

GRAPHIC NOVELS FOR DEAR

Below I have listed the most popular graphic novels at my school. I'd recommend starting your graphic novel section in your library with some of these titles.



Bone by Jeff Smith

Every school library should have this book. I describe it like Lord of the Rings meets Disney. Suitable for boys and girls from year 5 up. You can buy the original 1500 page B&W edition but I'd recommend the smaller editions that have recently been produced in colour. Everyone who reads it loves it. Several students from Lake have ordered the following volumes from Book City in Griffith.



Dark Knight Returns by Frank Miller

It's been in print for over 20 years now and is regarded as the all time great graphic novel. I can be a hard read but when students finish it they get a great sense of satisfaction. Great for older kids, everyone knows Batman. Just mention Frank Miller's other books such as Sin City and 300.

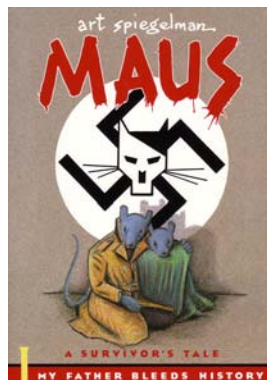
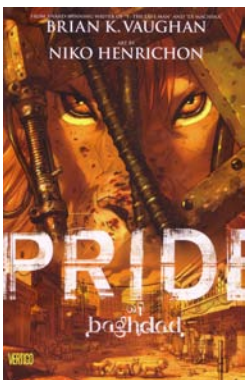
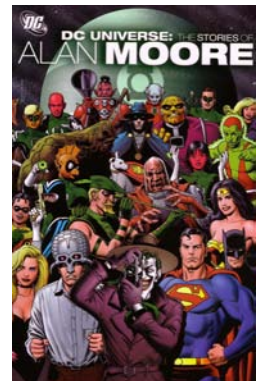


Invincible and Runaways

Both popular books but are series so kids will never stop asking for the next book. In Invincible our main character is the son of a superhero and starts going through a superhero version of puberty. Runaways is the work of Brian K. Vaughan who now writes for the TV show Lost. In Runaways a group of teenagers find out that their parents are actual super villains!

The Stories of Alan Moore

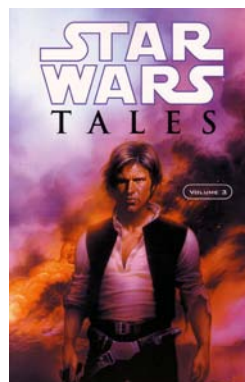
Alan Moore is a madman (just watch the video included on your CD). These short stories are great for kids with short attention spans... that would be all of them wouldn't it? Alan Moore is the man responsible for V for Vendetta, The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen, From Hell and next years big big film The Watchmen which Time magazine included in their all time 100 great novels. Be careful as most of Alan Moores books are not really suitable for school.



Maus by Art Spiegelman Pride by Brian K. Vaughan

Maus one of the great graphic novels of our time. A true story of the holocaust where the Jews are portrayed as mice and the Nazis are cats.

Brian K. Vaughan wrote Pride after reading about a zoo that was hit by U.S. bombs during the Iraq war. It questions our concepts of freedom from the animals point of view. Both these books should be for senior students only.

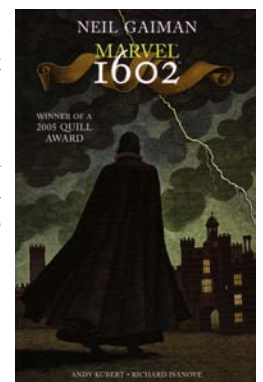


Star Wars

I didn't think kids would be interested in Star Wars any more. I was wrong. Our school bought two Star Wars books and they are extremely popular.

Marvel 1602

Marvel characters set in Elizabethan times. Written by Neil Gaiman. I enjoyed this one and was surprised when a few of the kids liked it so much as well.



Polly and the Pirates Courtney Crumrin

These are great stories for fans of Lemony Snickets. Written and drawn by Ted Naifeh. They appeal to the girls in my DEAR class.



The Goon

Not ever book can be a work of art. Sometimes you just gotta fight zombies. This is a real boys comic, not for the faint hearted adult.

READ MORE ABOUT GRAPHIC NOVELS ONLINE

Here are some useful web sites to read up on Graphic Nov-

- www.kidslovecomics.com** *The web address says it all.*
www.ninthart.com *The French call comics the ninth art, I don't know what the other 8 are?*
www.ifanboy.com *A very interesting video podcast to get you started.*
www.comicsintheclassroom.net *You can actually read them anywhere.*
www.geocities.com/misteryang/comicsedu/index.html *Comics in Education.*
www.koyagi.com/Libguide.html *A librarians guide to Manga.*
www.noflyingnotights.com *Graphic Novel for teens review site.*
www.angelfire.com/comics/gnlib *Graphic Novels in Libraries.*
kdla.ky.gov/onlinepubs/selectionotes/AprJune2004/gn_wherestart.htm *Where to start?*

WHERE TO BUY

www.impactcomics.com.au
These guys are in Canberra and are very helpful.

www.kingscomics.com.au
The great Sydney store.

www.kinokuniya.com
HUGE and cheap. Get a school account easily.

CREATORS

www.nickigreenberg.com
Melbourne graphic artist just made The Great Gatsby into a Graphic Novel.

www.bkv.tv
Brian K. Vaughan now writes for Lost.

PUBLISHERS

www.marvel.com
Home of Spider man, X-Men, Fantastic Four, The Hulk and so many more.

www.dccomics.com
Batman and Superman of course.

www.darkhorse.com

www.bookshelf.diamondcomics.com
They've actually got lesson plans!

WHAT'S ON THE CD

You should have all received a CD and on that disc is the following:

- A documentary on Alan Moore** (you may need to download and install DivX for this, do a google)
Comic Life (Windows) which is an excellent program that I use with Year 3 to make comics, very easy.
Return of Bad Hair Man the first issue by myself and Year 3... they have a weird thing about hair.
Graphic Novel Survey this is the booklet we are using at LCCS to gather data on student engagement.
BONE Teachers Guide this is a document of the Scholastic web site with some interesting ideas.
CDDisplay you will need to install this to read the sample comic contained in that directory.
Narrative Illustration Summer Course is an interesting series of Podcasts dealing with Graphic Novels.

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