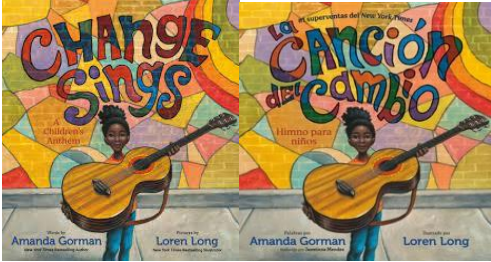

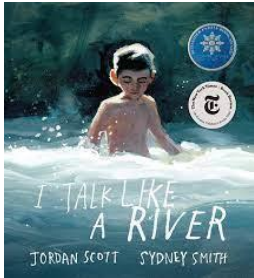

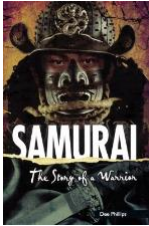



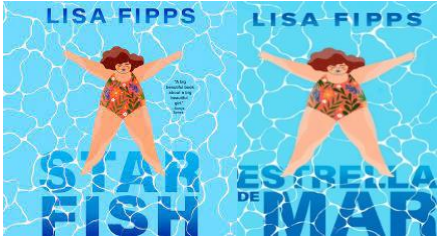
# Chelsea Middle Schools



## Summer Reading 2023

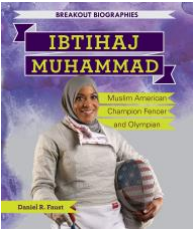


Title	Topics Mentioned	Summary	Suggested Questions & Conversation Starters
<p><i>Change Sings***</i></p> 	<p>Social Justice</p> <p>Equity</p>	<p>Amanda Gorman gained nationwide recognition after she delivered her stirring poem "The Hill We Climb" at President Joe Biden's inauguration in January, 2021.</p> <p>Like that poem, this one too expresses hope and optimism, delivered in the voice of a young girl who travels around with her guitar singing songs about change and love. As she goes, she hands out instruments to other kids joining her in working for change.</p>	<p>An anthem is an uplifting song that is identified with a group of people. What do you think a children's anthem might be about? How can change sing?</p> <p>Look at the cover and title. Look at the mosaic in the background. A mosaic is a picture made up of little pieces. While you are reading, think about why a mosaic is a good image for the big idea.</p> <p>What is a big change you have been part of? What is a change that feels good, and what is a change that feels difficult?</p> <p>Listen to or read other poems by Amanda Gorman: <i>The Miracle of Morning</i>, <i>The Hill We Climb</i>, and <i>Earthrise</i>.</p>
<p><i>Say Something***</i></p> 	<p>Self Advocacy</p> <p>Agency</p> <p>Activism</p>	<p><i>The world <b>needs</b> your voice. If you have a brilliant idea... say something! If you see an injustice... say something!</i> In this empowering new picture book, beloved author Peter H. Reynolds explores the many ways that a single voice can make a difference. Each of us, each and every day, have the chance to <b>say something</b>: with our actions, our words, and our voices.</p>	<p>Look at the pictures of the different ways to say something. Look at the many ways people use their voices, like with whispers and painting.</p> <p>Talk about things we care about. It may be someone who is hurt or a need in the community. Then talk about ways we can speak up to let others know we care or to tell people to do something. Sometimes all we need to do is "say something" to make a difference.</p> <p>What do you think are some of the specific things the people on the cover of the book are saying? What is the illustrator communicating with words, faces, postures,</p>

			<p>and props?</p> <p>Read and talk about the messages in the speech bubbles on the inside front pages of the book. Show the various ways we can say something with fonts and voices. Talk about how the type communicates a tone of voice.</p> <p>Why does the world need YOUR voice?</p> <p>Look at the pictures of the kids who said something. Talk about how they appear to feel. Are they proud, confident, happy? Talk about why saying something can make you feel those ways.</p> <p>If people don't use their voices and actions to communicate about things they care about, how will people know about needs, injustice, or something you feel passionate about?</p>
<p><i>I Talk River</i></p> 	<p>Children w/ disabilities</p> <p>Social Anxiety</p> <p>Family</p>	<p>When a boy who stutters feels isolated, alone, and incapable of communicating in the way he'd like, it takes a kindly father and a walk by the river to help him find his voice.</p>	<p>How do we identify our feelings of anxiety?</p> <p>How can we lean on family to help us deal with our anxiety?</p>
<p><i>Little Miss Miss</i></p> 	<p>LGBTQ+</p> <p>Self-respect</p> <p>Competition/ Sportsmanship</p>	<p>Tracy decides to enter the Little Miss Miss pageant when she hears the winner will get a free trip to Washington, D.C. Her best friend, Liza, decides to keep her company. And their new camp counselor, beauty queen and college student Ashley, will be their coach. They are in it to win it. Then they meet pageant pro Jordi and her super mean mom.</p>	<p>How can our self-respect help us overcome obstacles?</p> <p>Do you believe that for Tracy the competition goes deeper than simply winning a trip to DC? Do you believe there is more on the line for Tracy?</p>

<p><i>Samurai: The Story of a Warrior</i></p> 	<p>War</p> <p>Violence</p> <p>History</p>	<p>Using fiction to amplify history , this book tells the story of one young man's struggle to become a Samurai warrior set in 16th century Japan. "We face each other on the battlefield. Two proud samurai. Revenge burns in my heart. Here is where it ends."</p>	<p>Why do people seek revenge?</p> <p>How can our struggles create conflict with others?</p>
<p><i>In Real Life</i></p> 	<p>Online Safety</p> <p>Economics</p> <p>Racism</p> <p>Classism</p> <p>Mature Language</p>	<p>Anda loves Coarsegold Online, the massively-multiplayer role-playing game where she spends most of her free time, can meet people from all over the world, and make friends.</p> <p>But things become a lot more complicated when Anda befriends Raymond and she learns about his real life in China. He works long days with no health insurance, so she encourages him to fight back, but this has real world ramifications. As the story toggles between the in-game story and real life, Anda soon comes to realize that questions of right and wrong are a lot less straightforward when a real person's real livelihood is at stake.</p>	<p>How do we establish our own understanding of right and wrong?</p> <p>Talk about a time when the lines between reality fiction blurred?</p>

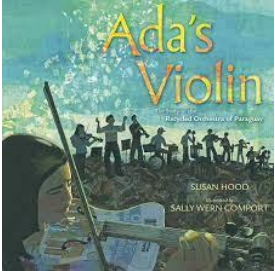

<p><i>Mighty Jack</i></p> 	<p>Divorce</p> <p>Autism</p>	<p>Based on the classic fairy tale, Jack and the Beanstalk, what starts as a normal little garden out back behind Jack's house quickly grows up into a wild, magical jungle with tiny onion babies running amok, huge, pink pumpkins that bite, and, on one moonlit night that changes everything...a dragon.</p>	<p>How can courage help guide us through difficult times?</p> <p>Where can we find courage when life presents difficulties?</p>
<p><i>On The Come Up</i></p> 	<p>Poverty</p> <p>Racism</p> <p>Addiction</p> <p>Gang Violence</p> <p>Mature Language</p>	<p>Sixteen-year-old Bri wants to be one of the greatest rappers of all time. Or at least make it out of her neighborhood one day. As the daughter of an underground rap legend who died before he hit big, Bri's got big shoes to fill. But now that her mom has unexpectedly lost her job, food banks and shutoff notices are as much a part of Bri's life as beats and rhymes. With bills piling up and homelessness staring her family down, Bri no longer just wants to make it—she has to make it.</p>	<p>How can unexpected challenges in life force us to react?</p> <p>What do we owe our loved ones and ancestors who have passed on before us?</p>
<p><i>Star Fish***</i></p> 	<p>Bullying</p> <p>Body Image</p>	<p>Ever since Ellie wore a whale swimsuit and made a big splash at her fifth birthday party, she's been bullied about her weight. To cope, she tries to live by the Fat Girl Rules—like "no making waves," "avoid eating in public," and "don't move so fast that your body jiggles." And she's found her safe space—her swimming pool—where she feels weightless in a fat-obsessed world. In the water, she can stretch herself out like a starfish and take up all the room she wants. It's also where she can get away from her pushy mom, who thinks criticizing Ellie's weight will motivate her to diet. Fortunately, Ellie has allies in her dad, her therapist, and her new neighbor,</p>	<p>How can feeling good about who you are help us adapt to life's challenges?</p> <p>How do the people we trust help positively impact our lives?</p>

		Catalina, who loves Ellie for who she is. With this support buoying her, Ellie might finally be able to cast aside the Fat Girl Rules and starfish in real life—by unapologetically being her own fabulous self.	
<p><i>Keeper of the Lost Cities ***</i></p> 	<p>Mystery</p> <p>Fantasy</p> <p>Science Fiction</p>	<p>Twelve-year-old Sophie Foster has a secret. She's a Telepath—someone who hears the thoughts of everyone around her. It's a talent she's never known how to explain.</p> <p>Everything changes the day she meets Fitz, a mysterious boy who appears out of nowhere and also reads minds. She discovers there's a place she does belong, and that staying with her family will place her in grave danger. In the blink of an eye, Sophie is forced to leave behind everything and start a new life in a place that is vastly different from anything she has ever known. There are secrets buried deep in Sophie's memory—secrets about who she really is and why she was hidden among humans—that other people desperately want. Would even kill for.</p>	<p>How can we celebrate people's differences?</p> <p>How can we celebrate our own special abilities?</p> <p>Would you like to be given the gift of hearing the thoughts of others? Why or why not? What would be your first course of action with this gift?</p>
<p><i>Legendborn</i></p> 	<p>Grief</p> <p>Secret Societies</p>	<p>After her mother dies in an accident, sixteen-year-old Bree Matthews wants nothing to do with her family memories or childhood home. She begins at a new high school where she encounters magic and learns to unlock her own. After the memory of her mother's accident, Bree knows there's more to her death than what's on the police report, and she'll do whatever it takes to find out the truth. Bree has to decide how far she'll go for the truth and whether she should use her magic to take the society down—or join the fight.</p>	<p>How can a person use grief/loss to do good?</p> <p>Do you think Bree needs her magic abilities to investigate her mother's death? What other skills and strengths does she have in addition to her magical gifts?</p>
<i>Ibtihaj Muhammad Biography</i>	Islamophobia	Ibtihaj Muhammad is an American sabre fencer and member of the United States	Consider the role of sports in people's lives - accomplishment and how confidence is built


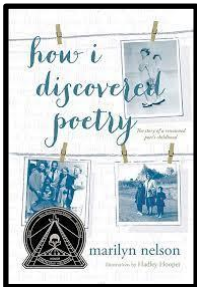
		<p>fencing team. She is known for being the first Muslim American woman to wear a headscarf while competing for the United States in the Olympics, as well as for winning an Olympic medal wearing This book shares the Olympic fencer's story, including her early life, how she got into fencing, and how she deals with Islamophobia.</p>	<p>Consider how one's confidence can help them overcome obstacles/hate</p> <p>Considering in 2016 Ibtihaj Muhammad was the first muslim to compete in the Olympics as a fencer since its inclusion in the summer olympics since 1896, why do you think this is? After reading Muhammad's story what social factors would make this possible?</p>
<p><i>Lety Out Loud: A Wish Novel***</i></p> <div data-bbox="172 592 342 837">  </div> <div data-bbox="409 589 594 834">  </div>	<p>Competition</p> <p>Animals</p> <p>Animal Shelters</p>	<p>Can Lety find her voice before it's too late?</p> <p>Lety Muñoz's first language is Spanish, and she likes to take her time putting her words together. She loves volunteering at the Furry Friends Animal Shelter because the dogs and cats there don't care if she can't always find the right word.</p> <p>When the shelter needs a volunteer to write animal profiles, Lety jumps at the chance. But grumpy classmate Hunter also wants to write profiles -- so now they have to work as a team. Hunter's not much of a team player, though. He devises a secret competition to decide who will be the official shelter scribe. Whoever helps get their animals adopted the fastest wins. The loser scoops dog food.</p> <p>Lety reluctantly agrees, but she's worried that if the shelter finds out about the contest, they'll kick her out of the volunteer program. Then she'll never be able to adopt Spike, her favorite dog at the shelter!</p>	
<p><i>Stef Soto, Taco Queen***</i></p>	<p>Child Labor</p> <p>Food</p> <p>Family</p>	<p>Estefania "Stef" Soto is itching to shake off the onion-and-cilantro embrace of Tia Perla, her family's taco truck. She wants nothing more than for her dad to get a normal job and for Tia Perla to be put out to pasture. It's</p>	


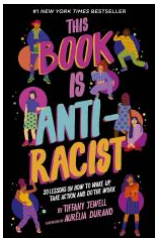


<div data-bbox="128 167 323 444" data-label="Image"> </div> <div data-bbox="388 172 598 449" data-label="Image"> </div>	<p>Hardships</p>	<p>no fun being known as the "Taco Queen" at school. But just when it looks like Stef is going to get exactly what she wants, and her family's livelihood is threatened, she will have to become the truck's unlikely champion.</p>	
<p><i>Want</i></p> <div data-bbox="285 829 462 1097" data-label="Image"> </div>	<p>Classism LGBTQ+ Dystopia Romance Fantasy</p>	<p>Jason Zhou survives in a divided society where the elite use their wealth to buy longer lives. The rich wear special suits that protect them from the pollution and viruses that plague the city, while those without suffer illness and early deaths. Frustrated by his city's corruption and still grieving the loss of his mother, who died as a result of it, Zhou is determined to change things, no matter the cost.</p> <p>With the help of his friends, Zhou infiltrates the lives of the wealthy in hopes of destroying the international Jin Corporation from within. Jin Corp not only manufactures the special suits the rich rely on, but they may also be manufacturing the pollution that makes them necessary.</p> <p>Yet the deeper Zhou delves into this new world of excess and wealth, the more muddled his plans become. And against his better judgment, Zhou finds himself falling for Daiyu, the daughter of Jin Corp's CEO. Can Zhou save his city without compromising who he is or destroying his own heart?</p>	

<p><i>Ada's Violin: The Story of the Recycled Orchestra of Paraguay</i></p> 	<p>Poverty Environment Music History</p>	<p>Ada Ríos grew up in Cateura, a small town in Paraguay built on a landfill. She dreamed of playing the violin, but with little money for anything but the bare essentials, it was never an option...until a music teacher named Favio Chávez arrived. He wanted to give the children of Cateura something special, so he made them instruments out of materials found in the trash. It was a crazy idea, but one that would leave Ada—and her town—forever changed. Now, the Recycled Orchestra plays venues around the world, spreading their message of hope and innovation.</p>	
<p><i>How to Turn \$100 into \$1,000,000</i></p> 	<p>Finance Money Self-Help</p>	<p>The ultimate kids' guide to earning it, saving it, and investing it. Hey, kids, want to become a millionaire? Or get a business off the ground? Or save up some money to buy a new bike? All it takes is understanding and putting into practice a few simple strategies and concepts about</p> <p>Make Learn the ins and outs of scoring a first job, or even better, starting a business.</p> <p>Save That's right, millionaires are people who have a million dollars, not people who spend a million dollars.</p> <p>Grow Invest and use the most powerful force in the financial universe—compound interest.</p> <p>Next thing you know, you're a bona fide financial whiz on the road to your first million. Now get going!</p> <p>A thorough introduction to finance from the people behind BizKid\$, How to Turn \$100 into \$1 Million includes chapters on setting financial goals, making a budget, getting a</p>	<p>What three skills from the book resonated with you enough that you would like to put them to practice?</p>



		<p>job, starting a business, and investing smartly – and how to think like a millionaire. a one-page business plan template, a two-page plan to become a millionaire, and a personal budget tracker.</p>	
<p><i>Freak the Mighty</i></p> 	<p>Realistic Fiction Coming of Age Grief</p>	<p>Two boys – a slow learner stuck in the body of a teenage giant and a tiny Einstein in leg braces – forge a unique friendship when they pair up to create one formidable human force. A wonderful story of triumph over imperfection, shame, and loss.</p>	
<p><i>How I Discovered Poetry</i></p> 		<p>A powerful and thought-provoking Civil Rights era memoir from one of America's most celebrated poets.</p> <p>Looking back on her childhood in the 1950s, Newbery Honor winner and National Book Award finalist Marilyn Nelson tells the story of her development as an artist and young woman through fifty eye-opening poems. Readers are given an intimate portrait of her growing self-awareness and artistic inspiration along with a larger view of the world around her: racial tensions, the Cold War era, and the first stirrings of the feminist</p>	

		<p>movement.</p> <p>A first-person account of African-American history, this is a book to study, discuss, and treasure.</p>	
<p><i>Che Guevara: A Manga Biography</i></p> 		<p>An extraordinary illustrated graphic novel about the legendary political figure Che Guevara.</p> <p>His name is equated with rebellion, revolution, and socialism. His face is on tee-shirts all over the world. Che Guevara's life has been explored and portrayed in numerous books and films, including The Motorcycle Diaries , and he continues to captivate the public imagination more than forty years after his death. Guevara became politically active in his native Argentina, but gained notoriety after he met Fidel Castro and became instrumental in Castro's efforts in Cuba. Guevara then went on to Bolivia, where he was captured and killed by the Bolivian army while trying to incite revolution. This illustrated biography tells the riveting story of Che's life and death through the popular Japanese art form manga .</p>	
<p><i>This Book is Anti -Racist</i></p> 		<p>Who are you? What is racism? Where does it come from? Why does it exist? What can you do to disrupt it? Learn about social identities, the history of racism and resistance against it, and how you can use your anti-racist lens and voice to move the world toward equity and liberation.</p> <p>"In a racist society, it's not enough to be non-racist--we must be ANTI-RACIST." --Angela Davis</p> <p>Gain a deeper understanding of your anti-racist self as you progress through 20 chapters that spark introspection, reveal the</p>	

		origins of racism that we are still experiencing, and give you the courage and power to undo it. Each chapter builds on the previous one as you learn more about yourself and racial oppression. 20 activities get you thinking and help you grow with the knowledge. All you need is a pen and paper.	
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\*\*\*Available in Spanish through SORA