

Benefits of Large Print for All Students

Presented by Tasha Squires

School Librarian
O'Neill Middle School
Downers Grove, IL

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O'Neill School Library

O'Neill Middle School Library

Always Reading!

Giving Options

Regular Print in Fiction and Nonfiction

Picture Books

Graphic Novels

Audio Books

Hi/Lo Publishers

Why NOT Large Print?

Outsiders Epiphany



Experiment Time

Consulted Reading Specialist

Recorded Students

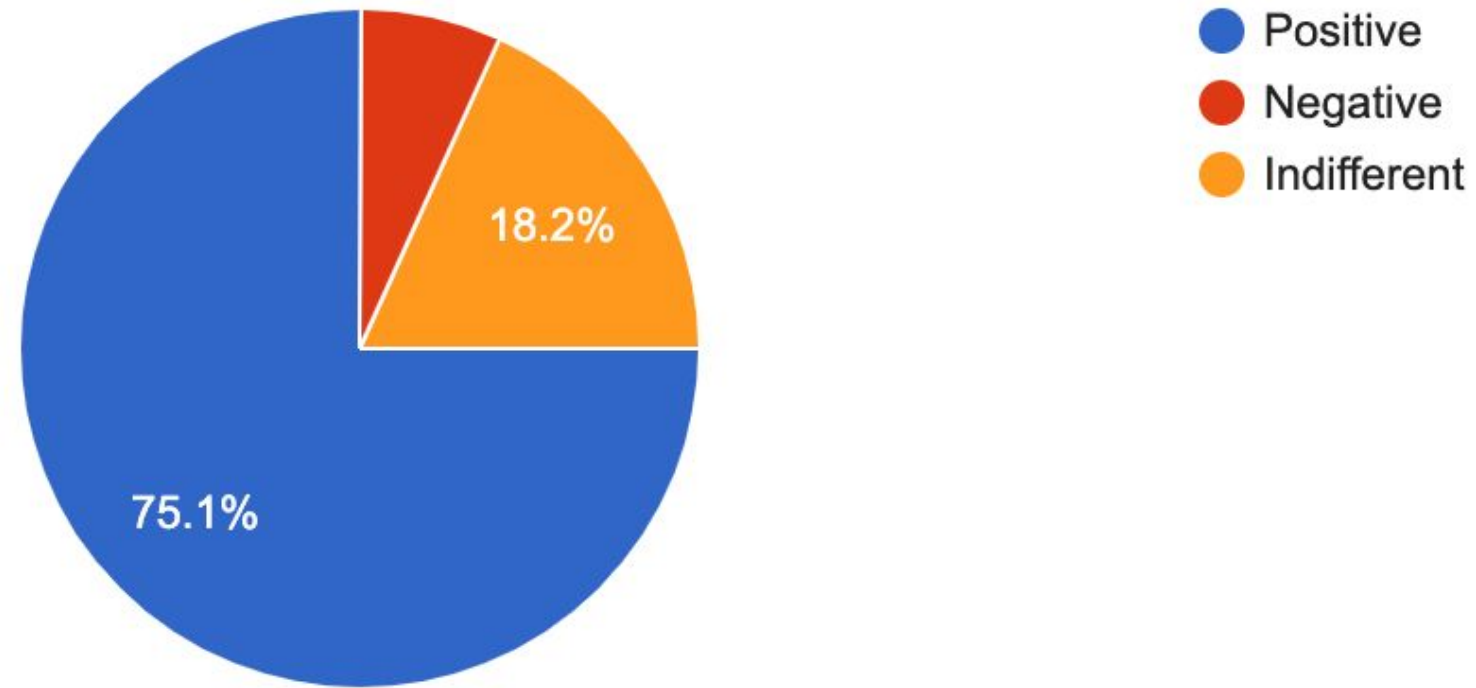
Astounded by Results



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yv9vGhXCQK8&t=26s>

What was your impression of reading large print?

329 responses



Please check any areas where you noticed a POSITIVE impact
when reading the large print book.

226 Responses (Various reading levels from Gifted to Special Ed)
Collected from January 2018 - Spring 2019

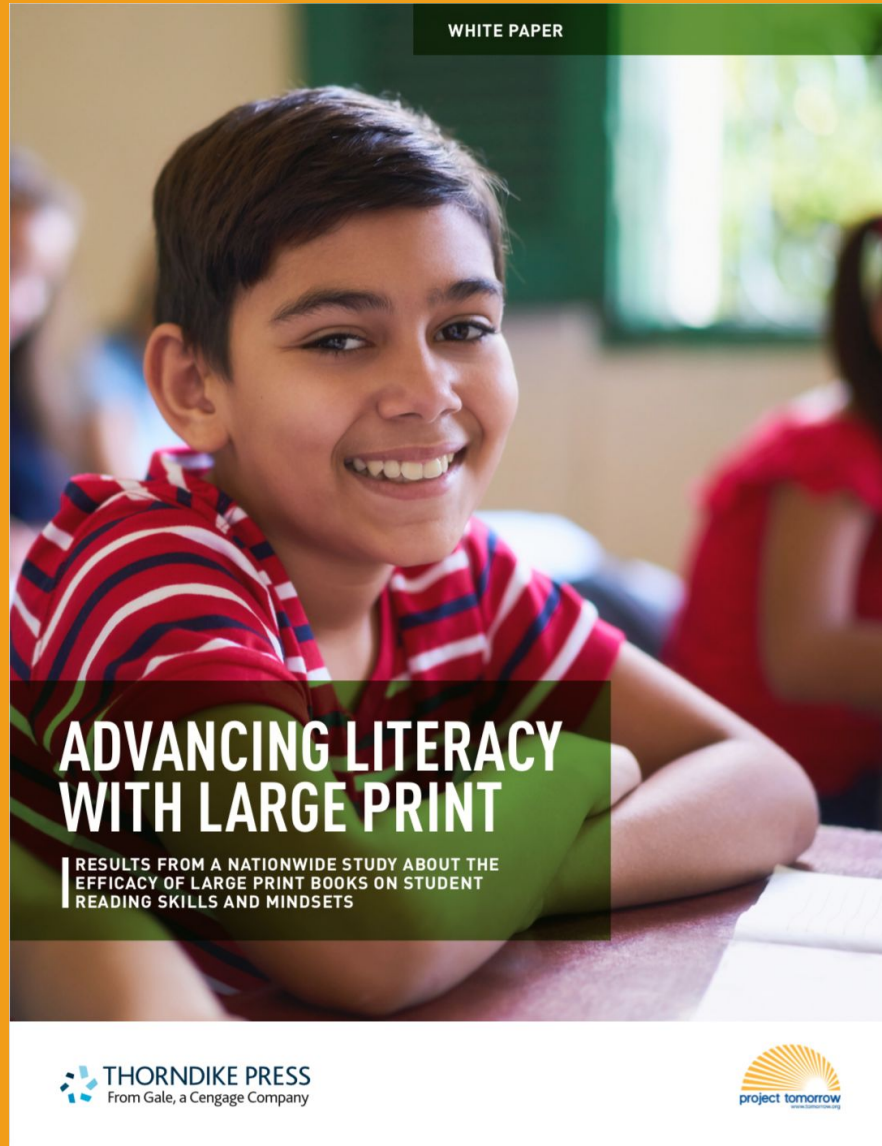
Able to find place faster if looked up from book - 62%

Able to concentrate better - 57%

Remembered more of the story - 52%

Enjoyed the reading process more than with regular print - 54%

Found yourself reading for longer periods of time when compared
to regular print - 52%

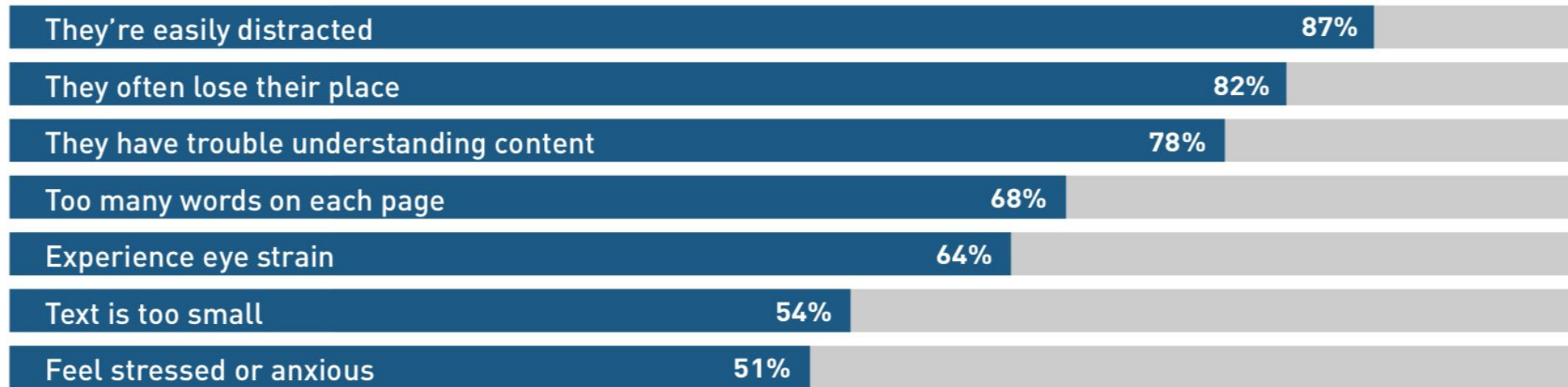


Research Study Project Tomorrow

Winter – Spring
2019

All 7th Grade
Students Participated

Due to structural or format problems, students reported:



Project Tomorrow Study Findings

“The better you can focus on a book, the better you understand it. With the large print you can focus better and spend less time trying to find where you are and more time reading and understanding the book. It is really about being an efficient reader.”

—9th grade student, Young Women’s Leadership Academy (TX)

“I read the book faster and I could understand it better.”

7th Grade Student, 2019

1st Experience Reading Large Print

I like how now I could just move on to the next page with the large print book and not spend a whole day there. I feel like I am a better reader now and it influenced me to want to read more.”

—7th grade student, Marco Forster Middle School (CA)

“...felt like I was accomplishing more and I wanted to keep reading.”

7th Grade Student, 2019

1st Experience Reading Large Print

“This reading format encouraged me to read more compared to my other books with much smaller font.”

—10th grade student, O'Fallon Township High School (IL)

“I read through the book faster. It was like, easier to read...the smaller words are harder to read, then I just put the book down.”

7th Grade Student, 2019

ADVANCING LITERACY WITH LARGE PRINT

Key findings from a nationwide study about the efficacy of large print books on student reading skills and outcomes.

STUDENT EXPERIENCES CHANGE BY READING LARGE PRINT

43%

of 3–12 graders reported a reduction in feelings of anxiety about reading.

NEARLY

60%

of 6–8 graders said they could focus better and didn't lose their place due to distractions when reading large print.

54%

of 3–12 graders said that school reading experiences would be more enjoyable if all books were large print.

EDUCATORS SEE THE DIFFERENCE OF THIS FORMAT



3/4 of teachers said students reading below grade level demonstrated better comprehension and retention with large print books.

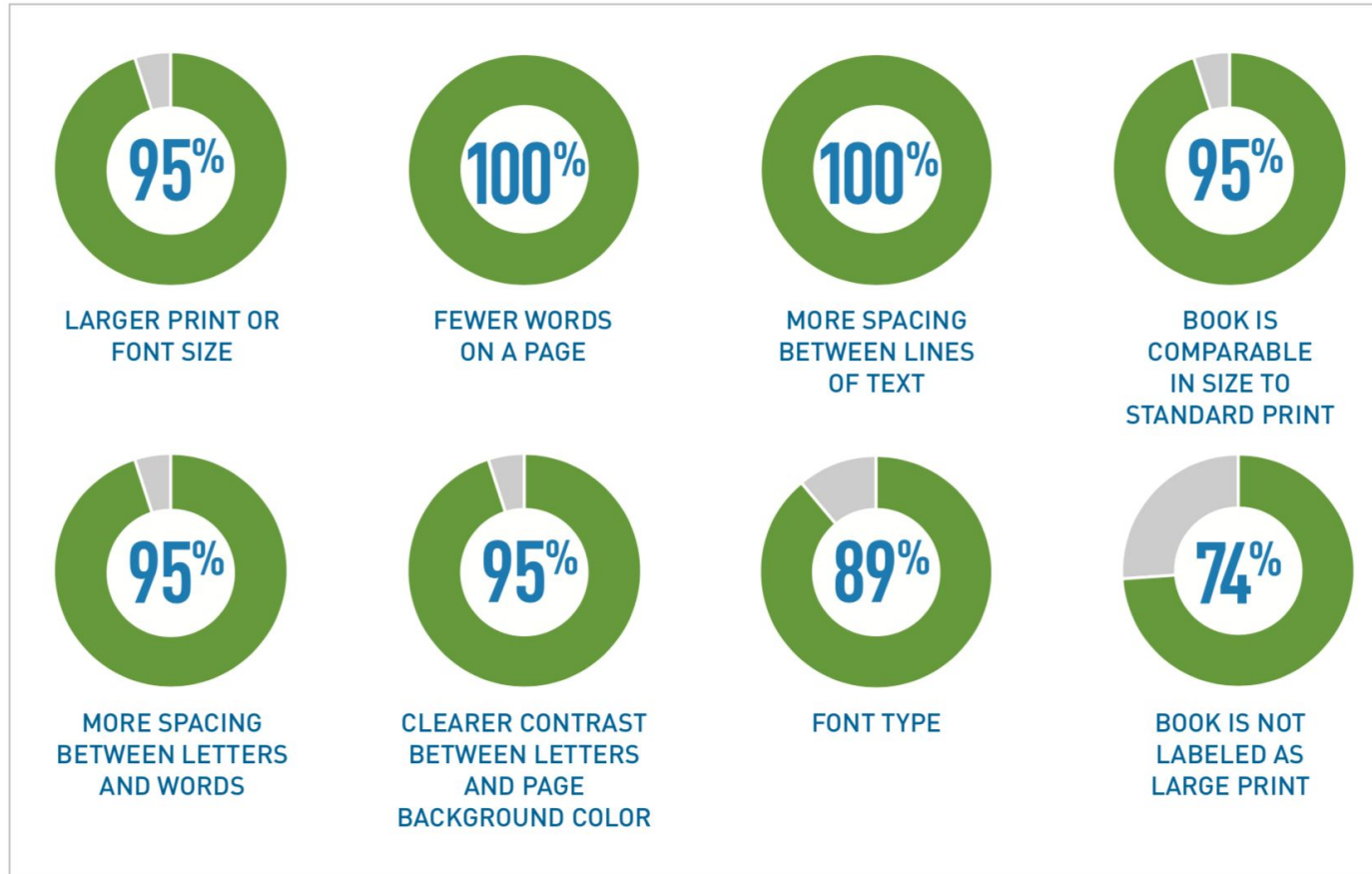


4/5 teachers said large print benefits students who lack self-confidence in reading or issues tracking.



95% of teachers said they're likely to use large print text in the upcoming school year.

After using the Thorndike Press large print titles in their classroom, the teachers in this study **identified the following features as important for changing students' reading skills and mindsets:**



See differences between large print and standard print books in appendix E.

Book excerpt from *The Lightning Thief* by Rick Riordan

THORNDIKE PRESS®

16-point font

standard print typeface

Every time there was a flash of lightning, I at Grover sitting next to me in the backseat I wondered if I'd gone insane, or if he was wearing some kind of shag-carpet pants. But, no the was one I remembered from kindergar-field trips to the petting zoo — lanolin, like

y
time there was a flash of lightning, I looked at Grover sitting to me in the backseat and I wondered if I'd gone insane, or if was wearing some kind of shag-carpet pants. But, no the was one I remembered from kindergarten field trips to

Thorndike Press Large Print YA Books = NO stigma

- Many options for self-selection
Connection & Reflection
- Current and classic titles
Award winners & Best-sellers



Comparable in size/weight to standard print with same covers

Getting the Word Out in School





Large Print Titles



Library Search > Search Results

Library Search

Destiny Quest
Destiny Discover
Resource Lists

Español

How do I... ?

Searched for (large print). Searched in: O'Neill Middle School. [Printable](#)

[Not what you're looking for? Refine your search? Browse Subjects?] [Add Page](#)

Selected List: My List

Titles: 1 - 25 of 131 Sort By Relevance [Go](#) 1 2 3 4 6 [Show All](#)

	<p>The blood of Olympus Details</p> <p>Call #: LP F Riordan Riordan, Rick.</p> <p>Location: Large Print</p> <p>Series: Heroes of Olympus ; book five</p> <p>Published 2014</p> <p>Reading Level: 4.7 Interest Level: 5-8</p>	<p>1 of 1 available</p> <p>Add to This List</p>
	<p>Clayton Byrd goes underground Details</p> <p>Call #: LP F Williams Williams-Garcia, Rita.</p> <p>Location: Large Print</p> <p>Series: Thorndike Press large print the literacy bridge</p> <p>Published 2018</p> <p>Reading Level: 4.0 Interest Level: 3-6</p>	<p>1 of 1 available</p> <p>Add to This List</p>
	<p>Cress Details</p> <p>Call #: LP F Meyer Meyer, Marissa.</p> <p>Location: Large Print</p> <p>Series: Lunar chronicles ; book 3</p> <p>Published 2014</p> <p>Interest Level: Young Adult</p>	<p>1 of 1 available</p> <p>Add to This List</p>
	<p>Forge Details</p> <p>Call #: LP F Anderson Anderson, Laurie Halse.</p>	<p>1 of 1 available</p> <p>Add to This List</p>

HOW TO GET MIDDLE-GRADE STUDENTS EXCITED ABOUT READING

CHOICE, VOICE & ACCESSIBILITY

Giving kids more options in both content and format can increase their motivation to read. Explore insights from Tasha Squires, Teacher Librarian at O'Neill Middle School in Downers Grove, IL.

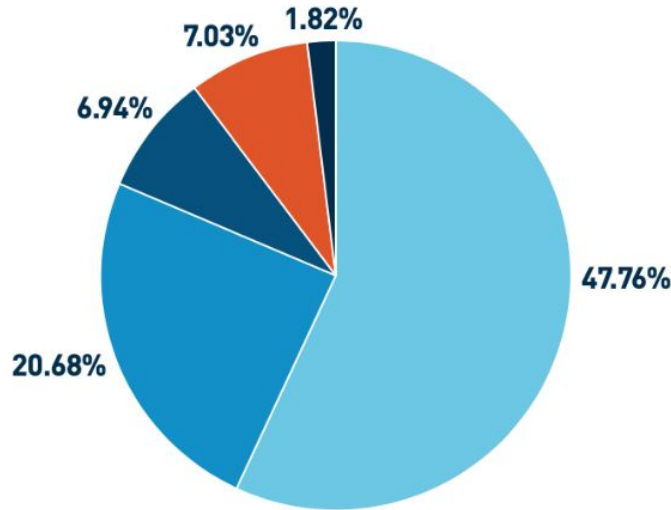
OFFER CHOICES

Not every young reader is drawn to standard print books. Offer a variety of options:

- Audiobooks
- eBooks
- Foreign Language Collections
- Graphic Novels
- Hi-Lo "Quick Reads"
- Large Print



COLLECTION BREAKDOWN

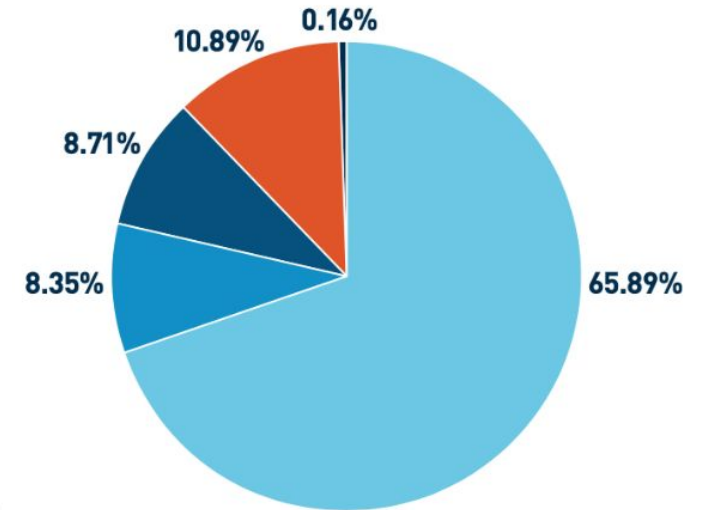


12,662 Total Books
890 Large Print Books

(quantities include duplicates)

VS.

CIRCULATION BREAKDOWN



Youth large print out-circulates graphic novels!



This view excludes fiction and nonfiction picture books, foreign language collections, biographies, and paperbacks.

BOOKS IN THE MIDDLE PODCAST



Tune in to my weekly booktalks every Monday during the school year to get ideas for expanding reader choice.



[Subscribe](#)

Books In the Middle Podcast

<https://booksinthemiddle.wordpress.com/>

Tasha Squires

Looking for booktalks for middle school students? Look no farther than this podcast. Browse through the many titles in all different genres for just the right title to get your students inspired, excited and racing to the library for a copy of the book. Looking for written reviews for more titles? Check out the blog [Booksinthemiddle.Wordpress.com](https://booksinthemiddle.wordpress.com/) to expand your own library and give students more options.

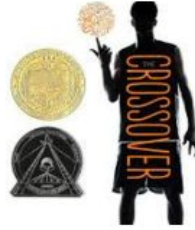


March 10, 2019 Tasha Squires

Ghost by Jason Reynolds (Contemporary Fiction)

Ghost By Jason Reynolds Ghost, or Castle as his mom calls him, feels that he's been running for some time. It all started one night when his dad got out of control and tried...

All Episodes



Subscribe

Books In the Middle Podcast

The Crossover by Kwame Alexander

December 16, 2018 Tasha Squires



Josh and Jordan are identical twins. Both take after their father, and are fantastic basketball players. However, not everything is perfect in their world. Pressure is mounting on them to step up their games, and now Josh is feeling distance from his brother since Jordan has gotten a girlfriend. He's wondering if everything is going to change.

Recommended for grades 7th and up.

Your podcast website

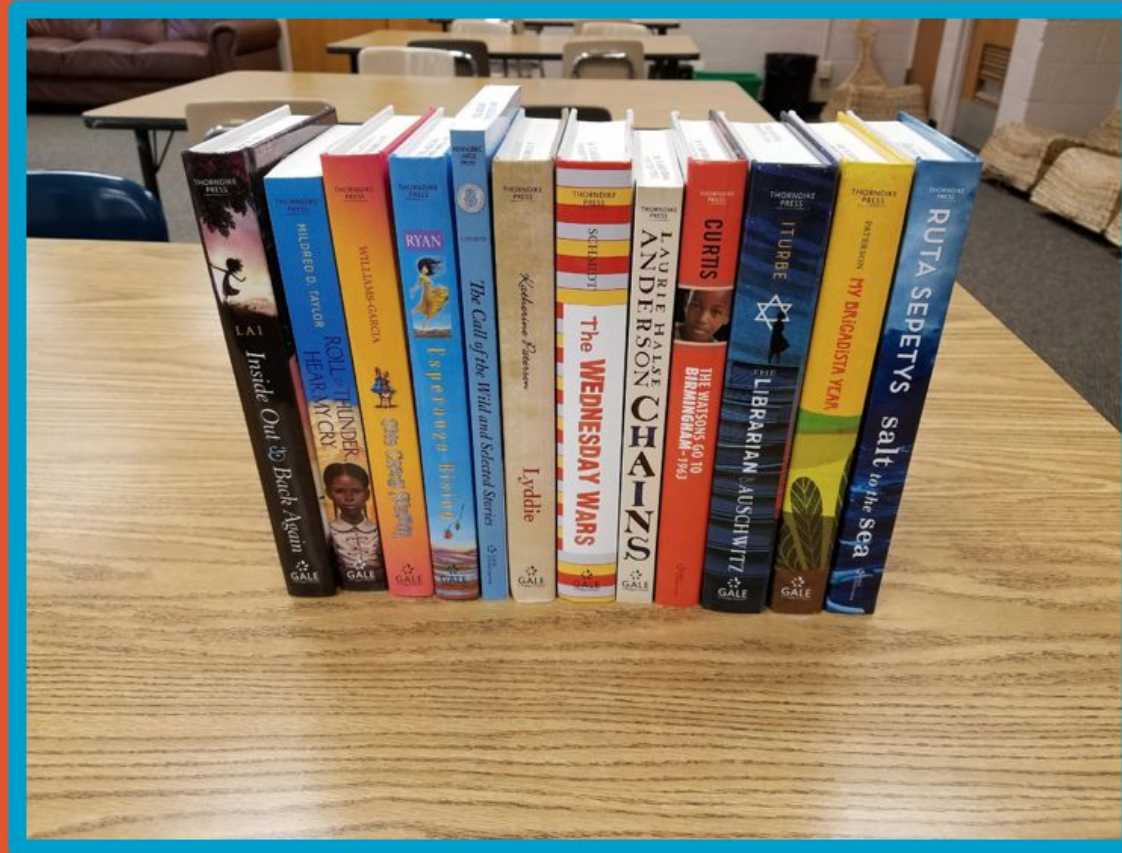
Your podcast website URL: <http://www.buzzsprout.com/229361>

Historical Fiction Unit

O'Neill Middle School

7th Grade

Large Print Historical Fiction Titles



Leveling Texts



- Level 1 Titles - *Esperanza Rising, Lyddie, Watsons Go to Birmingham*
- Level 2 Titles - *Inside Out and Back Again, My Brigadista Year, One Crazy Summer, Salt to the Sea*
- Level 3 Titles- *Chains, Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry, The Librarian of Auschwitz, Wednesday Wars*

Podcast Booktalks of Titles



Salt to the Sea by Ruta Sepetys (Historical Fiction)

MARCH 31, 2019



Watsons Go To Birmingham: 1963 by Christopher Paul Curtis (Historical Fiction)

MARCH 31, 2019



Inside Out & Back Again by Thanhha Lai (Historical Fiction and Novel in Verse)

MARCH 31, 2019



Lyddie by Katherine Paterson (Historical Fiction)

MARCH 31, 2019



My Brigadista Year by Katherine Paterson (Historical Fiction)

MARCH 31, 2019



Call of the Wild by Jack London (Historical Fiction)

MARCH 31, 2019



“I noticed they (the students) were able to stick with the reading longer in class. So they were less likely to get off task once they started reading the large print.”

Addie Kostellic 7th Grade ELA Teacher, 2019

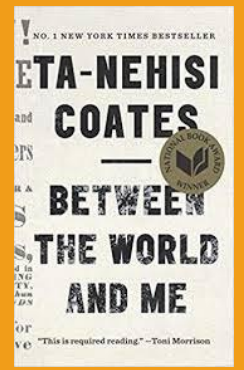
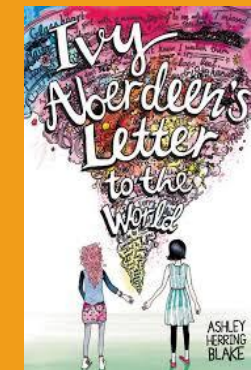
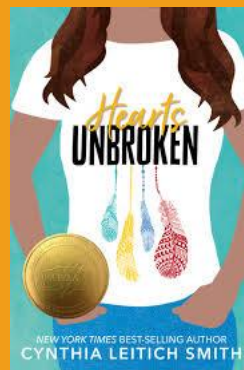
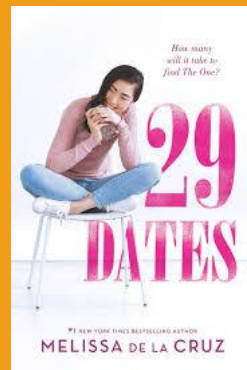
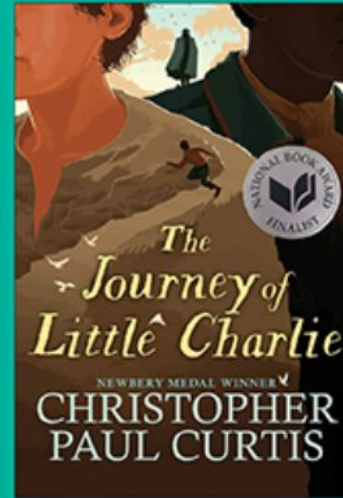
Teacher Observations



- Students finished their books faster than typical AND wanted to read another historical fiction title (unusual!)
- Had a better understanding of the time period than in the past
- First time students expressed such an enjoyment of the historical fiction genre since beginning unit

Diverse Authors and Characters

KEEP STUDENTS
EXCITED ABOUT
READING



From the Students Themselves



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I8iVw0Hlywc>

What's Next?

Overwhelmingly Positive Experience for Students

For All Students

Another Piece in the Puzzle for Creating Readers

Contact Information

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Books in the Middle Podcast <https://www.buzzsprout.com/229361>

Thorndike Contact

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