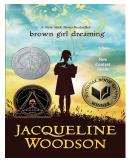
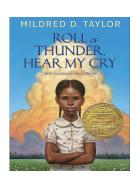
Through hands-on learning experiences, classroom discussions, and written reflection we pose a challenge to our 8th graders--Discover What You are Made of! This thematic unit crosses between classes, giving students the opportunities to consider what sparks their curiosity and to uncover the passions that make them who they are. We are kick-starting this conversation with our Summer Community Novel selections. We're asking that each student select **one of the following community novels**. These community novels are designed to allow students to begin their year by connecting with other students in their class as they discuss their selected book. Students should be prepared to participate in a project for the grade level thematic novel during the first two weeks of school. Then students should select **one book from the free-choice list**. While reading the free-choice book, students should answer two questions (listed on page 4) about the book and submit the answers to their Language Arts teacher no later than Friday, August 12th. Each answer must be at least 300 typed or handwritten words.

Community Novel Choices (Select One)

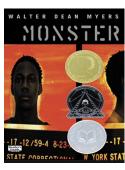
If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Overstreet (roverstreet@maclay.org) or Ms. Sheward (esheward@maclay.org)



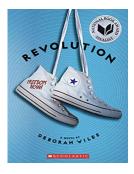
Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson*



Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry by Mildred D. Taylor



Monster by Walter Dean Myers*



Revolution by Deborah Wiles*



Note: While all books are written for middle grades and are appropriate for our readers, there may be scenes that prompt family conversation. We encourage you to use resources such as CommonSenseMedia.com to learn more about your student's selected novels.

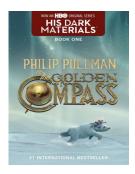
Free Choice Novels
(Select One Book That You Have Never Read)

Nonfiction

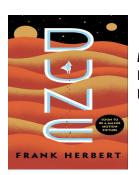
Fantasy and Science Fiction



The Kingdom of Back by Marie Lu*



The Golden Compass by Philip Pullman*



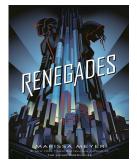
Dune by Frank Herbert*



Skyward by Brandon Sanderson*



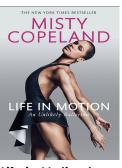
Six of Crows by Leigh Bardugo*



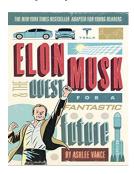
Renegades by Marissa Meyer



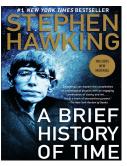
Ready Player One by Ernest Cline*



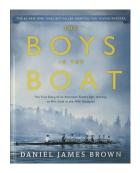
Life in Motion by Misty Copeland



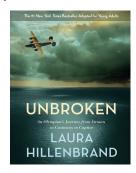
Elon Musk and the Quest: Young Reader's Edition by Ashlee Vance*



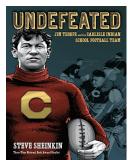
A Brief History of Time by Stephen Hawking*



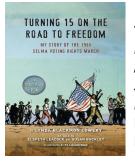
The Boys on the Boat: Young Reader's Edition by Daniel James Brown*



Unbroken: Young Readers Edition by Laura Hillenbrand*



Undefeated by Steve Sheinkin*

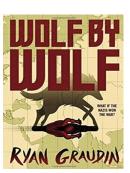


Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom: My Story of the Selma Voting Rights March by Lynda Blackmon Lowery*

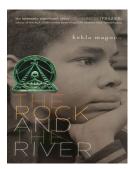
Historical Fiction



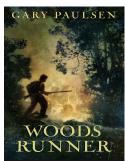
Projekt 1065 by Alan Gratz*



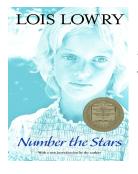
Wolf by Wolf by Ryan Graudin*



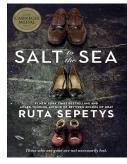
The Rock and the River by Kekla Magoon



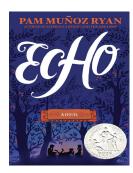
Woods Runner by Gary Paulsen



Number the Stars by Lois Lowry*

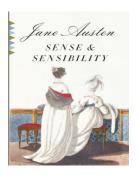


Salt to the Sea by Ruta Sepetys*



Echo by Pam Munoz Ryan

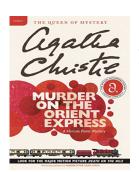
Classic



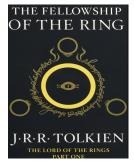
Sense and Sensibility by Jane Austen*



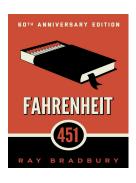
The Count of Monte Cristo by Alexandre Dumas*



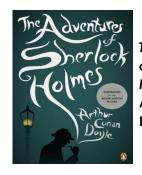
Murder on the Orient Express by Agatha Christie*



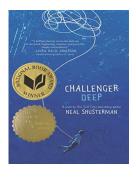
The Fellowshi p of the Ring by J.R.R. Tolkien*



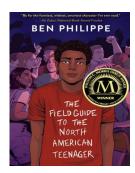
Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury*



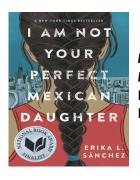
The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes by Arthur Conan Doyle*



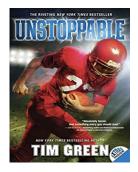
Challenger Deep by Neal Shusterman*



The Field Guide to the North American Teenager by Ben Philippe



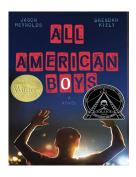
I am Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter by Erika Sanchez



Unstoppable by Tim Green*



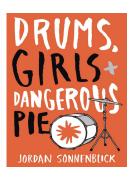
Dear Martin
by Nic Stone*



All American Boys by Jason Reynolds and Brendan Kiely



When You Were Everything by Ashley Woodfolk



Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie by Jordan Sonnenblick*

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If you need any help, please contact your librarian, Mr. Low (dlow@maclay.org), who is happy to help you!

Free-Choice Book Questions:

- Identify one character from your book who you relate to and explain the ways in which you and the character are similar. Use examples from the book and your life to support your answer.
- Identify one character from your book who differs from you and explain what you learned from their experiences and perspective. Use examples from the book to support your answer.