

QUARTER 2



CHARACTER BASED LITERACY

Quarter 2 theme and annotations

Change Requires Effort

Change is possible. Change requires three things; a vision, a plan, and effort. It requires changing bad habits to good habits. It requires effort even when we don't feel like working. It requires one step at a time.

Middle School

Cycle I 2017-2018

Miracle's Boys

Jacqueline Woodson

Set in contemporary Harlem, this novel tells of three African American brothers who are left alone after their mother's death. They struggle to make a better life for themselves despite overwhelming odds and the threat of gang violence. Their dreams, hopes, and love for one another ultimately pull them together.



Taste of Salt

Frances Temple

Seventeen-year-old Djo is remembered by Jeremie, a girl who cares for him in the hospital after he has been beaten in an unprovoked attack. A coming of age for these two characters occurs in the midst of the cruel injustices that wracked the poverty-stricken nation of Haiti.

Popcorn Days and Buttermilk Nights

Gary Paulsen

Carley recalls the extraordinary summer when, as a troubled fourteen-year-old, he first came to northern Minnesota to stay with his blacksmith Uncle David and gained not only new skills but also a new sense of himself.

High School

Cycle II 2017-2018

East Side Dreams

Art Rodriguez

Travel with Art Rodriguez as he dreams of his past. He experiences an unpleasant childhood full of difficult obstacles that could have profoundly impaired his chance for a normal life. This story is an encouragement to both young and old as Art leaves his delinquent life behind and moves into a promising future. (Book Jacket)

Their Eyes Were Watching God

Zora Neale Hurston

Told in rich dialect, this story describes an African American woman's search for a fulfilling relationship through two loveless marriages. She finally finds an ideal match with Tea Cake, an itinerant laborer and gambler. This book was published for an adult readership and thus contains mature content. Before handing the text to a child, educators and parents should read the book and know the child.

To Kill a Mockingbird

Harper Lee

Prejudice and class distinction emerge as enemies of justice and truth as eight-year-old "Scout" Finch tells of life in a small Alabama town where her father is a lawyer.

Fiction, English-Language Arts/Writing, History/Social Science