



Book Club Selection Criteria

Book clubs are a wonderful way to share your love of reading with others. Through them members can experience titles and genres they may not be familiar with. In order for a book club to be successful titles must have wide audience appeal and offer several points of discussion. Not all titles will have literary merit, some may be more lighthearted, feel-good titles. Additionally for Charlotte Mecklenburg Library to consider creating a Book Club Kit they should meet our Material Selection guidelines and the additional criteria:

Availability - Titles must still be in print and available in paperback. Due to the number of copies needed to create a kit, it can be difficult to consider older titles that are no longer available to purchase from our vendors.

Topics - Titles should be thought provoking and able to spark conversation. In general, books with unique choices in character, plot, and style make for the heartiest discussions. Controversial topics, unclear endings, and unreliable narrators may not be appealing to all readers but are certain to give people something to talk about. Young adult titles will be considered if they have proven cross over appeal with adult readers.

Page Count - Given the length of time a kit can check out; it is ideal to stick to a page count between 250-400pgs. Exceptions may be made for popular titles with wide audience appeal.

Non-Fiction - Non-fiction titles will be considered if they fall under the category of Narrative nonfiction. These are titles in which traditional storytelling techniques are applied to material that is informative or factual, rather than fictional.

Biographies and Memoirs – Biographies and Memoirs take different approaches, but to be considered, they should describe the authentic life experiences of a person or group of connected individuals and explore the significance of those.

Formats - Currently our kits only contain print copies of the selected title. Large Print kits will be listed separately.