Amplify CKLA Trade Book List



Introduction to the Trade Book List

This list contains selected authentic texts that can help students extend the knowledge built throughout the Amplify CKLA program. These texts are not meant to replace texts within the domains (Grades K-2) or units (Grades 3-5); rather, they offer opportunities for extension, enrichment, and further development of the rich knowledge webs students develop throughout Amplify CKLA. The texts selected for each domain or unit reflect characters and subjects with a wide range of backgrounds, cultures, and identity factors, ensuring that all students find connections between domain knowledge and their own lives. These texts also help students learn about cultures with which they may be unfamiliar, ensuring that students continue growing in their understanding of others and their appreciation of the world's diversity.

For example, in Kindergarten Domain 4, students learn about plants, including details about their life cycle, their anatomy, and their diversity. They also learn about ways different people have interacted with plants, from Johnny Appleseed's work planting trees to Dr. George Washington Carver's research and innovation in botany. The Trade Book List recommends additional authentic texts to help students extend this learning. The recommended books further explore students' memories of Dr. Carver; chronicle how a young Japanese girl and her grandfather share a love for the garden; introduce readers to the annual radish-carving festival in Oaxaca, Mexico; follow community members as they develop a community garden; trace a dandelion's life cycle; and dive into the history of corn, including its origin in early indigenous populations. This selection of books offers many ways to connect domain content with individual student needs, ensuring that students have text options that reflect their areas of interest as well as a wide range of cultures, histories, and geographies.

Similarly, in Grade 4's *Eureka! Student Inventor* unit, students explore the work of several significant inventors. Selections from the Trade Book List help students expand that knowledge, teaching them about historic and contemporary inventors from across the world. They can follow the true story of a boy from Bangladesh whose invention helps his family and his community, learn about how Stephen Hawking unlocked the secrets of the universe and how NASA astronaut Ellen Ochoa developed several different inventions, discover how Navajo Code Talkers drew on their native language to create a code that helped America and its allies win World War II, and delight in the tale of how one of the world's biggest water toys came to exist. These texts help students realize that anyone can become an inventor, no matter their age, nation, ethnic or racial background, economic status, or physical ability.

Connecting the Trade Book Collection and the Trade Book List

The Amplify CKLA Trade Book Collection, available in Grades K-2, contains anchor texts intended for use as an introduction to each domain in the Knowledge Strand. These books engage students, pique their curiosity, and build initial background knowledge before they dive into the deeper content of the domain Read-Alouds.

The Amplify CKLA Trade Book List contains authentic texts that help students extend and develop what they have learned in a domain or unit. These texts are intended for use during or after students begin studying a domain. They may help students see themes from the domain/unit from a new perspective, apply concepts to a new context, or consider how different groups of people (across geographies, eras, and cultures, nations, and ethnicities or races) have shared common experiences or encountered similar events.

How to Use the Trade Book List

These texts offer a way for students to make further connections outside the Read-Aloud text. Students may read one or more of these books independently, or you may choose to use them for shared or small-group reading during a Pausing Point day or other appropriate time. The book can be used as inspiration for a wide range of culminating projects and activities.

Use one of the activities below to help extend and strengthen learning:

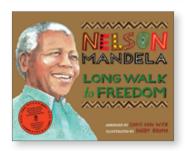
- Use a Venn diagram to compare and contrast domain content and content from the book.
- Create a T-chart with vocabulary from both the domain and the book.
- Have students respond to the book in a journal entry.
- Discuss how and if the book helped students learn something new about the domain topic.
- Use the book as an anchor text for additional writing activities.

Grade 5

Grade 5 Trade Book List

Unit 1:

Personal Narratives



Long Walk to Freedom

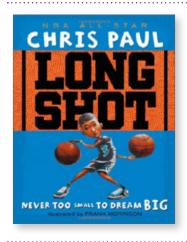
by Nelson Mandela

In this version of Mandela's story, abridged for younger readers, he explains the apartheid system and his long battle to bring it down. The years of hardship and often violent struggle, followed by his release from prison and eventual election as South Africa's president, make this an inspirational and important story to share with students. While Mandela's own words, along with a timeline and glossary, help readers understand what he and his people endured, some students may require additional teacher guidance around the difficult topics raised here, including long term imprisonment and gun violence.



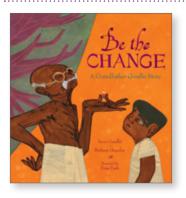
The House Baba Built: An Artist's Childhood in China by Ed Young

Through first-person narrative and alluring artwork, Ed Young brings readers into his story of growing up in Shanghai during World War II. The harsh realities of how life, family, and home are transformed by war are sensitively balanced with playful memories from the imagination of a youngster destined to be an artist. Collages of family photos, maps, original artwork, and pull-out pages make reading an involving experience.



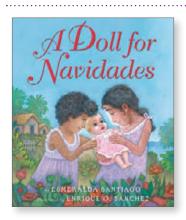
Long Shot: Never Too Small to Dream Big by Chris Paul

NBA star Chris Paul's picture book autobiography will appeal to basketball fans and anyone who enjoys a story about succeeding in life despite being told they're inadequate. A wide range of readers will find Paul's story and the lively illustrations an accessible and fun read.



Be the Change: A Grandfather Gandhi Story by Arun Gandhi

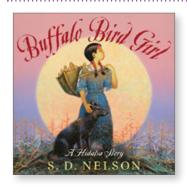
Arun Gandhi tells of a childhood visit to the service village of this grandfather, Mahatma, and his struggles to learn valuable yet complicated lessons about wastefulness and non-violence. Arun's words and the accompanying images bring to life the struggle between a child's inner voice and an adult's guidance running contrary to that voice. This text can be a useful springboard for discussions about living in concert with the world around us as well as how to care for our social emotional well-being.



A Doll For Navidades

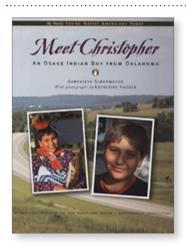
by Esmeralda Santiago

Esmeralda Santiago's picture book is based on what happened on her family's celebration of Three Kings Day when she was only seven. Her personal and touching story will connect readers to such simple and important themes as how difficult it can be to give up something we value so others can benefit and the well of strength that a family's love can provide.



Buffalo Bird Girl: A Hidatsa Story Retold by S. D. Nelson

S.D. Hinton has woven together the words of Buffalo Bird Girl, who grew up among the Hidatsa people in the early 1800s, with colorful artwork and archival photos. The result is a book that uses the power of personal narrative to transport readers back in time to learn of the Hidatsa way of life through the eyes of a young tribe member. The Author's Note explains how Hinton became connected to the Hidatsa and Buffalo Bird Girl. Please note that the text mentions guns and alcohol.

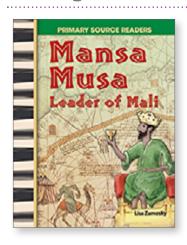


Meet Christopher: An Osage Indian Boy from Oklahoma by Genevieve Simermeyer

This narrative about a young boy named Christopher, which relays his personal stories of everyday life in present day Oklahoma, will have readers feeling as if they actually know him. While the text describes Christopher's life both inside and outside of the Osage culture, attending school and participating in Osage traditions, Christopher always draws strength from the native heritage he and his family share. In addition to first-person narrative, this book includes additional text and contemporary and historic photos to help introduce the Osage people and their culture.

Unit 2:

Early American Civilizations



Mansa Musa: Leader of Mali: World Cultures Through Time (Primary Source Readers)

by Lisa Zamosky

While early American civilizations were thriving, Africa also had its own highly developed empires. Mali was one of them, and Mansa Musa was perhaps its most well known leader. This book's informative text, which is interspersed among maps, illustrations, and photos of Mali's people, can serve as a useful introduction to Mali's history and culture. Teachers might also consider this text for its explanation of Mansa Musa's devotion to Islam and his famous journey to Mecca in 1324 CE.



If You Were Me and Lived in... Ancient China: The Han Dynasty - An Introduction to Civilizations Throughout Time by Carole P. Roman

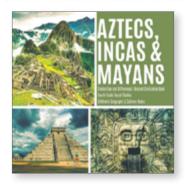
This book takes a child's perspective on life during the Han dynasty's rule in China nearly two thousand years ago. A wide variety of cultural aspects are discussed, from homes, clothing, and food to social structure, festivals, and famous citizens. As students study *Early American Civilizations*, this text can provide a framework for comparing and contrasting that learning with another highly developed civilization from another part of the world.



Magic Windows/Ventanas mágicas

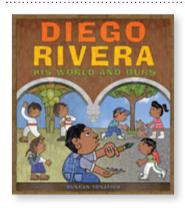
by Carmen Lomas Garza

Carmen Lomas Garza's papel picado (cut paper art) offers a unique way of drawing readers into the world of Mexican history and culture. Each piece of Garza's art, which seems to reveal itself more fully the longer you view it, and the accompanying descriptions will capture readers' imagination and reveal aspects of contemporary Mexican culture, including its connections to the times of the Aztecs and Spanish arrival.



Aztecs, Incas and Mayans Similarities and Differences: Ancient Civilization Book. Fourth Grade Social Studies. Children's Geography and Cultures Books.

This text will help broaden and deepen readers' knowledge about the Maya, Inca, and Aztec civilizations. Descriptions and illustrations cover a wide range of topics and facts about the social, economic, and political structures that existed in each culture. Teachers might consider this text as a supplement to Amplify CKLA materials relating to this unit. We recommend that teachers preview an image of a blood sacrifice that appears in the text and consider how to best support students in viewing and interpreting the image.



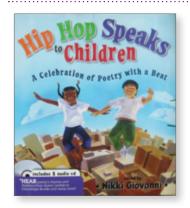
Diego Rivera: His World and Ours

by Duncan Tonatiuh

As readers explore Rivera's artwork, depicted here in a visual style reminiscent of ancient codex texts, they will see how his choice of subjects reflected his pride in Mexican culture and its ancient roots. This text can be used to show the lasting influence of Aztec and Mayan civilizations in modern times. Mentions of the incredible city of Tenochtitlan and the Aztec encounter with Spanish Conquistadors will also connect to the study of *Early American Civilizations*.

Unit 3:

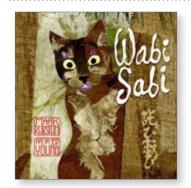
Poetry



Hip Hop Speaks to Children: A Celebration of Poetry with a Beat

by Nikki Giovanni

Poetry comes alive with rhyme and rhythm in this collection of poems with a beat. In this edition, which includes an audio CD, readers can read and hear fifty poems and songs by artists and speakers, poets, and performers. The author's introduction to "Stories in Rhythm" outlines the evolution of rhythmic storytelling, from opera to spirituals to hiphop, and sets the stage for a very exciting and relatable introduction into poetry for elementary students.



Wabi Sabi

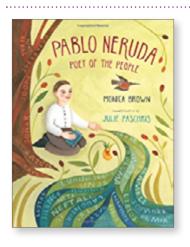
by Mark Reibstein

Paragraphs of prose weave together with haiku and a graphically striking collage to tell the story of a curious cat who begins to wonder about the meaning of her name. Her journey to find the answer brings Wabi Sabi and readers in touch with a sublime truth: the simple, the ordinary, and even the unknown can be beautiful. Opportunities abound here for students to explore literal and metaphorical meanings, use of poetic language, and even Japanese philosophy.



My Chinatown: One Year in Poems by Kam Mak

This text is a vibrantly illustrated book of poems about the culture within a culture in New York's Chinatown. Written from a boy's perspective, each poem uses sensory words to convey the sights and sounds of his neighborhood as well as the boy's thoughts about who he is and how he fits into the place he calls home.



Pablo Neruda: Poet of the People

by Monica Brown

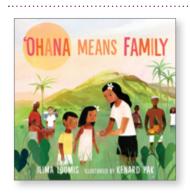
Before the man we now know as Pablo Neruda began publishing poetry, he was a little boy called Neftali who was learning how words could magically express his thoughts and feelings. Readers will be enchanted with this picture book version of how Neruda became the poet of the people of Chile. Illustrations creatively weave together Spanish and English words with depictions of scenes from Neruda's life, helping readers create of picture of him, his chosen subject matter, and his activism. A brief Author's Note with a photo of the poet reminds readers that this story comes from real life.



Ode to an Onion: Pablo Neruda & His Muse

by Alexandria Giardino

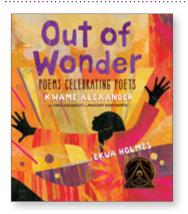
This text touches on the themes of friendship and how poets look at the world around them. The simple storyline about Pablo and Matilde's differing views of an onion can open a window into thinking about contrasting perspectives on what is beautiful. Teachers might consider this text as an introduction to odes or as part of a social emotional learning activity about how people can still be friends even if they see the world differently. This text can also be used as a partner text to *Pablo Neruda: Poet of the People*.



Ohana Means Family

by Ilima Loomis

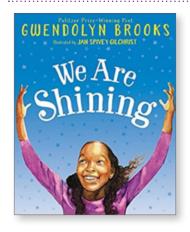
The pages of this picture book feature short stanzas that celebrate the indigenous people of Hawaii, their farming culture, and the luau celebration. As they follow the storyline about poi being grown and harvested in preparation for a luau, students can consider how the author employs various poetic techniques such as rhyme, repetition, and personification.



Out of Wonder: Poems Celebrating Poets

by Kwame Alexander

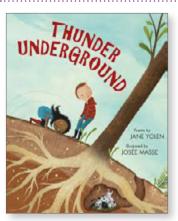
Kwame Alexander and two other authors pay homage to twenty poets who inspired their passion for the genre. Each poem reverently borrows a trademark stylistic element of the celebrated poet and is accompanied by energetic mixed-media artwork. The poems can be used to introduce readers to a wide variety of poets, both past and present. An "About the Poets Being Celebrated" section gives additional details of the lives and work of each poet.



We are Shining

by Gwendolyn Brooks

Gwendolyn Brooks's hopeful and moving poem appears to float among this book's vibrant images. Published to coincide with Brooks's one hundredth birthday, this book could be used to introduce Brooks and encourage students to read her other poems. This poem's uplifting celebration of worldwide diversity can be fodder for positive classroom discussions. Please note the poem's brief mention of violence against families as you consider how best to present this text to students.



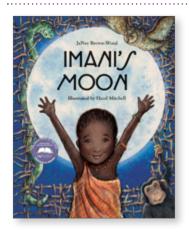
Thunder Underground

by Jane Yolen

Each poem in this collection features some aspect of the underground world, from ants to lost cities to caves. Teachers may find these poems, with their straightforward meanings, useful in helping readers struggling with more advanced poetry. A variety of poetic techniques can be found here including rhyme, onomatopoeia, and personification.

Unit 4:

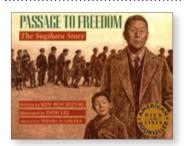
Adventures of Don Quixote



Imani's Moon

by Janay Brown-Wood

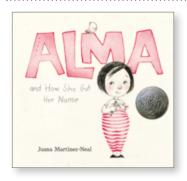
In this story, a young Maasai girl takes a Quixotic quest to visit the moon. What results may surprise readers and also get them pondering the reasons people go on such quests and what can be learned about themselves along the way—whether or not they reach their intended destination. Upper elementary students are likely to find this picture book easy to follow, while its themes offer opportunities for more rigorous discussion and interpretation.



Passage to Freedom: The Sugihara Story

by Ken Mochizuki

Passage, the incredible and true story of Chiune Sugihara, allows for extended discussion of some of this unit's guiding questions, such as "How can different people work together to right the wrongs they see in the world?" Sugihara, a Japanese diplomat to Lithuania, aided the escape of thousands of Jewish refugees from Nazi persecution. The author's choice to tell this story through the eyes of the diplomat's young son makes for a sensitive and relatable retelling of Sugihara's life-risking actions to save the people he felt were being wrongly threatened.



Alma and How She Got Her Name

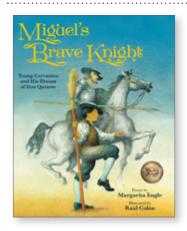
by Juana Martinez-Neal

This simply told story about a girl's desire to understand her name and how it defines her identity can help broaden student understanding of the importance of names—those chosen for us and those we choose for ourselves. Teachers can use this text to help students see the parallels between the lead character, Alma, and Alonso Quixano (aka Don Quixote), who chose a new and more chivalrous-sounding name, but eventually decided to return to his original moniker. A note from the author provides the story of her own naming and two questions that can serve as possible classroom discussion starters.



Quiet Hero: The Ira Hayes Story Written and illustrated by S. D. Nelson

What defines a chivalrous person in the twentieth or twenty-first centuries? This is the remarkable and true story of Ira Hayes, a Pima Indian who was quiet and shy as a boy but later joined the US Marines and helped raise the flag at Iwo Jima during World War II. S.D. Nelson's storytelling will captivate readers and may also conjure strong emotional reactions in some, especially when seeing battle scenes with fallen soldiers or when reading of Hayes's battle with loneliness and alcoholism after the war. Teachers are encouraged to use social emotional learning strategies to broach such sections while helping students see the book's more positive themes. Teachers might also consider discussing how Hayes's life compares and contrasts with Don Quixote's and in what ways Hayes might fit the definition of a chivalrous person.



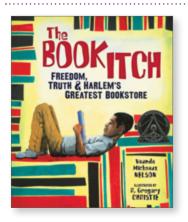
Miguel's Brave Knight: Young Cervantes and His Dream of Don Quixote

by Margarita Engle

Who was Cervantes and how did his early life lead him to write what is considered the first modern novel? Students will see how his vivid imagination helped Cervantes escape from his family's struggles with poverty and would eventually lead him to author fanciful stories like Don Quixote. This book also includes a book-burning scene that may have influenced Cervantes while he was growing up in Spain during the Reformation. Readers may find that Margarita Engle's choice to write this book from the perspective of a young Cervantes helps them better relate to him and Don Quixote.

Unit 5:

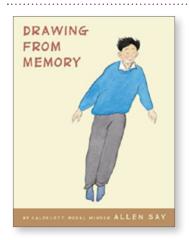
The Renaissance



The Book Itch: Freedom, Truth & Harlem's Greatest Bookstore

by Vaunda Micheaux Nelson

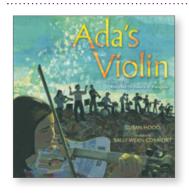
How does the celebration of the human spirit known as the Harlem Renaissance compare and contrast with the Renaissance in Europe? *Book Itch*, the story of Harlem's African National Memorial Bookstore, can provide readers the opportunity to explore such questions. Readers will be drawn into this book by the narration of a young Lewis Michaux Jr., whose father founded the bookstore during the Harlem Renaissance, and his personal memories of the visits of various African American luminaries. Please note this story includes a poignant explanation of the sadness Lewis and his family felt when hearing of the murder of Malcolm X, someone they knew personally and greatly revered.



Drawing From Memory

by Allen Say

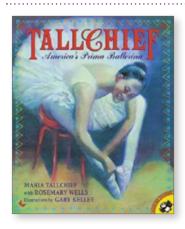
Allen Say and his story of becoming an artist will connect readers with a twentieth century Renaissance spirit. Aspiring young artists and all those who appreciate a true-life story about believing in one's capabilities and working towards fulfilling one's potential will enjoy this beautifully told story. Students will be able to connect the themes and narrative of this contemporary artist with the lives of Renaissance artists. Part memoir, part graphic novel, and part artist's sketchbook, Say's book exudes creativity as it tells of how he overcame the doubts of others and societal upheaval to become an artist's apprentice and then a successful artist himself. Please note, as with all texts, some elements of this story (including a mention of police brutality and a description of a figure drawing class) may require additional explanation for students.



Ada's Violin: The Story of the Recycled Orchestra of Paraguay

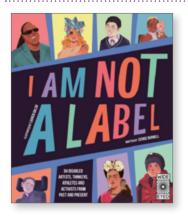
by Susan Hood

Ada, who faces life in a town built on a landfill in Paraguay, finds fulfillment of a dream when she plays in an orchestra where everyone's instrument is made from recycled materials. This true story provides a contemporary example of the "spirit of the Renaissance" (a theme students explore in this unit) and helps readers see how even the most challenging of circumstances cannot hold back the human spirit and the drive to fulfill one's potential. Students are likely to react with compassion to Ada's situation, marvel at her persistence, and connect to the strength she garners from the arts, particularly music. Please note the text contains mentions some of the dangers in Ada's town, including the presence of gangs.



Tallchief: America's Prima Ballerina by Maria Tallchief

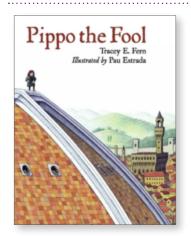
This text is Maria Tallchief's first-person retelling of her life's journey from a reservation to becoming America's prima ballerina. Along the way, Maria had to overcome barriers that society placed in her path, including an Osage belief that women should not participate in tribal dances (this privilege was reserved for males only). Students may consider how Tallchief's defiance of gender norms in her community relates to the obstacles women have faced in achieving artistic success throughout history, such as Isabella d'Este defying gender conventions during the Renaissance. *Tallchief* provides an important success story about overcoming such barriers.



I Am Not a Label: 34 artists, thinkers, athletes and activists with disabilities from past and present

by Cerrie Burnell

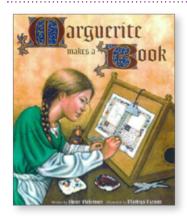
Cerrie Burnell's book is a testament to the capabilities of the human body and mind and everyone's right to live in an accessible and inclusive world. Detailed profiles of each individual illustrate the lives of various artists, thinkers, athletes, and activists from different time periods around the world. Students will draw connections between this text and the unit's depiction of Renaissance figures like Leonardo da Vinci, whose dyslexia influenced his art and inventions, and Michelangelo, who created masterpieces despite his limited mobility. Please note that among the sensitive topics mentioned in this text is a brief blurb about Demi Lovato, which includes mention of suicidal ideation, self-harm, and substance abuse.



Pippo the Fool (Junior Library Guild Selection)

by Tracey E. Fern

Considered a pauper and a hermit by more elite townspeople, Pippo (known by history as Filippo Brunellesch, the architect who created the Duomo in Florence) is an alternative thinker who finds a way to contribute his know-how to the construction of a unique double dome design for the local cathedral. This easy-to-follow story provides connections to Renaissance era advancements in engineering and construction and an important theme about listening to all voices in order to identify the best solutions to a community's problems. It also offers a useful springboard for social emotional learning activities.



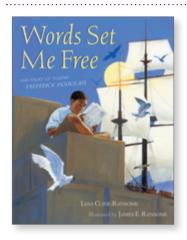
Marguerite Makes a Book

by Bruce Robertson

Marguerite, who enjoys illuminating manuscripts in her father's book shop, helps readers to see what life may have been like for a young girl in early fifteenth century Paris. This engaging story and its colorful illustrations focus not only on Marguerite but also on the tedious process of making books by hand before the printing press was invented. It also helps extend students' knowledge of the unit theme on the roles available to women in Renaissance era society. The Author's Note provides facts and photos of actual manuscripts that will further enhance student understanding.

Unit 6:

The Reformation



Words Set Me Free

by Lesa Cline-Ransome

This text helps students understand ways in which words and language have changed the world beyond Reformation Europe. As the foremost African American abolitionist, Frederick Douglass waged a war of words against slavery. The first-person storytelling of this text brings readers along on Douglass's tumultuous life journey and how he used words to change minds and right wrongs. This text can help students draw parallels between Douglass's use of the spoken and printed word to topple slavery and how, during the Reformation, words were also critical in challenging and changing Europe's social structure.



The Red Piano

by Andre LeBlanc

In *The Red Piano*, readers will follow the story of renowned concert pianist Zhu Xiao-Mei and how her passion for music helped her endure life at a Cultural Revolution era "re-education" camp in China. We encourage teachers to consider this book's connections to the study of the Reformation, and how European people coped and rebelled when they felt the Church had overstepped its bounds in that time and place, just as Xiao-Mei uses music to cope with the government overstepping its bounds during the Cultural Revolution.



Digging for Words: José Alberto Gutiérrez and the Library He Built

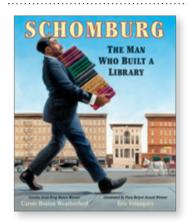
by Angela Burke Kunkel

This accessible text extends students' domain knowledge about the important influence of books in our lives and what can happen when people don't have equal access to books and the growth they can provide. This is the true story of Señor José, who gathers books while working as a garbage man in Bogotá, and the children who borrow and read those books. This text can also help students think more deeply about the importance of the written word as a catalyst for personal growth and even for societal change. An Author's Note includes additional information and photos of José.



Go Show the World: A Celebration of Indigenous Heroes by Wab Kinew

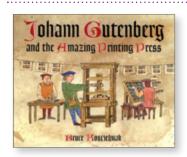
Based on the lyrics of a Wab Kinew rap song, this text is an ode to Native Americans past and present. Historic figures are featured alongside sports figures, medical doctors, and activists who worked to bring about positive change for their people despite hardships and obstacles. As students read the main text and the profiles at the back of the book, they can look for parallels to the Reformation and consider the various ways individuals can still take a stand against injustices they see in the world. Please note that some of the profiles include sensitive subjects, including mentions of violence.



Schomburg: The Man Who Built a Library

by Carole Boston Weatherford

Arturo Schomburg was a bibliophile with a passion for collecting books by people of African descent. This picture book chronicles the evolution of Arturo's love of the written word from his school days in Puerto Rico to his adulthood in New York, where his personal library helped start the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture that exists to this day. Teachers might consider connecting this text to a study of the Reformation using questions such as: "How do books help preserve and spread knowledge?" "In what ways are books about majority cultures valued over minority cultures?" and "How does the choice of books we keep in our libraries reflect community values?"

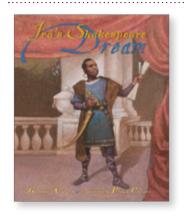


Johann Gutenberg and the Amazing Printing Press by Bruce Koscielniak

Trace the evolution of book printing from its early stages in China and Korea through to Gutenberg's invention of the printing press in mid-fifteenth century Europe. With step-by-step and well-illustrated descriptions, readers will learn how the first printing press functioned and have the chance to consider how the press enabled the rapid reproduction of books that fueled societal change during the Reformation.

Unit 7:

A MidSummer Night's Dream



Ira's Shakespeare Dream by Glenda Armand

As a free black man growing up in early nineteenth century America, Ira Aldridge was told that all roles in Shakespeare's plays were strictly reserved for white actors. This true story relays how Aldridge faced down such obstacles, went on to practice his craft at New York's African Grove Theatre, and eventually made his way to London, where he portrayed several lead Shakespearean characters. Readers will learn how Aldridge's love of Shakespeare propelled his acting career and sustained him during his ongoing battle against racism in the theater.



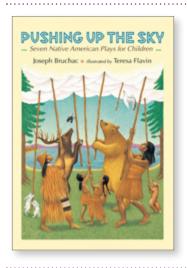
Brave with Beauty: A Story of Afghanistan by Maxine Rose Schur

This is the story of what happened when Queen Goharshad, who lived in fifteenth-century Afghanistan, ordered her court's musicians to perform for the people of her queendom. What unfolds is a story of an expansion of the arts and sciences that was encouraged by Goharshad, herself an artist and architect. Teachers might link this text to their study of Shakespeare with questions such as: "How do performers help influence a society's culture?" or "How did strong female figures, like Hermia or Queen Goharshad, challenge gender roles imposed on them by their society during the Renaissance?"



Lin-Manuel Miranda: Award-Winning Musical Writer by Barbara Kramer

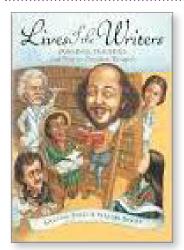
Many readers will enjoy this colorful book about Lin-Manuel Miranda and how he came to create *Hamilton*, one of the most popular contemporary stage productions. Miranda's love of the theater is traced from his early life through to the writing and staging of his historic hiphop musical. Sidebars and spotlight pages take readers deeper into what goes on behind the scenes of creating a musical. Teachers and students will gravitate to this text and discover its exciting connections to the study of Shakespeare, such as Miranda's impact on musical theater, the doors he opened for different types of people to enjoy performances, and the new ideas he popularized of what music can be performed on stage.



Pushing up the Sky: Seven Native American Plays for Children

by Joseph Bruchac

This collection features plays based on myths and legends from a variety of Native American cultures. Each script is accompanied by a brief introduction of the play and its people, a list of characters, and simple suggestions of props, scenery, and costumes. This text can extend students' domain knowledge about drama by encouraging them to explore the basic elements of a play, practice acting in short performances, and to consider more deeply the messages and morals of each story.



Lives of the Writers: Comedies, Tragedies (and What the Neighbors Thought)

by Kathleen Krull

Some famous authors' lives could be described as comedies while others are more like tragedies. With this as its framework, this text profiles a range of authors beginning with Shakespeare himself. The book's light and sometimes irreverent tone, along with its caricature portraits, will engage students in reading more about the inspirations, successes, and downfalls of important literary figures. Readers can choose to read one, two, or all twenty profiles and compare and contrast them to the knowledge they have gained about Shakespeare's life and career. We advise teachers to preview this text to identify sensitive themes included in some of stories and to consider what relevant guidance you might provide your students.

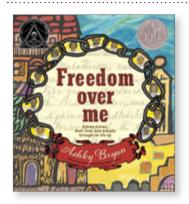


Raining Cats and Dogs: A Collection of Irresistible Idioms and Illustrations to Tickle the Funny Bones of Young People by Will Moses

This text includes a slew of idioms: some that will be new to readers, some they may already know, and some invented by Shakespeare himself. Each idiom is presented along with a brief explanation and a bit of folk-style artwork to help students along as they decipher meaning and consider how each idiom can be used to express hard-to-describe notions and circumstances. The lighthearted text might also spark discussions about Shakespeare's use of literal and figurative language and how so many of his idioms (and other linguistic inventions) remain a part of contemporary English.

Unit 8:

Native Americans



Freedom Over Me: Eleven Slaves, Their Lives and Dreams Brought to Life

by Ashley Bryan

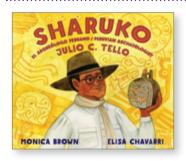
Students can extend their domain knowledge about the federal government's forced removal of Native Americans by considering the government's role in sanctioning slavery. A primary source document cataloguing the monetary value of enslaved individuals provides the backdrop for this collection of self-reflective stories. Readers encounter two contrasting narratives for each person: one explaining the realities of their enslaved life and the other giving a view of the individual's aspirations and dreams. This unique book will provide readers a window into thinking more broadly about enslaved Africans as human beings who, despite very difficult life experiences and attempts to erase their heritage, still valued themselves as individuals, family members, and heirs to rich African traditions.



The Crane Girl by Curtis Manley

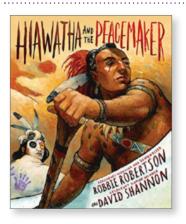
This Japanese folktale and its universal human themes about greed and kindness will remind readers of the connections among the literary traditions of the world's cultures. Readers of *Crane Girl*, a tale told in prose, haiku, and full page illustrations, will likely find the story easy to follow, while discussions about its themes and connections to

indigenous people's mythological tales throughout the domain might appropriately challenge their thinking.



Sharuko: Peruvian Archaeologist Julio C. Tello by Monica Brown

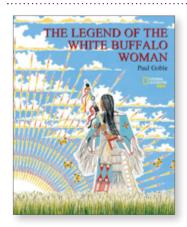
Julio C. Tello was a medical doctor-turned-archaeologist whose work helped prove that indigenous cultures in Peru had become highly developed thousands of years before European arrival. This is the story of Tello's discoveries and how they became a source of personal and national pride in indigenous culture. Additional information in the book's Afterword can be used to initiate related conversations about the role archaeology plays in our learning about ancient indigenous cultures.



Hiawatha and the Peacemaker

by Robbie Robertson

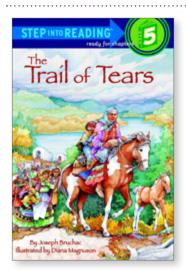
Students can expand their domain knowledge through this account of Hiawatha, a Native American from an earlier era. Shortly after Mohawk warrior Hiawatha suffered the loss of his family, he was chosen by the Peacemaker to spread a message of healing through forgiveness. Captivating storytelling will involve readers in Hiawatha's inspiring struggle to accept and deliver the Peacemaker's words to the five Iroquois nations then at war. Students may also want to learn more about the Iroquois Confederacy after reading the book's Historical Note.



The Legend Of the White Buffalo Woman

by Paul Goble

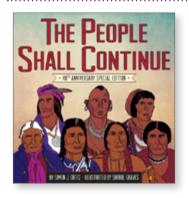
This picture book relays the mysterious story of White Buffalo's introduction of the peace pipe to the Lakota people and how it helped lead them out of dark times. The "Some Meanings of the Pipe" section provides additional facts and diagrams about peace pipes. Teachers may wish to consider providing guidance to students as they read about pipes. Please note that a battle scene is depicted in this text.



The Trail of Tears

by Joseph Bruchac

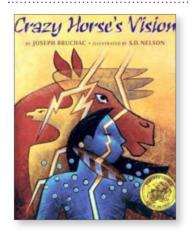
This text tells the story of the forced removal of the Cherokee from their ancestral lands by the federal government. This illustrated chapter book can be used to deepen students' understanding of this tragic event during which thousands of Native Americans died. As when introducing any part of history involving such deprivation and loss of life, we encourage teachers to consider how to support students' emotional needs as they read about the Trail of Tears.



The People Shall Continue

by Simon Ortiz

This text brings readers through the history of North America's indigenous people, from their origin stories, to first encounters with Europeans, to their many years of harsh treatment by the US government. This book makes clear that, despite the many challenges they have faced, indigenous people today remain vibrant and strong.



Crazy Horse's Vision

by Joseph Bruchac

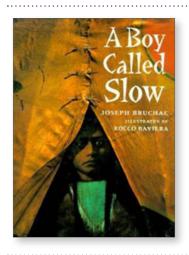
Before he was known as Crazy Horse, this well-known Lakota warrior was called Curly because of how his hair looked when he was a boy. This book tells the story of how, after going on a vision quest, he earned the name he would later carry into battle in defense of his people's way of life at Little Bighorn and elsewhere. The book includes illustrations in a style that evokes the art of Native Americans from the plains.



Shi-shi-etko

by Nicola Campbell

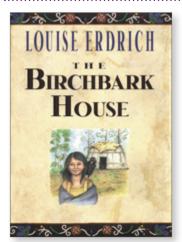
Readers of this text follow a young native girl as she commits to memory the ways of her people in the days before she must begin attending a residential school. This story can be used to introduce some of the values of indigenous people and the practice of the governments of Canada and the US of forcing native children to attend boarding schools. While this story is told gently through word and image, please note that the idea of the government taking children from their parents may alarm some students.



A Boy Called Slow

by Joseph Bruchac

Sitting Bull, like his fellow Lakota warrior Crazy Horse, was known by another name as a boy. Sitting Bull was thought to be slow in his youth, but he found success as warrior because he was deliberate, contemplative, and determined. Students can use this text to deepen their knowledge of Sitting Bull and as a conversation starter about valuing different personality traits.



The Birchbark House

by Louise Erdrich

An eight-year-old Ojibwa girl narrates this story, which provides readers a window into Native American life in the mid-1800s. A chapter book, this novel explores Native American life through different seasons as white settlers approach and encroach upon their ancestral lands.

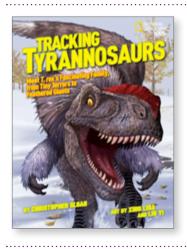
Unit 9:

Chemical Matter



I Am the Rain by John Paterson

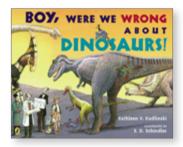
This is a picture book about the myriad forms water takes across the seasons and in different kinds of weather. This poem and accompanying images, including a water cycle diagram, offer students an accessible reminder of the omnipresence of water, both in and around us, and chemical changes that happen every day.



Tracking Tyrannosaurs: Meet T. rex's fascinating family, from tiny terrors to feathered giants

by Christopher Sloan

This text gives a look into what research, including more recent findings, reveals about the infamous family of dinosaurs known as tyrannosaurs. Paleontologists Xu Xing and Philip Currie introduce to readers the remarkable tyrannosaur fossils they've located in China, Mongolia, and North America. Easy to follow descriptions, illustrations, computer reconstructions, and photos of fossils help readers better understand these long-extinct creatures.



Boy, Were We Wrong About Dinosaurs!

by Kathleen V. Kudlinski

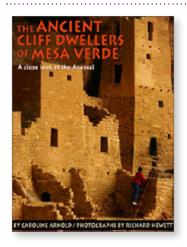
With a light-hearted tone, this picture book looks back on early misinterpretations of fossils and how scientists have since been updating their conceptions about dinosaurs. Easily accessible text will get students thinking about the various types of evidence that continue to be collected and the clues they provide for scientists' ever-evolving thinking about dinosaurs. Resources are offered for those who would like to "dig" for more information.



Mario and the Hole in the Sky: How a Chemist Saved Our Planet

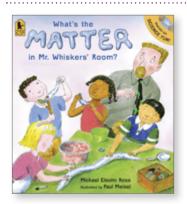
by Elizabeth Rusch

From his early curiosity about chemistry to his discovery of a massive hole in the ozone layer, Mario Molina's story will interest and inspire readers. Illustrations and easy-to-follow text describe Molina's relentless pursuit of learning about chemical reactions and how he employed science to convince entire countries to stop making CFCs that were harming planet and people in the 1980s.



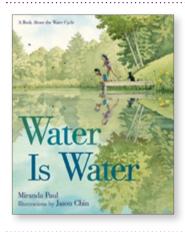
The Ancient Cliff Dwellers of Mesa Verde by Caroline Arnold

This book will help students see how a variety of fields of science, including archaeology and geology, are used to learn more about the mysteries of cliff-dwelling indigenous people. Descriptions of what is known and still unknown, based on the continuing collection of scientific evidence, will fascinate students. The text can also be used to encourage readers to consider science's potential to provide answers to questions about the history of the earth and the humans who inhabit it.



What's the Matter in Mr. Whiskers' Room? by Michael Elsohn Ross

This picture book about a hands-on science teacher and his students offers a review of the concept of matter, how it can be observed and described using our senses, and the changeable forms all matter can take. The easy to follow and humorous storyline is supplemented by "Big Idea" sidebars that can help to take classroom discussions and student knowledge about matter to the next level.



Water Is Water: A Book About the Water Cycle by Miranda Paul

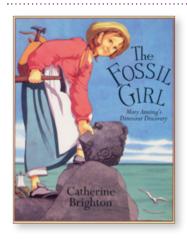
This text is a poetry and picture book that can be used to review the water cycle, and it includes representations of evaporation, condensation, precipitation, and the states of water. Fact-filled sections, such as "More About Water" and "Water is Everything," will help to deepen readers' knowledge.



Dinosaur Lady: The Daring Discoveries of Mary Anning, the First Paleontologist

by Linda Skeers

This picture book uses a graphic novel layout to relay the real-life story of Mary Anning, whose fossil finds as a young girl led her to become a notable collector and paleontologist in early nineteenth century England. The story contains several exceptional aspects, including Anning's renown as a paleontologist when few women pursued this type of work, and information about how her discoveries helped challenge long-held beliefs about the age of the earth and the creatures that roamed the earth before humans.



The Fossil Girl: Mary Anning's Dinosaur Discovery by Catherine Brighton

Catherine Brighton's storytelling will pull readers into Mary Anning's life, the early influence of her father, her inner thoughts, her stubborn persistence, and her budding fascination with fossils. Additional biographical information at the story's end explains that Anning's discoveries of hundreds of fossils provided important evidence in support of the theory of evolution. This text also suggests that Anning was the inspiration for the tongue-twister that begins "She sells seashells by the seashore."