Finding Books and Resources for Common Core

Guides by grade
These handy guides point you to our Common Core resources for each grade. You’ll find book lists, discussion questions, and citations to the relevant standards. This page is linked from the Working with Youth Toolbox, which you can access from the Especially For drop-down in the top toolbar. To find it quickly, just type in the search box: UI 438384

Sample strategies

Look for historical accounts
True accounts can deliver exciting reads. For example, try a keyword search for a historical event like ‘Chile mine disaster’ and limit by audience. The results include Trapped by Marc Aronson, which is a page-turning nonfiction account of that historical event.

Match your unit of study
Studying the weather? Just search a topic like ‘Snow’ (and narrow down to the right audience level or fiction/nonfiction at the Result List) to find a list of books that are on-topic, at grade level, and in print. Perfect for teachers who need to find lists of books to go with a unit of study.

Search for read-alikes
Read-alikes are great because they are based on a book you probably already enjoyed. Here’s an example... Search for ‘Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World’ and click the link for title read-alikes. You’ll see a list of 9 similar books about other shipwrecks, all at the same reading level.

Use books to explain concepts
Search for a concept like ‘Cause and effect’ when you’re looking for books to help teach a particular reading concept.

When to use:

Teachers: Looking for books to match your lessons?

Readers: Do you need to find a nonfiction book for a class project?

Parents: Want a read-alike that is similar to a nonfiction book your child enjoyed?

Librarians: Working with local teachers who need to find books for their classroom?