This resource list, compiled by Gina Blume of the Monroe Township Public Library, includes books, films and other materials related to the issues presented in the film Racing Dreams.

Fondly described as "Talladega Nights meets Catcher in the Rye," Racing Dreams chronicles a year in the life of three tweens who dream of becoming NASCAR drivers. The film by Marshall Curry (Oscar®-nominated Street Fight, POV 2005; Sundance winner If a Tree Falls, POV 2011) is a humorous and heartbreaking portrait of racing, young love and family struggle.

ADULT NONFICTION

Karting


Women & Racing


ADULT FICTION


Stein, Garth. The Art of Racing in the Rain. New York: HarperCollins Publishers, 2008. Enzo knows he is different from other dogs: a philosopher with a nearly human soul (and an obsession with opposable thumbs), he has educated himself by watching television extensively, and by listening very closely to the words of his master, Denny Swift, an up-and-coming race car driver. Through Denny, Enzo has gained tremendous insight into the human condition, and he sees that life, like racing, isn’t simply about going fast.
Delve Deeper into Racing Dreams
A Film by Marshall Curry

NON-FICTION FOR YOUNG READERS


David, Jack. Go-Kart Racing: Danbury: Children’s Press, 2008. This is a survey for elementary students about the history and technology behind kart racing.

Dobson, Dr. James. Preparing for Adolescence: How to Survive the Coming Years of Change. Portland: Gospel Light, 2005. Dobson, popular family psychologist and founder of Focus on the Family, provides advice for adolescents, including how to deal with peer pressure, sexual development, decision-making, and handling independence.


Savage, Jeff. Danica Patrick. Minneapolis: Lerner Publishing Group, 2010. Suitable for elementary school students, this is a biography about the most successful and dynamic female Indy car driver.

FICTION FOR YOUNG READERS


Reilly, Matthew. Hover Car Racer: Pan Childrens, 2005. In the world of the near future, people travel everywhere in cars that hover four feet above the ground. This brilliant new technology has brought with it the invention of a new super-fast, super-dangerous, competitive sport -- hover car racing. Part race-car driver, part fighter pilot, all superstar: Jason Chaser is a champion hover car racer. But now he’s pitted against the best young racers on the planet - the ultimate prize at stake!


FILMS/DOCUMENTARIES

“3: The Dale Earnhardt Story.” A film by Russell Mulcahy. ESPN Original Entertainment, 2004. TRT: 92 minutes. This television drama starring Barry Pepper as Dale Earnhardt chronicles one of the most legendary drivers in NASCAR history from his humble beginning as a mill worker to one of the most aggressive drivers on the track.


“Senna.” A film by Asif Kapadia. Universal Pictures, 2010. TRT: 106 minutes. This documentary feature spans the racing legend’s years as an F1 driver. Far more than a film for F1 fans, Senna unfolds a remarkable story in a remarkable manner, eschewing many standard documentary techniques in favor of a more cinematic approach that makes full use of astounding footage, much of which is drawn from F1 archives and previously unseen.