

## Media Studies and Media Literacy Resource List for Grades 5 through 8

The Resources in this document can be used with the Media Literacy Curriculum Packet for grades 5 through 8.

### Books

#### Nonfiction and Biography

- Choosing News: What Gets Reported and Why (Exploring Media Literacy), 2012 by Barb Palser (Author).  
More news sources are available to us than ever before. Learn to identify good news sources and watch for slant. Make sure your sources tell the real story.
- Ethics and Digital Citizenship (Media Literacy), 2015 by Megan, Ph.D. Fromm (Author).  
Examines journalistic ethics, discussing the importance of the news, watchdog journalism, censorship, and the importance of journalism education.
- Free Press and Censorship (Why Does Media Literacy Matter?), 2018 by Susan Brophy Down (Author).  
This book takes a probing look at what press freedom and censorship means, as well as where people find information, who owns and controls the press in a "free world," and what makes good, reliable journalism.
- Information Literacy and Fake News (Why Does Media Literacy Matter?), 2018 by Diane Dakers (Author).  
In today's age of fast-paced social media, news and views are shared throughout the world in seconds. This book examines the elements of journalism, truth and perspective, sources of news, as well as bias and objectivity to help readers make informed choices about the accuracy of news and information.
- Media Madness: An Insider's Guide to Media, 2005 by Dominic Ali (Author), Michael Cho (Illustrator).  
This book is an insider's guide to TV, music videos, radio, magazines, comic books, newspapers, video games, and the Internet, as well as how to analyze media.

- Nellie Bly and Investigative Journalism for Kids: Mighty Muckrakers from the Golden Age to Today, with 21 Activities (For Kids series), 2015 by Ellen Mahoney (Author). Budding reporters learn about the major figures of the muckraking era. Young readers will also learn about more contemporary reporters, from Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein to Amy Goodman, who have carried on the muckraking tradition. Twenty-one creative activities encourage and engage a future generation of muckrakers.
- Safe & Sound: Social Media (Time for Kids Nonfiction Readers), 2017 by Teacher Created Materials (Author).  
This nonfiction book teaches students about the history of the Internet and social media and provides helpful information on how to safely use social media and navigate the Internet.
- Understanding Advertising (Cracking the Media Literacy Code), 2018 by Emma Carlson Berne (Author).  
Nobody believes they are influenced by advertising, but we are wrong about that. Advertising hits us daily, on tv, on the internet, on the streets of our cities; everywhere we look and even when we don't think we're looking.
- Understanding Propaganda (Cracking the Media Literacy Code), 2018 by Jr., John Micklos (Author).  
Propaganda is a daily event, on tv, on the internet, on the streets of our cities; everywhere we look, and even when we don't think we're looking. Lots of examples let kids learn how to spot propaganda and resist its power.
- Understanding Social Media (Cracking the Media Literacy Code), 2018 by Pamela Dell (Author)  
Everything on social media is real, except that it isn't. Easy-to-understand language, simple infographics, and photos show readers what's real and what's fake on the various social media platforms, and how to tell the difference.

#### Fiction

- Bully.com, 2013 by Joe Lawlor (Author)  
Seventh grader Jun Li is a brilliant student, more comfortable around computers than people. But the principal accuses him of a cyberbullying incident, and he must prove his innocence.
- Petra's Power to See: A Media Literacy Adventure, 2018 by Educate and Empower Kids (Author).  
Petra and her dad go into the city to learn about the media messages all around us. Helpful Features for Parents and Teachers include: Thoughtful conversation starters, Engaging workbook questions, Simple activities to enjoy.
- Trapped in a Video Game, 2018 by Dustin Brady (Author), Brady Jesse (Illustrator).  
Kids who love video games will love this first installment of the new 5-book series about 12-year old Jesse Rigsby and his wild adventures inside different video games.

### Online Links

- American Association of School Librarians: Best News Sources for Kids.  
<http://gws.ala.org/category/social-sciences/news-current-events>
- Checkology: Telling the difference between fact and fiction. (Online Game)  
<https://checkology.org/>
- Sense Media: Best News Sources for Kids  
<https://www.common sensemedia.org/lists/best-news-sources-for-kids>

### Background information for the Educator

- Common Sense: Excellent resource for parents/educators looking for guidance in Media Issues.  
<https://www.common sensemedia.org/>
- Edutopia: Parent resources for digital literacy  
<https://www.edutopia.org/digital-literacy-technology-parent-resources>
- Gateway Media Literacy Center: Empowering Citizens to Think Critically about Media Messages  
<https://www.gmlpstl.org/>
- Newseum Ed: Media Literacy Resources  
<https://newseumed.org/stack/media-literacy-resources/>