ONLINE RESOURCES

NoveList Plus
An excellent resource for literary reviews, plot summaries and finding books similar to a favorite title or author. Search by subject, setting, pace, or character type. www.brightonlibrary.org/research-and-databases (scroll down to NoveList).

BML Book Discussions and Books Sandwiched In (BSI) Videos
Get reading ideas by browsing Brighton Library’s Book Discussion archive (with titles going back to 1995) or supplement your discussion with Books Sandwiched In (BSI) podcasts or videos, 2016-present. www.brightonlibrary.org/library-events-for-adults

HOW TO GUIDES AND READING SUGGESTIONS

African-American Literature Book Club
www.aalbc.com
Offers critical reviews of books by and about African-American authors, profiles of authors and poets, book descriptions, reviews, and discussion forums.

libguides.alac.org/bookdiscussiongroups

Better Book Clubs’ “How Tos for Book Clubs” Playlist
youtube.com/@BetterBook Clubs
Author Kathy Czepiel offers short videos (less than 10 minutes each) on a variety of book discussion topics including “How to Run a Virtual Book Club.”

Books We Love (NPR)
apps.npr.org/best-books Explore more than 3,200 recommendations from NPR staff.

BookBrowse www.bookbrowse.com
Recommendations, reviews, author bios, interviews, and reading guides.

BookReporter www.bookreporter.com
Book reviews, author profiles and interviews, reviewers’ picks of the month.

GoodReads www.goodreads.com
Read reviews, rate books, explore lists...participate!

LitLovers www.litlovers.com
“A resource for all things literary” includes advice on starting a book club, selections, reading guides, discussion tips, free short courses on literature, and recipes!

National Library of Medicine’s Reading Club
nnlm.gov/nnlm-reading-club Choose reading suggestions from a list of topics.

NY Times Book Section

Reading Group Choices
www.readinggroupchoices.com
Search for recommendations from monthly guides going back to 2006; each title is accompanied by discussion questions.

Reading Group Guides
www.readinggroupguides.com
Thousands of well-organized guides, plus advice and ideas for reading groups. Click on the tab “For Book Groups.”

The Tough Guy Book Club
toughguysbookclub.com/books
Browse through a past reading list of old and new novels focusing on men, read the reviews, join the club!

Updated 1/2023
Resources for Book Groups

This guide is designed for book lovers and those involved in, or interested in starting, a book club. These suggested print and online resources provide information on discussions, recommendations, reviews, author bios, and much more.

The books listed are in the collection at BML and other libraries in the Monroe County Library System. The location at BML, or call number, is included.

BOOKS

The Book Club Cookbook: Recipes and Food for Thought from our Book Club's Favorite Books and Authors by Judy Gelman & Vicki Levy Krupp 641.5 GEL
Part cookbook, part literary celebration, this book features recipes and discussion ideas from dozens of established book clubs across the country.

How to Read a Book: The Classic Guide to Intelligent Reading by Mortimer J. Adler and Charles Van Doren YA RRC 374.1 ADL
This guide is designed to help readers develop new approaches to reading and to hone analytical reading skills. Learn how to criticize a book fairly, how to read imaginative literature, and more.

The Book Club Companion: A Comprehensive Guide to the Reading Group Experience by Diana Loey 374.22 LOE
An eclectic book covering topics such as book club etiquette, recipes, and entertainment tips for hosts. Also includes guidelines for leading lively book discussions, reading suggestions, and more.

Book Lust: Recommended Reading for Every Mood, Moment, and Reason and other books by Nancy Pearl 011.73 PEA
Nancy Pearl is one of our nation’s most popular librarians, and reading her books is much like getting recommendations from a friend. Reviews - organized in categories of people, places, and themes - cover all types of books, old and new.

Good Books Lately: The One-Stop Resource for Book Groups and Other Greedy Readers by Ellen Moore & Kira Stevens 374.22 MOO

Reading with Oprah: The Book Club That Changed America by Kathleen Rooney 374.22 ROO
A fascinating examination of the history of Oprah’s controversial book club, the club’s featured novels, and interviews with many of their authors.

Well Read, Well Fed: A Year of Great Reads and Simple Dishes for Book Groups by Marcia F. Brown 374.22 BRO
An enjoyable starting place for book club reading suggestions and tasty accompaniments.

The Mother-Daughter Book Club by Shireen Dodson 372.4162 DOD
Written by a mother who started a mother-daughter book club. Includes guidelines for starting a group, useful book lists, and lots of great reasons why mothers and daughters will benefit from sharing this experience.

The Reading Group Handbook: Everything You Wanted to Know, from Choosing Members to Leading Discussions by Rachel Jacobsohn 374.22 JAC
The bible of book club books, this easy-to-read and entertaining book covers everything you could possibly want to know about starting and running a successful book club.

Well Read, Well Fed: A Year of Great Reads and Simple Dishes for Book Groups by Marcia F. Brown 374.22 BRO
An enjoyable starting place for book club reading suggestions and tasty accompaniments.