Great Literature to Inspire Great Writing

K–1 Personal Narrative

- Diary of a Spider
  by Doreen Cronin

- Do Like Kyla
  by Angela Johnson

- I Love My Hair!
  by Natasha Tarpley

- The Keeping Quilt
  by Patricia Polacco

- Little Nino's Pizzeria
  by Karen Barbour

- My Big Brother
  by Valorie Fisher

- My Little Island
  by Frané Lessac

- My Steps
  by Sally Derby

- My Visit to the Aquarium
  by Aliki

- When I Was Five
  by Arthur Howard

Great Literature to Inspire Great Writing

2–3 Personal Narrative

- The Day of Ahmed's Secret
  by Florence Parry Heide and Judith Heide Gilliland

- How My Parents Learned to Eat
  by Ina R. Friedman

- Jamaica Louise James
  by Amy Hest

- The Keeping Quilt
  by Patricia Polacco

- Looking Back
  by Lois Lowry

- Ma Dear's Aprons
  by Patricia C. McKissack

- My Mountain Song
  by Shutta Crum

- My Diary from Here to There
  by Amada Irma Perez

- Owl Moon
  by Jane Yolen

- Snapshots from the Wedding
  by Gary Soto

Great Literature to Inspire Great Writing

6–8 Personal Narrative

- Boy: Tales of Childhood
  by Roald Dahl

- Guys Write for Guys Read
  by Jon Scieszka

- Looking Back
  by Lois Lowry

- My Freedom Trip
  by Frances and Ginger Park

- Sister Anne's Hands
  by Mary Beth Lorbiecki

- Skin Deep and Other Teenage Reflections
  by Angela Shelf Medearis

- When I Was Your Age, Vol. 1
  by Amy Ehrlich (Ed.)