

Transportation

Resource List for Grades K through 4

The Resources in this document can be used with the Transportation Curriculum Packet for grades K through 4.

Books

Non-fiction and Biography

- The Airplane Alphabet Book, 1999 by Jerry Pallotta (Author), Fred Stillwell (Author), Rob Bolster (Illustrator).
This fact-filled book features planes from A to Z, including the Aviation Trainer Six, the Electra, and the Zero.
- All Aboard: A True Train Story, 2004 by Susan Kuklin.
All aboard as we travel through the Colorado wilderness on the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad with this bright, bold, and exciting picture book about steam engines.
- The Big Book of Airplanes, 2016 by DK (Author).
From military planes to the commercial jumbo jet to space shuttles, this book is a spectacular look at a subject that fascinates kids.
- Flight and Flying Machines (See & Explore Library), 1993 by DK Publishing (Author).
From our first fascination with birds to the development of space flight technology, this illustrated study traces the history of humankind's attempts to fly.
- Into the Air: An Illustrated Timeline of Flight, 2003 by Ryan Ann Hunter (Author), Yan Nascimbene (Illustrator).
Enhanced with a fact-filled timeline and colorful illustrations throughout, an informative tale provides a comprehensive overview of the history of aviation, from the first attempts made and first flight by the Wright Brothers through the fact-finding space missions of today.
- Locomotive, 2013 by Brian Floca (Author, Illustrator).
It is the summer of 1869, and trains, crews, and family are traveling together, riding America's brand-new transcontinental railroad. These pages come alive with the details of the trip and the sounds, speed, and strength of the mighty locomotives; the work that keeps them moving; and the thrill of travel from plains to mountain to ocean.
- The Mary Celeste: An Unsolved Mystery from History, 2002 by Jane Yolen (Author), Heidi E. Y. Stemple (Author), Roger Roth (Illustrator).
The Mary Celeste was discovered adrift on the open sea by another ship in 1872 with no sign of captain or crew. What happened? Did the crew mutiny? Were they attacked by pirates? Caught in a storm? No one ever found out. Inside this book are the clues that were left behind and the theories of what people think happened aboard that ship. Become a detective, study the clues, and see if you can help solve this chilling mystery from history.
- National Geographic Readers: Planes, 2010 by Amy Shields (Author).
How cool is a supersonic jet that can zip, dip, and zoom through the air? Or a helicopter that

hovers as still as a hummingbird? In this book, a real-life pilot introduces kids to the greatest planes that ever flew.

- National Geographic Readers: Trains, 2011 by Amy Shields (Author).
Kids love trains! Especially the old-timey steam engines found in amusement parks and zoos. But what about a super-speeder in Japan that zooms on the track at 361 miles per hour? Or the world's longest freight train, stretching on for a whopping 4.6 miles? Or futuristic railways in the sky? In this book, young readers will discover a whole new way of looking at trains!
- National Geographic Readers: Trucks, 2009 by Wil Mara (Author).
Who can resist trucks? They're loud. They're complicated. They have wheels twice as tall as your dad. This fun book is revved up with sound words and images to steer young readers on the road to reading success.
- Peeking Under the City (What's Beneath), 2016 by Esther Porter (Author), Andrés Lozano (Illustrator).
Tap into kids' natural curiosity by pulling back the curtain on the below-ground workings of a typical big city. High-density, fun-to-explore illustrations and inviting text showcase water and sewer systems, transportation lines, and more.
- Stable, 2010 by Ted Lewin (Author, Illustrator).
The history of Kensington Stables in Brooklyn, New York City. Explains how it was once a central mode of transportation, how its services have changed and grown, and how it now faces possible extinction due to the changes in the area.
- Steam, Smoke and Steel: Back in Time with Trains, 2000 by Patrick O'Brien (Author, Illustrator).
Hop up into the cab of a speeding modern-day locomotive and look down the tracks into the past. Perhaps these are the same tracks that the diesel-electric locomotives of thirty years ago thundered down, pulling their loads. Perhaps you can see the steam engines of thirty years before that.
- Subway Story, 2011 by Julia Sarcone-Roach (Author).
Jessie, the subway car, after decades of enjoyable work in New York, is recycled into an artificial reef off the coast of Delaware in 2001.
- Trains, 2009 by Lynn Curlee (Author, Illustrator).
Explains the history of trains and how they have effected the industrial development of the United States. From steam engines to diesel engines and box cars to sleeper cars, a ride through this book is about as close as most kids can hope to get to the Japanese bullet train or the inner workings of steam power.

Fiction

- Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!, 2003 by Mo Willems (Author, Illustrator).
When a bus driver takes a break from his route, a very unlikely volunteer springs up to take his place, a pigeon! But you've never met one like this before.
- If I Built a Car, 2007 by Chris Van Dusen (Author).
Jack describes the kind of car he would build, one with amazing accessories and with the capability of traveling on land, in the air, and on and under the sea.
- Leonardo and the Flying Boy, 2007 by Laurence Anholt (Author).
Zoro is a little boy in 17th-century Italy, long before airplanes flew in the sky. But Zoro is also an apprentice to the artist and inventor Leonardo da Vinci, and Leonardo is experimenting with a revolutionary flying machine!

- The Little Engine That Could, 2001 by Watty Piper (Author), George Hauman (Illustrator), Doris Hauman (Illustrator).
This new edition is the classic story of a train filled with toys and gifts for little boys and girls that breaks down before reaching the children. After asking several passing trains for help over the hill, a little blue train agrees to help the stranded toys. Even though she is small, the blue train tries her best to bring the toys to the children on the other side of the hill.
- The Polar Express, 1985 by Chris Van Allsburg (Author, Illustrator). Through dark forests, over tall mountains, and across a desert of ice, the Polar Express makes its way to the city atop the world, where a boy will make his Christmas wish.
- Richard Scarry's Cars and Trucks and Things That Go, 1998 by Richard Scarry (Author). Buckle-up for a fun-filled day of planes, trains, automobiles . . . and even a pickle truck! Featuring hundreds of clearly labeled vehicles, this is the perfect book for little vehicle fans
- Subway , 2010 by Christoph Niemann (Author, Illustrator). Simple, rhyming text follows two boys and their father as they spend a rainy day riding the various lines of the New York City subway system.
- Train to Somewhere, 2000 by Eve Bunting (Author), Ronald Himler (Illustrator). Marianne, heading west with fourteen other children on an Orphan Train, is sure her mother will show up at one of the stations along the way. When her mother left Marianne at the orphanage, hadn't she promised she'd come for her after making a new life in the West? Stop after stop goes by, and there's no sign of her mother in the crowds that come to look over the children.
- Zephyr Takes Flight, 2012 by Steve Light (Author). Zephyr is a girl who loves airplanes. She draws pictures of them, makes them out of paper, builds them out of junk, and hopes one day to fly one of her own.

Magazines, Journals, Miscellaneous

- Bicycles by Kids Discover
In this issue, you can get all the facts on this wheeled wonder, from its invention in 1817 by a German baron to the high-tech, speedy cruisers of today. After reviewing the basics, how a bike works, readers will delve into its history, starting with the birth of the wheel in 3500 B.C. and zooming up to the late 1800s, when the bike really took off.
<https://www.kidsdiscover.com/shop/issues/how-a-bike-works/>
- Boats & Ships by Kids Discover
First, take a look at how boats and ships differ, and then they'll learn about the materials that can be used to build them, including logs, fiberglass, and iron. Next, compare the ways boats and ships can be powered, by muscles, wind, or engines, and investigate the many forms they can take: from the basic, like the kayak, to the bizarre, like the New Guinea Lakatoi, which has sails shaped like crab claws.
<https://www.kidsdiscover.com/shop/issues/boats-for-kids/>

Online Links

- The National Museum of American History: Explore the collections containing photographs and historical facts about transportation.
<http://americanhistory.si.edu/collections/subjects/transportation>
- National Transportation Museum: Virtual tour
<http://tours.aspiremedia360.com/44237>

- The Smithsonian: Trains at Smithsonian Station
<https://www.si.edu/spotlight/trains>

Background information for the Educator

- Nanosonic: Lessons using advanced transportation systems as a central theme.
<http://www.nanosonic.com/education/>
- Transportation Teaching Ideas
<https://educators.brainpop.com/bp-jr-topic/transportation/>