Worlds of Words 2023

Grade 11-12 Recommended Global Information Books

Science, Mathematics and Technical Subjects

Global Books	Level Info	Genre Date	Global Context	Themes/Plot of Global Books
Building Big, David Macaulay	1260L 192 pp	Info 2000	Global	Focuses on the planning, design problems, and solutions of bridges, tunnels, skyscrapers, and dams.
The Elephant Scientist, Caitlin O'Connell	1260L 70 pp	Info 2016	Namibia	Chronicles a scientist's experiences studying African elephants in their natural habitat.
Moonbird: A Year on the Wind with the Great Survivor B95, Phillip Hoose	1150L (Y) 148 pp	Info 2012	Global	Chronicles a year in the life of a rufa redknot B95 migrating from Tierra del Fuego to the Canadian Arctic.
Plasticus Maritimus: An Invasive Species, Ana Pego and Bernardo Carvalho	169 pp 1040 L	Info 2020	Global Portuguese Tr.	Presents evidence on the presence of plastics in oceans, lakes and streams and explains the problems they create along with providing suggestions for how to reduce the amount of plastics in oceans.
What the World Eats, Peter Menzel	1150L 160 pp	Info 2008	Global	Photos from 25 families in 21 countries show what they eat in day, costs, and culture info.
Wonder Women, Sam Maggs	RL 11.2 238 pp	Bio/COL 2016	Global	Chronicles female pioneers of innovation, science, medicine, espionage, and adventure.

History and Social Studies

Global Books	Level	Genre	Global	Themes/Plot of Global Books
	Info	Date	Context	
All Rise: Resistance and Rebellion in South Africa, Richard Conyngham	220 pp	HF GN 2022	South Africa 1910-1948	An account of how ordinary citizens resisted government oppression. Each chapter highlights a different act of pre-apartheid resistance, telling hard stories. Includes the artwork of 7 South African artists.

Beyond Courage, Doreen	1030 L	Info	Europe	Provides detailed accounts of defiance by Jews in Nazi-occupied countries in
Rappaport	228 pp	2014	WWII	World War II.
Call Me American: True Story of a Somali Immigrant, Abdi Nor Aftin	900L 255 pp	Memoir 2021	Somalia 1985 US	Memoir of a boy born into privilege in Somalia, whose family loses everything in the civil war, finally making their way to the U.S. He struggles to get a visa, as well to deal with complex racial realities.
The Cat I Never Named, Amra Sabic-El-Rayess	370 pp	Memoir 2020	Bosnia 1992	Memoir of a Muslim teen struggling to survive during the Bosnian genocide as they faced starvation and the threat of brutal ethnic violence.
Children Growing up with War, Jenny Matthews	1030L (Y) 48 pp	Info 2014	Global	Provides a candid look at young lives upended by violence and strife around the world.
Corpses, Coffins, and Crypts. Penny Colman	195 pp 1190 L	Info 2000	Global	A look at traditions around death and burial across the centuries and global cultures.
Courage & Defiance, Deborah Hopkinson	1040L 339 pp	Info 2015	Denmark WWII	Danish resistance and the rescue of over 7000 Jews during World War II.
Deogratias: A Tale of Rwanda, Jean-Phillipe Stassen	GN 78 pp	Info 2018	Rwanda 1994 Tr	A graphic novel about the Tutsi genocide through the eyes of Deogratias, a Hutu, in love with a Tutsi. Violence and betrayal. Use of fiction to convey fact.
Don't Look Back: A Memoir of War, Survival and My Journey from Sudan to America, Achut Deng and Keely Hutton.	345 pp 910 L	Memoir 2022	Sudan	Achut loses her family after an attack when she is 6 years old, living in refugee camps for 10 years before she is relocated to the U.S. She continues to face many obstacles in trying to move ahead, but must also deal her past.
Drawn across Borders: True Stories of Human Migration, George Butler	46 pp	Info 2021	Global	Collection of 12 illustrated refugee stories drawn by artist George Butler as a reporter conveying a wide range of migration experiences through expressive ink sketches and contextual narratives.
Faith and Fury, Ilene Cooper	132 pp 1120 L	Info 2017	Israel	The complex history of Jerusalem's Temple Mount, a site sacred to Jews, Muslims, and Christians.
The Far Away Brothers, Lauren Markham	890 L 265 pp	Bio 2020	El Salvador	Bio of twin brothers who make their way from El Salvador to Mexico and the U.S., falling into the hands of immigration officials and awaiting their day in court.
Genocide, Jane Springer	144 pp. 1260 L	Info 2006	Global	Info on genocide in Darfur and a history of genocides throughout history. Timeline.

Girl Rising: Changing the World One Girl at a Time, Tanya Lee Stone	1050L 193 pp	Info 2019	Global	Follows the lives of girls coming of age in the developing world and confronting barriers to their education. Also available as a documentary.
The Grand Escape: The Greatest Prison Breakout, Neal Bascomb	1070 L 275 pp	Info 2020	Germany WWI	Allied POWs staged an escape from Germany's most notorious prison camp. A group of pilots dug a tunnel and made it out of enemy territory. Photographs.
The Greatest Treasure Hunt in History: The Story of the Monument Men, Robert Edsel	1200 L 333 pp	Info 2021	Germany WWII	12 American and British volunteers risked their lives during WWII to preserve churches, libraries, monuments, and art in a race against time to locate treasures stolen by Hitler and the Nazis.
In Search of Safety: Voices of Refugees, Susan Kuklin	246 pp 700 L	Interview 2020	Global	Interviews with five refugees who had to flee war, face violent threats and enslavement, and grow up in refugee camps before resettlement in the U.S. South Sudan, Afghanistan, Myanmar, Iraq and Burundi.
A Long Way Gone, Ishmael Beah	920L (Z) 229 pp	Memoir 2008	Sierra Leone	Memoir of a child soldier in Sierra Leone who was removed from fighting and relocated.
Movements and Moments, Drawn and Quarterly	264 pp	GN/Bios 2022	Global Indigenous	An anthology that chronicles rebellions led by Indigenous women activists from around the world in fights for social, educational and ecological rights. Variety of artists and illustration styles.
The Nazi Hunters, Neal Bascomb	1000 L (Z+) 245 pp	Info 2018	Europe	History of the spies, lawyers, and Holocaust survivors who pursued Adolf Eichmann for fifteen years to bring him to justice.
No God but God: The Origins and Evolution of Islam, Reza Aslan	RL 11.5 166 pp	Info 2011	Middle East	A detailed overview of Islam, discussing the religion's origins, beliefs, traditions, and place in world cultures.
Persepolis, Marjane Satrapi	380 L GN 153 pp	Memoir 2004	Iran	Graphic novel account of author's life in Tehran, Iran when the country came under control of the Islamic Regime.
Persepolis 2, Marjane Satrapi	500 L GN 187 pp			Graphic novel of author's life growing up during the Islamic Revolution in Iran.
Questions I am Asked about the Holocaust, Hedi Fried	145 pp	Info 2005	Romania WWII	The author answers questions about her life as a teenage Jew in Auschwitz, both her experiences and her feelings about what happened to her and her family. Translated from Swedish

Stolen Voices: Young People's War Diaries, Zlata Filipovic	RL 11.0 293 pp	Journals 2006	Global	Fourteen journals written by adolescents about the impact of being caught in the midst of war. From WWI to Iraq.
Symphony for the City of the Dead, M.T. Anderson	990L 456 pp	Info 2017	Russia WWII	Siege of Leningrad by the Nazis and the role played by composer Dmitri Shostakovich in rallying and commemorating citizens.
A Thousand Sisters: The Heroic Airwomen of the Soviet Union in World War II, Elizabeth Wein	388 pp	Info 2020	Soviet Union WWII	True story of the only women to fly in combat in World War II, and the intense pressures and obstacles they faced in the sky and on the ground.
Walk toward the Rising Sun, Ger Duany	1010 L 306 pp	Memoir 2020	Sudan	Memoir of Duany's experiences in fleeing with family in South Sudan during the Sudanese Civil War, becoming a child soldier and eventually moving across countries until he arrived in the U.S. where he became an actor and peace activist.

Literature and the Arts

Global Books	Level	Genre	Global	Themes/Plot of Global Books
	Info	Date	Context	
Brave Jane Austin, Lisa Pliscou	32 pp	Bio	England	Picturebook biography of Austin provides an overview of her writing and
		2018	1800s	personality.
The Bronte Sisters, Catharine	1080 (Z)	Bio	England	Explores the turbulent lives of the Bronte sisters and the times in which they lived.
Reef	231 pp	2015		
Charlotte Bronte before Jane	92 pp	Bio/GN	England	A graphic novel of the life of Charlotte Bronte up until the publication of <i>Jane Eyre</i>
Eyre, Glynnis Fawkes		2019	1800s	and how she battled the odds to have her voice heard.
Dreaming in Indian:	1040 L	Interview	North	46 Indigenous youth present art, prose, song and memoir on themes and life
Contemporary Native Voices, Lisa	128 pp	2016	America	experiences related to contemporary life in Canada and the U.S.
Charleyboy				
The Great Nijinsky: God of Dance,	112 pp	Bio	Russia	Nijinsky's life off and on the stage, both the glamour and tragedy. Focus on his
Lynn Curlee		2019	Early 1900	dancing and choreography but also his romantic relationships and mental illness.
Jane Austen—Her Heart Did	90 pp	Bio/GN	England	Graphic novel on the life of Jane Austen, with a focus on her childhood and
Whisper, Manuela Santoni		2018	Italian tr	romance with Thomas Lefroy.

The Magical Life of Long Tack Sam, Ann Marie Fleming	RL 11.2 170 pp	Bio/GN 2007	China	Graphic novel about the life of a world-renowned magician, acrobat, and vaudeville performer.
Miguel's Brave Knight, Margarita Engle, Rafael Lopez	920 L (U) 32 pp	Bio 2017	Sprain 1500s	Picturebook fictionalized biography of the childhood of Miguel de Cervantes, written in first-person, free
#NotYourPrincess: Voices of Native American Women, Lisa Charleyboy	910 L 109 pp	Interview 2017	North America	A collection of poems, essays, interviews, and art that express the experience of being an Indigenous woman. Stories of abuse and stereotyping are countered by the voices of women making themselves heard and acting.
Ordinary, Extraordinary Jane Austin, Deborah Hopkinson	32 pp	Bio 2018	England 1800s	Picturebook biography of Austin with a focus on her childhood spent observing and reading.

Tr = translated from that language and country into English
Under Levels, the letters, e.g. (O), in parentheses are Fountas and Pinnell levels
Check the recommended reading lists for Grades 9-10, many of these books will be appropriate for 11-12

6/27/2023