

Kara Thiot



Grand Prairie, Tx

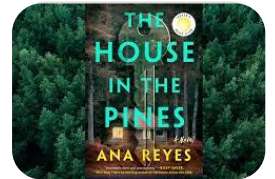
ABOUT ME

I describe myself as *that crazy English teacher*. Going into my eighth year teaching, even with seniors, I decorate my classroom, dress up, use props, read aloud to the students, throw literary parties, and more. Stories fuel everything I do. Every unit is centered around an anchor text and essential questions. We start every class with a book talk and sustained silent reading. I strive to encourage a culture of literacy with a “travel through literature” theme in my class.

ADDING BOOKS FOR:



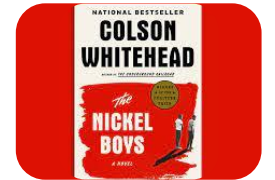
Lit Circles



Mystery



Diverse
Voices



Pulitzer
Prizes

MY LIBRARY

My classroom library is a source of pride for me. It spans an entire wall of shelving after seven years of teaching, but it began as a few sparse books on a mostly empty shelf. I picked up free books wherever I could, and eventually grew it to meet the needs of my YA readers in 7th-9th grade. While I have worked hard to curate 5-star shelves, there are gaps due to my own preferences and lack of resources in the past couple of years. I also made the jump to teaching seniors in AP Literature this past year, and my shelves need to level-up as well.

THANK YOU!

As an educator, there is often a gap between what you want to do, what you feel you need to or should be doing, and what you are able to do. I am grateful to receive this grant, because the gap is that much smaller now. It is quite frankly a relief to be able to acquire the books I have longed for in my classroom but was unable to afford. Thanks to Penny Kittle, the Book Love Foundation, and Bookelicious, I am now 1000 steps closer to being the educator I want to be. I am ecstatic for the new titles that will build up high-interest shelves and support my curriculum!

Kara Thiot is an outstanding educator—creative, energetic, and totally dedicated to her students. She makes learning fun! She and her students celebrate the wedding of Romeo and Juliet with wedding cake, row the ship of Odysseus with blue pool noodles, and dissect short stories in lab coats and safety glasses. Her students not only learn the skills of analyzing the English language, they internalize those skills.

Sherry Neaves, M.Ed.