

Thrive Book Series Reading List For Girl Scout Seniors and Ambassadors

Below is the suggested reading list for Girl Scout Seniors and Ambassadors. These books represent a diverse group of characters and themes.

By reading from the suggested book club reading list, we want our community of girls and their families to see themselves reflected in the books as well as have a chance to broaden and deepen their ability to empathize and identify with people from backgrounds which are different from their own.

Some families may consider the topics in these books sensitive in nature, so we want everyone to get started by connecting with their parent/caregiver on the book title.



BOOK TITLE	AUTHOR	DATE READ / QUICK NOTE
American Born Chinese*	Gene Luen Yang	
Bullying in Schools: What You Need to Know	Paul Langan	
Four Perfect Pebbles	Lila Perl	
The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*	Sherman Alexie	
The Degenerates*	J. Albert Mann	

* These books are available digitally on [NC Kids Digital Library](#)

Capture Your Reading Experience!

We encourage you to take some time to reflect on the book(s) you've read by creatively capturing each book and completing the book club discussion questions.

To creatively capture the book(s) you've read, you may decide to draw a picture or paint a scene from the book. Or perhaps you'll write a poem or create a skit that tells how the book helped you better understand how to navigate difficult conversation or situations and conversations related to discrimination, diversity, equity, identity and inclusion. Use this space below to make notes about the book(s) you read by jotting down ideas for your creative expression. Here's a look at the definition for each of those words in case they are new to you or you need a refresher.

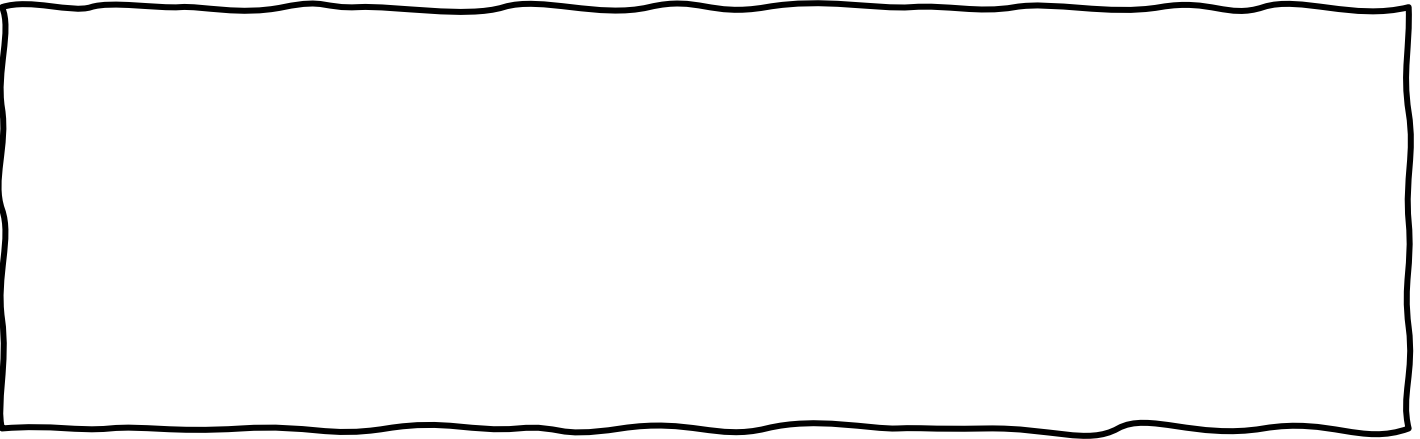
Discrimination: When you treat someone unfairly because of something about their identity, especially race, age, gender, sex, religion, etc.

Diversity: Having different types of people in a group, such as people of different races and cultures. Many schools in America are diverse and include students of different races and from different backgrounds and cultures. It's important to accept and respect people from different background in order to support diversity.

Equity: Fairness or justice in how people are treated. For example, providing children with disabilities accommodations at school so they can use their equal right to education.

Identity: The way people think of themselves or describe themselves to others. The way that others perceive someone's appearance or behavior does not necessarily match that person's own sense of his or her identity. People typically have more than one aspect to their identity. For example, a person can identify as a boy, a Hindu, and also as a student. Identity can come from belonging to a community. The way people identify themselves may change over time. ("Identity" may also refer to formal recognition of a person by the state, such as having a name, birth registration, and nationality.)

Inclusion: Accepting or taking in others. The opposite of this is exclusion, which is when you don't allow or take in others.



Book Discussion Questions

Reflection is the necessary debrief that reinforces what you have learned. As you explore the "whats" and "whys," you make meaningful connections between the activity at hand and future challenges that come your way. Use the book club discussion questions below to reflect on the book(s) you've read.

- Were any of the terms or concepts new to you? What did you lookup while reading this book?
- What challenges did the characters in this book encounter? How did they navigate those challenges?
- Which scene or encounter has stuck with you the most? Why? What impact might this have on your outlook?
- Did certain parts of the book impact your mood? If so, why did you feel that way? Did this lead to a new understanding or awareness of some aspect of your life you might not have thought about before?

- Have any of the events in this book ever happened to you? How did you resolve the situations? If not, how would you react if you were in the same situation?
- Has this book changed or reaffirmed your views on the world? How so?
- Are there any lingering questions from the book you're still thinking about?
- Was this book a window allowing you to see others or a mirror in which you saw characters similar to yourself / your family. How?

Get the Patch



[Purchase this patch](#) after reading from the Book Series reading list. Girls should read at least one book. Remember the Thrive Book Series patch is meant to be worn with the Building Beyond Today advocacy patch (pictured at the top of this document), both patches can be purchased using this link or by emailing our retail shop at shop@nccoastalpines.org.

Digital Resources

If you are unable to check out a book from your local library in person, consider using one of these online resources for digital access to the books. Please note digital access may require either a library card or student identification card. Reach out to your local library with question regarding book checkout and digital resources.

Interact [Map](#) of North Carolina Public Libraries

[North Carolina Digital Library](#)

[NC Kids Digital Library](#)

[NC Cardinal](#)

[Libby](#) (app)

[Need a library card?](#)

Questions?

We hope that you have enjoyed reading from our suggested reading list. If you have questions about this reading list, please feel free to reach out.



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