ABOUT THE LIST AND CRITERIA FOR SELECTION
The books that appear in this annotated book list 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). NCSS and CBC have cooperated on this annual bibliography since 1972. Books selected for this bibliography were published in 2003 and were written for children in grades K-12. The Book Review Committee looks for books that emphasize human relations, represent a diversity of groups and are sensitive to a broad range of cultural experiences, present an original theme or a fresh slant on a traditional topic, are easily readable and of high literary quality, have a pleasing format, and, where appropriate, include illustrations that enrich the text. Each book is read by several reviewers, and books are included on the list by committee assent; the annotations do not necessarily reflect the judgment of the entire committee.

Publishers’ addresses are available in standard reference works such as Children’s Books in Print (R.R. Bowker) and Literary Market Place (R.R. Bowker), and from CBC. CBC’s Members List may be downloaded from the CBC website, www.cbcbooks.org. Credits for permission to reproduce the cover art included in this supplement are printed on page 16.

Titles are arranged by broad subject categories. Although many are appropriate for more than one subject category, they have been placed where their usefulness in social studies education appears greatest. Annotators have also indicated the thematic strands (shown below) from Expectations of Excellence: Curriculum Standards for Social Studies, to which the book relates.

THEMATIC STRANDS OF THE NCSS
CURRICULUM STANDARDS FOR SOCIAL STUDIES
- Culture
- Time, Continuity, and Change
- People, Places, and Environments
- Individual Development and Identity
- Individuals, Groups, and Institutions
- Power, Authority, and Governance
- Production, Distribution, and Consumption
- Science, Technology, and Society
- Global Connections
- Civic Ideals and Practices

BOOK REVIEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS
- Ann Claucho, coordinator of the Elementary Resident Teacher Program, Partnership Program, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM (AC)
- John L. Daly, Massachusetts Geographic Alliance (JLD)
- Anne Fitzpatrick, consulting teacher, Seattle Public Schools, Seattle, WA (AEF)
- Barbara A. Gallo, social studies teacher, Marlboro Middle School, Marlboro, NJ (BAG)
- Joseph Gotchy, social studies/history teacher, Thomas Jefferson High School, Federal Way Public Schools, Federal Way, WA (JRG)
- Eric Chandler Groce, assistant professor of elementary social studies methods, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC (ECG)
- Jean Hefferle Kobeski, fourth grade teacher, Walpole Elementary School, Walpole, NH (JHK)
- Motoko Lynn Maegawa, fifth grade teacher, Kingsbury School, Oxford, MI (MLM)
- Diane M. McCarty, associate professor of education, Wartburg College, Waverly, IA (DMM)
- Marjorie A. Montgomery, education consultant and teacher trainer, Newton, MA (MAM)
- Karen E. Thompson, committee chair, retired grade seven ancient history and geography teacher, Boylston, MA (KET)
- Karen R. Todorov, social studies education consultant, Michigan Department of Education, Lansing, MI (KRT)

ABOUT THE ANNOTATIONS
1 The titles marked with the book icon are Selectors’ Choices—books that individual committee members responded to with particular enthusiasm.
2 Title: Subtitle
3 Author(s)
4 Illustrator
5 Publisher
6 Number of pages
7 International Standard Book Numbers (ISBNs) are included for all available editions (trade, library, and paperback). The symbol “F” indicates that a paperback edition is forthcoming. A publisher’s name in parentheses indicates that a different publisher will issue the paperback edition.
8 Price as of January 2004
9 Reading levels: P: Primary (K-2), I: Intermediate (3-5), M: Middle (6-8), H: High (9-12). They are intended as guidelines and are not meant to limit the potential use of titles.
10 Brief descriptive annotation, plus notations of the presence of additional textual materials, if any.
11 Initials indicating the reviewer responsible for the annotation (see list above).
12 Thematic strands of the curriculum standards for social studies in order of relevancy (see list at left).

THE PIED PIPER OF HAMELIN

The Pied Piper of Hamelin carillon adds to the charm of historic Covington, Kentucky. Author’s Note. Bibliography. (ABM) I, IV

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
**Biography**

**AIRBORE: A BIOGRAPHY OF WILBUR AND ORVILLE WRIGHT.** Mary Collins. Illustrated with prints and photographs. National Geographic Society. 64pp. Trade ISBN 0-7922-6957-8, $18.95. (M) Among the anniversary books, this one stands alone as a unique and powerful photo archive that documents the lives of the brothers who initiated human flight. Text and illustrations are excellent. Afterword, Chronology, Resource List. Index. (JRG) IV, VIII, I


**EXTRAORDINARY ASIAN AMERICANS AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS** (Extraordinary People series). Susan Sinnott. Illustrated with photographs. Scholastic Library Publishing. 288pp. Library ISBN 0-516-22655-X, $19.00; Paperback ISBN 0-516-29355-9, $16.95. (I, M) This collection of short biographies highlights both historical and contemporary notable Americans. Short essays on topics such as Chinese railroad workers and Hmong refugees are also included. Author’s Note, Notes, Bibliography, Index. (AEP) I, III, V

**FACING THE LION: GROWING UP MAASAI ON THE AFRICAN SAVANNA.** Joseph Lemasolai Lekuton. Illustrated with photographs. National Geographic Society. 144pp. Trade ISBN 0-7922-5125-3, $15.95. (I, M) Two thumbs up for this poignant, personal, often amusing, autobiographical journey of a young Kenyan man who learns, through his schooling, to straddle and live in two worlds. Author’s Note. (DMM) I, IV, III, IX

**FIGHT ON! MARY CHURCH TERRELL’S BATTLE FOR INTEGRATION.** Dennis Brindell Fradin and Judith Bloom Fradin. Illustrated with prints and photographs. Clarion Books. 192pp. Trade ISBN 0-618-13349-6, $17.00. (I, M) This beautiful story details nearly a century of discrimination through one woman’s eyes. Mary Church Terrell was the first black school board member in Washington, D.C., and was instrumental in founding the NAACP. Source Notes, Bibliography, Index. (DMM) IV, X, II

FREDERICK DOUGLASS: FOR THE GREAT FAMILY OF MAN. Peter Burchard. Illustrated with prints. Atheneum Books for Young Readers. 240pp. Trade ISBN 0-689-83240-0, $18.95. (M, H) This narrative offers an honest portrayal of Douglass, with all his human foibles, from his birth in slavery through his evolution as the man who fought for emancipation and for the dignity of all people—“the great family of man.” Author’s Note, Epilogue, Bibliographic Essay, Notes of Sources, Bibliography, Index. (MAM) V, II, VI

GEORGE WASHINGTON’S TEETH. Deborah Chandra and Madeleine Comora. Illustrated by Brock Cole. Farrar, Straus and Giroux. 40pp. Trade ISBN 0-374-32534-0, $16.00. (P) History and humor are fused to create a lively story about the first president’s personal and professional life. Dental artifacts like false teeth made of hippopotamus ivory help explain Washington’s lifelong pursuit of a perfect union between his smile and his nearly toothless gums. Chronology, Sources, Illustrations, Photos. (JRG) III, I, X


MY BROTHER MARTIN: A SISTER REMEMBERS GROWING UP WITH THE REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. Christine King Farris. Illustrated by Chris Soentpiet. Simon and Schuster Books for Young Readers. Trade ISBN 0-689-84387-9, $17.95. F (Aladdin Paperbacks/Simon and Schuster). (I, M, H) King’s sister brings new insight into the life of a mischievous little boy—long before he had his “dream.” Learning he couldn’t play with his white friends anymore, the young boy told his mother, “...one day I’m going to turn this world upside down.” Afterword, Illustrator’s Note. (MAM) IV, II


RACE FOR THE SKY: THE KITTY HAWK DIARIES OF JOHNNY MOORE. Dan Gutman. Illustrated with prints and photographs. Simon and Schuster Books for Young Readers. 192pp. Trade ISBN 0-689-83554-5, $15.05. F (Aladdin Paperbacks/Simon and Schuster). (I) This account of the Wright brothers’ adventures is told in diary format through the eyes of a young boy. The book is strengthened by an addendum that authenticates many of the events within the text. Facts and Fictions, Bibliography. (ECG) VIII


THEODORE ROOSEVELT: CHAMPION OF THE AMERICAN SPIRIT. Betsy Harvey Kraft. Illustrated with photographs. Clarion Books. 208pp. Trade ISBN 0-618-1-4264-9, $19.00. (M) A panoramic portrait of the twenty-sixth president told with the same vigor that Roosevelt himself exuded. By including quotes and journal entries, the author provides an insight into the man along with a synopsis of the historical times in which he lived. Bibliography, Source Notes, Index, Chronology, Places to Visit. (BAG) IV, III


THE WRIGHT SISTER: KATHARINE WRIGHT AND HER FAMOUS BROTHERS. Richard Maurer. Illustrated with prints and photographs. Roaring Brook Press. 128pp. Trade ISBN 0-7636-1546-2, $18.95; Library ISBN 0-7636-1546-6, $25.00. (M, H) The Wright brothers’ efforts to fly are described through the eyes of their sister Katharine. This biography also gives insight into what life was like for an educated, intelligent woman in the early 1900s. Author’s Note, Bibliography, Index. (AEF) VII, IV, III

www.socialstudies.org/resources/notable
Contemporary Concerns


**BUDDHA BOY.** Kathe Koja. Frances Foster Books/Farrar, Straus and Giroux. 120pp. Trade ISBN 0-374-31519-1, $16.95. (I, M) Although fictionalized, this account of a carpet factory is based upon the real life of Iqbal Masih, a hero of the carpet factories in Pakistan. It offers a heart-stopping view of child labor and provides extensive information about how to become involved in the issue. (AC) I, III, VI, V


**THE CARPET BOY'S GIFT.** Pegi Deitz Shea. Illustrated by Leane Morin. Tilbury House Publishers. 40pp. Trade ISBN 0-88448-248-0, $16.95. (I, M) Although fictionalized, this account of a carpet factory is based upon the real life of Iqbal Masih, a hero of the carpet factories in Pakistan. It offers a heart-stopping view of child labor and provides extensive information about how to become involved in the issue. (AC) I, III, VI, V

**COLIBRÍ.** Ann Cameron. Frances Foster Books/Farrar, Straus and Giroux. 128pp. Trade ISBN 0-374-31519-1, $16.95. (M, H) Colibrí is kidnapped from her parents in Guatemala at the age of four. Wandering for eight years with the man who stole her, Colibrí dreams of a reunion with her family. (KRT) IV


**IQBAL.** Francesco D’Adamo. Translated by Ann Leonori. Atheneum Books for Young Readers. 128pp. Trade ISBN 0-689-85445-5, $15.95. (I, M) Thirteen-year-old Iqbal brings hope to Fatima and the other children in a Pakistani carpet factory when he stands up to the owner. This docu-novel highlights the horrible working conditions of millions of child laborers. Author’s Note, Bibliography. (AEF) V, X


**SEPTEMBER 11, 2001: ATTACK ON NEW YORK CITY.** Wilborn Hampton. Illustrated with photographs. Candlewick Press. 160pp. Trade ISBN 0-7636-1949-3, $17.99. (M) Sensitive accounts of several people who were in or near the World Trade Center on September 11th. The diverse stories, accompanied by black and white photographs, emphasize human relationships and heroism and provide a detailed description of that day from various perspectives. Bibliography, Index. (BAG) V, III

**SHOULD WE HAVE PETS? A PERSUASIVE TEXT.** Sylvia Lollis with Joyce Hogan and her second-grade class. Illustrated with photographs. Mondo Publishing. 32pp. Trade ISBN 1-59034-044-2, $6.00. F (Mondo Publishing). (P, I) In their effort to learn to write persuasive arguments, the students of a second-grade class produced this book. It is organized by their pro and con arguments on several subtopics. How We Wrote Our Persuasive Book, Glossary, Index. (KET) X


**YEAR OF NO RAIN.** Alice Mead. Farrar, Straus and Giroux. 144pp. Trade ISBN 0-374-37288-8, $16.00. (M, H) An unintended consequence of drought relief provided to Sudanese villages is the unwanted terror from rebel forces. Civil war adds an unbearable burden to villages suffering from a year without rain. Introduction, Maps. (KRT) VI, II, IX

**Environment and Ecology**

**AMERICA’S MOUNTAINS.** Frank Staub. Illustrated with photographs. Mondo Publishing. 48pp. Trade ISBN 1-59034-870-2, $16.95. F (Mondo Publishing). (I) This exploration of America’s mountain ranges explains what a mountain is and describes how different kinds of mountains are formed. Striking photographs illustrate plants and animals found in the mountains and climate is discussed. Glossary. (JHK) VIII

**PANDA BEAR, PANDA BEAR, WHAT DO YOU SEE?** Bill Martin, Jr. Illustrated by Eric Carle. Henry Holt Books for Young Readers. 32pp. Trade ISBN 0-8050-1758-5, $15.95. (P, I) Brown Bear, Brown Bear fans will recognize the format, which is used effectively in this story to tell the plight of ten endangered animals. Author’s Note. (KRT) III, IX

**RECYCLE EVERY DAY!** Nancy Elizabeth Wallace. Illustrated by the author. Marshall Cavendish Children’s Books. 32pp. Trade ISBN 0-7614-5149-8, $16.95. (P) This story follows a rabbit family for a week and chronicles their recycling activities. The illustrations are created from recycled material. Recycle Game and Activity, Author’s Note. (ECG) VII


**Folktales**


**MRS. CHICKEN AND THE HUNGRY CROCODILE.** Won-Ldy Paye and Margaret H. Lippert. Illustrated by Julie Paschkis. Henry Holt Books for Young Readers. 32pp. Trade ISBN 0-8050-7047-8, $16.95. (P) When a crocodile captures Mrs. Chicken and takes her to an island to fatten her up, clever Mrs. Chicken claims that she can prove they are sisters and, therefore, the crocodile shouldn’t eat her. About the Story. (KET) I, IV


Geography, Peoples, and Places

COMING TO AMERICA: A MUSLIM FAMILY’S STORY. Bernard Wolf. Illustrated with photographs by the author. Lee and Low Books. 32pp. Trade ISBN 1-58430-086-8, $17.95; Paperback ISBN 1-58340-177-5, $7.95. (P, I) This photo-essay chronicles the home, school, work, and religious experiences of a Muslim family from Egypt now living in Queens, New York. In this contemporary immigrant story, readers see how a close-knit family adjusts to American life while adhering to Muslim beliefs and Egyptian culture. (JHK) III, I


EVERYBODY WORKS. Shelley Rotner and Ken Kreisler. Illustrated with photographs by Shelley Rotner. The Millbrook Press. 32pp. Library ISBN 0-7613-1751-1, $23.90. (P) Bright illustrations and succinct text offer a look at different types of work. Special attention was given to diversity in rural and urban settings. This is a must for the primary library. (AC) I, III, VII


GRAND CENTRAL TERMINAL: GATEWAY TO NEW YORK CITY. Ed Stanley. Illustrated with photographs. Mondo Publishing. 48pp. Trade ISBN 1-59034-491-X, $16.95. F (Mondo Publishing). (I) This historical study combines the theme of place with superb photography to illustrate how people’s decisions influence change. All architectural features are explained and located for today’s visitors to be able to find. Timeline, Glossary, Index. (MLM) III, VIII


IT’S BACK TO SCHOOL WE GO! FIRST DAY STORIES FROM AROUND THE WORLD. Ellen Jackson. Illustrated by Jan Davey Ellis. The Millbrook Press. 32pp. Trade ISBN 0-7613-1948-4, $15.95; Library ISBN 0-7613-2562-X, $23.90. (P, I) The first day of school is exciting for young children no matter what part of the world they live in. Eleven countries are represented through different children’s first-person accounts; a fact page about each culture is included. Author’s Note, World Map, Bibliography, Web Resources. (DMM) III, I, V


MURALS: WALLS THAT SING. George Ancona. Illustrated with photographs by the author. Marshall Cavendish Children’s Books. 48pp. Trade ISBN 0-7614-5131-5, $17.95. (I, M) This is a fascinating look at outdoor murals and the communities they depict. The text touches upon the history and philosophy of this art form and briefly describes how an artist develops a design. This colorful photo-essay would make an excellent addition to resources used in the study of community. (JHK) III, I
History, Life, and Culture in the Americas


BLUES JOURNEY. Walter Dean Myers. Illustrated by Christopher Myers. Holiday House. 49pp. Trade ISBN 0-8234-1613-5, $18.95. (I) A delicate synthesis of life-depicting lyrics and mood-provoking illustrations. This is a logical choice to begin a unit on the blues or on the Mississippi Delta region. Timeline, Glossary. (ECG) I, III


CAPITAL. Lynn Curlee. Illustrated by the author. Atheneum Books for Young Readers. 48pp. Trade ISBN 0-689-82947-8, $17.95. F (Aladdin Paperbacks/Simon and Schuster). (I) Students will explore the history, the builders, and the creation of the Capitol building, the White House, and memorials on the National Mall. Map, Author’s Note, Bibliography. (JLD) X, III


THE GREAT EXPEDITION OF LEWIS AND CLARK BY PRIVATE REUBIN FIELD, MEMBER OF THE CORPS OF DISCOVERY. Judith Edwards. Illustrated by Sally Wern Comport. Farrar, Straus and Giroux. 40pp. Trade ISBN 0-374-38039-2, $17.00. (P, I) Students will relate to the flavorful, folksy narrative of Lewis and Clark’s expedition recounted from the fictional perspective of the youngest member of the Corps of Discovery. The adventures and hardships are successfully conveyed, as is the enormity of the accomplishment. Bibliography, Author’s Note. (BAG) III


THE PRINTER. Myron Uhlberg. Illustrated by Henri Sorensen. Peachtree Publishers. 32pp. Trade ISBN 1-56145-221-1, $16.95. F (Peachtree Publishers). (I, M) In the 1940s, printing was one of the few careers open to the deaf. In this story, a deaf printer, who only speaks sign language, needs to warn his hearing colleagues about a ferocious fire threatening all of their lives. Author's Note, How to Sign “Fire,” How to Make a Printer's Hat. (MAM) IV, I


SKILLET BREAD, SOURDOUGH, AND VINEGAR PIE: COOKING IN PIONEER DAYS. Loretta Frances Ichord. Illustrated by Jan Davey Ellis. The Millbrook Press. 64pp. Library ISBN 0-7613-1864-X, $24.95. (I) Recipes, cooking directions, and history accompany this collection of stories on foods people ate in the movement across the American West. This is an essential resource for a Pioneer Days project. Equipment Appendix, Source Notes, Bibliography, Index. (JLD) III, I


TOUCHING THE SKY: THE FLYING ADVENTURES OF WILBUR AND ORVILLE WRIGHT. Louise Borden and Trish Marx. Illustrated by Peter Fiore. Margaret K. McElderry Books. 64pp. Trade ISBN 0-689-84876-5, $18.95. (P) The Wright brothers took their historic flight in 1903 and within six years they were full-fledged celebrities. This delightfully written first-person account of their flights in New York and Berlin, captures the public’s excitement at seeing the brothers in their flying machines. Aviation Timeline. (BAG) VIII, III


WE ARE AMERICANS: VOICES OF THE IMMIGRANT EXPERIENCE. Dorothy and Thomas Hoobler. Illustrated with photographs. Scholastic Nonfiction. 192pp. Trade ISBN 0-439-16297-1, $21.95. F (Scholastic). (I) A chronological history of immigration to the United States, describing the conditions that each wave of immigrants encountered as well as the experience of immigrants as they adjusted to their new country. Extensive use of letters, diaries, oral histories, photographs, and illustrations. Index, Further Reading. (BAG) III, II

WE ASKED FOR NOTHING: THE REMARKABLE JOURNEY OF CABEZA DE VACA. Illustrated by Tom McNeeley. Mikaya Press. 48pp. Trade ISBN 1-931414-07-6, $19.95. (I, M) This book details the transformation of a conquistador as he wanders through the New World for eight years dependent on Native Americans. Actual excerpts from his journal appear in the margins. Maps, Epilogue. (AC) II, VI, I


WHALE SNOW. Debbie Dahl Edwardson. Illustrated by Annie Patterson. Charlesbridge. 32pp. Trade ISBN 1-57091-903-5, $15.95. (P) A young Inupiaq boy learns of the ties between his people’s culture and the hunting of bowhead whales. This story includes interesting contrasts between historic beliefs and modern times on the North Slope of Alaska. Inupiaq Language Note, Suggested Website, Glossary, Bowhead-Ilulissat Partnership Note. (JLD) I, IV, III


Reference


photographs and paintings illustrate a comprehensive, chronologically organized reference guide to American history. Introduction, Appendix of Timelines and documents, Index. (RET) II, V, III

**Social Interactions & Relationships**

**AT THE END OF WORDS: A DAUGHTER’S MEMOIR.** Miriam Stone. Candlewick Press. 64pp. Trade ISBN 0-7636-1854-3, $14.00. (H) A passionate, honest look at a seventeen-year-old daughter’s feelings and experiences as her parent succumbs to cancer. This final farewell and acceptance of death is told through personal narrative and poetic forms. Author’s Letter to Mother. (DMM) IV, II

**BLUEBONNET GIRL.** Michael Lind. Illustrated by Kate Kiesler. Henry Holt Books for Young Readers. 40pp. Trade ISBN 0-8050-6573-3, $16.95. (P) A Comanche legend culminating in the spring flowering of the bluebonnets on the plains of Texas is retold here in verse accompanied by evocative acrylic paintings. Author’s Note. (JLD) IV, III

**THE CRYING ROCKS.** Janet Taylor Lisle. Richard Jackson Books/Atheneum Books for Young Readers. 208pp. Trade ISBN 0-689-85319-X, $16.95. (P) This novel explains how ancestral history influences life today. The ease with which Narragansett Native American history is incorporated is valuable for study of history and writing. A must-have for studies on Rhode Island. (MLM) IV, II


**OLD TURTLE AND THE BROKEN TRUTH.** Douglas Wood. Illustrated by Jon J. Muth. Scholastic Press. 64pp. Trade ISBN 0-439-32109-3, $17.95. F (Scholastic). (P) The character Old Turtle returns in this book to share some simple truths about how humans should relate to one another and the world around them. This beautifully illustrated fable is a timeless story about love, acceptance, and the nature of truth. (BAG) X, IV


**World History & Culture**


Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People 2004


**HOW PEOPLE LIVE.** Dr. Deena Freeman. Illustrated with photographs. DK Publishing. 304pp. Trade ISBN 0-7894-9867-7, 129.99. (M) Students will enjoy this lavishly illustrated collection of stories, accompanied by summaries on customs, religions, languages, and natural environments that influence the daily life of ethnic groups around the world. Index. (JLD) III, I, IX


ROOM IN THE HEART. Sonia Levitin. Dutton Children’s Books. 256pp. Trade ISBN 0-525-46871-4, $16.99. F (Puffin Books). (M) This novel, told from several points of view, depicts life in Copenhagen during the Nazi occupation. This fascinating, sometimes graphic story describes how the Danes heroically fought back and how ultimately thousands of Danish Jews were saved. (JHK) VI


VOICES OF ANCIENT EGYPT. Kay Winters. Illustrated by Barry Moser. National Geographic Society. 32pp. Trade ISBN 0-7922-7560-8, $16.95. (I, M) Clearly the pharaoh was the most powerful person in ancient Egypt, but this book tells about the lives and occupations of other members of society. Expressed in rhyme, it fills out the story of daily life in Egypt. Author’s Notes, Bibliography. (KRT) II, III, V


Economics


SEND IT! Don Carter. Illustrated by the author. Roaring Brook Press. 24pp. Trade ISBN 0-7613-1578-0, $12.95; Library ISBN 0-7613-2573-5, $19.90. (P) Simple text and bold, colorful illustrations trace a package through the postal system from sender to recipient in one week. An exciting concept book to read aloud, this book will also make an excellent addition to a community helpers unit. (JHK) VI

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