Book Discussion Kits (Teen)

The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian
by Sherman Alexie
Budding cartoonist Junior leaves his troubled school on the Spokane Indian Reservation to attend an all-white farm town school where the only other Indian is the school mascot.
Approximate number of books in kit: 10

The Adventures of the Blue Avenger
by Norma Howe
On his sixteenth birthday, still trying to cope with the unexpected death of his father, David Schumacher decides--or does he--to change his name to Blue Avenger, hoping to find a way to make a difference in his Oakland neighborhood and in the world.
Approximate number of books in kit: 10

The Amber Spyglass
by Philip Pullman
Lyra and Will find themselves at the center of a battle between the forces of the Authority and those gathered by Lyra's father, Lord Asriel.
Approximate number of books in kit: 10

Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl
by Anne Frank
A young girl's journal records her family's struggles during two years of hiding from the Nazis in war-torn Holland.
Approximate number of books in kit: 12

Belle Prater's Boy
by Ruth White
When Woodrow's mother suddenly disappears, he moves to his grandparents' home in a small Virginia town where he befriends his cousin and together they find the strength to face the terrible losses and fears in their lives.
Approximate number of books in kit: 10

The Book Thief
by Markus Zusak
Trying to make sense of the horrors of World War II, Death relates the story of Liesel--a young German girl whose book-stealing and story-telling talents help sustain her family and the Jewish man they are hiding, as well as their neighbors.
Approximate number of books in kit: 12

Deadline
by Chris Crutcher
When he is given the medical diagnosis of one year to live, Ben Wolf decides to fulfill his greatest fantasies, ponders his life's purpose and legacy, and converses through dreams with a spiritual guide known as "Hey-Soos."

Approximate number of books in kit: 10

Ender's Game
by Orson Scott Card
Andrew 'Ender' Wiggin isn't just playing games at Battle School: he and the other children are being tested and trained in Earth's attempt to find the military genius that the planet needs in its all-out war with an alien enemy. Ender's two older siblings, Peter and Valentine, are every bit as unusual as he is, but in very different ways. Between the three of them lie the abilities to remake a world--if the world survives.
Approximate number of books in kit: 10

Esperanza Rising
by Pam Munoz Ryan
Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California, where they must adapt to the harsh circumstances facing Mexican farm workers on the eve of the Great Depression.
Approximate number of books in kit: 10

Eyes Wide Open
by Paul Fleischman
Paul Fleischman offers teens an environmental wake-up call and a tool kit for decoding the barrage of conflicting information confronting them.
Approximate number of books in kit: 12

The Fellowship of the Ring
by J.R.R. Tolkien
In ancient times the Rings of Power were crafted by the Elven-smiths, and Sauron, the Dark Lord, forged the One Ring, filling it with his own power so that he could rule all others. But the One Ring was taken from him, and though he sought it throughout Middle-earth, it remained lost to him. After many ages it fell into the hands of Bilbo Baggins, as told in THE HOBBIT. In a sleepy village in the Shire, young Frodo Baggins finds himself faced with an immense task, as his elderly cousin Bilbo entrusts the Ring to his care. Frodo must leave his home and make a perilous journey across Middle-earth to the Cracks of Doom, there to destroy the Ring and foil the Dark Lord in his evil purpose.
Approximate number of books in kit: 10

Going Bovine
by Libba Bray
After being diagnosed with Creutzfeldt-Jakob (aka mad cow) disease, disaffected teenager Cameron Smith sets off on a road trip with a death-obsessed video gaming dwarf he meets in the hospital in an attempt to find a cure.
Approximate number of books in kit: 10

The Golden Compass
by Philip Pullman
Accompanied by her daemon, Lyra Belacqua sets out to prevent her best friend and other kidnapped children from becoming the subject of gruesome experiments in the Far North.
Approximate number of books in kit: 10

The Hunger Games
by Suzanne Collins
In a future North America, where the rulers of Panem maintain control through a televised survival competition pitting young people against one another, Katniss's skills are put to the test when she takes her younger sister's place.
Approximate number of books in kit: 10

Life As We Knew It
by Susan Beth Pfeffer
Through journal entries sixteen-year-old Miranda describes her family's struggle to survive after a meteor hits the moon, causing worldwide tsunamis, earthquakes, and volcanic eruptions.
Approximate number of books in kit: 10

The Perks of Being a Wallflower
by Stephen Chbosky
In a thought-provoking coming-of-age novel, Charlie struggles to cope with complex world of high school as he deals with the confusions of sex and love, the temptations of drugs, and the pain of losing a close friend and a favorite aunt.
Approximate number of books in kit: 10

The Return of the King
by J.R.R. Tolkien
In a multi-part effort to destroy the evil power of Sauron, Frodo and Sam the hobbits try to quietly take the ruling ring to Mt. Doom to destroy it, while Aragorn and the combined military might of the West first defend Minas Tirith and then march on Cirith Ungol.
Approximate number of books in kit: 10

The Ruby in the Smoke
by Philip Pullman
In search of clues to the mystery of her father's death, 16-year-old Sally Lockhart ventures into the shadowy underworld of Victorian London. Pursued by villains at every turn, the intrepid Sally finally uncovers two dark mysteries--and realizes that she herself is the key to both.
Approximate number of books in kit: 10

The Second Summer of the Sisterhood
by Ann Brashares
When Carmen and her friends discover that jeans from a thrift shop provide an uncanny fit for all four of them, they form a sisterhood, with the pants as the symbol of their friendship, and embark on a sweet-sixteen summer.
Approximate number of books in kit: 10

The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants
by Ann Brashares
During their first summer apart, four teenage girls, best friends since earliest childhood, stay in touch through a shared pair of secondhand jeans that magically adapts to each of their figures and affects their attitudes to their different summer experiences.
Approximate number of books in kit: 10

The Subtle Knife
by Philip Pullman
As the boundaries between worlds begin to dissolve, Lyra and her daemon help Will Parry in his search for his father and for a powerful, magical knife.
Approximate number of books in kit: 10

Summer of My German Soldier
by Bette Greene
Patty Bergen, an unhappy Jewish girl living in Arkansas, shelters a pacifist German POW who escaped from a local prison compound, and she must face the wrath and hatred of her family and her town for her actions.
Approximate number of books in kit: 10

Tangerine
by Edward Bloor
Twelve-year-old Paul, who lives in the shadow of his football hero brother Erik, fights for the right to play soccer despite his near blindness and slowly begins to remember the incident that damaged his eyesight.
Approximate number of books in kit: 10

Thirteen Reasons Why
by Jay Asher
When Clay Jenkins receives a box containing thirteen cassette tapes recorded by his classmate Hannah, who committed suicide, he spends the night crisscrossing their town, listening to Hannah's voice recounting the events leading up to her death.
Approximate number of books in kit: 10

The Two Towers
by J.R.R. Tolkien
Recounts the deeds of the individual members of the Fellowship of the Ring after being divided by an attack of the orc-soldiers, following Frodo and his servant Samwise on their continuing quest to destroy the Ring of Power in the Mountain of Fire.
Approximate number of books in kit: 10

Whirligig
by Paul Fleischman
While traveling to each corner of the country to build a whirligig in memory of the girl whose death he caused, sixteen-year-old Brent finds forgiveness and atonement.
Approximate number of books in kit: 10