

## Finding Your Independent Reading Books

Good books are easily accessible; you just need to know what resources to use to find them. Below are some simple ways you can find the “Just Right” book you’d like to read.

### **Our Classroom Library!**

I have all of our classroom books organized by theme, so you can easily find a “type” of book you may be interested in. Check out the bookshelves that are all around the room! Be sure to “check it out” with me before you take the book out of the classroom.

### **Kenowa Hills High School Media Center Card Catalog:**

Our media center has a great selection of both fiction and nonfiction books.

1. You can access it here: <http://destiny.kentisd.org/> (Click Kenowa Hills, then Kenowa Hills High School) or go to the Kenowa Hills High School homepage: <http://khhsmc.weebly.com/>
2. You can do a subject, author, or title search. If you know what topics you like, just do a subject search. For example, type in “baseball” and hit Subject and many titles will pop up.
3. Review the book’s description by clicking on the title’s hyperlink
4. Note: If the Call# says FIC--the book is fiction. If the Call # has a number-it is nonfiction
5. You can then go to the Media Center and check out the book.

### **Kent District Libraries (KDL)**

Grand Rapids, Walker, and Comstock Park have KDL libraries probably near to where you live. You will just need to pop in or sign up ONLINE ([click here](#)) to get a FREE library card that will allow to check out not only books, but movies on DVD, music on CD, and Ebooks.

You can search the KDL card catalog with this link: <http://www.kdl.org/>

You can do title searches or use the advanced search to do topic searches--I’ll demonstrate how to use this website in class.

### **Grand Rapids Public Library**

The Grand Rapids Public Library is not only beautiful--it’s HUGE! The building and its collection definitely provide for a lot of choice. Here’s a link to their catalog: <https://catalog.grpl.org/eg/opac/home> . Keep in mind you’ll need a library card through them to check out materials.

### **Readers You Know: Friends, family, teachers, neighbors**

Even if you don’t consider yourself an avid reader (yet! ☺), people around you do read. Ask them what they LOVE and maybe take their suggestion as a starting point.

### **Goodreads.com**

This website and app are free and allow you to find books on topics and genres that interest you, keep track of the books you’ve read, want to read, and are reading. You can “friend” your friends and see what they are reading. You can get summaries of books and write reviews. Click [here](#) to sign up.

### **Penny Kittle’s Book Lists**

Penny Kittle is the English teacher, writer, and overall rockstar who has inspired me to take us on this reading journey. I’ve included the list in the link below because it’s a GREAT starting place. The document in the link has book titles listed by genre and theme, and the books are also HIGHLY enjoyed by high school students.

You can use this [list](#) and then go to [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) to look up summaries of the book to see if it interests you. You can then go to our Media Center [card catalog](#) and find the book there, go to [KDL](#) and find it a local library, or order a used (usually cheaper) copy from [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) or [half.com](https://www.half.com).

Here’s a book list from Kennett High School with recommendations from students there:

[http://www.pennykittle.net/uploads/images/PDFs/Reading\\_Lists/KHS\\_library\\_recommendations.pdf](http://www.pennykittle.net/uploads/images/PDFs/Reading_Lists/KHS_library_recommendations.pdf)