

Suggested Text Sets

Here are several suggestions for thematically grouped books for a wide range of reading levels (including picture books). Bibliographies such as *Kaleidoscope: A Multicultural Booklist for Grades K-8* and *Adventuring With Books: A Booklist for PreK-Grade 6*, both published by the National Council of Teachers of English, are useful resources to create such groupings to fit your students and your curriculum.

Contemporary fiction dealing with family relationships:

Bone Dance by Martha Brooks
Flower Garden by Eve Bunting
Smoky Night by Eve Bunting

Anne Is Elegant by Mary Louise Cuneo
Out of the Blue by Sarah Ellis
Yolanda's Genius by Carol Fenner
Breath of the Dragon by Gail Giles
Over the Joshua Slope by Lyman Hafen
Torn Away by James Heneghan

Historical fiction:

Tusk and Stone by Malcolm Bosse
So Far From the Sea by Eve Bunting
The Watsons Go to Birmingham—1963 by Christopher Paul Curtis
Nim and the War Effort by Milly Lee
Sister Anne's Hands by Marybeth Lorbiecki
Run Away Home by Patricia C. McKissack
Across the Lines by Carolyn Reeder
Forty Acres and Maybe a Mule by Harriette Robinet
A Place Called Freedom by Scott Russell Sanders
The Walking Stick by Annouchka Gravel Galouchko

Some teachers find author studies appealing to their students. You may wish to refer to *The Allure of Authors: Author Studies in the Elementary Classroom* by Carol Brennan Jenkins to help plan such literary experiences. Almost any author can be focused on productively as long as he or she has published enough books to give your students opportunities for extended exploration.

Mem Fox Author Study

Koala Lou
Possum Magic
Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge
Hattie and the Fox
Tough Boris

Sophie
Time for Bed
Night Noises

Patricia Polacco Author Study

The Bee Tree
Thunder Cake
Pink and Say
The Keeping Quilt
Chicken Sunday
My Rotten Redheaded Older Brother