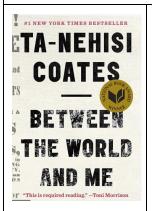
## **Proposed Core Literature Titles**

The following summary is provided by the California Department of Education's "Recommended Literature List", and the top three Google searches of the book title and author name that produced a description of the title.

## Between the World and Me

Proposed Grade Level: IB/AP, 11



**Title**: Between the World and Me **Author**: Ta-Nehisi Coates

First Published: 2015 Lexile Level: 1090

Proposed Grade Level: IB/AP, 11

## California Department of Education, Recommended Literature List:

https://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/cr/rl/

This title is on the CDE Recommended Literature List.

**Annotation**: Written in letter form to his son, this is a profound exploration of America's racial history told from the author's intensely personal point of view. Coates states throughout that "race" is a falsehood, and one that has exploited black Americans for 400 years of American history. An important work, and a lyrical, searing look at what it means to be a black person in America.

Copyright: 2015

**Grade Level Span**: 9-12

**Genre**: Biography/Autobiography; Non-Fiction

Culture: Black/African American

Topic: American History; Diversity; Ethnic Studies

Discipline: English-Language Arts/General; History/Social Science

Award: Alex Award: National Book Award

## **Description From Top 3 Google Searches:**

Search: "Between the World and Me" by Ta-Nehisi Coates

https://www.amazon.com/Between-World-Me-Ta-Nehisi-Coates/dp/0451482212 & https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/25489625-between-the-world-and-me &

https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/220290/between-the-world-and-me-by-ta-nehisi-coates/

In a profound work that pivots from the biggest questions about American history and ideals to the most intimate concerns of a father for his son, Ta-Nehisi Coates offers a powerful new framework for understanding our nation's history and current crisis. Americans have built an empire on the idea of "race," a falsehood that damages us all but falls most heavily on the bodies of black women and men—bodies exploited through slavery and segregation, and, today, threatened, locked up, and murdered out of all proportion. What is it like to inhabit a black body and find a way to live within it? And how can we all honestly reckon with this fraught history and free ourselves from its burden?

Between the World and Me is Ta-Nehisi Coates's attempt to answer these questions in a letter to his adolescent son. Coates shares with his son—and readers—the story of his awakening to the truth about his place in the world through a series of revelatory experiences, from Howard University to Civil War battlefields, from the South Side of Chicago to Paris, from his childhood home to the living rooms of mothers whose children's lives were taken as American plunder. Beautifully woven from personal narrative, reimagined history, and fresh, emotionally charged reportage, Between the World and Me clearly illuminates the past, bracingly confronts our present, and offers a transcendent vision for a way forward.