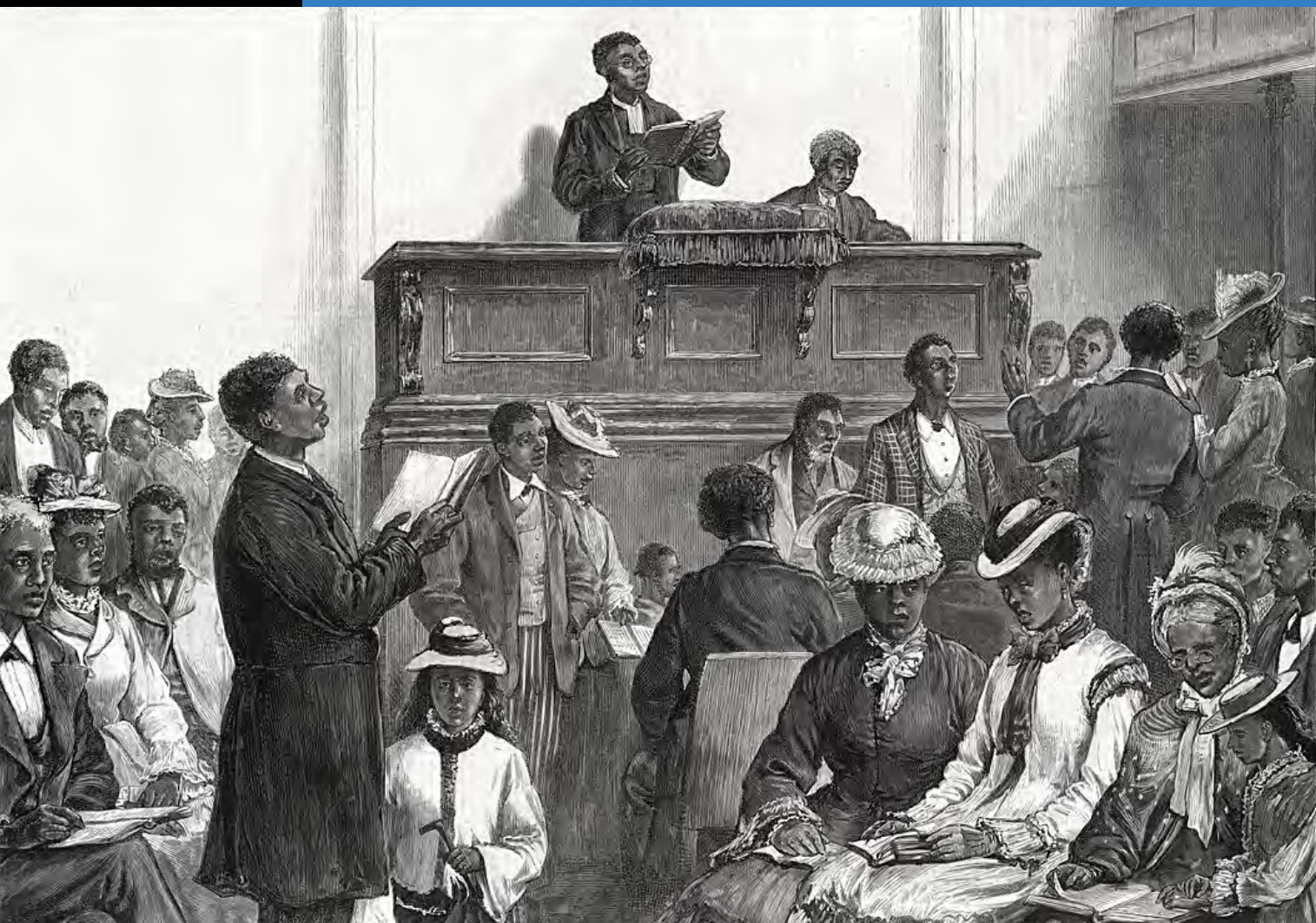


NMAAHC  
SUMMER  
READING  
CHALLENGE  
2022

# RECONSTRUCTION(S) AND RETELLINGS



Join the NMAAHC this summer for "Reconstruction(s) and Retellings," the 2022 NMAAHC Summer Reading Challenge!

Created for 3rd - 12th-grade students and educators, the selections are curated to provide enjoyment and enrichment about African American history and culture.

The 2022 NMAAHC Summer Reading Challenge runs from June 15 through August 31.

NATIONAL  
MUSEUM of  
AFRICAN  
AMERICAN  
HISTORY &  
CULTURE

# CHALLENGE 2022 INFORMATION

The National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) returns for summer 2022 with the digital experience, the NMAAHC Summer Reading Challenge. This is a self-guided program for 3rd - 12th-grade students and their educators to read suggested selections by NMAAHC educators and complete reading-related challenges. The literature selections consist of fiction and non-fiction and are chosen for enjoyment and enrichment about African American history.

## HOW TO PARTICIPATE

For summer 2022, the reading challenge theme is "Reconstruction(s) and Retellings." Read your way through our special exhibition inspired lists that include fiction and non-fiction. The literature selections divided by grade level for students and educators.

To complete the NMAAHC Summer Reading Challenge, choose one of two themed challenge task lists and complete the number of tasks for your grade-level group by August 31. Once you finish, you can download a certificate of completion on the NMAAHC Summer Reading Challenge website.

Reading resources (including a reading log and literacy activities) are included to help deepen your reading experience.

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## GRADE-LEVEL DIVISIONS

Sojourners (Grades 3 - 5)

Navigators (Grades 6 - 8)

Innovators (Grades 9 - 12)

Educators (Grades 3 - 12)

# HOW TO FIND READING SELECTIONS

We encourage you to visit your local library, if possible. If you are unable to, we suggest you read using digital alternatives (like audiobooks), or purchase books from local small businesses if you're able.

You can choose books that are not on our list as long as they fit the cabinet categories. You can also read books you already own – the goal is just to read books you haven't read before.

## WHAT CAN I READ?

There are various types of literature available to you, including:

Fiction, Non-Fiction, Memoirs, Poetry, Screen and Stage Plays, Novels and Novellas, Biographies, Journal Articles, Anthologies, Graphic Novels, and Documentaries (If you prefer a more visual experience.)

## DIGITAL OPTIONS

There are various types of literature available to you, including:

- **Overdrive**
  - (<https://www.overdrive.com/>)
- **Kanopy**
  - (<https://www.kanopy.com/>)
- **Hoopla**
  - (<https://www.hoopladigital.com/>)
- **Openlibrary**
  - (<https://openlibrary.org/>)
- **Rbdigital**
  - (<https://wwwq.recordedbooks.com>)
- **TumblebookLibrary**
  - (<https://www.tumblebooks.com/>)
- **Internet Archives**
  - (<https://archive.org/>)

## PURCHASING OPTIONS

Here are links to independent bookstores to help you support local businesses in your community, and also the Smithsonian Store. This list is not extensive.

- **Indiebound**
  - (<https://www.indiebound.org/>)
- **Bookshop**
  - (<https://bookshop.org/>)
- **Smithsonian Store - Books**
  - (<https://www.smithsonianstore.com/>)



# RECONSTRUCTION(S) AND RETELLINGS

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This year, the NMAAHC Summer Reading Challenges takes inspiration from our special exhibition: *Make Good the Promises: Reconstruction and Its Legacies*, which focuses on the story of **Reconstruction** through an African American lens.

**Reconstruction**—the period following the Civil War—was a revolutionary political, social, and economic movement that reshaped the nation in profound and lasting ways. It manifested the aspirations and determinations of African Americans, including four million newly freed people, seeking to define themselves as free and equal citizens. The **Reconstruction** era exposed deep divisions and clashing visions among different groups of Americans about how to rebuild the nation after the end of slavery. It also compelled Americans to reckon with fundamental questions such as: What is the meaning of freedom and equality? What does it mean to be an American? Who is entitled to the full rights of citizenship?

**Reconstruction** gave newly freed African Americans the opportunities to bear witness or testify about their experience during enslavement and retell the history of slavery in the United States from their perspective, experiences, and words. During **Reconstruction**, African Americans were able to counter the negative portrayal of themselves and give more widely in the mainstream narrative that was looking to justify and legalize the rise of segregation and Jim Crow.

In the post-emancipation years, African Americans **retold** about prior and ongoing experiences through various forms of media of the time that circulated amongst African Americans, the wider mainstream American society, and internationally.

The books featured on the following list are about the **Reconstruction** Era (as defined by our exhibition of 1861 to 1896), the theme of **reconstruction** of oneself, place, or society, or a **retelling** of an older tale.

*Reconstruction: (n.)  
The act or process  
of rebuilding,  
repairing, or  
restoring something.*

*Retelling: (n.)  
A new version of  
a story.*

## Reconstructing America: 1861–1896: A Short Timeline of Some Events

The traditionally defined time frame for Reconstruction is 1865 to 1877. For this selective timeline, we take a broader view to see how struggles over citizenship and national identity developed before, during, and beyond Reconstruction. We begin in 1861 with the arrival of formerly enslaved freedom seekers at Fort Monroe, Virginia, and end in 1896 with the *Plessy v. Ferguson* Supreme Court decision, which made second-class citizenship for African Americans the norm for more than 50 years.



**May 23, 1861**

First freedom seekers arrive at Fort Monroe in Hampton, Virginia, prompting Gen. Benjamin Butler's order declaring them "contraband" of war who would not be returned to Confederate slaveholders

**April 9, 1866**

Congress passes Civil Rights Act of 1866 over President Andrew Johnson's veto; first national law to establish equal civil rights, regardless of race



**July 30, 1866**

New Orleans Massacre: White Democrats attack a parade of mostly Black Republicans outside Louisiana Constitutional Convention, killing at least 34 and wounding over 130



**January 20, 1870**

Hiram Rhodes Revels of Mississippi is the first African American elected to the U.S. Senate



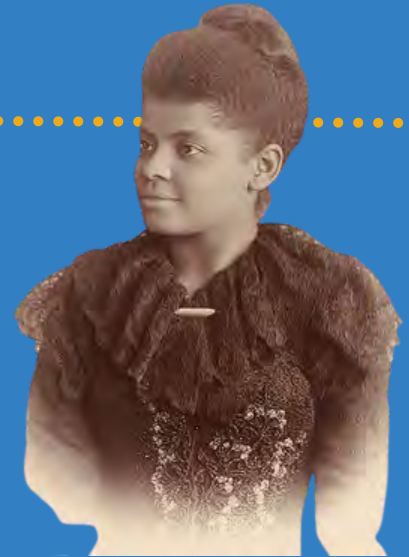
**March 1877**

Compromise of 1877: Republican candidate Rutherford B. Hayes becomes president in exchange for recognizing Democratic control of state governments and ending federal intervention in the South. The deal happened at the hotel of James Wormley, a Black man, in Washington D.C.; while regarded as the official end of Reconstruction, African Americans continue to vote, serve in office, and assert their rights



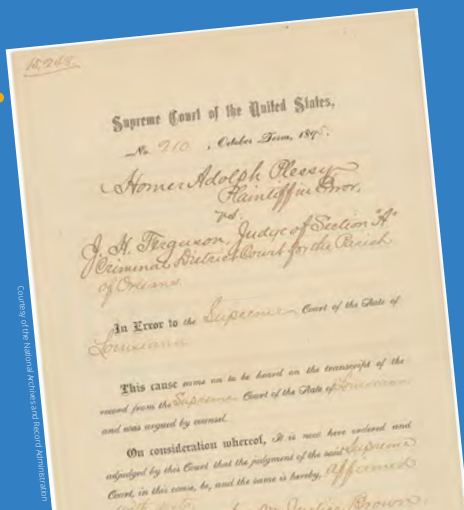
**September 15, 1883**

Ida B. Wells refuses to give up her seat on a first-class ladies' train car in Memphis, Tennessee, and is dragged off the train; she sues the railroad company and wins, but the decision is overturned in 1887



**May 18, 1896**

U.S. Supreme Court ruling in Plessy v. Ferguson upholds the constitutionality of state-mandated racial segregation in public accommodations and establishes the "separate but equal" doctrine that will define American life for the next half century



# SOJOURNERS

## GRADES THREE TO FIVE

1. *A Day for Rememberin'* by Leah Henderson
2. *Bad News For Outlaws* by Vaunda Micheaux Nelson
3. *Black Heroes of the Wild West: Featuring Stagecoach Mary, Bass Reeves, and Bob Lemmons: A TOON Graphic* by James Otis Smith
4. *Ida B. Wells, Voice of Truth: Educator, Feminist, and Anti-Lynching Civil Rights Leader* by Michelle Duster
5. *Who Was Ida B. Wells?* by Sarah Fabiny
6. *The Amazing Age of John Roy Lynch* by Chris Barton
7. *Cause: Reconstruction America, 1863-1877* by Tonya Bolden
8. *Forty Acres and Maybe a Mule* by Harriette Gillem Robinet
9. *Freedom's School* by Lesa Cline-Ransome
10. *Papa's Free Day Party* by Marilyn Nelson
11. *Seeking Freedom: The Untold Story of Fortress Monroe and the Ending of Slavery in America* by Selene Castrovilla
12. *Charlotte Spies for Justice: A Civil War Survival Story* by Nikki Shannon Smith
13. *Follow Me Down to Nicodemus Town: Based on the History of the African American Pioneer Settlement* by A. LaFaye
14. *Who Was Booker T. Washington?* by James Buckley Jr.
15. *Who Was Frederick Douglass?* by April Jones Prince
16. *Ben and the Emancipation Proclamation* by Pat Sherman
17. *The Jumbies* by Tracey Baptiste
18. *Blackberry Blue: And Other Fairy Tales* by Jamila Gavin
19. *With Books and Bricks: How Booker T. Washington Built a School* by Suzanne Slade
20. *Porch Lies: Tales of Slicksters, Tricksters, and other Wily Characters* by Patricia C. McKissack
21. *No Small Potatoes: Junius G. Groves and His Kingdom in Kansas* by Tonya Bolden



# NAVIGATORS

## GRADES SIX TO EIGHT

1. *Sugar* by Jewell Parker Rhodes
2. *Biddy Mason Speaks Up* by Arisa White and Laura Atkins
3. *The Glory Field* by Walter Dean Myers
4. *Ann Fights for Freedom: An Underground Railroad Survival Story* by Nikki Shannon Smith
5. *Gabriel's Horses (Racing to Freedom)* by Alison Hart
6. *The Adventurous Deeds of Deadwood Jones* by Helen Hemphill
7. *What's a Buffalo Soldier?: From the Series: The Historical Adventures of Amber and Trevor* by Keven R Lynch
8. *The Righteous Revenge of Artemis Bonner* by Walter Dean Myers
9. *The Groundbreaking, Chance-Taking Life of George Washington Carver and Science and Invention in America: Booker T. Washington of Tuskegee, Black ... Much, Much More* by Cheryl Harness
10. *With Every Drop of Blood* by James Lincoln Collier and Christopher Collier
11. *I Thought My Soul Would Rise and Fly: The Diary of Patsy, a Freed Girl, Mars Bluff, South Carolina 1865* by Joyce Hansen
12. *Fires of Jubilee* by Alison Hart
13. *Now or Never!: Fifty-Fourth Massachusetts Infantry's War to End Slavery* by Ray Anthony Shepard
14. *Holes* by Louis Sachar
15. *Out From This Place* by Joyce Hansen
16. *Sound of Jubilee* by Sandra Forrester
17. *Dark Sky Rising: Reconstruction and the Dawn of Jim Crow* by Henry Louis Gates Jr. and Tonya Bolden
18. *Black Frontiers: A History of African American Heroes in the Old West* by Lillian Schissel
19. *Journey to a Promised Land: A Story of the Exodusters* by Allison Lassieur
20. *Roman and Jewel* by Dana L. Davis
21. *Othello* by Julius Lester



# INNOVATORS

## GRADES NINE TO TWELVE

1. *She Came to Slay: The Life and Times of Harriet Tubman* by Erica Armstrong Dunbar
2. *The Conductors* by Nicole Glover
3. *Black Was the Ink* by Michelle Coles
4. *Unpunished Murder: Massacre at Colfax and the Quest for Justice* by Lawrence Goldstone
5. *Monumental: Oscar Dunn and His Radical Fight in Reconstruction Louisiana* by Brian K. Mitchell and Barrington S. Edwards and Nick Weldon
6. *Heart Calls Home* by Joyce Hansen
7. *They Called Themselves the K.K.K.: The Birth of an American Terrorist Group* by Susan Campbell Bartoletti
8. *The Colored Conventions Movement: Black Organizing in the Nineteenth Century* edited by P. Gabrielle Forman, Jim Casey, and Sarah Lynn Patterson
9. *Inventing Victoria* by Tonya Bolden
10. *The Legend of Bass Reeves: Being the True and Fictional Account of the Most Valiant Marshal in the West* by Gary Paulsen
11. *Prince of Cats* by Ron Wimberly
12. *Pride* by Ibi Zoboi
13. *A Blade So Black* by L.L. McKinney
14. *Where the Rhythm Takes You* by Sarah Dass
15. *Within These Wicked Walls* by Lauren Blackwood
16. *Dread Nation* by Justina Ireland
17. *Legendborn* by Tracy Deonn
18. *So Many Beginnings: A Little Women Remix* by Bethany C. Morrow
19. *Skin of the Sea* by Natasha Bowen
20. *The Belles* by Dhonielle Clayton
21. *Confessions of an Alleged Good Girl* by Joya Goffney
22. *Until Justice Be Done: America's First Civil Rights Movement, from the Revolution to Reconstruction* by Kate Masur
23. *Help Me to Find My People: The African American Search for Family Lost in Slavery* by Heather A. Williams
24. *Black Reconstruction in America, 1860-1880* by W.E.B. Du Bois
25. *Capitol Men: The Epic Story of Reconstruction Through the Lives of the First Black Congressmen* by Philip Dray
26. *Dark Midnight When I Rise: The Story of the Jubilee Singers Who Introduced the World to the Music of Black America* by Andrew Ward
27. *Reminiscences of My Life in Camp: An African American Woman's Civil War Memoir* by Susie King Taylor

# EDUCATORS

## GRADES THREE TO TWELVE

1. *Make Good the Promises: Reclaiming Reconstruction and Its Legacies* edited by Kinshasha Holman Conwill and Paul Gardullo
2. *How the Word Is Passed: A Reckoning with the History of Slavery Across America* by Clint Smith
3. *Thomas Morris Chester, Black Civil War Correspondent: His Dispatches from the Virginia Front* edited R.J.M. Blackett
4. *Freedwomen and the Freedmen's Bureau: Race, Gender, and Public Policy in the Age of Emancipation* by Mary J. Farmer-Kaiser
5. *The Accident of Color: A Story of Race in Reconstruction* by Daniel Brook
6. *A Free Man of Color and His Hotel: Race, Reconstruction, and the Role of the Federal Government* by Carol Gelderman
7. *A Great Sacrifice: Northern Black Soldiers, Their Families, and the Experience of Civil War* by James G. Mendez
8. *The Voice of Anna Julia Cooper: Including A Voice From the South and Other Important Essays, Papers, and Letters* edited by Charles Lemert and Esme Bhan
9. *Men of Color to Arms!: Black Soldiers, Indian Wars, and the Quest for Equality* by Elizabeth D Leonard
10. *Black & White: Land, Labor, and Politics in the South* by T. Thomas Fortune
11. *The Negro In The Civil War* by Benjamin Quarles
12. *On Juneteenth* by Annette Gordon-Reed
13. *Separate: The Story of Plessy v. Ferguson, and America's Journey from Slavery to Segregation* by Steve Luxenberg
14. *Riders in the Storm: The Triumphs and Tragedies of a Black Cavalry Regiment in the Civil War* by John D. Warner Jr.
15. *The Combahee River Raid: Harriet Tubman & Lowcountry Liberation* by Jeff W. Grigg
16. *Denmark Vesey's Garden: Slavery and Memory in the Cradle of the Confederacy* by Ethan J. Kyle and Blain Roberts
17. *Black Cadet in a White Bastion: Charles Young at West Point* by Brian G. Shellum and Vincent K. Brooks
18. *Our Nig: or, Sketches from the Life of a Free Black* by Harriet E. Wilson
19. *Race and Reunion: The Civil War in American Memory* by David W. Blight
20. *To 'Joy My Freedom: Southern Black Women's Lives and Labors after the Civil War* by Tera W. Hunter
21. *Emancipation's Diaspora: Race and Reconstruction in the Upper Midwest* by Leslie A. Schwalm
22. *An Example for All the Land: Emancipation and the Struggle over Equality in Washington, D.C.* by Kate Masur
23. *Educational Reconstruction: African American Schools in the Urban South, 1865 – 1890* by Hilary Green
24. *The End of Days: African American Religion and Politics in the Age of Emancipation* by Matthew Harper
25. *America's Historically Black Colleges and Universities: A Narrative History, 1837-2009* by Bobby L. Lovett
26. *Reconstruction After the Civil War* by John Hope Franklin
27. *Stony the Road: Reconstruction, White Supremacy, and the Rise of Jim Crow* by Henry Louis Gates Jr.
28. *Reconstruction Updated Edition: America's Unfinished Revolution, 1863-1877* by Eric Foner
29. *The Black West: A Documentary and Pictorial History of the African American Role in the Westward Expansion of the United States* by William Loren Katz
30. *Sick from Freedom: African American Illness and Suffering During the Civil War and Reconstruction* by Jim Downs

# LITERACY ACTIVITIES

These pages include a reading log and activities to deepen your reading experience. These activities can be done individually or with a group, such as friends and/or family.

## READING CHALLENGES

To complete the NMAAHC Summer Reading Challenge, choose one of the three themed challenge task lists and complete the number of tasks for your grade-level group by August 31. Once you finish, you can download a certificate of completion from the NMAAHC Summer Reading Challenge webpage.

### 2022 Themed Reading Challenge Task Lists

- **Around the House**
  - Indoor and at-home activities inspire this challenge task list.
- **Adventuring Outside**
  - Outdoor and nature-inspired activities inspire this challenge task list.
- **Read like a Historian**
  - The life and work of historians inspire this challenge task list.

# MY READING LIST

Use this page to record the books that you read. Print as many reading log pages as you need to record all your reading selections.

# \_\_\_\_\_ Title:  
\_\_\_\_\_ Author:  
Genre:  
Fiction or Non Fiction:  
Reconstruction(s) or Retelling:  
Rating (1 to 5):  
Recommend to Others: Yes or No

# \_\_\_\_\_ Title:  
\_\_\_\_\_ Author:  
Genre:  
Fiction or Non Fiction:  
Reconstruction(s) or Retelling:  
Rating (1 to 5):  
Recommend to Others: Yes or No

# \_\_\_\_\_ Title:  
\_\_\_\_\_ Author:  
Genre:  
Fiction or Non Fiction:  
Reconstruction(s) or Retelling:  
Rating (1 to 5):  
Recommend to Others: Yes or No



# INDIVIDUAL LITERACY ACTIVITIES

Use these activities to help you dive deeper into your reading selections. You can complete these activities on your own.

## Billboard

Create a set of billboard ads for some or all of the selections you read throughout the summer. (Perez, 112)

## Collage Creations

Create a collage of words, pictures, and images that capture the main idea or chapter of a text you have read. (Perez, 114)

## Create a Comic Strip

Create a comic strip that summarizes key events in the selection you have read. On a blank piece of paper, draw three to five squares. These squares are the comic frames. Add details such as backgrounds, props, and at least two characters with dialogue bubbles. (Perez, 114-115)

## Dear Author or Digital Review

After finishing a selection, write a letter to the author on how you felt about the book. You can keep this letter to yourself or research how to contact the author. Have your parent, guardian, or educator help you to find the contact information for the author. Or, write a digital review for the selection like ones that you see online. Typically, online reviews rate books between one to five stars, one being the lowest and five being the highest. Choose and explain your a rating. Have your parent, guardian, or educator help you if you want to post this review online. (Perez, 116)

## Dramatic Monologue

Create a monologue for a character in a scene from a selection. Consider what the character was thinking at that moment and act it out. (Perez, 117)

## Double Entry Journal

Reflect on passages within your reading. You will choose quotes from your selection to reflect and write responses. Divide a blank piece of paper in half. Label the left side "Quotes" and the right side "Reflections." Choose a passage or quote that you found informative or interesting. Write it on the left side. On the right side, reflect on and write down your thoughts about the quote or passage. Try to record a reflection once per section or chapter. (Tompkins)

## Picture This!

While you are reading, note or highlight eight new vocabulary words. Fold a blank sheet of paper into eight sections. On one side, write the word and its dictionary definition. On the other side, in each corresponding section, make a quick sketch or symbol representing each the vocabulary word. (Perez, 124)

## Questioning the Author

Engage the selection by questioning the choices of the author and their work. Use the four questions below to help to reflect. Decide whether you will answer the questions after reading a section, chapter, or the entire work. Review the questions before you begin. After you complete reading your chosen section, chapter, or the entire work, answer the four questions. 1) What is the author trying to tell us? 2) What is the author talking about here? 3) How does this fit with what the author told us before? 4) Why is the author telling us this? (Tompkins)

# GROUP LITERACY ACTIVITIES

Use these activities to help you dive deeper into your reading selections. You can complete these activities on your own.

## 30-Second Speech

Have a parent, guardian, or educator ask a question about the student's selection. Have the student reflect on that question by writing and preparing a 30-second speech. The student can present this speech to their family and friends. (Perez, 111)

## Board Game

Choose a selection to read with a group. Afterward, create a board game based upon the selection. (Perez, 112)

## Choral Reading

Have a student or parent, guardian, or educator choose a passage to read within a selection. Have the student read one or two sentences aloud and then reread the sentences aloud as a group. This activity is designed to help fluency for struggling readers. (Perez, 113)

## Concept Map

Have a parent, guardian, or educator get a sheet of paper or poster paper, and place a word or topic at the center relating to their student's current reading selection. Have the student(s) write qualities, characteristics, ideas, images, and feelings related to the word or topic in the center of the concept map. (Perez, 114)

## Learned-Affirmed-Challenged

Have a parent, guardian, or educator lead a discussion where they ask the student(s) what they learned from their selection, what affirmed what they already knew, and lastly, something that challenged their thinking. (Perez, 120)

## Pantomiming Parts

Have the student(s), parent, guardian, or educator choose a part of a selection. The group is responsible for acting out that part of the selection. One member of the group is the narrator, and the rest have to act out the text using pantomime as the narrator reads the text. (Perez, 124)

Literacy activities were adapted from the following resources:

Perez, Kathy. 200+ Proven Strategies for Teaching Reading, Grades K-8. Bloomington, Indiana: Solution Tree Press, 2016.

Tompkins, Gail. 50 Literacy Strategies: Step-by-Step. 4th ed. London, United Kingdom: Pearson, 2012.

# AROUND THE HOUSE

## GRADES THREE TO TWELVE

Indoor and at-home activities inspire this challenge task list for the summer. To complete the challenge, choose and complete the number of tasks based upon your grade-level group by August 31.

**Sojourners (Grades 3 - 5): 7 Tasks**

**Navigators (Grades 6 - 8): 9 Tasks**

**Innovators (Grades 9 - 12): 11 Tasks**

**Educators (Grades 3 - 12): 11 Tasks**

- Attend a virtual program hosted by your local library or museum
- Challenge someone to participate in the NMAAHC Summer Reading Challenge with you
- Complete three of the individual and/or group literacy activities
- Create or (re)organize or decorate your bookshelf (or the closest thing to it)
- Do an arts and craft activity inspired by one of your selections
- Explore the reading and reference resources available to you through your local library and try a resource
- Inspire a family member, friend, coworker, or neighbor to read a selection you have finished
- Let the world know of your reading status challenge and progress through social media #nmaahc
- Listen to an audiobook while working around the house
- Plan and host a dinner party book discussion (or virtual) inspired by one of your selections
- Read a part of a selection in-person or digitally to your pet, plant, family, or a friend
- Read a selection from a different grade level or the educator division
- Read a selection that features your hometown, county, state, tribal nation, territory, or country
- Read a selection that has been adapted into a show or movie, and then watch the adaption or a relevant documentary
- Read an entire chapter in the afternoon
- Read an entire chapter in the evening
- Read an entire chapter in the morning
- Read during a meal or discuss a selection during a meal
- Read for 30 minutes
- Read for an hour in a single day
- Try a recipe or have a meal inspired by one of your selections
- Try your hand at book photography and design a book photo shoot for one of your selections
- Use a new vocabulary word you learned from a selection three to five times in a single day

# THE GREAT OUTDOORS

## GRADES THREE TO TWELVE

Outdoor and nature-inspired activities inspire this challenge task list for the summer. To complete the challenge, choose and complete the number of tasks based upon your grade-level group by August 31.

**Sojourners (Grades 3 - 5): 7 Tasks**

**Navigators (Grades 6 - 8): 9 Tasks**

**Innovators (Grades 9 - 12): 11 Tasks**

**Educators (Grades 3 - 12): 11 Tasks**

- Attend a program at your local library or museum
- Attend an outdoor program at a local, county, state, or national park inspired by one of your selections
- Challenge someone to participate in the NMAAHC Summer Reading Challenge with you
- Complete three of the individual and/or group literacy activities
- Do nature-based art and crafts activity inspired by one of your selections
- Let the world know of your reading status and challenge progress through social media #nmaahc
- Listen to an audiobook on a road trip or driving somewhere
- Listen to an audiobook while working in your garden or yard
- Listen to an audiobook while working outside or engaging in outdoor exercise
- Order from a restaurant or have a meal inspired by one of your selections
- Plan a vacation or road trip inspired by one of your selections
- Plan and host a picnic book discussion inspired by one of your selections
- Read a selection inspired by a recent venture outside, trip, or vacation
- Read a selection that features your hometown, county, state, tribal nation, territory, or country
- Read a selection within a week
- Read for 30 minutes
- Read one print selection, listen to one audio selection, and read one digital selection
- Read outside for 20 minutes in the evening
- Read outside for 20 minutes in the morning
- Try your hand at book photography and design an outdoor photo shoot for one of your selections
- Use a new vocabulary you learned from a selection in every conversation you have for a day
- Visit a historical or cultural institution inspired by a selection
- Visit a Smithsonian museum or an Smithsonian affiliated local museum in your area and find an object or exhibit related to a selection



# READ LIKE A HISTORIAN

## GRADES THREE TO TWELVE

Outdoor and nature-inspired activities inspire this challenge task list for the summer. To complete the challenge, choose and complete the number of tasks based upon your grade-level group by August 31.

**Sojourners (Grades 3 - 5): 7 Tasks**

**Navigators (Grades 6 - 8): 9 Tasks**

**Innovators (Grades 9 - 12): 11 Tasks**

**Educators (Grades 3 - 12): 11 Tasks**

- Attend a book talk at a museum, historical or cultural institution, library, college, or university
- Complete three of the individual and/or group literacy activities
- Discuss a selection with someone or a group
- Examine the endnotes or footnotes of a non-fiction selection for an interesting reference, anecdote, or note
- Find and examine a primary source image inspired by a selection
- Find and examine a primary source map inspired by a selection
- Find and examine a primary source object/artifact inspired by a selection
- Find and read three to five other books about a selection you have finished
- Have an in-depth discussion about a selection with someone or a group
- Let the world know of your reading status and challenge progress through social media #nmaahc
- Read a Master's Thesis or Doctoral Dissertation
- Read a selection featuring a museum or about a museum
- Read a selection published before the year 1900 AD
- Read a selection published by the academic press of your nearest university or college
- Read a selection within a week
- Read an academic journal article
- Read and compare a fiction and a non-fiction selection about a historical individual, event, group, place, or idea of interest
- Read for at least an hour in a single day
- Read for at least thirty minutes in a single day and take notes on your selection
- Read the introduction of a non-fiction selection and find the author's thesis or main argument
- Research a historical location or event in or around your hometown and read about it
- Visit a historical or cultural institution (or explore the webpage) inspired by a selection
- Watch a documentary inspired by one of your selections
- Write a book review of at least 250 words



# CERTIFICATE

## OF COMPLETION

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THIS CERTIFICATE IS AWARDED TO

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(NAME)

FOR COMPLETING THE  
2022 NMAAHC SUMMER READING  
CHALLENGE "RECONSTRUCTION(S) AND  
RETELLINGS" ON

---

(DATE)





EXIT

# MAKE GOOD THE PROMISES

*All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and the possessions thereof, are citizens of the United States and*



## Reconstruction and Its Legacies

The United States emerged from the Civil War fundamentally changed.

For the first time, slavery did not legally exist within its borders. What this meant was the question before the nation.

Would four million newly freed people be truly free to determine their own lives? Would the nation's founding promises of liberty, equality, and justice be realized for all people, regardless of race?

These were the questions of Reconstruction. They remain the challenges of today.

NATIONAL  
MUSEUM of  
AFRICAN  
AMERICAN  
HISTORY &  
CULTURE

Smithsonian