



# 2015 Sequoyah Book Awards

## Lessons + Activities

### Day Two:

Sequoyah Book Award Week focuses on the Intermediate Masterlist of books for grades 6-8.



Visit [bit.ly/1kC6na7](http://bit.ly/1kC6na7) on the web for background on this Oklahoma honor—the third oldest youth-choice literary award in the nation. You'll also find the masterlists, activities and promotional help to get your students reading and involved in selecting the next winning authors.

### Figuratively Writing

Figurative language is the use of words in an unusual or imaginative manner. "Joe is slow" tells readers the character is not in a hurry. "Joe is a turtle" does the same thing, and in much more expressive language. It also conjures a picture, as we can "see" how *really* slow Joe must be. Readers in the middle grades may notice that the metaphors, similes, and hyperbole in the books they are now reading are more colorful and abstract than in the books they read at a younger age. Craig Shriver's *Grammer-Monster.com* has great definitions and information on figurative language at [bit.ly/1vOxzYf](http://bit.ly/1vOxzYf).

• As students read Sequoyah books, have them keep a journal of their favorite examples of figurative language from the stories. Have them identify the type of figurative language used (metaphor, personification, etc.) in each example.

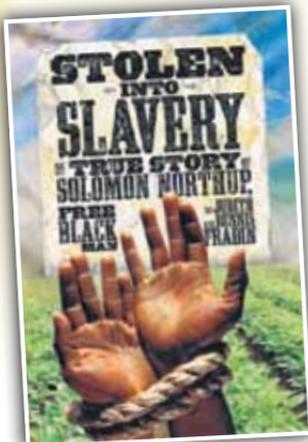
### Let's Get Graphic!

Have students or teams of students select a scene from a Sequoyah book, and then make a comic strip or storyboard depicting the scene. Tell them to think about the best way to depict the scene, including word choice and graphics. Following the activity, have a discussion where you ask:

- Why did they select their particular scenes?
- What challenges did they face translating the scenes into a graphic format?
- Would the book make for a good graphic novel or film? Why or why not?

### Reader's Theater

This activity involves students reading a script adapted from a book. It can help young people improve their speaking, writing and listening skills. Scholastic has a great webpage on Reader's Theater, listing tips on implementing a program, writing scripts, and performing: [bit.ly/1Aij5Ph](http://bit.ly/1Aij5Ph)



Visit [bit.ly/1IYzFv9](http://bit.ly/1IYzFv9) to find and download completed reader's theater scripts based on thirteen of the 2015 Intermediate Masterlist books, including *Stolen into Slavery* by Judith and Dennis Fradin.

Visit [nie.newsok.com](http://nie.newsok.com) for an additional lesson plan for *Stolen into Slavery*. Plus, you'll find more information and resources to launch a Sequoyah reading program in your school, class or library. Sequoyah week continues tomorrow with a look at the children's masterlist.

Newspapers for this education program provided by