

# BLACK WRITER A DAY

Daily book talks for Black History Month and beyond

Teacher: \*reads prologue\*

Student: Wait, what's her magic power?

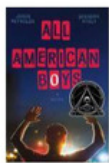
Teacher: I can't tell you.

Student: Nooooooo, why would you do that to me? Now I have to read.

Teacher: \*laughs maniacally\*

jason reynolds

books:



awards: Coretta Scott King/John Steptoe Award for New Talent, National Book Award Finalist, Coretta Scott King Honors, *Time* Book of the Year, Kirkus Award

"I write books for kids from these communities so they don't and for people not from these communities so they don't"

Slides with images and information about the authors help build student interest in both the books and the people who write them. (<http://bit.ly/2lyMNkY>)

Nnedi Okorafor

books:



about: Okorafor was born in the US to two Nigerian parents. She draws upon both her West African heritage and her life in the US in her novels. Her work is highly imaginative and typically falls into magical realism or science fiction.

"I see the world as a magical place. Therefore, it was only natural that magic wafted from my fiction like smoke."

Book talks have been shown to increase students' independent reading. (<http://bit.ly/2kXArzJ>)

For the month of February, I'm been featuring a different Black writer every day at the beginning of class. Each writer gets their own slide with images of their books, a picture of them, background information, and a quote. I discuss each author, then pick one of their books to talk about. Typically I read a small excerpt from the book and then provide a synopsis to increase student interest. I only feature authors whose books the students have access to. Not only does this allow me to introduce Black writers, but we also get a bit of history along the way. You can read more about the project here: <http://bit.ly/2l7s3Al>.