

Book Title	Author	Brief summary of the text. 3-5 sentences suggested but with enough information that someone else would know what the book is about.	Your Take Away: practical or philosophical learning.	Ah-ha moments: How did this book change your thinking? (and maybe it didn't...)	Lingering Questions: What are you still wondering about?
Son of a Trickster	Eden Robinson	The story of a 16 year old male who cannot rely on his dysfunctional family for support. Inevitably, he gets caught up in the baking and selling of pot due to the exposure from his mother. Struggling with his own demons and those of others, he finds solace in his dog and then from the memory of his murdered dog. Remarkably, he does manage to get out from under the burden of depression and addiction.		The unavoidable cycle	How can we use this to inform our teaching/understanding of some of our Indigenous students?
Speaking our Truth	Monique Gray Smith	It is a very informative book about the history of residential school system in Canada. It is a very readable thought provoking book. Included are many real life stories of Canadians who were impacted by this time in history. The reflections and critical thinking content make this ideal to share and use as a classroom resource.	More understanding of the ripple effect of the complexity of the inter generational survivors. What we live, we learn. What we learn, we practice. What we practice, we become. And, what we become has consequences.	Lots of good ideas of how to move forward and what to do to promote understanding and healing.	How to use this resource in class with kids?
Turtle Island	Eldon Yellowhorn & Kathy Lowinger	Indigenous storytelling has passed down the histories of the Indigenous Peoples of North America, but no one believed them to be accurate records. Archaeologists are now discovering that stories of these Peoples have merit as they find supporting evidence in the fossil record. This book is a collection of stories from different Peoples discussing life in North America pre-European contact.	Canada still has a loooooong way to go until reconciliation.	I don't know that it did, but I found the stories fascinating.	As always: How can I apply this to my classroom.
Monkey Beach	Eden Robinson	A coming of age story about a girl growing up in a remote First Nations community. She's navigating a protective, loving family while surrounded by the problems that come with alcohol and drug addiction. On top of all that, the supernatural world is interested in communicating with her.	This book is not for most middle school students. Fairly disturbing stuff once the story reaches downtown Vancouver.	The story is deeply personal and alive. Writing so good these characters exist. I'll read more Eden Robinson	What I'm wondering will give too much away.
Turtle Island	Eldon Yellowhorn & Kathy Lowinger	This book is about the land known as Turtle Island (pre-contact) before it was renamed Canada, as far back as 14,000 years ago. It starts with the creation myth that explains how North and Central America were formed on the back of a turtle. Lots of archaeological finds and scientific research, which is fitting with the 6/7 curriculum because it allows us to get a better picture of life before Europeans stepped in. A wide variety of topics are featured, from the animals that came and disappeared over time, to what people ate, how they expressed themselves through art, and how they adapted to their surroundings. The importance of story-telling among the Indigenous is always present to shed light on how they explained their world. The end of the book takes us to modern times. (adapted from the summary on Amazon)	Think this would be a great resource for Grade 6/7 as it fits well with Speaking Our Truth which may be a better fit in Grade 8. Easy to read, informative, clear	Just reinforced my belief that we need to be exposing our students to Canadian / Indigenous history and existence integrated within the other things we teach. Indigenous history should not be a "one-off" lesson or unit.	Authenticity and making this information "normal"