

***Toms River Regional Schools***  
***6-12 District Texts/Reading Lists***



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### Reading philosophy:

The goal of our English language arts program in grades 6-12 is to support students in becoming lifelong readers and critical thinkers. In order to meet this goal we have vertically aligned our practices with our K-5 program, implementing independent reading and classroom libraries in grades 6-12. The goal of classroom libraries and independent reading is for students to explore context-rich content in order to master the standards and skills required at each grade level. Increasingly, we aim to create a more diverse curriculum not only in our libraries, but also in our book clubs and whole group reading experiences.

### **Types of reading experiences:**

**Independent reading**-students are given time to read a book in class and at home of their choosing. [Classroom libraries](#) provide a variety of texts from which students may choose. Teachers are provided with funding each year to grow and update their classroom libraries. Teachers audit their libraries annually to ensure that text selections are diverse and inclusive. Independent reading supports differentiation. [National Council of Teachers of English, position statement on independent reading.](#)

**Book Clubs/Literature circle**-In-between independent reading and whole class reading are book clubs/literature circles. This is where students choose from a list of books pre-selected by their teacher. Students study the book in small groups. Book clubs support student choice and differentiation, while also being strategically scaffolded.

**Whole class reading**-This is the traditional approach to reading at the secondary level; whole class novels are books that students read together, with teacher facilitation. The NEA Big Read is an example of this, as well.

**GRADE 6, TEXTBOOK: HMH's *Collections*, grade 6**

<p><b>CORE reading: All 6th graders read at some point during the year</b></p>	<p><b>Optional/Book Clubs/Literature circles</b> *Can also be used for CORE reading at the discretion of the teacher</p>
<p><i>Refugee</i></p>	<p><i>Among the Hidden</i> <i>Eleven</i> <i>Holes</i> <i>Hatchet</i> <i>Soul Surfer</i> <i>The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle</i> <i>The Lightning Thief</i> <i>The Boy in the Striped Pajamas</i> <i>Ugly</i> <i>Ghost</i> <i>Island of the Blue Dolphins</i> <i>Tuck Everlasting</i> <i>Hoot</i> <i>Honus and Me</i> <i>The Phantom Tollbooth</i> <i>Prisoner B-3087</i> <i>Projekt 1065</i> <i>The Hundred Dresses</i> <i>Seedfolks</i></p>
<p><i>Teacher Resource</i></p>	<p><i>The Growth Mindset Classroom-Ready Resource Book</i></p>

**GRADE 7, TEXTBOOK: HMH's *Collections*, grade 7**

<p><b>CORE reading: All 7th graders read at some point during the year</b></p>	<p><b>Optional/Book Clubs/Literature circles</b>  <b>*Can also be used for CORE reading at the discretion of the teacher</b></p>
<p><i>The Outsiders</i></p>	<p><i>And Then There Were None</i>  <i>Fever 1793</i>  <i>Girls, Drums, and Dangerous Pie</i>  <i>Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry</i>  <i>Skellig</i>  <i>Soldier's Heart</i>  <i>Stormbreaker</i>  <i>Tangerine</i>  <i>Touching Spirit Bear</i>  <i>Ghost of Spirit Bear</i>  <i>The Giver</i>  <i>The Gift of the Magi</i>  <i>The City of Ember</i>  <i>My Brother Sam is Dead</i>  <i>Pictures of Hollis Woods</i>  <i>Ghost Boys</i>  <i>Flying Lessons</i> (short story collection)  <i>The Watsons Go to Birmingham</i>  <i>The Call of the Wild</i>  <i>Chains</i>  <i>Banner in the Sky</i>  <i>Under the Banyan Tree</i>  <i>The Paperclip Revolution</i>  <i>Where the Red Fern Grows</i>  <i>Neil Armstrong Is My Uncle</i>  <i>Booked</i>  <i>Towers Falling</i></p>
<p><i>Teacher Resource</i></p>	<p><i>The Growth Mindset Classroom-Ready Resource Book</i></p>

**GRADE 8. TEXTBOOK: HMH's Collections, grade 8**

<p><b>CORE reading: All 8th graders read at some point during the year</b></p>	<p><b>Optional/Book Clubs/Literature circles</b>  <b>*Can also be used for CORE reading at the discretion of the teacher</b></p>
<p><i>Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl or The Diary of Anne Frank (Drama by Goodrich and Hackett)</i></p>	<p><i>Animal Farm</i>  <i>The Beast</i>  <i>Trouble</i>  <i>Downriver</i>  <i>The Raft</i>  <i>Inventing Elliot</i>  <i>Give a Boy a Gun</i>  <i>Kissing Tennessee</i>  <i>Poe 18 Best Stories</i>  <i>The Martian Chronicles</i>  <i>Stargirl</i>  <i>Swallowing Stones</i>  <i>The Pigman</i>  <i>Monster</i>  <i>Red Kayak</i>  <i>Warriors Don't Cry</i>  <i>Adrift</i>  <i>Eleven</i>  <i>Among the Imposters</i>  <i>Among the Betrayed</i>  <i>I Have Lived a Thousand Years</i>  <i>Flush</i>  <i>Drivers Ed</i>  <i>Kicked Out</i>  <i>Twelve Angry Men</i>  <i>Close to Shore (YA version)</i>  <i>The Last Lecture (excerpts)</i>  <i>Unbroken (YA version)</i>  <i>Fahrenheit 451</i>  <i>The Pearl</i>  <i>The Battle of Jericho</i>  <i>Define Normal</i>  <i>Bronx Masquerade</i>  <i>Salt to the Sea</i>  <i>A Long Walk to Water</i></p>
<p><i>Teacher Resource</i></p>	<p><i>The Growth Mindset Classroom-Ready Resource Book</i></p>

**GRADE 9, TEXTBOOK: Holt McDougal's *Literature Grade 9***

<b>CORE reading</b>	<b>Optional/Book Clubs/Literature circles</b> *Can also be used for CORE reading at the discretion of the teacher
<i>Tuesdays with Morrie</i> OR <i>Fahrenheit 451</i> OR <i>The Book Thief</i>	<i>A Doll's House</i> <i>Positive</i> <i>Make Your Bed</i>
<i>Romeo &amp; Juliet</i>	<i>Beautiful Boy</i>
<i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>	<i>All American Boys</i> <i>The Hate U Give</i> <i>Dear Martin</i>
<i>Night</i>	<i>Chinese Cinderella</i> <i>A Yellow Raft in Blue Water</i> <i>Baddawi</i> <i>Farewell to Manzanar</i> <i>Persepolis</i>

**GRADE 10, TEXTBOOK: Holt McDougal's *Literature Grade 10***

<b>CORE reading</b>	<b>Optional/Book Clubs/Literature circles</b> *Can also be used for CORE reading at the discretion of the teacher
<i>Of Mice and Men</i> <i>Julius Caesar</i>	<i>The Five People You Meet in Heaven</i> <i>Siddhartha</i> <i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i> <i>The Body</i> <i>As I Lay Dying</i> <i>Great Expectations</i> (excerpts) <i>The Adventures of Augie March</i> (excerpts) <i>The 57 Bus</i>
	<i>The House on Mango Street</i> <i>The Color of Water</i> <i>Things Fall Apart</i>

	<p><i>A Separate Peace</i>  <i>As I Lay Dying</i>  <i>Animal Farm</i>  <i>The Scarlet Letter</i></p>
	<p><i>The Things They Carried</i>  <i>A Farewell to Arms</i>  <i>The Scarlet Letter</i>  <i>The Fault in Our Stars</i>  <i>Of Mice and Men</i>  <i>Flowers for Algernon</i>  <i>A Lesson Before Dying</i>  <i>A Midsummer Night's Dream</i>  <i>The Taming of the Shrew</i>  <i>A Raisin in the Sun</i>  <i>Long Day's Journey into Night</i>  <i>A Streetcar Named Desire/The Glass Menagerie</i></p>
	<p><i>Hunger Games</i>  <i>Of Mice and Men</i>  <i>A Prayer for Owen Meany</i>  <i>The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time</i>  <i>The Body</i>  <i>The Shawshank Redemption</i>  <i>Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe</i>  <i>Antigone</i>  <i>The Road</i>  <i>Burning Bright</i></p>

**GRADE 10 Advanced Honors, [Holt McDougal's Literature Grade 10](#)**

<b>CORE reading</b>	<b>Optional/Book Clubs/Literature circles</b> *Can also be used for CORE reading at the discretion of the teacher
<p><i>Oedipus</i> (background and/or excerpts)  <i>Antigone</i>  <i>The Crucible</i></p>	<p><b>Summer Read:</b>  <i>How to Read Literature Like A Professor</i> (core) (To be referenced throughout the year.)  <i>The Glass Castle</i>  <i>In The Time of the Butterflies</i>  <i>And The Mountains Echoed</i>  <i>Snow Flower and the Secret Fan</i></p>

	<i>A Lesson Before Dying</i> <i>A Thousand Splendid Suns</i> (excerpts only) <i>The Handmaid's Tale</i> (excerpts only)
<i>Julius Caesar</i> <i>A Raisin In The Sun</i> paired with <i>Of Mice and Men</i> <i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i>	
<i>Nickel and Dimed: on (Not) Getting by in America</i>	<i>Savage Inequalities</i>
<i>The Taming of the Shrew/ Othello</i> <i>Pride and Prejudice</i> or <i>Emma</i> or <i>The Picture of Dorian Gray</i>	<i>The Glass Menagerie/A Streetcar Named Desire</i> <i>The Great Gatsby</i> <i>Our Town</i>
<i>Into The Wild</i> <i>Walden</i> (excerpts)	<i>Dawn</i> <i>A Farewell To Manzanar</i> <i>A Separate Peace</i> <i>Death of Salesman</i> <i>Burning Bright</i>

**GRADE 11: [Holt McDougal's Adventures in American Literature](#)**

<b>CORE reading</b>	<b>Optional/Book Clubs/Literature circles</b> *Can also be used for CORE reading at the discretion of the teacher
	<i>The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian</i> <i>The Scarlet Letter</i> <i>Huck Finn</i> <i>Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl</i> <i>The Catcher in the Rye</i> <i>The Crucible</i>
	<i>The Great Gatsby</i> <i>Their Eyes Were Watching God</i> <i>Catcher in the Rye</i> <i>Into the Wild</i> <i>We Were Liars (GS)</i> <i>The Book of Unknown Americans</i> <i>A Place to Stand</i> <i>This Boy's Life</i> <i>The Crucible</i> or <i>Death of a Salesman</i> or <i>A Streetcar Named Desire</i> or <i>The Glass Menagerie</i> <i>Outliers</i>
	<i>Beloved</i>



	<i>Farewell to Manzanar</i> <i>Kindred</i> <i>Call of the Wild</i> <i>How it Went Down</i> <i>We Beat the Streets</i> <i>The Things They Carried</i> <i>Nickel and Dimed</i> <i>The Marrow Thieves</i> <i>There, There</i> <i>SlaughterHouse Five</i> <i>Station 11</i> <i>The Jungle</i> <i>Long Day's Journey into Night</i> <i>Top Dog / UnderDog</i> <i>Mr. Burns and Other Plays</i> <i>Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?</i> <i>Brighton Beach Memoirs</i> <i>The Perfectionist and Other Plays</i>
	<i>Burning Bright</i> <i>How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents</i> <i>The House on Mango Street</i> <i>A Place to Stand</i> <i>The Last Lecture</i> <i>The Road</i> <i>Educated</i> <i>Americanah</i> <i>We Beat the Streets</i>

**GRADE 12, [Holt McDougal's Adventures in English Literature](#)**

<b>CORE reading</b>	<b>Optional/Book Clubs/Literature circles</b> <b>*Can also be used for CORE reading at the discretion of the teacher</b>
	<i>Grendel</i> <i>Canterbury Tales</i> <i>Frankenstein</i> <i>Alice in Wonderland</i> <i>Siddhartha</i> <i>Macbeth or Othello or Hamlet</i> <i>The Stranger</i> <i>The Inferno</i> <i>Fences</i> <i>The Iliad</i> <i>East of Eden</i> <i>Lion in Winter</i> <i>All Quiet on the Western Front</i> <i>The Namesake</i> <i>The Aeneid</i>

	<p><i>The Handmaid's Tale</i>  <i>Frankenstein</i>  <i>Jane Eyre</i>  <i>Harry Potter and Sorcerer's Stone</i>  <i>Alice in Wonderland</i>  <i>I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban</i>  <i>Persepolis I and II</i>  <i>A Thousand Splendid Suns</i>  <i>Medea</i></p>
	<p><i>Grendel</i>  <i>1984</i>  <i>Lord of the Flies</i>  <i>A Christmas Carol</i>  <i>Dubliners</i>  <i>Frankenstein</i>  <i>Gulliver's Travels</i>  <i>Born a Crime</i>  <i>Metamorphosis</i>  <i>I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban</i>  <i>The Kite Runner</i>  <i>A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier</i>  <i>Macbeth</i>  <i>Othello</i>  <i>Hamlet</i>  <i>Trifles</i>  <i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>  <i>The Tempest</i>  <i>The Importance of Being Earnest</i></p>
	<p><i>The Handmaid's Tale</i>  <i>Brave New World</i>  <i>1984</i>  <i>Animal Farm</i>  <i>I Am Malala: The Girl Who Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban</i>  <i>A Clockwork Orange</i>  <i>Felix Ever After</i>  <i>Sunrise Over Fallujah</i></p>

**GRADE 11/12, World Literature Elective**

**Textbook: [Prentice Hall Literature World Masterpieces](#)**

<b>CORE reading</b>	<p><b>Optional/Book Clubs/Literature circles</b>  <b>*Can also be used for CORE reading at the discretion of the teacher</b></p>
	<p><i>Edith Hamilton's Mythology</i>  <i>Dracula</i> by Bram Stoker  <i>Dare to Disappoint: Growing Up in Turkey</i> by Ozgme Samanci  <i>The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao</i> by Junot Diaz</p>

*The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* by William Kamkwamba

*China Boy* by Gus Lee

*The Hobbit* by JRR Tolkien

*The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring* by JRR Tolkien

*The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers* by JRR Tolkien

*The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King* by JRR Tolkien