Welcome to Kit’s World, 1934: Growing Up During America’s Great Depression

In this book, a young girl is giving an account of her life during the 1930’s. The book starts out in the “Roaring ‘20’s” before talking about the “crash” and how everything changed from that point on in day-to-day life for many people. Accounts are also given about the people who made a difference during this “down” time for America including Amelia Earhart, Franklin Roosevelt and his wife, Eleanor, as well as, Langston Hughes. This book tells of the country during the Great Depression and how everyone’s life was impacted due to the “crash.”

The Wright Brothers

This book describes the Wright brothers’ attempts at flying the first powered airplane. The information is repetitive in a way that will help children remember it. The text is informative, and there are mice characters who give additional information in captions and who make the story more enjoyable for younger students. The book also contains an extensive timeline of the history of airplanes.

Websites for Social Studies and Children’s Literature

Teachers must often collect, organize, evaluate, and synthesize information from multiple sources including reliable and dependable websites in order to find appropriate children’s literature. The following websites have been assessed by the authors, and are recommended to Ohio’s social studies educators.

Children’s Literature in the Social Studies Classroom
http://www.indiana.edu/~reading/ieo/bibs/childsoc.html
The following materials are intended to provide an introduction to Children’s Literature in the Social Studies Classroom. These materials were assembled from the World Wide Web, ERIC Database, and a variety of other bibliographic resources. Instructions for acquiring the full text of the ERIC records are presented at the end of this file.
Children's Literature with Social Studies Themes
http://www.udel.edu/dssepliterature.html
This site is maintained by Delaware Center for Teacher Education
Delaware Social Studies Education Project
University of Delaware
200 Academy Street
Newark, DE 19716-5899

Learning History through Children’s Literature. ERIC Digest.
Teaching history using children’s literature, both fiction and non-fiction, is a well
developed concept enjoying new vitality in the elementary school curriculum. This
Digest discusses (1) the revival of interest in teaching history through children’s
literature, (2) research-based guidelines for teachers of history and children’s literature,
and (3) an innovative method of teaching history using children’s literature.

NCSS Notable Trade Books for Young People
http://www.ncss.org/resources/notable
The books that appear in these annotated book lists were evaluated and selected by a
Book Review Committee appointed by National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS)
and assembled in cooperation with the Children’s Book Council (CBC).

Opening Doors to Social Studies With Children’s Literature
http://teacherlink.ed.usu.edu/TLRESOURCES/units/byrnes-literature/lit.html
Created by:
Students in ELED 405, Teaching Social Studies
Department of Elementary Education
Utah State University
Spring, 1997
Contact Person: Deborah A. Byrnes (byrnes@cc.usu.edu)

The Year's Best Books: Annual Roundup Lists
http://www.ucalgary.ca/~dkbrown/lists.html
The lists here were compiled by a wide range of groups. Their recommendations should
greatly assist Ohio’s teachers.