Working Together

Great Books Roundtable™ and Literature & Thought

It's easy to extend inquiry-based learning across powerful multi-genre text sets by combining **Great Books Roundtable** with titles from the **Literature & Thought** series.

Start with Literature & Thought:

- While working on a cluster listed below, introduce the thematically related Roundtable story into the cluster anywhere you wish.
- Complete the Roundtable unit as directed, using the connection question in a Shared Inquiry™ discussion or a writing activity.

Start with Roundtable:

- During work on a Roundtable text listed below, use the connection question in discussion or writing.
- Then let students know that you will explore a theme in the story across several other texts.
- Introduce one or more of the Literature & Thought titles in the related cluster and complete them as directed.

Compare and contrast texts across programs:

- Add the Roundtable title to any Literature & Thought prompt that calls for students to examine a concept across all titles in a cluster.
- Add appropriate Literature & Thought titles to a suggested Roundtable cross-text activity.

Roundtable Level 2 Correlation Chart

Literature & Thought Title and Cluster Question (Skill Focus)	Roundtable Title	Roundtable Connection Question
From There to Here Cluster Four: What is the immigrant experience today? (Evaluating)	"The White Umbrella" Gish Jen	The narrator, the narrator's mother, and Mona all have different ideas about what it means to be an "American." How do these different ideas cause problems between them?
To Be A Hero Cluster Two: What makes a hero? (Analyzing)	"Harrison Bergeron" Kurt Vonnegut, Jr.	Why is Harrison willing to risk death to show a television audience what he can do without his handicaps?
Family Matters Cluster Two: How are we influenced by family? (Comparing and Contrasting)	"The First Day" Edward P. Jones	Compare the three times the narrator says, "This is my mother," and describes something her mother does. How are the three descriptions similar, and how are they different?
The Best of Friends Cluster Two: What would you do for a friend? (Analyzing)	"Props for Faith" Ursula Hegi	Why are Hanna and Renate friends again after Hanna tries to heal Renate's leg?

Literature & Thought/Roundtable Level 2 Correlation Chart

Literature & Thought Title and Cluster Question (Skill Focus)	Roundtable Title	Roundtable Connection Question
Decisions, Decisions Cluster One: What influences a decision? (Analyzing)	"El Diablo de la Cienega" Geoffrey Becker	What makes Money decide to play against Victor?
Decisions, Decisions Cluster Two: Good decision or bad decision? (Evaluating)	"The Cat and the Coffee Drinkers" Max Steele	How does the narrator feel about his "final, definite picture" of Miss Effie?
Family Matters Cluster Three: How do families deal with problems? (Evaluating)	"The Box House and the Snow" Cristina Henríquez	Why doesn't the mother do more to help her daughter after the father tells her to hold up the ceiling?
The Best of Friends Cluster Three: Friend or enemy? (Evaluating)	"I Just Kept on Smiling" Simon Burt	Do you think the narrator really thought of Nicky Carver as a friend or not?
Family Matters Cluster Two: How are we influenced by family? (Comparing and Contrasting)	"Mercedes Kane" Elizabeth McCracken	Ruthie, Ruthie's mother, and Mercedes are all disappointed by something a parent said or did. Compare and contrast how they react to these disappointments.
To Be a Hero Cluster Three: Hero or not? (Evaluating)	"Sandra Street" Michael Anthony	Do you think Mr. Blades is a good teacher?
The Best of Friends Cluster Two: What would you do for a friend? (Analyzing)	"Day of the Butterfly" Alice Munro	Do you think Helen was a good friend to Myra?
The Best of Friends Cluster Three: Friend or enemy? (Evaluating)	"The White Circle" John Bell Clayton	Why does the author have Tucker describe the times when he had "no desire to kill Anvil"?
What On Earth? Cluster Two: What happens when humanity and nature collide? (Analyzing)	"Wolf" Loren Eiseley	Does the author see himself as more similar to or more different from Wolf?
On the Edge of Survival Cluster One: Why do people take risks? (Hypothesizing)	"Colter's Way" Sebastian Junger	What do you think is the author's most convincing argument for why people risk their lives?
The Harlem Renaissance Cluster Two: What did Harlem Renaissance writers say about being black? (Analyzing)	"Harlem" Langston Hughes	Why is this poem called "Harlem"?
To Be a Hero Cluster Two: What makes a hero? (Analyzing)	"An Irish Airman Foresees His Death" William Butler Yeats	Does the author consider the airman a hero?
What on Earth? Cluster Two: What happens when humanity and nature collide? (Analyzing)	"Snake" D. H. Lawrence	Why does the narrator think throwing the pitcher at the snake was a "paltry," "vulgar," "mean" act?

Call 800.222.5870 or visit greatbooks.org for more information on Great Books Roundtable and Literature & Thought.