

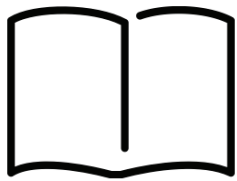
## READING RECONSIDERED

# Beyond the Book

There is no doubt that books are important. That said, here are a few other kinds of texts to keep in mind when reading with your class.

### WHY THEY WORK

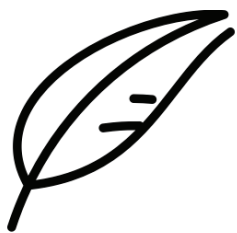
### TRY IT OUT!



#### Short Stories

1. Low-risk
2. Expands students' range
3. Allows for experimentation
4. Powerful when paired

Pick two examples of satire, two unreliable narrators, and two third-person narrators. Compare and contrast across the different kinds of text, mining the differences in literary technique.



#### Poems

1. Great way for students to get comfortable wrestling with meaning in challenging texts
2. Frequently resistant
3. Helps students develop a more sophisticated vocabulary

Use short bursts of Close Reading to unpack tricky sentences or phrases. Close Read the poem "Jabberwocky" today as preparation for such analytically rigorous texts as "Slaughterhouse-Five" in future.



#### Articles, Essays, & Excerpts

1. Reinforces and works alongside ideas in novels
2. Helps to build students' knowledge base
3. Creates familiarity with non-fiction form

Read articles and essays alongside fiction. Use them as outside examples. Think of how many book reports students write without ever reading a published book review.