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***Why Graphic Novels & Comics?***

*"The presence of comics in a junior high school library resulted in a dramatic 82% increase in library traffic and a 30% increase in circulation of non-comic books."*

Dorrell & Carroll *School Library Journal*

**Graphic novels & comic books... Are a time-honored American literary art form that can:**

* Broaden & strengthen library collections.
* Attract new readers and students of all ages and skill levels.
* Help educators reach one of the most challenging student demographics: young adult males.

**Are especially good for attracting reluctant readers because:**

* They are powerful motivational tools that can capture and maintain the reader’s interest.
* Their illustrations provide contextual clues to the written text, making them ideal for remedial reading programs.
* They can give reluctant readers the non-threatening practice and experience needed to inspire confidence and progress to more challenging texts.

**Can make dynamic and relevant curricular connections to help educators teach:**

* Complex social issues, such as abuse The Tale of One Bad Rat
* Historical and current events (Pulitzer Prize-winner Maus is set during the Holocaust

Fax from Sarajevo is set against the contemporary Balkan conflict).

* Folklore and mythology (Fairy Tales of Oscar Wilde
* Popular culture JLA Archives reflects life in the 1940s

The Complete Color MAD reflects the 1950s

***These are just a few examples; MANY more non-complex adventures await our curious readers!***

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