Questions

- What fears are necessary to survive?
- How can we overcome fear?
- What fears are universal?

Book Choices

*Soldier's Heart*  
 By Gary Paulsen

*Ender's Game*  
 By Orson Scott Card

*Jade Green*  
 By Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

*The Raft*  
 By S. A. Bodeen

*The Compound*  
 By S. A. Bodeen

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# Language Arts - 6th Grade

People behave or do what they do for a variety of reasons. Some want power and others might want friends. They may seek attention or success. Sometimes people are motivated by jealousy or fear.

Think about an important character in the book you read. What needs or desires motivated that character to behave the way he or she did?

**Big Idea: Despite apparent differences, people all share common needs and desires.**

The Book Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Character Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe this character:

What does this character want or need the most?  
**Include examples and page numbers from the book.**

What does this character do to achieve what he or she wants or needs?  
**Include examples and page numbers from the book.**

# Language Arts - 7th Grade

In society, people are often stereotyped or labeled. These labels often create conflict. As you are reading, look for examples of stereotyping, conflict, and ways in which the character resolved that conflict. **Be sure to include specific text evidence with page and paragraph numbers to support your statements.**

The Book Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Identify and describe this character:

Describe the conflicts he/she encounters due to stereotyping/labeling:  
**Include examples and page numbers from the book.**

How does the main character resolve his/her conflicts?  
**Include examples and page numbers from the book.**

# Language Arts - 8th Grade

Fear can take many forms. Fear can motivate, alter perception or prevent someone from experiencing life. As you are reading, think about the fear(s) experienced by the main character. **Be sure to include specific text evidence that most strongly supports your statements.**

The Book Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the main character and his/her fear(s):

How did the main character's fears affect his/her behavior in the story?  
**Include examples and page numbers from the book.**

Was the main character able to overcome his/her fear? Explain?  
**Include examples and page numbers from the book.**

**NBIS SUMMER READING**  
**NONFICTION READING REQUIREMENT**

Read about one topic from your grade level list below, and complete the note-taking sheet. When choosing a book or magazine/Internet article, make sure it is something you can comprehend.

**Sixth Grade:**

1. Choose one of these ancient civilizations: Ancient Egypt, Ancient Greece, Ancient Rome
2. Read about one of the following aspects of the civilization you chose:
  - Armies and warfare
  - Religion and philosophy
  - Government
  - Art and architecture
  - Sports and recreation
  - Famous people or places

**Seventh Grade:**

1. European Union: What is its purpose? Has the union met with success?
2. China's Cultural Revolution: What impact did the revolution have on China's youth?
3. American-Cuban Relations: How has this relationship changed over time?
4. Arranged marriages in Pakistan: What is the cultural impact on men and women?
5. British-Aboriginal Relations in Australia: How has this relationship changed over time?
6. Deforestation of the Amazon Rain Forest: What is the impact on nature and humans?
7. Tuaregs of Africa: What is the impact of the modern world on this cultural group?

**Eighth Grade:**

1. Boston Massacre, 1770
2. Battles of Lexington and Concord, 1775
3. Amistad
4. The story of the Star Spangled Banner
5. History of Fort Ticonderoga
6. Abolitionist Movement, 18th and 19th centuries
7. Women's Suffrage Movement, 19th-20th Centuries
8. Battle of Gettysburg, 1863
9. A U.S. President

10. Any topic in American History

**NBIS SUMMER READING**

**SOCIAL STUDIES: NONFICTION READING ORGANIZER**

**What did you read?** Include source information (web address, book title and author, or name of magazine article, name of magazine and date of magazine issue)

What was the **topic of your book or article?**

Using complete sentences, **summarize the key information** about your topic.

**Write a question** you have about your topic or what you read.

