Our Book Catalog

Listed below are the books included in our box, along with corresponding descriptions of each. The books are completely free of charge and for classes to keep!

**Brown Girl Dreaming** by Jacqueline Woodson

**Guided Reading Level: Z**

**Scholastic:**
Jacqueline Woodson, the acclaimed author of Another Brooklyn, tells the moving story of her childhood in mesmerizing verse.

Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. Touching and powerful, each poem is both accessible and emotionally charged, each line a glimpse into a child's soul as she searches for her place in the world.

**Dragonwings** by Laurence Yep

**Guided Reading Level: W**

**Back Cover:**
Moon Shadow is eight years old when he sails from China to join his father, Windrider, in America. Windrider lives in San Francisco and works in a laundry. Moon Shadow has never met him. But he soon grows to love and respect his father, a man of genius with a fabulous dream. And with Moon Shadow's help, Windrider is willing to endure the mockery of the other Chinese, the poverty, the longing for his wife and country to make his dream come true.

Inspired by the account of a Chinese immigrant who made a flying machine in 1909, Dragonwings portrays the rich traditions of the Chinese community making its way in a hostile new world.

**Harbor Me** by Jacqueline Woodson

**Guided Reading Level: N/A**

**Google Books:**
Jacqueline Woodson's first middle-grade novel since National Book Award winner Brown Girl Dreaming celebrates the healing that can occur when a group of students share their stories.

It all starts when six kids have to meet for a weekly chat—by themselves, with no adults to listen in. There, in the room they soon dub the ARTT Room (short for "A Room to Talk"), they discover it's safe to talk about what's bothering them—everything from Esteban's father's deportation and Haley's father's incarceration to Amari's fears of racial profiling and Ashton's adjustment to his changing family fortunes. When the six are together, they can express the feelings and fears they have to hide from the rest of the world. And together, they can grow braver and more ready for the rest of their lives.
Inside Out and Back Again by Thanha Lai
Guided Reading Level: U

Back Cover:
For all the ten years of her life, Ha has only known Saigon: the thrills of its markets, the joy of its traditions, the warmth of her friends close by, and the beauty of her very own papaya tree. But now the Vietnam War has reached her home. Ha and her family are forced to flee as Saigon falls, and they board a ship headed toward hope. This is the moving story of one girl's year of change, dreams, grief, and healing as she journeys from one country to another, one life to the next.

Shooting Kabul by N. H. Senzai
Guided Reading Level: V

Back Cover:
Fadi never imagined he'd start middle school in Fremont, California, thousands of miles from home in Kabul—and half a world away from his missing six-year-old sister, Mariam. Adjusting to life in the United States isn't easy for Fadi's family, and as the events of September 11 unfold, the prospects of locating Mariam in war-torn Afghanistan seem slim. When a photography competition with a grand prize of a trip to India is announced, Fadi sees his chance to return to Afghanistan and find his sister. But can one photo really bring Mariam home?
Based in part on Ms. Senzai's husband's own experience fleeing Soviet-controlled Afghanistan in 1979, Shooting Kabul is a powerful story of hope, love, and perseverance.

Stella by Starlight by Sharon M. Draper
Guided Reading Level: V

Back Cover:
Stella lives in the segregated south—in Bumblebee, North Carolina, to be exact about it. Some stores she can go into. Some stores she can't. Some folks are right pleasant. Others are a lot less. To Stella, it sort of evens out, and heck, the Klan hasn't bothered them for years. But one late night, later than she should ever be up, much less wandering around outside, Stella and her little brother see something that they're never supposed to see, something that is the first flicker of change to come, change not welcome by any stretch of the imagination. As Stella's community—her world—is upended, she decides to fight fire with fire, and learnt that ashes don't necessarily signify an end...

In the Footsteps of Crazy Horse by Joseph Marshall III
Guided Reading Level: U

Goodreads:
Jimmy McClean is a Lakota boy—though you would not guess it by his name: his father is a white man and his mother is Lakota. When he embarks on a journey with his grandfather, Nyles High Eagle, he learns more and more about his Lakota heritage—in particular, the story of Crazy Horse, one of the most important figures in Lakota history. Drawing inspiration from the oral stories of the Lakota tradition and the Lakota cultural mechanism of the “hero story,” Joseph Marshall provides readers with an insider's perspective on the life of Tasunke Witko, better known as Crazy Horse. Through his grandfather's tales about the famous warrior, Jimmy learns more about his Lakota heritage and, ultimately, himself.
The Only Road by Alexandra Diaz  
Level: N/A  
Back Cover:  
Jaime is sitting on his bed drawing when he hears a scream. Instantly he knows: Miguel, his cousin and best friend, is dead. Everyone in Jaime's small town in Guatemala knows someone who has been killed by the Alphas, a powerful gang that's known for violence and drug trafficking. Anyone who refuses to work for them is hurt or killed—like Miguel. With Miguel gone, Jaime fears that he is next. There's only one choice: Accompanied by his cousin Ángela, Jaime must flee his home to live with his older brother in the United States. Inspired by true incidents, The Only Road tells an individual story of a boy who feels that leaving his home and risking everything is his only chance for a better life. It is a story of fear and bravery, love and loss, strangers becoming family, and one boy's treacherous and life-changing journey.

The Stars Beneath Our Feet by David Barclay Moore  
Guided Reading Level: Z+  
Google Books:  
It's Christmas Eve in Harlem, but twelve-year-old Lolly Rachpaul and his mom aren't celebrating. They're still reeling from his older brother's death in a gang-related shooting just a few months earlier. Then Lolly's mother's girlfriend brings him a gift that will change everything: two enormous bags filled with Legos. Lolly's always loved Legos, and he prides himself on following the kit instructions exactly. Now, faced with a pile of building blocks and no instructions, Lolly must find his own way forward. His path isn't clear—and the pressure to join a “crew,” as his brother did, is always there. When Lolly and his friend are beaten up and robbed, joining a crew almost seems like the safe choice. But building a fantastical Lego city at the community center provides Lolly with an escape—and an unexpected bridge back to the world.

90 Miles to Havana by Enrique Flores-Galbis  
Guided Reading Level: W  
Back Cover:  
When unrest hits the streets of Havana, Cuba, Julian's parents must make the heartbreaking decision to send him and his two brothers away to Miami via the Pedro Pan operation. But when the boys get to Miami, they are thrust into a world where bullies seem to run rampant and it's not always clear how best to protect themselves. Inspired very much by his own experiences of leaving Cuba when he was a boy, Flores-Galbis offers up a coming-of-age story that explore the feelings of isolation and confusion that come with leaving one's homeland, especially when that country is only ninety miles away.