

Classic Literature List Guidance

Reading whole books helps students deepen comprehension, increase reading stamina, and develop stronger vocabulary. As systems select texts from the [Louisiana Department of Education's Classic Literature list](#) to meet the requirements of [Bulletin 741](#), consider how to use the text to build students' knowledge and reading skills. School systems are best positioned to determine both which approved texts to select from the Classic Literature List and how those texts are implemented within their local instructional program. The examples below are suggestions only and are intended to provide ideas that systems may adapt based on local priorities, scheduling, curriculum, and student needs.

Recommended Use

While school systems are best suited to decide how to implement the texts on the Classic Literature List, some recommended implementation methods are below.

Volume of Reading

Select texts that complement what students are learning during core instruction with their high-quality instructional materials to build students' knowledge of topics, vocabulary, and reading skills. Students may read the text before the unit to build knowledge of the topics they will encounter in their unit, during the unit to deepen their knowledge and understanding of particular topics, or after completing the unit to continue building their knowledge.

Grade Level Common Read

Build collaboration and spark discussion by planning book talk times throughout the school year where students come together as a grade level or in small groups to discuss their reading.

Expressing Understanding After Reading

Consider ways to engage students in discussions about the text they read. Instead of writing a traditional book report, the suggestions below offer another way for students to think deeply about the text, communicate with others about what they read, and encourage other students to read.

Book Discussion Forum

After students read the book for their grade level, have a special guest (school leader, school system leader, etc.) who has also read the book host the discussion.

Book Discussion Podcast

After students read their book, have students create discussion topics to discuss on a podcast. Consider having a school or system leader read the same text and be the guest speaker on the podcast.

Book Recommendation Discussion

Host a book talk for older students to share just enough information with students in the grade level below them that the younger students are eager to read.

Purchasing Texts

Texts are available for purchase on American Reading Company's [Louisiana Classic Literature portal](#); however, school systems may purchase texts from their desired provider.