

## Professional Resources: Curriculum Connections

**Ayers, Rick and Amy Crawford, ed. *Great Books for High School Kids: A Teacher's Guide to Books that Can Change Teens' Lives*. Boston: Beacon Press, 2004.**

This guide contains a collection of essays by teachers who discuss instructional strategies for using great books in the classroom. This title also recommends over 400 books for high school students and includes author, subject, and title indexes.

**Gillespie, John T. *Best Books for High School Readers: Grades 9 – 12*. Westport, CT: Libraries Unlimited, 2004.**

This *Best Books* compendium presents title annotations for over 12,000 fiction and nonfiction book titles published from 1998 through 2003 for grades 9 - 12.

- Titles cover wide variety of reading interests and reading competencies, including adult books suitable for high school readers.

----- ***Classic Teenplots: A Booktalk Guide to Use With Readers Ages 12 – 18*. Westport, CT: Libraries Unlimited, 2006.**

*Classic Teenplots* profiles 100 critically acclaimed and popular young adult novels. Grouped by genre, each profile includes character list, detailed plot summary, author biography, and brief info on theme and subjects.

**Gillespie, John T. and Barr, Catherine. *Best Books for High School Readers: Grades 9 – 12 Supplement to the First Edition*. Westport, CT: Libraries Unlimited, 2006.**

This *Best Books Supplement* includes annotated listings of 2,659 recommended fiction and nonfiction titles published from 2004 through mid-2006.

**Helbig, Alethea K. and Perkins, Agnes Regan. *Dictionary of American Young Adult Fiction, 1997 – 2001: Books of Recognized Merit*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2004.**

This *Dictionary* contains alphabetically-arranged entries that provide plot summaries and critical assessments of 290 award-winning young adult books published between 1997 and 2001. Alpha entries also include details about authors, characters, and settings.

- Alpha-organization works well when looking-up specific titles or characters.

**Herz, Sarah K. and Gallo, Donald R. *From Hinton to Hamlet: Building Bridges between Young Adult Literature and the Classics*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2005.**

*From Hinton to Hamlet* presents an introduction to using young adult literature in middle school and high school classrooms. Don't miss the chapter "Building Bridges: Getting Students from Wherever They Are to Where the Curriculum Says They Should Be."

- Includes annotated lists of young adult titles that build thematic links to classics (e.g. *Of Mice and Men*, *The Great Gatsby*, and Shakespeare's plays).

**Silvey, Anita. *500 Great Books for Teens*. New York: Houghton Mifflin, 2007.**

This guide provides an annotated bibliography of suggested titles for teen readers. Titles are divided into 21 sections, including adventure and survival, politics and social history, horror, romance, fantasy, plays, and graphic novels. The author has included titles that were originally written for adults, but will appeal to teen readers.

**Trupe, Alice. *Thematic Guide to Young Adult Literature*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2006.**

This *Thematic Guide* identifies 32 themes in young adult literature and features critical discussion of three to six novels in each category. This resource provides summaries for more than 150 novels published between the 1950s through 2004. In addition, the *Thematic Guide* provides a discussion of the following literary elements: analysis of form, characterization, point-of-view, and symbolism.

- Need alternative titles? Want similar-theme reading lists? This *Guide's* for you!

**Young Adult Library Services Association. *Best Books for Young Adults*. Chicago: American Library Association, 2007.**

Want to update your library's reader's advisory tools? This third edition of *Best Books for Young Adults* continues to be a comprehensive and effective reference for great reading suggestions. This edition includes:

- Annotated lists of best YA books extending back to 1966, indexed by author and title;
- Twenty-seven themed and annotated reproducible booklists, perfect for readers' advisory with teens, parents, and teachers or for collection development; and
- Recap of current trends in teen literature.

----- ***More Outstanding Books for the College Bound*. Chicago: American Library Association, 2006.**

Brief annotations describe highly recommended titles for young adults planning to pursue post-high school education. *More Outstanding Books* includes culturally and ethnically diverse book titles published from 1959 to 2004.

2008 OELMA Conference  
Kathy Orr & Vicky Schmarr