

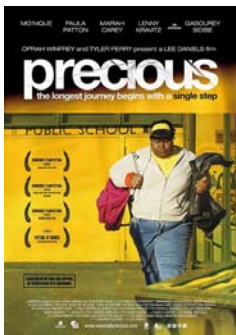
Literacy in the Media

Read books and watch films about literacy.



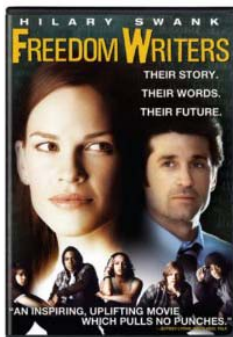
The *Hank Zipzer* series is inspired by the true life experiences of **Henry Winkler**. These books about the world's greatest underachiever are funny, touching, and deal with learning differences in a gentle and humorous manner. In the newest book in the series, it's graduation time for Hank which means it's time to move on

from PS 87 to middle school! Trouble is, there are tests Hank has to pass to get into the same middle schools as his friends, and his learning differences might get in the way. This causes him to examine who he is, what's special about him, and where his path might lead.



The film *Precious* is a film about the human capacity to grow and overcome. Clareece "Precious" Jones is an overweight, illiterate African-American teen in Harlem. Just as she's about to give birth to her second child by her absent father, Jones is accepted into an alternative school, Each One

Teach One, where a teacher helps her find a new path in her life. (based on a novel *Push* by *Sapphire*)



A gripping story, *Freedom Writers* is a film about inner-city kids raised on drive-by shootings and hard-core attitude—and the teacher who gives them the one thing they need most: a voice of their own. Dropped into the free-fire zone of a school torn by violence and racial tension, teacher Erin Gruwell battles an uncaring system in a

fight to make the classroom matter in her students' lives. (based on the book *The Freedom Writers Diary* by *Erin Gruwell*)



Copy This! (book) tells the story of how a struggling kid who could barely read, write, or sit still managed to grow a 10'-by-10' copy stand into a \$2 billion business empire. Of how an individual used learning disabilities—ADHD and dyslexia—as learning opportunities to mold the

homegrown, compassionate culture that allowed Kinko's to thrive. No reader, in business or out, will leave this book without looking at the world and its problems with fresh eyes and ideas.



Akeelah and the Bee (film) is the story of an eleven-year-old girl with a gift for words. Despite the objections of her mother Tanya, Akeelah enters various spelling contests, for which she is tutored by the forthright Dr. Larabee, her principal and the proud residents of her neighborhood. Akeelah's aptitude earns her an opportunity to

compete for a spot in the Scripps National Spelling Bee and, in turn, unites her neighborhood who witness the courage and inspiration of one amazing little girl.



Stanley is a hardworking man who can't read; Iris is a newly widowed woman who, to pay the bills, takes on a low-paying job at the bakery where Stanley works. The two don't meet until the day Iris' purse is stolen and Stanley finds her distressed on the street. In spite of their differences, they

fall in love; Iris helps Stanley overcome his illiteracy, and Stanley teaches Iris how to hope again. (film)