

QUARTER 6



CHARACTER BASED LITERACY

Quarter 6 theme and annotations

Integrity Requires Wholeness

Integrity requires that the way I live my life is whole, entire, undivided, sound, coherent, and principled. Integrity moves me to do difficult and new things, not just easy and accustomed things.

Middle School

Cycle I 2017-2018

Stuck in Neutral

Terry Truman

A fourteen-year-old boy with cerebral palsy is unable to communicate and longs to make contact with others.

Through his words, the reader learns that Shawn is bright, funny, occasionally sarcastic, and astonishingly optimistic. Shawn begins to believe that his self-absorbed father is planning to kill him to end his pain.

Told in first-person narrative



If You Come Softly

Jacqueline Woodson

This novel presents a gently told story of an interracial romance between Jeremiah, a fifteen-year-old African American, whose parents have just separated, and Ellie, an upper-middle-class Jewish girl. The story is told in alternating chapters by Ellie and Jeremiah. The comments about race and racism will strike a chord with black readers and open the eyes of white readers.

The Skin I'm In

Sharon G. Flake

Thirteen-year-old Maleeka, uncomfortable because her skin is extremely dark, meets a new teacher with a birthmark on her face. She learns how to value who she is and to accept what she looks like.

High School

Cycle II 2017-2018

Dragonwings

Lawrence Yep

In 1903 Moonshadow travels from a remote village in China to California to join his father, whom he has never seen. Despite tremendous difficulties and disasters, father and son struggle to build a life in San Francisco, working toward their dream of creating a dragon-like flying machine.

Animal Farm

George Orwell

A group of barnyard animals overthrow and chase off their exploitative human masters and set up their own egalitarian society. Everyone willingly works overtime, productivity soars, and for one brief, glorious season, every belly is full. Then pigs, intelligent and power-loving leaders, fall to the temptations of power and form a new dictatorship even more brutal than the former one.

An Island Like You

Judith Ortiz

Interconnected short stories feature life in Puerto Rico and in a New Jersey neighborhood. The Latino characters indulge in rivalries, a project to bring live theater to the barrio, and other activities.