

Cultures

Resource List for Grades K through 4

The 4resources in this section can be used with the Cultures Resource Packet for grades K through 4.

Books

Non-fiction and Biography

- Brothers in Hope: The Story of the Lost Boys of Sudan, 2005 by Mary Williams (Author), R. Gregory Christie (Author), Gregory Christie (Illustrator).
An eight-year-old boy, orphaned by a civil war in Sudan, finds the inner strength to help lead other boys as they trek thousands of miles seeking safety in Ethiopia, then Kenya, and finally in the United States.
- Children Just Like Me: A new celebration of children around the world, 2016 by DK (Author).
A comprehensive view of international cultures, exploring diverse backgrounds from Argentina to New Zealand to China to Israel. With this brand-new edition, children will learn about their peers around the world through engaging photographs and understandable text.
- Faith (Global Fund for Children Books), 2009 by Maya Ajmera (Author), Cynthia Pon (Author), Magda Nakassis (Author).
Families around the world celebrate faith in many different ways, through praying, singing, learning, helping, caring, and more. With stunning photographs from many cultures and religious traditions, Faith celebrates the ways in which people worship around the globe.
- Her Right Foot Hardcover, 2017 by Dave Eggers (Author), Shawn Harris (Artist).
These authors set out to research the statue, but what they find is about more than history, more than art. What they find in the Statue of Liberty's right foot is the powerful message of acceptance that is essential of an entire country's creation.
- This Is How We Do It, 2017 by Matt Lamothe (Author).
Follow one day in the real lives of seven kids from around the world—Italy, Japan, Iran, India, Peru, Uganda, and Russia!

Fiction

- All Are Welcome, 2018 by Alexandra Penfold (Author), Suzanne Kaufman (Illustrator).
Follow a group of children through a day in their school, where everyone is welcomed with open arms.
- Chicken Sunday, 1998 by Patricia Polacco (Author).
In this book, the hatred sometimes engendered by racial and religious differences is overpowered by the love of people who recognize their common humanity.

- Coming to America: The Story of Immigration, 1996 by Betsy Maestro (Author), Susannah Ryan (Illustrator).
An introductory history of immigration from thousands of years ago through the present, focusing on why different groups of people came to America and how they became part of our national heritage.
- Dreamers, 2018 by Yuyi Morales (Author).
Dreamers is a celebration of what migrantes bring with them when they leave their homes. It's a story about family. And it's a story to remind us that we are all dreamers, bringing our own gifts wherever we roam.
- Here I Am, 2015 by Patti Kim (Author), Sonia Sánchez (Illustrator).
Newly arrived from their faraway homeland, a boy and his family enter into the lights, noise, and traffic of a busy American city in this wordless picture book. The language is unfamiliar. Food, habits, games, and gestures are puzzling. The boy clings tightly to his special keepsake from home and wonders how he will find his way.
- I'm New Here, 2015 by Anne Sibley O'Brien (Author, Illustrator).
Three students are immigrants from Guatemala, Korea, and Somalia and have trouble speaking, writing, and sharing ideas in English in their new American elementary school. With self-determination and with encouragement, the students learn to feel confident and comfortable in their new school without losing a sense of their home country, language, and identity.
- Mama's Nightingale: A Story of Immigration and Separation, 2015 by Edwidge Danticat (Author), Leslie Staub (Illustrator).
After a small girl's mother is sent to an immigration detention center, she finds comfort in listening to her mother's warm greeting on their answering machine. To ease the distance between them while she's in jail, Mama begins sending her daughter bedtime stories inspired by Haitian folklore on cassette tape.
- Muskrat Will Be Swimming, 2006 by Cheryl Savageau (Author) and Robert Hynes (Illustrator).
When a young girl being bullied at school confides her troubles to her grandfather, he tells her about his own childhood experiences with teasing. As the story unfolds, the grandfather shares a traditional Seneca story that helps the girl find strength in her Native identity and new appreciation for the different roles that animals play in nature.
- Thunder Boy, 2016 by Sherman Alexie (Author) and Yuyi Morales (Illustrator).
Thunder Boy Jr. is named after his dad, but he wants a name that's all his own. He and his father finally find the perfect name for him.
- When the Rain Sings: Poems by Young Native Americans, 1999 by Lee Francis (Author/Editor).
37 wonderful poems by young writers from throughout the United States and collected in this anthology. Their words are paired with images of artifacts from the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian.

Magazines, Journals, Miscellaneous

- Kids Discover: Ellis Island
<https://www.kidsdiscover.com/shop/issues/ellis-island-for-kids/>
- Kids Discover: Immigration
<https://www.kidsdiscover.com/shop/issues/immigration-for-kids/>
- Skipping stones: An International Multicultural Magazine
<https://www.skippingstones.org>

Online Links

- American Social History Project: Center For Media And Learning
<https://ashp.cuny.edu/>
- Have Fun With History: videos & activities for students, educators, and lovers of American History
<http://www.havefunwithhistory.com/>
- Ellis Island: Part of the Statue of Liberty National Monument
<https://www.nps.gov/elis/index.htm>
- Angel Island: Immigration Station Foundation
<https://www.aiisf.org/>

Background information for the Educator

- Edutopia: Culturally Responsive Teaching
<https://www.edutopia.org/blogs/tag/culturally-responsive-teaching>
- National Museum of the American Indian: Smithsonian: Native Knowledge, New perspectives on Native American history, cultures, and contemporary lives
<http://nmai.si.edu/nk360/>
- Teaching Tolerance: Thought-provoking classroom resources support diversity education
<https://www.tolerance.org/>

Cultures

Resource List for Grades 5 through 8

The resources in this section can be used with the Cultures Resource Packet for grades 5 through 8.

The Resources in this document can be used with the Culture Curriculum Packet for grades 5 through 8.

Books

Non-fiction and Biography

- A Different Mirror for Young People: A History of Multicultural America (For Young People Series), 2012 by Rebecca Stefoff (Adaptor) and Ronald Takaki (Author).
Drawing on the authors vast array of primary sources and staying true to his original text, this book brings ethnic history alive through the words of people who recorded their experiences in letters, diaries, and poems.
- Ethnic St. Louis, 2015 by Elizabeth Terry (Author), John Wright (Author), and Patrick McCarthy (Author).
Ethnic St. Louis highlights the many communities that make St. Louis a vibrant, multi-ethnic city. The stories are accompanied by rare photographs and document the peoples and cultures that have enriched the city throughout its history.
- Her Right Foot Hardcover, 2017 by Dave Eggers (Author), Shawn Harris (Artist).
These authors set out to research the statue, but what they find is about more than history, more than art. What they find in the Statue of Liberty's right foot is the powerful message of acceptance that is essential of an entire country's creation.
- Shadow Catcher: How Edward S. Curtis Documented American Indian Dignity and Beauty, 2015 by Michael Burgan (Author).
At the turn of the 20th century, photographer Edward S. Curtis devoted his life to learning all he could about American Indians and sharing it with world. He took his first photo of an American Indian in 1895, and for the next 30 years he traveled the West and north to Alaska to chronicle traditional native culture.
- A Young People's History of the United States: Columbus to the War on Terror (For Young People Series), 2009 by Howard Zinn (Author), Rebecca Stefoff (Contributor).
A Young People's History of the United States brings to US history the viewpoints of workers, slaves, immigrants, women, Native Americans, and others whose stories, and their impact, are rarely included in books for young people.

Fiction

- Birch Bark House, 2002 by Louise Erdrich (Author).
This is the story of a young Ojibwa girl, Omakayas, Living on an island in Lake Superior around 1847.

- Dragonwings, 2001 by Laurence Yep (Author).
A young boy in China only knows two things about his father: he lives in San Francisco and used to craft beautiful kites. One day shortly after his eighth birthday, a cousin arrives with a letter asking the boy to join his father in San Francisco. When he arrives in America he learns that his father makes a living doing laundry and dreams of building a flying machine just like the Wright Brothers.
- Enchanted Air: Two Cultures, Two Wings: A Memoir, 2016 by Margaret Engle (Author) and Edel Rodriguez (Illustrator).
Margarita is a girl from two worlds. Her heart lies in Cuba, her mother's tropical island country that is so lush with vibrant life that it seems like a fairy tale kingdom. But most of the time she lives in Los Angeles, Lonely in the huge city and dreaming of the summers when she can take a plane to her beloved island.
- Esperanza Rising, 2002 by Pam Munoz Ryan (Author).
Esperanza thought she'd always live a privileged life on her family's ranch in Mexico. She would always have fancy dresses, a beautiful home, and her family to care for her. But a sudden tragedy forces Esperanza and her mother to flee to California and settle in a Mexican farm labor camp.
- Inside Out And Back Again, 2011 by Thanhha Lai (Author).
Ha` has only known Saigon, with its vibrant markets, joyful traditions and her friends and family close by. But now the Vietnam War has reached her home and the family is forced to flee. In America, Ha` discovers the foreign world of Alabama, it's cold strangers and dull food, and the strength within her own family.
- Journey to Ellis Island, 1998 by Carol Bierman (Author), Laurie McGaw (Author), Barbara Hehner (Author).
After trekking across Europe and making it to Ellis Island on the Rotterdam in 1922, young Yehuda Weinstein, his mother, and his younger sister are almost turned away by immigration because he is wearing a sling, when fate intervenes.
- Somos como las Nubes / We are like the Clouds, 2016 by Jorge Arguta (Author), and Alfonso Ruana (Illustrator).
Why are young people leaving their homes to walk to the United States to seek a new, safe home? Over 100,000 such children have left Central America. This book of poetry helps us to understand why, and what it is like to be them.
- Walk Two Moons, 1994 by Sharon Creech (Author).
In this funny and sad adventure story, readers fall in love with 13-year-old Salamanca, who is proud of her Indian blood and her country roots. Two stories weave together and teach the important life lesson that every story has two sides.

Magazines, Journals, Miscellaneous

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Online Links

- American Social History Project: Center For Media And Learning
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- Ellis Island: Part of the Statue of Liberty National Monument
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Background information for the Educator

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- National Museum of the American Indian: Smithsonian: Native Knowledge, New perspectives on Native American history, cultures, and contemporary lives
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Cultures

Resource List for Grades 9 through 12

The 4resources in this section can be used with the Cultures Resource Packet for grades 9 through 12.

Books

Non-fiction and Biography

- Dreaming in Indian: Contemporary Native Americans, 2016 by Lisa Charleyboy (Editor), Mary Beth Leatherdale (Editor).
Whether discussing the transformative power of art or music, the lasting trauma of residential schools, growing up poor, or achieving success, the contributors to this remarkable anthology all have something in common: a rich Native heritage that has informed who they are.
- Ethnic St. Louis, 2015 by Elizabeth Terry (Author), John Wright (Author), Patrick McCarthy (Author).
Ethnic St. Louis highlights the many communities that make St. Louis a vibrant, multi-ethnic city. Accompanied by rare photography.
- First Crossing: Stories About Teen Immigrants, 2007 by Donald R. Gallo (Editor).
Covering a wide range of cultural and economic backgrounds, these stories by 11 well-known authors touch on a variety of teen experiences, with enough attitude and heartfelt angst to speak to young adults anywhere.
- An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States (Revisioning American History for Young People), 2015 by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz (Author).
Spanning more than four hundred years, this classic bottom-up peoples' history radically reframes US history and explodes the silences that have haunted our national narrative.
- Open Mic: Riffs on Life Between Cultures in Ten Voices, 2016 by Various (Author), Mitali Perkins (Editor).
Listen in as ten YA authors, some familiar, some new, use their own brand of humor to share their stories about growing up between cultures.
- Voces Sin Fronteras: Our Stories, Our Truth (Bilingual), 2018 by Latin American Youth Center Writers (Author), Santiago Casares (Translator, Cover Design), & 4 more.
Sixteen young people from the Latin American Youth Center (LAYC) in Washington, D.C. came together to tell their own stories of immigration and transformation in comics form. The result is this side-by-side bilingual collection of graphic memoirs that not only builds connections across language, but also breaks down barriers and expands hope.
- A Young People's History of the United States: Columbus to the War on Terror (For Young People Series), 2009 by Howard Zinn (Author), Rebecca Stefoff (Contributor).
A Young People's History of the United States brings to US history the viewpoints of workers, slaves, immigrants, women, Native Americans, and others whose stories, and their impact, are rarely included in books for young people.

Fiction

- [Across a Hundred Mountains: A Novel](#), 2007 by Reyna Grande (Author).
Across a Hundred Mountains is a stunning and poignant story of migration, loss, and discovery as two women, one born in Mexico and one in the United States, find their lives joined in the most unlikely way.
- [American Street](#), 2018 by Ibi Zoboi (Author).
On the corner of American Street and Joy Road, Fabiola Toussaint thought she would finally find *une belle vie*—a good life. But after they leave Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Fabiola’s mother is detained by U.S. immigration, leaving Fabiola to navigate her loud American cousins, Chantal, Donna, and Princess; the grittiness of Detroit’s west side; a new school; and a surprising romance, all on her own.
- [The Complete Persepolis](#), 2007 by Marjane Satrapi (Author).
Persepolis is the story of Satrapi's unforgettable childhood and coming of age within a large and loving family in Tehran during the Islamic Revolution, and her eventual move to America.
- [How the Garcia Girls Lost Their Accents](#), 2010 by Julia Alvarez (Author).
In this novel, the García sisters, and their family must flee their home in the Dominican Republic after their father’s role in an attempt to overthrow a tyrannical dictator is discovered. They arrive in New York City in 1960 to a life far removed from their existence in the Caribbean.
- [In The Footsteps Of Crazy Horse](#), 2015 by Joseph Marshall (Author), James Mark Yellowhawk (Illustrator).
Drawing references and inspiration from the oral stories of the Lakota tradition, the author juxtaposes the contemporary story of Jimmy with an insider’s perspective on the life of Tasunke Witko, better known as Crazy Horse (c. 1840–1877).
- [The Round House: A Novel](#), 2013 by Louise Erdrich (Author).
This novel will transport readers to the Ojibwe reservation in North Dakota. It is an exquisitely told story of a boy on the cusp of manhood who seeks justice and understanding in the wake of a terrible crime that upends and forever transforms his family.
- [Same Sun Here](#), 2013 by Silas House (Author), Neela Vaswani (Author), Hilary Schenker (Illustrator).
In this extraordinary novel in letters, an Indian immigrant girl in New York City and a Kentucky coal miner's son find strength and perspective by sharing their true selves across the miles.

Magazines, Journals, Miscellaneous

- [Oral History Project of the International Institute](#): Read the stories of immigrants and learn about their countries of origin.
<https://www.iistl.org/OralHistory.html>

Online Links

- [American Social History Project](#): Center For Media And Learning
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