

Literature Scope & Sequence—8th Grade 2009-2010

Each quarter, the students will be able to discuss essential questions built around enduring themes. The students will use the non-fiction text *Reality Central*, a whole-class novel, and various other strategies to discuss the essential questions and connect the themes to their own lives, other texts, and the world.

Quarter 1

Theme: Finding One's Place

Essential Questions: *What's my identity?*
What are my responsibilities?
Why is it important to have different roles?

Resources: *Reality Central* Text, Unit 5
Is it our differences or similarities that matter most?

Novel: The Shadow Club by Neal Shusterman

Quarter 2

Theme: Building Relationships

Essential Questions: *Why do we need relationships?*
How do we build relationships?
What makes or breaks a relationship?
How does technology and media affect relationships?

Resources: *Reality Central* Text, Unit 2
Can all conflicts be resolved?
Reality Central Text, Unit 3
How much information is enough?

Novel: Heat by Mike Lupica

Quarter 3

Theme: Facing Adversity

Essential Questions: *Why is it important to face challenges?*
How does adversity shape us?
How can we grow from adversity?

Resources: *Reality Central Text, Unit 1*
Is Truth the same for everyone?

Novel: Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie by Jordan Sonnenblick

Quarter 4

Theme: Taking Risks

Essential Questions: *What is a responsible risk?*
What risk might you take to achieve your goals?
How do you know your risk is worth it?

Resources: *Reality Central Text, Unit 6*
Are yesterday's heroes important today?

Novel: Touching Spirit Bear by Ben Mikaelson