Suggested Reading List from the Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks Grades 5-8 (rev. 11/2000)

A Suggested List of Authors, Illustrators, or Works Reflecting Our Common Literary and Cultural Heritage:

American authors or illustrators:
Louisa May Alcott
Lloyd Alexander
Natalie Babbitt
L. Frank Baum
Nathaniel Benchley
Carol Ryrie Brink
Elizabeth Coatsworth
Esther Forbes
Paula Fox
Jean George
Virginia Hamilton
Bret Harte
Irene Hunt
Washington Irving
L.M. Montgomery (Canadian)
Sterling North
Scott O'Dell
Howard Pyle
Edgar Allan Poe
Ellen Raskin
Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings
Elizabeth Speare
Booth Tarkington
Mark Twain
James Thurber
E. B. White
Laura Ingalls Wilder
N. C. Wyeth

Contemporary American Literature and World Literature
Isaac Asimov (science fiction)
Avi (multi-genre)
James Berry (fiction)
Nancy Bond (fiction: fantasy)
Ray Bradbury (science fiction)
Bruce Brooks (fiction)
Joseph Bruchac (fiction: historical)
Alice Childress (fiction: realistic)
Vera and Bill Cleaver (fiction)
James and Christopher Collier (fiction: historical)
Caroline Coman (fiction: realistic)
Susan Cooper (fiction: fantasy)
Robert Cormier (fiction)
Bruce Coville (fiction: fantasy)
Sharon Creech (fiction: realistic)
Chris Crutcher (fiction)
Christopher Paul Curtis (fiction: historical)
Karen Cushman (fiction: historical)
Michael Dorris (fiction)
Paul Fleischman (poetry; fiction)
Russell Freedman (biography)
Jack Gantos (fiction: humorous)
Leon Garfield (fiction: historical)
Shelia Gordon (fiction: Africa)
Bette Greene (fiction)
Rosa Guy (fiction: realistic)
Mary Downing Hahn (fiction)
Joyce Hansen (fiction)
James Herriot (informational: animals)
Karen Hesse (fiction: historical, fanciful)

S. E. Hinton (fiction: realistic)
Felice Holman (fiction: historical, realistic)
Irene Hunt (fiction: historical, realistic)
M. E. Kerr (fiction: realistic)
E. L. Konigsburg (fiction: realistic)
Kathryn Lasky (multi-genre)
Madeleine L'Engle (fiction: fantasy)
Ursula LeGuin (fiction: fantasy)
Lipsyte, Robert (fiction: realistic)
Lois Lowry (fiction)
Anne McCaffrey (fiction: fantasy)
Robin McKinley (fiction: fantasy)
Margaret Mahy (fiction: realistic)
Patricia McKissack (informational history)
Jim Murphy (informational: history)
Walter Dean Myers (fiction: realistic; biography)
Phyllis Reynolds Naylor (fiction: realistic)
Naomi Nye (poetry; fiction)
Gary Paulsen (fiction: realistic)
Katherine Paterson (fiction)
Richard Peck (fiction: realistic)
Ellen Raskin (fiction: mystery)
J. K. Rowling (fiction: fantasy)
Cynthia Rylant (short stories; poetry)
Louis Sachar (fiction: humorous, realistic)
Isaac Bashevis Singer (fiction: historical)
Gary Soto (fiction)
Mildred Taylor (fiction: historical)
Theordore Taylor (fiction: historical)
Yoshiko Uchida (fiction: historical; nonfiction)
Cynthia Voigt (fiction: realistic, fantasy)
Yoko Kawashima Watkins (fiction: historical)
Janet Wong (poetry)
Laurence Yep (fiction)
Jane Y olen (fiction: fantasy)
Paul Zindel (fiction: realistic)

British and European authors or illustrators:
James Barrie
Frances Burnett
Lucy Boston
Lewis Carroll
Carlo Collodi
Charles Dickens
Arthur Conan Doyle
Daniel Defoe
Leon Garfield
Kenneth Grahame
C. S. Lewis
George MacDonald
Edith Nesbit
Mary Norton
Philippa Pearce
Arthur Rackham
Anna Sewell
William Shakespeare
Johanna Spyri
Robert Louis Stevenson
Jonathan Swift
J. R. R. Tolkien
P. L. Travers
T. H. White