

## Culture Package Resource List 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 Ronal 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, its 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

- 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/>