

READ MORE BOOKS!

Dear Educator,

Reading changes a child's brain in remarkable ways. In addition to improving cognitive functions, reading has also been shown to increase empathy, reduce stress, and help people sleep better.

This program, brought to you by the children's book experts at Simon & Schuster and the curriculum specialists at Young Minds Inspired, offers free resources to help you get your students excited about reading and exploring new genres.

Feel free to share this program with other teachers and families. And please let us know your thoughts on the program by visiting ymiclassroom.com/feedback-morebooks.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Dr. Dominic Kinsley
Editor in Chief
Young Minds Inspired



Questions? Contact YMI toll-free at 1-800-859-8005 or by email at feedback@ymiclassroom.com.

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Target Audience

Grades 4-6

Program Objectives

- To encourage reading
- To expand students' interests in a variety of genres
- To reinforce language arts skills

Program Components

- This teacher's guide
- Three reproducible student activities
- A classroom poster
- A reply card
- A program microsite at ymiclassroom.com/morebooks featuring:
 - A downloadable version of this teaching kit
 - An educational standards alignment chart
 - An online feedback form
 - Additional reading resources

How to Use the Program

Photocopy the activity sheets and this teacher's guide before displaying the poster in your classroom. Visit the program microsite for additional information and resources.

Activity 1

Book Buzz

Students learn about different genres of books.

Ask students to name their favorite books. Group the books under the following genres: Adventure, Classics, School Stories, Fantasy, Historical Fiction, and Realistic Fiction. Explain that a *genre* is a category that allows us to group books, movies, music, and other arts by their similarities.

Distribute the activity sheet and read the descriptions of each genre with the class. In small groups, have students discuss which books look interesting and why and put a checkmark next to books in different genres that interest them.

Extension: Group students who are interested in the same book and have them read it together. Then ask them to work together to create a video trailer for the book, or a video review.

Activity 2

Show Your Shelf

Students track their reading and design their own book covers.

In this activity, students fill their "shelves" as they read new books and explore different genres. Pass out the activity sheet and explain to students that they will track their reading in Part 1 by writing the author, title, and a genre symbol for each book they read on one of the blank spines. Then, for Part 2, they will create a book cover for one of the books they have read. As students fill in all the blank book spines, provide them with additional copies of the activity sheet so they can track their reading throughout the year.

Extension: Review the sheets in a class discussion each month to discover which books and genres are most popular.

Activity 3

The Review Is In

Students complete book reviews to help strengthen language skills and encourage their peers to read.

Like adults, students often read books that are recommended by friends. With this activity, students can recommend books to each other throughout the year — and as a bonus, they also get a bookmark they can use!

Pass out the activity sheet. Keep extra copies available so that students can continue to make book-review-bookmarks as they read. Laminate and display the bookmarks in a decorated jar near the classroom library or donate them to the school library so all students can benefit from the reviews.

Extension: Host a "battle of the books," where students form teams to see which team can answer the most questions about a book or group of books the class has read.

Resources

simonandschuster.net/grades-k-12

simonandschusterpublishing.com/readandlearn
ymiclassroom.com/morebooks



Book Buzz

Check out the books listed for each genre. Are there new genres you'd like to try? Fill in the circle for books you've read and make a checkmark in the circle for books you would like to read.

Adventure

Books that show us what it means to be brave and daring.

- Belly Up* by Stuart Gibbs
- City Spies* by James Ponti
- Spy School* by Stuart Gibbs
- Once There Was* by Kiyash Monsef



Fantasy

Books that teach us about the power of imagination.

- Wilderlore* by Amanda Foody
- Keeper of the Lost Cities* by Shannon Messenger
- Onyeka* by Tolá Okogwu
- Skandar* by A.F. Steadman

Classics

Books with enduring cultural relevance.

- Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret.* by Judy Blume
- Out of My Mind* by Sharon M. Draper
- The Spiderwick Chronicles* by Tony DiTerlizzi and Holly Black
- Hatchet* by Gary Paulsen

Historical Fiction

Books that give us a personal look at how people lived in other time periods.

- Fever 1793* by Laurie Halse Anderson
- The Rhino in Right Field* by Stacy DeKeyser
- Chains* by Laurie Halse Anderson
- Uprising* by Margaret Peterson Haddix

School Stories

Books that teach us that we aren't alone when we struggle with friendships or tough situations.

- Finally Seen* by Kelly Yang
- Dork Diaries* by Rachel Renée Russell
- Middle School and Other Disasters* by Wanda Coven
- Frindle* by Andrew Clements

Realistic Fiction

Books that teach us empathy — to care about how other people feel.

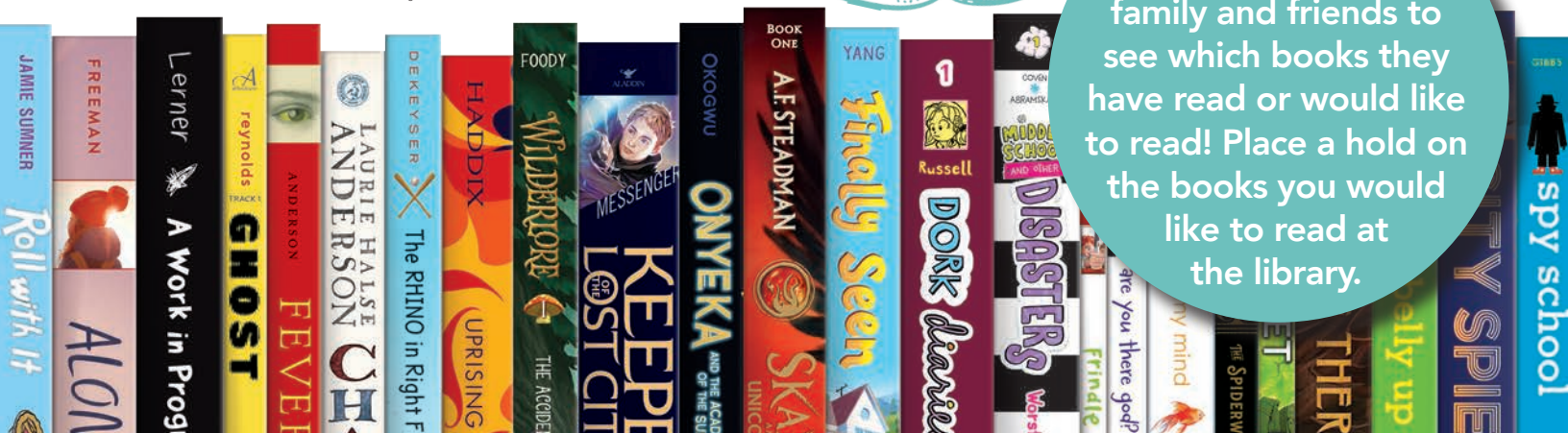
- Roll With It* by Jamie Sumner
- Alone* by Megan Freeman
- A Work in Progress* by Jarrett Lerner
- Ghost* by Jason Reynolds



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Share this activity sheet with family and friends to see which books they have read or would like to read! Place a hold on the books you would like to read at the library.



Show Your Shelf



As you finish reading each new book this year, write the author and title of the book on one of the blank book spines. Design a symbol that represents the genre of the book and add it to the spine as well. For example, you might draw a wand for a fantasy book, or a compass for adventure.

Genres

Adventure

Classics

School Stories

Fantasy

Historical Fiction

Realistic Fiction



On a separate piece of paper, create a cover for a favorite book you've read. Include the title and author's name on your cover along with a picture and your genre symbol. On the back of the sheet, write a short summary of the book.

Read your height!

Can you read a stack of books as tall as you are by the end of the school year?



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FAMILIES,

Have a special family book talk and share your favorite childhood books with each other. Which books do your children remember from when they were little? Why did they love those books?



The Review Is In

READ M^{ORE} BOOKS!

Share your favorite books with your friends by handing out book-review-bookmarks! Write the title, author, and genre of the book, along with three reasons why someone should read the book. Then color in the stars to give it a rating. The more stars, the better the book! Cut out the bookmark and draw a picture of the book on the other side.

Title: _____

Author: _____

Genre: _____

Why you should read it:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Rating



Name: _____

Title: _____

Author: _____

Genre: _____

Why you should read it:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Rating



Name: _____



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FAMILIES,

Choose a book to read as a family and start your own family book club! Write a review of the book and share it with extended family members or friends.

