

Penn Hills (Linton)
Frontier Project & Novel Alignment - 5th Grade

5th Grade		
Novel	Theme	Frontier Recommendations
<i>Amina's Voice</i> , Helen Khan (2017)	Understanding Relationships	<p>4th grade What is it like to be an immigrant? Why? It ties to the theme of the challenge of navigating two cultures.</p> <p>5th grade What is Integrity? Why? It ties to theme of integrity and what it means to do the right thing even when it's hard (such as being yourself or keeping your identity in a new culture).</p>
<i>They Call Me Guero</i> , David Bowles (2018)	Exploring Identity	<p>4th grade What is it like to be an immigrant? Why? I ties to the theme of navigating two cultures and the experience of being a first/second generation immigrant.</p> <p>4th grade What do poetry and songs have in common? Why? It ties to the theme of poetry and its effects/benefits.</p>
<i>How I Became a Ghost</i> , Tim Tingle (2013)	Overcoming Obstacles	<p>4th grade How did westward expansion affect Native Americans? Why? It provides historical context for forced westward expansion. Teachers could lead this whole group and in particular focus on the resources about the Trail of Tears in the on and above level differentiated readings.</p>
<i>Stef Soto, Taco Queen</i> , Jennifer Torres (2017)	Making Change	<p>5th grade How can kids make a difference in the world? Why? It ties to the theme of kids being able to advocate or make positive change (the way that Stef advocates to change food truck regulations).</p>
<i>The One and Only Ivan</i> , Katherine Applegate (2012)	The Power of Imagination	<p>6th grade Should wild animals be kept as pets? Why? It ties to the concept of Ivan and Ruby in captivity and whether this is justified.</p> <p>4th grade Should killer whales be kept in captivity? Why? It ties to the theme of animal captivity.</p> <p>6th grade Should killer whales be kept in captivity? Why? It ties to the theme of animal captivity.</p>

Penn Hills (Linton)
Frontier Project & Novel Alignment - 6th Grade

6th Grade		
Novel	Theme	Frontier Recommendations
<i>Camo Girl</i> , Kekla Magoon (2011)	Understanding Relationships	8th grade How can I develop strong friendships? Why? It ties to the theme of being a loyal friend. This is an above grade level project with a challenging text, so the teacher could lead the Frontier as a whole group activity.
<i>Front Desk</i> , Kelly Yang (2018)	Exploring Identity	6th grade When is failing a good thing? Why? It ties to the themes of learning from failure and perseverance (similar to how Mia learns from her first failures working the front desk). 6th grade Is it worth it to try something new? Why? It ties to the theme of trying out something new and challenging, even if it's not your strength (like Mia's desire to write even though English is her second language). 6th grade How do people overcome adversity? Why? It ties to the theme of adversity which Ghost must overcome. The Frontier covers Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr as well as one more person, but students could make ties to the theme in the novel.
<i>Loser</i> , Jerry Spinelli (2002)	Exploring Identity	4th grade Can anyone be a hero? Why? This project and writing prompt are closely aligned to the theme of everyday heroes (like Donald) in the novel. This is a lower grade level project, but students will receive the higher level differentiated reading when they go through it. It could be assigned to complete independently which will make it more of a challenge. 6th grade What is a hero? Why? It is about heroism in Greek literature and ties to theme of heroism, but the 4th grade project (listed above) is likely a better fit as it's about heroism in everyday life.
<i>Took: A Ghost Story</i> , Mary Downing Hahn (2015)	Examining Conflict	6th grade Do ghosts really exist? Why? It is about the theme of ghosts and the supernatural, as well as what signs help us know if they are real.

<i>Ghost</i> , Jason Reynolds (2016)	Overcoming Obstacle	6th grade How do people overcome adversity? Why? It ties to the theme of adversity which Ghost must overcome. The Frontier covers Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr as well as one more person, but students could make ties to the theme in the novel.
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