Literature Connections to
The New Social Studies Curriculum
Grade 4

...a sampling of quality literature and associated outcomes
Rationale

Alberta Education has identified basic resources for use with each grade level in the new Social Studies Program of Studies. They continue to encourage teachers to integrate literature and supplementary resources to create a rich, deep and engaging curriculum.

The purpose of this document is to:

- Provide a number of exemplary literature-based resources that best support the Social Studies curriculum outcomes.
- Assist school staff in making informed decisions regarding literature resources connected to the new Social Studies curriculum outcomes.
- Guide and build capacity for educators to continue to identify quality literature through the lens of the Social Studies criteria.
- Assist educators with identifying key words and concepts of the Social Studies Program of Studies.

This document is not intended to be a comprehensive list, but rather a listing of some of the types of books that best meet the criteria as outlined below.

We have attempted to include a variety of titles. We have chosen new literature and but also included some resources that already reside in many school libraries, some of which may now be out of print.

The criteria used in selecting the materials include:

1) *Evaluation and Selection Criteria for Learning Resources*, Calgary Board of Education, March 1998. (available for purchase from the Calgary Board of Education, Media Services);

2) Social Studies Program of Studies Skills and Outcomes alignment, *Social Studies K-12, Program of Studies* September 2005, Alberta Education (template included);

3) Aboriginal consultation and verification, Curriculum Support Services, Calgary Board of Education;

4) Francophone consultation and verification, Curriculum Support Services, Calgary Board of Education.
These people contributed to the writing of this document:

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Thanks to all of the Calgary Board of Education teacher-librarians and teachers who have provided their time and on-going guidance and support in the reviewing of these resources.

Availability:

Prices have been included in this document to assist with selection decisions., However, these prices may vary over time and depending on the source.

Resources are available for purchase from many booksellers such as United Library Services throughout the province of Alberta.

(click on logo or link) http://www.uls.com/ULS/cbessocialstudies
4.1 Alberta: A Sense of the Land

General Outcome
Students will demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of how elements of physical geography, climate, geology and paleontology are integral to the landscapes and environment of Alberta.

Specific Outcomes:

- **Values and Attitudes**

  *Students will:*

  4.1.1 Value Alberta's physical geography and natural environment:

  - appreciate the diversity of elements pertaining to geography, climate, geology and paleontology in Alberta (LPP)
  - appreciate how Alberta’s fossil heritage contributes to the province’s unique character (LPP)
  - appreciate the variety and abundance of natural resources in Alberta (ER, LPP)
  - appreciate the environmental significance of national and provincial parks and protected areas in Alberta (ER, LPP)
  - appreciate how land sustains communities and quality of life (ER, LPP)
  - demonstrate care and concern for the environment through their choices and actions (LPP)

- **Knowledge and Understanding**

  *Students will:*

  4.1.2 Critically examine the physical geography of Alberta by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:

  - Where is Alberta located in relation to the other provinces and territories of Canada? (LPP)
  - What are the major geographical and natural vegetation regions, landforms and bodies of water in Alberta (e.g., prairie region, forests, rivers, hoodoos, Rocky Mountains, oil sands)? (LPP)
  - What are the factors which determine climate in the diverse regions of Alberta (e.g., latitude, mountains)? (LPP)
  - What are the significant natural resources in Alberta and where are they located (e.g., mineral deposits, coal, natural gas and oil, forests)? (ER, LPP)
  - How are Alberta’s provincial parks, protected areas and the national parks in Alberta important to the sustainability of Alberta’s natural environment? (ER, LPP)

  4.1.3 Critically examine how geology and paleontology contribute to knowledge of Alberta’s physical geography by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:

  - How did archeologists and paleontologists discover the presence of dinosaurs in Alberta? (LPP, TCC)
  - What geological features make Alberta unique (e.g., hoodoos, Rocky Mountains, foothills, oil sands)? (LPP)
4.1.4 Analyze how Albertans interact with their environment by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:

- In what ways do the physical geography and natural resources of a region determine the establishment of communities? (LPP)
- How are natural resources used by Albertans (i.e., agriculture, oil and natural gas, forests, coal)? (ER, LPP)
- How do Albertans deal with competing demands on land use in Alberta (e.g., conservation, solar and wind power, recreation, agriculture, oil exploration, forestry)? (ER, LPP)
- In what ways does the Royal Tyrell Museum contribute to scientific knowledge regarding Alberta's fossil heritage? (ER, LPP, TCC)
- How can ownership of a discovered artifact be determined? (C, ER, PADM)
- Whose responsibility should it be to ensure the preservation of national parks, provincial parks and protected areas in Alberta? (C, LPP, PADM)
4.2 The Stories, Histories and People of Alberta

**General Outcome**

Students will demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of the role of stories, history and culture in strengthening communities and contributing to identity and a sense of belonging.

**Stories**
Stories provide a vital opportunity to bring history to life. Through stories, people share information, values and attitudes about history, culture and heritage. Stories are communicated through legends, myths, migration stories, narratives, oral traditions, songs, music, dance, literature, visual and dramatic arts, traditions, and celebrations. They can include or be supported by biographies, autobiographies, archives, news items, novels or short stories.

In social studies, stories provide students with opportunities to understand the dynamics of peoples, cultures, places, issues and events that are integral to Alberta’s history and contemporary society.

**Specific Outcomes**

- **Values and Attitudes**

  Students will:

  4.2.1 appreciate how an understanding of Alberta’s history, peoples and stories contributes to their sense of belonging and identity:
  
  - recognize how stories of people and events provide multiple perspectives on past and present events (I, TCC)
  - recognize oral traditions, narratives and stories as valid sources of knowledge about the land, culture and history (CC, TCC)
  - recognize the presence and influence of diverse Aboriginal peoples as inherent to Alberta’s culture and identity (CC, I, TCC)
  - recognize the history of the French language and the vitality of Francophone communities as an integral part of Alberta’s heritage (CC, I, TCC)
  - recognize British institutions and peoples as an integral part of Alberta’s heritage (CC, I, TCC)
  - recognize how the diversity of immigrants from Europe and other continents has enriched Alberta’s rural and urban communities (CC, I, TCC)
  - demonstrate respect for places and objects of historical significance (I, LPP, TCC)

- **Knowledge and Understanding**

  Students will:

  4.2.2 critically assess how the cultural and linguistic heritage and diversity of Alberta has evolved over time by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:

  - Which First Nations originally inhabited the different areas of the province? (CC, LPP, TCC)
  - How is the diversity of Aboriginal peoples reflected in the number of languages spoken? (CC, I, LPP)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>C Citizenship</th>
<th>CC Culture and Community</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I Identity</td>
<td>TCC Time, Continuity and Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ER Economics and Resources</td>
<td>GC Global Connections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LPP The Land: People and Places</td>
<td>PADM Power, Authority and Decision Making</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Grade 4

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• What do the stories of the Aboriginal peoples tell us about their beliefs about the relationship between people and the land? (TCC)
• What movement or migration from within Canada contributed to the populating of Alberta? (LPP, TCC)
• In what ways did Francophones establish their roots in urban and rural Alberta (i.e., voyageurs, missionary work, founding institutions, media, politics, commerce)? (CC, I, LPP, TCC)
• How did the Métis Nation and Métis Settlements contribute to Alberta’s identity (i.e., languages, accomplishments)? (CC, I, LPP, TCC)
• How did French and English become the two languages most used in business and politics in Alberta during the 19th and early 20th centuries? (CC, I, PADM)
• How did British institutions provide the structure for the settlement of newcomers to Alberta (i.e., NWMP, schools, lieutenant-governor, Assembly of the Northwest Territories)? (GC, I, PADM, TCC)
• How did European immigration contribute to the establishment of communities in Alberta in late 19th century and early 20th century? (CC, GC, I, TCC)
• How did the arrival of diverse groups of people determine the establishment and continued growth of rural and urban communities? (CC, GC, LPP)
• How are agriculture and the establishment of communities interconnected? (ER, LPP)
4.3 Alberta: Celebrations and Challenges

General Outcome
Students will demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of how Alberta has grown and changed culturally, economically and socially since 1905.

Specific Outcomes

† Values and Attitudes
4.3.1 appreciate the factors contributing to the quality of life in Alberta:
• value and respect their own and other cultural identities (C, I)
• demonstrate respect for the rights, opinions and perspectives of others (C, I)
• demonstrate respect for the cultural and linguistic diversity in Alberta (C, I)
• recognize global affiliations within the Alberta Francophone (GC)
• appreciate the influence of the natural environment and resources on the growth and development of Alberta (ER, LPP)
• value and respect their relationships with the environment (C, ER, LPP)

† Knowledge and Understanding

Students will:

4.3.2 critically assess the challenges and opportunities that Alberta has faced in its growth and development by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:
• What led to Alberta’s joining Confederation? (TCC, PADM)
• What key events have impacted the economy of Alberta (i.e., discovery of oil, drought of the 1930s)? (ER, LPP, TCC)
• In what ways have occupations and commerce been impacted by geography, climate and natural resources in Alberta (i.e., forestry, agriculture, aviation, seasonal activities, tourism)? (ER, LPP, TCC)

4.3.3 critically examine Alberta’s changing cultural and social dynamics by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:
• In what ways has Alberta changed demographically since 1905 (i.e., population distribution in rural and urban areas, arrival of diverse ethnic groups, languages spoken)? (CC, I, LPP, TCC)
• In what ways have Aboriginal peoples and communities changed over time? (CC, I, TCC)
• How has multiculturalism in Alberta evolved over time? (CC, I, GC, LPP)
• How has the Alberta Francophone become increasingly multicultural? (CC, I, GC)
• How do buildings, historic sites and institutions reflect the establishment and cultural diversity of communities in Alberta (i.e., Glenbow Museum, Provincial Museum of Alberta, Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump, Writing-on-Stone Provincial Park, Father Lacombe Chapel Provincial Historical Site, Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village)? (CC, I, LPP, TCC)
• How do the names of geographic places reflect the origins of the people who inhabited, discovered or developed communities in these places? (CC, I, LPP, TCC)

| C | Citizenship | CC | Culture and Community |
| I | Identity | TCC | Time, Continuity and Change |
| LPP | The Land, Places and People | GC | Global Connections |
| PADM | Power, Authority and Decision Making |

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• In what ways have music, art, narratives and literature contributed to the vitality of the culture, language and identity of diverse Alberta communities over time? (C, CC, LPP, TCC)
• How does living in a particular community, region or province help shape individual and collective identity? (CC, I, LPP)

4.3.4 **examine recreation and tourism in Alberta by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:**
• How do recreational sites and activities reflect Alberta’s heritage and strengthen communities (e.g., festivals, fairs, celebrations, rodeos)? (C, CC, I, ER)
• How do physical geography and climate affect seasonal activities throughout Alberta? (ER, LPP)
• To what extent do recreation and tourism foster appreciation of Alberta’s natural regions and environment? (ER, LPP)
• In what ways do the interests of tourism and the natural environment conflict? (ER, LPP)
Grade 4 Keywords

Keywords were chosen to help make connections with the Program of Studies outcomes and also can be searchable in the CBE online catalogue (WebCat) in the Evaluation Centre.

Aboriginal
Aboriginal Peoples
Activities - Seasonal
Agriculture
Alberta
Archaeologists
Archaeology
Art
Artifact
Belonging
Bodies of Water
British Institutions
British Peoples
Change
Climate
Communities
Culture
Demographics
Diversity
Economy
Environment
European
Events
First Nations
Fossil heritage
Fossils
French
Francophone
Geographic Place Names
Geography
Geological Features
Geology
Growth
Heritage
Historic Sights
Historical
Historical Significance
History
Identity
Identity – Individual
Identity – Collective
Immigration
Immigrants
Institutions
Land Use
Landforms
Landscapes
Languages
Linguistic
Literature
Location
Métis Nation
Métis Settlement
Migration
Multiculturalism
Multiple Perspectives
Music
Narratives
National Parks
Natural Resources
Natural Vegetation
Oral Traditions
Paleontologists
Paleontology
Physical Geography
Preservation
Protected areas
Provincial Parks
Quality of Life
Recreation
Recreational Sites
Regions
Rural
Sense of Belonging
Social
Stories
Sustainability
Tourism
Urban
Vegetation

Canadian Author
Literature Connections to the New Social Studies Curriculum
Grade 4

Cambridge, Massachusetts: Candlewick Press.
$23.99 ISBN 0763615862

A boy lives at the End of the World, hunting for treasure with old maps, playing ball by the drop. It's a peaceful, contemplative life, and the boy is content. Until, that is, a self-styled Professional Visionary arrives and puts up a sign: CONSTANTINE SHIMMER'S GALVANO-MAGICAL END OF THE WORLD TOURS. FUN ALL THE TIME! Anderson's lyric homage to simplicity and self-reliance is brought to life in arresting and vivid detail by masterful, colourful illustrations. Together they create a fantastical yet evocative world sure to resonate with everyone who enters it. Previewed by (SSS) Social Studies AISI Team.
**Outcome:** 4.1.1
**Keywords:** Environment; Stories; Sense of Belonging

$25.00 ISBN 0810950189

This incredibly beautiful book is the work of the Yann Arthus-Bertrand. His stunning aerial images vividly bring to the attention of the reader how the world is changing around us. The book has been thematically organized to explore the issues of sustainability of our world. Each spread has a captivating aerial photo, relative quotes, full explanation of the relevance of the photo and the impact on the environment and an interesting sidebar comment. The book has no index, but has a contents page. The book will help students appreciate how land sustains communities and quality of life. It introduces the idea of sustainable development, balancing modern technology with the health of our planet and its many peoples. The book also helps demonstrate to students how their choices and actions can make a difference to the environment. Previewed at Jack James High and by Curriculum Support Social Studies.
**Outcomes:** 4.1.1; 4.1.2
**Keywords:** Environment; Sustainability; Quality of Life; Sustainability; Natural Vegetation

Canmore, Alberta: Altitude Publishing.
$9.95 ISBN 1551539934

Well-written accounts, in anecdotal style, of ghost stories in coal towns of Alberta, it includes stories about Nordegg, Saunders, Mountain Park, Mercoal, Coal Valley, Georgetown, Ozada, Ribbon Creek, Hosmer, Crowsnest, and Lille. It will appeal to students who love ghost stories, especially about places which may be familiar to them. Easy-to-read format; upper elementary and junior high reading level; excellent browser, it is also difficult to access information because there is no index, but there is a table of contents. It is a good read-loud. There are limited resources in this area. Good for Literature Circles. Previewed at Bishop Pinkham Junior High and by (SSS) Evaluation/Selection.
**Outcomes:** 4.1.4; 4.2.1; 4.2.2; 4.3.3
**Keywords:** Alberta; Stories; Communities; History; Narratives; Geographic Place Names

Part of the Canadian History series. Also on the grade seven list.

An excellent overview of the factors leading to Confederation, including political power in the province of Canada; the Charlottetown Conference; the Quebec Conference; issues in the Maritimes; the Confederation debate; westward expansion; the Métis and their resistance; the Manitoba Act of 1870; the Red River settlement issues; British Columbia’s role; and Prince Edward Island’s reconsideration of its place in Canada. There are many illustrations, archival paintings, maps, sidebars, and a balance of authoritative text, as well as a short multiple-choice quiz, suggested reading, Internet resources, glossary, and an index. Previewed at MidSun Junior High and by AISI Teacher-Librarians.

Outcome: 4.2
Keywords: Historical Significance; Red River; Resistance; Métis Nation; Métis Settlement; Events


This is one of several stories that make up the creation myth of the Woodland Cree. In this legend, Wisakyjak saves the animals of the world from a flood and, with the help of muskrat and wolf, creates a new world. Woodcut prints are used to illustrate the most famous story of Wisakyjak, and helps explain how stories of the Aboriginal Peoples tell us about their beliefs of the relationship between people and the land. Previewed by Curriculum Support Social Studies.

Outcomes: 4.2.1; 4.2.2
Keywords: Aboriginal; First Nations; Identity; Oral Traditions; Stories


Also on the grade two list.

Another book by the same author who created *A Prairie Alphabet* and *A Prairie Year,* *Heartland* is divided into sections about the Prairie and covers topics such as animals, land, recreation, Aboriginal Peoples, and industry. The format is simple and filled with the author’s narrative, and serves as a sampler of prairie life. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation/Selection.

Outcomes: 4.1.2; 4.1.4; 4.2.1; 4.3.1
Keywords: Communities; Sustainability; Land Use; Diversity; Stories; Identity; Regions


Also on the grade two list.

Fresh, original alphabet book in which each picture is accompanied by a single sentence, this includes a short introduction explaining the history and meaning of "prairie"; a list of all the words hidden in each illustration; and an appendix detailing further lore about each picture. Previewed at Beddington Heights Elementary.

Outcomes: 4.1.2; 4.1.4; 4.2.1; 4.3.1
Keywords: Communities; Land Use; Diversity; Stories; Identity; Regions

**Bannatyne-Cugnet, Joanne. (1994) *A prairie year.* Montréal, Quebec: Tundra Books.**

The authors of *A Prairie Alphabet* capture the family lifestyle of a modern prairie community. The book provides a month-by-month anecdotal record of life experiences on the Canadian prairies, accompanied by a series of full-page paintings. The artwork is outstanding and provides children with a visual walk through rural settings. The writing invites young readers to learn more about life in rural Alberta and Saskatchewan. It is a wonderful representation of the geography of the Prairies. Previewed by Curriculum Support Social Studies.

**Outcomes:** 4.1.2; 4.1.4; 4.2.1; 4.3.1

**Keywords:** Communities; Sustainability; Land Use; Diversity; Stories; Identity; Regions

**Banting, Erinn. (2005) *The RCMP.* Calgary, Alberta: Weigl Educational Publishers.**

Part of the *Early Canadian Life* series. Also on the grade 7 list.

This series, designed for young readers focuses on the life of the pioneers who settled in Canada in the 1800s. *The RCMP* is filled with archival material and interesting fact boxes, and gives a short overview of the history of the Royal Mounted Canadian Police, and its role in the development of Western Canada. It includes two-page spreads with historical photographs and detailed captions, concise and readable text, first-hand accounts, "Did You Know" boxes, and a map. It uses a Venn diagram to compare the past and the present. Good integration of visual and written text. Previewed by (SSS) AISI Curriculum Support and (SSS) Evaluation/Selection.

**Outcome:** 4.2.2

**Keywords:** Heritage; History; Identity; British Institutions


This informative book describes the environment, history, industry, tourist attractions, arts, sports, and cultures that make up Alberta. The diversity of Alberta’s people is addressed through clear writing, colourful photographs, descriptive maps, and fascinating quick facts. The table of contents and index make this a useful reference book. Previewed by Curriculum Support Social Studies.

**Outcome:** 4.1

**Keywords:** Alberta; Land; Climate; Resources

Set in 1831, this novel chronicles the life of Isobel, a thirteen-year-old girl who struggles with her identity and the conflicts from her mixed heritage. She has a Scottish father who worked at the Hudson’s Bay Company and a Peigan mother who has left her people to have a life with other company employees. Isobel decides to live with her maternal grandparents and live within her Native heritage. The novel does a good job of outlining the inner conflicts of children of mixed heritage as well as the tensions between Canadian and American fur traders and the fighting between Peigan and Cree. It is clear that this was a time of great change in the Canadian West. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation/Selection.

Outcomes: 4.2.1; 4.2.2
Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Belonging; Europeans; Identity; British Institutions; European; Communities; Stories


Produced in celebration of the province’s Centennial, this examines aboriginal cultures in Alberta from the ice age to modern times. It includes social structures, daily life, seasonal cycles, the role of the buffalo, the impact of the fur trade, spiritual life, a profile of northern aboriginal cultures and southern aboriginal cultures, the impact of government decisions and European contact. It is accessibly written and lavishly illustrated with maps, diagrams, reproductions and colour photographs. There is a table of contents, but no index. Previewed at Ernest Morrow Junior High and Forest Lawn Senior High.

Outcomes: 4.2, 4.2
Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples, First Nations, Alberta, European, Identity, Social, History


Jolene and Michael are twins living in Calgary. Michael is at a swim competition and time with cousins in Vancouver for part of the summer, while Jolene is stuck going to the Crowsnest Pass area with her father while he researches the Frank Slide, getting more information for his Museum of Disaster. The trip turns out better than she had anticipated when she discovers that she is able to go through a time crease with her grandfather. They find themselves in the town of Frank a century earlier, just prior to the slide. During the course of the book, they are able to travel back several times. However, they are unable to prevent the impending disaster. Well written, historically accurate, and a good adventure for Division II students. Previewed at Brentwood Elementary and by (SSS) Social Studies Team.

Outcomes: 4.1.2; 4.1.4; 4.3.3
Keywords: Stories; Landforms; Geographic Place Names; Historic Sites; Events

Picture Book
During a contemporary prairie drought, Grandpa remembers the Dirty Thirties as he, his son and his grandson find the courage to "hang-on" to the family farm, despite the struggles. The excellent, dusty colour illustrations complement the text well. This provides an informative description of the Great Depression and the prairie region. Previewed by Curriculum Support Social Studies. Outcomes: 4.1.1; 4.1.4; 4.2.1; 4.2.2; 4.3.1; 4.3.2; 4.3.3 Keywords: Change; History; Identity; Rural; Sense of Belonging; Stories


Picture Book
This poetic journey captures the bittersweet experiences of living on the prairie and illustrates the diversity of the land. The rich watercolor paintings throughout the book provide detailed images and a description of the prairie region, and illustrate how living in a particular region helps shape individual and collective identity. Previewed by Curriculum Support Social Studies. Outcomes: 4.1.2; 4.1.4; 4.2.1; 4.3.1 Keywords: Identity; Regions; Rural; Stories


Picture Book
Award-winning poet David Bouchard retells this tragic Cree legend of the Northern Plains. The story has previously been passed from generation to generation by word-of-mouth. For this retelling, he collaborated with Michael Lonechild, a Cree artist who paints a living history of Canada’s First Nations people. His vivid paintings recall life on the plains of southern Saskatchewan in days gone by. In this famous love story, a young warrior must leave his wife and childhood friend, to lead a war party against the Blackfoot. Heartbroken by his absence, she falls sick, calls out to her love, and dies. Cree Elders say that if you go out on the prairies to listen, you can still hear him searching for his lost love, calling “Qui appelle” – who is calling? The book could easily be used as a depiction of both prairie and First Nations’ life in the past, while also showing how communities change over time. Previewed by Curriculum Support Social Studies. Outcome: 4.2 Keywords: Stories; Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Geographic Place Names; Change; Historic Sights; Land Use; Multiple Perspectives
$22.99 ISBN 1551925591

*Picture Book*

*Also on the grade 1 list and the grade 2 list.*

Renowned Cree painter Allen Sapp's inspired and stunning artwork beautifully complements this sweet story of a young First Nations boy preparing for his first powwow. The young boy's Kokum, his beloved grandmother, guides him through the exciting day and watches over him as events unfold. David Bouchard's rhythmic and informative text is based on remembrances from Allen Sapp's childhood. Previewed by Curriculum Support Social Studies.

**Outcomes:** 4.2.1; 4.2.2; 4.3.3

**Keywords:** Aboriginal; First Nations; Culture; Identity; Stories

Calgary, Alberta: Fifth House.
$16.95 ISBN 1894004949

The author interestingly mixes stories of prosperity and fortunes with scandal and misfortunes. As such, this book proves to be clever story-telling by historian Brian Brennan who chronicles the “ups and downs” Alberta has faced over the years such as the Frank Slide, the Leduc oil discovery, Calgary’s first Grey Cup win, and the quest to extract oil from the Athabasca tar sands. The book also outlines lesser-known facts that will be of interest to the reader. An excellent teacher resource and read-aloud. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation/Selection.

**Outcomes:** 4.1.4; 4.2; 4.3

**Keywords:** Alberta; History; Identity; Culture; Stories; Historic Sights; Heritage

Ottawa, Ontario: Borealis Press.
$12.95 ISBN 0888872003

This is an engaging story about growing up on the prairies during the 1930s and 1940s. It would be a great book to read aloud to a class. The author writes an entertaining and visual account of the life of a prairie community. The main characters are very competent children. Students would find it easy to identify with Noreen's hatred of being short and insignificant. There are many great descriptions that students could use to draw their impressions of prairie life and lots of areas for discussions. There is a nice opportunity to bring in some mythology with the naming of the horse, Pegasus. There is some vocabulary that would be new, e.g., heiress, stooks, mortified. Otherwise there should be no difficulty with vocabulary. A great read to see how young people entertained themselves and showed independence in the past. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation/Selection.

**Outcomes:** 4.2.1; 4.3.4

**Keywords:** Stories; Rural; Recreation; Communities

This collection of watercolour paintings by Alberta artist Karen Brownlee, documents the last grain elevators in Alberta in an attempt to capture their central role in rural Alberta community life. Her images “capture the resilient spirit of farming communities and their determination to not only survive, but to thrive.” Picture captions accompany each painting of these prairie giants and describe the history and the role of the grain elevators over more than a century. Good teacher and picture study resource with an index of images. Previewed at Coventry Hills Elementary.

Outcomes: 4.3.2; 4.3.3

Keywords: Communities; Heritage; History; Identity—Collective; Agriculture; Rural


A collection of twelve nature stories, each from a different North American Indian tribe, this includes the northern Lights, blooming cacti, summer fireflies, and a wolf's pre-dawn song. Creation myth stories are from among the Mohawk, Anishinabe, Pima, Missisquoi, Winnebago, Cochiti Pueblo, Lenape, Chumash, Inuit, Lakota, Navajo, and Pawnee First Nations. Colourful paintings capture the mood of each tale. Previewed by (SSS) Selection / Evaluation.

Outcome: 4.2

Keywords: Stories; Aboriginal; First Nations; Environment


Author Jean Burgess, storyteller, writer of both fiction and non-fiction, has created a winning hero, thirteen-year-old Davey, for this unique slice of western life in the early 1900s. For Davey, riding for a living is the only way to go. While on horseback Davey doesn’t have to worry about his leg, “that crippled part of himself so much”. He has dreams of earning enough money to someday attend veterinary college in the East. Instead his family heads off far into northern Alberta to homestead in Peace River Country. Just as the West was remote from the rest of Canada, the Peace River Country lay secluded in the northern reaches of the province. The novel is rich with compassion and realism and is both a valuable resource as a teacher resource and a read-aloud for social studies. Previewed by Curriculum Support Social Studies.

Outcomes: 4.1; 4.2, 4.3

Keywords: Alberta; Communities; Diversity; Aboriginal Peoples; Regions; Land Use; Quality of Life; Multiple Perspectives
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan: Fifth House Publishers.
$27.95 ISBN 1895618487

This presents eighteen Native American myths from the Huron, Seneca, Cheyenne, Cherokee, Mandan, Pueblo, Inuit, and Osage, and links them to nature. It includes topics such as plant ecology, botany, and natural history. Each story is followed by suggestions for activities. There is a guide for using the book, a glossary, and pronunciation guide. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation/Selection.

**Outcomes: 4.2**

**Keywords:** Stories; Aboriginal; First Nations; Environment

$19.95 ISBN 1551432269

**Picture Book**
As a storm looms in the prairie sky, a young boy must ride out to find his wayward younger brother, Will. He dons his red serge coat and Stetson hat, saddles up and begins the search. So begins this delightful book that creates the prairie landscape while telling a tale of a boy's dream of becoming a Mountie. The award winning Daniels’ watercolour illustrations, do full justice to the prairie landscape and to the children, horses and other creatures that inhabit it. Previewed by Curriculum Support Social Studies.

**Outcomes: 4.1; 4.2.2**

**Keywords:** Geography; Identity; Agriculture; Landscapes; Stories

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan: Thistledown Press.
$10.95 ISBN 1894345711

*The Mystery of the Frozen Brains* is adapted from Edmonton dramatist and screenwriter Marty Chan's radio series, *The Dim Sum Diaries.* Set in a French-Canadian town in rural Alberta, the novel traces the growing awareness of a nine-year-old immigrant boy (Marty Chan) in a community with a myriad of conflicts: boy vs. girl; French vs. English; immigrants vs. "native"; kid vs. adult; student vs. teacher. Eventually, conflicts are resolved and Marty Chan finds a friend and some understanding of self. The seriousness of the issues here is mitigated by Chan's subtle humour. The theme of this book would be a gentle catalyst to address issues of immigration, alienation, prejudice, refugees, and conflict resolution. This well-written treatment of stereotypes and ethnic values is an enjoyable read, and a good opportunity to plant some seeds in your class about bullying. Reviewed at Queen Elizabeth Junior/Senior High.

**Outcomes: 4.2.1; 4.2.2; 4.3.1**

**Keywords:** Immigrants; Alberta; Stories; Francophone; Belonging; Communities; Diversity; Identity--Individual

**Picture Book**
This is a charming story set on a farm in rural Alberta. Five-year-old Laural's father teaches her to braid so that she will have something to do while he does his chores. Laural gets carried away one day and braids together three piglet tails. Happily, father rescues the piglets before they come to any harm. The story is illustrated with lovely watercolor paintings that capture the scenery of rural central Alberta perfectly. Both author and illustrator are from the Red Deer area. Previewed at Hawkwood Elementary.

**Outcome:** 4.2
**Keywords:** Alberta; Rural; Stories; Communities; Quality of Life


Excellent book discusses the environmental changes in the land and life of Alberta from the Ice Age to the present, with the most marked change in the last 100 years. Conrad looks at "... cumulative human exploitation, from hunting and gathering, through trapping and agriculture, to forestry, oil and gas, and other resource extractions." His intent is to "provoke thought" about the First Nations, sod-busting, resources, and the environment. It includes extensive notes, table of contents, and an index. Although now slightly dated, it is a well-written reflection of our province and serves as a significant historic reference and a good teacher resource. Previewed at Queen Elizabeth High and by (SSS) Selection / Evaluation.

**Outcomes:** This book attends to many Outcomes in the Program of Studies, Teacher Resource.
**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Agriculture; Alberta; Environment; Economics; Growth; Geological Features; Landforms; Historical Significance


Part of the *Our Canadian Girl* series.
The story is set in Frank, Alberta at the turn of the twentieth century. Keeley's story about life in the small mining town of Frank continues. Keeley has decided that she wants to be a newspaper reporter. What better way to start her career than by solving several town mysteries and writing about it for the local paper. All over Frank, things have been going missing, her teacher is behaving oddly, there are women protesting in the streets, and Canada is apparently at war, although Keeley does not understand whom the soldiers are fighting or where the battles are taking place. What she does know is that if she can solve these mysteries, she will have a great story to tell. The novel makes connections to historical events seen through the eyes of a child. Previewed by Curriculum Support Social Studies.

**Outcomes:** 4.1; 4.2
**Keywords:** Historical Sites; Communities; Stories; Geological Features; Land Use

Part of the *Our Canadian Girl* series. This is the first book about Keeley O'Brien, who with her father, arrives in the coal-mining town of Frank in 1901 after having lived with her maternal grandparents for two years following the death of her mother. Keeley loves the new town, so full of energy and interesting people, especially her new friend, Peter. The two of them become involved in a game of one-upmanship that culminates when Peter dares Keeley to stay overnight in the coal mine. Historically accurate, this story is entertaining as well as educational. Previewed at Ernest Morrow Junior High and by Curriculum Support Social Studies.

**Outcomes:** 4.1; 4.2
**Keywords:** Historical Sites; Communities; Stories; Belonging; Quality of Life


This story is set in Western Canada at the turn of the twentieth century. The Wright family moves from the United States when displays and advertising entice them and others to move from their native countries to farm the Canadian West. The Wrights help their new neighbours, the Kruegers, build their house, so they can move out of their tent. Joey, the youngest of the Wright boys and Hans, the Kruegers' young son become friends, overcoming any language barriers. Each of the Wright children has daily chores to complete. Joey wishes that he could be more like his older brother Ben and do grown up work. Days are filled with hard work and some tragedies, but the family works together and pulls through each time. The two eldest sons work away from the farm to earn extra money for the family and future land purchases of their own. This story includes recipes, a timeline, glossary and information on the setting of the story. Previewed at Albert Park Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 4.1; 4.2
**Keywords:** Rural; Immigrants; Stories; History; Quality of Life.


In this novel, set in the Edmonton today and in the Depression years, the author uses "time travel" of sorts to develop the character of the fourteen-year-old heroine, who has the death of a father, and her mother's remarriage to deal with in the present, and the Depression of the 1930s, the loneliness of being unable to reach her family back in the present, and a budding romance in the past. This romance novel would more likely appeal to girls than boys. The story deals well with the feelings of loss associated with death and separation from family, and the budding of first romance, then brings everything together in a surprise climax. The story is gripping from the beginning and the suspense lasts until the final lines in the book. The narrative offers insight into contemporary Edmonton, and in the historical perspective as a family struggles against poverty during the Depression. A delight to read. Previewed at Bishop Pinkham Junior High and by Curriculum Support Social Studies.

**Outcomes:** 4.2; 4.3
**Keywords:** Immigrants; Land Use; Stories; Diversity; Physical Geography; Narrative

Twelve-year-old Janey Kane does not want to spend the summer in Edmonton with her grandmother, but her parents do not give her much choice. When she finds out the reason she has been sent there, she is not happy about it. Her important world and friends were back in Toronto, right where she wanted to be! A visit to Fort Edmonton with her grandmother and an accidental dropping of an antique locket send Janey on a journey through the past. It causes her to re-evaluate her limited perspective, and the importance of family, family history, and the courage of the settlers. Janey becomes so concerned and involved that she figures out how to manipulate the time travel. A nice counterplot is Janey discovering the contemporary challenges in which her family is struggling, and to which Janey's selfish attitude has kept her removed. Eventually, too many complexities around Janey's life are introduced, and do little to advance plot or character development, and in fact weaken the story. The author grew up in Toronto, and now lives in Edmonton, and includes a brief précis of her research. A good read for girls, and a model for writing family stories through an artifact. Previewed at Escuela Canyon Meadows.

Outcomes: 4.2.1; 4.3.1

Keywords: Stories; History; Alberta; Multiple Perspectives; Identity


This explores the Canadian immigrant experience through a collection of primary source documents organized by decade. A quality resource that offers students an opportunity to recognize that we are a nation of immigrants and to see patterns and growth in immigration policies from 1896 into the 21st century, it includes documents describing the impact that immigrants have made on the cultural, economic and social values of Canadian society. Previewed at Coventry Hills Elementary.

Outcomes: 4.1; 4.3.1; 4.3.3

Keywords: Immigration; Immigrants; Belonging; European; Quality of Life; Stories; Rural; Events


Although this book is set in North Dakota, it is an interesting and well-chronicled story of life on the prairies in 1920. Lizzie is an English girl who is sent to live with her aunt, uncle and cousins after the death of her parents. Her life in London does not prepare her for the challenges of living and working on a farm. When a storm comes, Lizzie has to gather her courage in order to rescue her aunt and finally begins to feel like she is loved and appreciated by her new family. The illustrations reflect the mood of the story and enhance children's understanding of prairie life. This book could be used to develop a sense of history and to help children consider what it would be like to be a stranger in a new land. The story will also help students understand and
appreciate how elements of physical geography affect the landscapes and environment of Alberta. Previewed at Albert Park Elementary.

Outcomes: 4.1.1; 4.1.2
Keywords: Agriculture; Land Use; Belonging; Climate; Quality of Life


Part of the Canadian Sites and Symbols series. Each book in this series about provincial symbols includes information about how the province got its name, the features of the coat of arms, the provincial flag, provincial animal, provincial tree, flower, mineral and gemstone, the provincial staff and special places. Each chapter is presented on a two-page spread with a fun fact box, good quality, captioned photographs. The text is written at a readability level appropriate for elementary students and includes a brief glossary and index as well as a student quiz. Previewed at Hawkwood Elementary.

Outcome: 4.1
Keywords: Alberta; Land; Climate; Resources


In this series, Jamie Bains and his sister Kate find themselves in another adventure. This time they are in Fort Walsh in 1876 and travelling with a member of the North West Mounted Police. Their job is to help drive a herd of cattle across the plains from the United States to Alberta. This adventure is packed with excitement and danger as they sample life in the Wild West—riding with independent cowboys, rough outlaws, and travelling through the Blackfoot Nation. Although the story may be unbelievable at times, its redeeming quality lies in the historical details and characters of Western and First Nations history. Archival photographs add merit to the historical significance of the book. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation/Selection.

Outcomes: 4.1; 4.2
Keywords: Alberta; Stories; Aboriginal Peoples; Landscapes; Historical Significance


Part of the Mystery from History series. This book is the third from the author’s mystery series. Sheila and her friends are spending time at her estranged father’s ranch in Southern Alberta. They are embroiled in a mystery as developers want to take over her father’s land when a shooting results. Because her father is a likely suspect, the trio set out to solve this mystery and clear her father’s name. Although there is mention of happenings from the past two books, this does not impede the reader’s understanding. The setting in the book provides a good background to the Alberta landscape as well as themes of competing land use, conservation and environmental protection. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation/Selection.

Outcomes: 4.1.1; 4.1.4; 4.3.4
Keywords: Alberta; Environment; Stories; Regions; Change; Land Use
$16.95 ISBN 1894856767

This text presents the "life stories" of a variety of "ordinary people, doing extraordinary things" in the province of Alberta. Each episode certainly reinforces "strengthening communities and contributing to identity and a sense of belonging". The concept that Albertans from all walks of life make significant contributions to the well-being of their individual neighbourhoods is an important understanding that is communicated in this book. The readability is significantly beyond the capability of fourth-grade children. However, individual selections could provide a teacher resource for highlighting the "dynamics of people and events" that represent contemporary Alberta society and conveying to children that all citizens have the capability to enrich their society. Previewed at Coventry Hills Elementary.

Outcome: 4.2
Keywords: Alberta; Stories; Diversity; Identity; Belonging

$19.95 ISBN: 1552633632

This colourful and simple presentation offers information on the Blackfoot way of life, their world and traditions, living together in camps, leadership, roles, food, values, the land, buffalo, plants, relationships with other people, trading, disease, treaties, end of the buffalo days, agents, rationing, schools, and a glossary of Blackfoot terms. The table of contents, colour and black and white photos, paintings, drawings and text are accessible to upper elementary students. This title would be a very useful resource for the First Nations' point-of-view in the new social studies curriculum. Teacher resource at all grade levels. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation/Selection and Curriculum Support Social Studies.

Outcomes: 4.1.1; 4.2.1; 4.2.2
Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Multiple Perspectives; Identity; Culture; Language; Historical Significance

$18.70 ISBN 0027362612

Based on a Santee Dakota myth concerning the courtship rituals of Plains Indians, this folktale is about a young man who is too shy to express his love to a beautiful girl. The birds and animals give him a flute. When he plays it, he wins the heart of his love. It includes notes explaining the legend. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation / Selection.

Outcome: 4.2
Keywords: Stories; Aboriginal; First Nations; Environment

Caldecott-Award-winning author Paul Goble tells the Plains Aboriginal story about famine and renewal of the Earth, using wonderful and authentic illustrations. The book is based on a Lakota myth in which a mysterious woman returns the buffalo and other animals to the aboriginal people. Although the myth originated in the Black Hills of South Dakota, and is linked with the Wind Cave, readers can think of the story in relation to any hill or mountain which they sense is right. It helps students understand the dynamics of peoples through stories. The book includes important factual information about the buffalo and their importance to the aboriginal people. Although the term “Indian” is used in the text, teachers can have a discussion with their students about why we now use the terms, First Nations or Aboriginal Peoples. Previewed by Curriculum Support Social Studies.

**Outcomes:** 4.1; 4.2

**Keywords:** First Nations; Historical Significance; Multiple Perspectives; Oral Traditions; Migration


This rendition of an important aboriginal legend explains how the sacred knowledge of the Sun Dance was given to the Blackfoot people. The story is illustrated with sacred symbols taken from painted tipis. The author’s notes explain that each illustrated tipi design was revealed in a vision. This Blackfoot legend helps to show how stories can tell us about the relationship between people and the land. Knowledge of the land and culture can be shared through story. Previewed by Curriculum Support Social Studies.

**Outcomes:** 4.2.1; 4.2.2

**Keywords:** Aboriginal; Stories; Identity; Diversity, Culture


A wonderful collection of narratives by kids who have lived in Edmonton from 1755 to present, this was published as a project marking Edmonton’s Centennial. The author used archival and historical resources for the book. The collection of stories makes reference to immigrants fleeing from the War, Aboriginal perspective, North West Mounted Police, and tornadoes. This book is a valuable resource and through story, touches on many outcomes in the grade 4 social studies curriculum—and all through a child’s perspective. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation/Selection.

**Outcomes:** 4.2; 4.3

**Keywords:** Stories; Alberta; History; Identity; Change; Communities; Literature

Picture Book
A farm family in Alberta experiences a tornado that sweeps across the prairie landscape. It brings family and community together. The tornado has left Matthew shaken and their beautiful farm has been damaged beyond recognition. A wonderful representation of a typical farm, this compelling story, illustrated with evocative paintings, is rich in descriptive language. Previewed at Annie Foote Elementary and by (SSS) Evaluation/Selection.

Outcome: 4.1
Keywords: Alberta; Agriculture; Change; Climate; Physical Geography


Picture Book
Stephen and his father enjoy dog sledding in the mountains with their team of eight beautiful huskies. Pleasure almost turns to tragedy when Dad is thrown off the sled and the huskies race on to the cliff edge with Stephen in the sled. Well-paced writing is accompanied by stunning, realistic chalk pastel illustrations. The setting is in the mountains of Southern Alberta. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation/Selection.

Outcome: 4.1
Keywords: Alberta; Environment; Geological Features; Regions; Landscapes


The amazing color photography offers rich visual support for the information provided in the text. Engaging text carries the reader through the Rocky Mountains as they learn about the regions natural environment. The author invites the reader to become the animal and experience the Rocky Mountains through the eyes of that animal. Written in a narrative non-fiction style, the book does not have a table of contents, index, or glossary. This book would be a useful resource for helping students learn about the Rocky Mountains region. Previewed by Curriculum Support Social Studies.

Outcomes: 4.1.1; 4.1.2; 4.1.3
Keywords: Alberta; Environment; Geography; Landforms; Natural Vegetation; Physical Geography; Regions


Part of The Canadians series.
This book chronicles the life of Crowfoot, Chief of the Blackfoot Nation and describes the difficulties he and his people faced after the arrival of the Europeans in the west. Black and white photographs. Previewed by the Education Media Team and (SSS) Selection/Evaluation.

Outcomes: 4.2.1; 4.2.2
Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Multiple Perspectives; Identity; Historical Significance

**Picture book**
The dinosaur bones in Drumheller, Alberta lie quietly all day, but at night they come out to play. They reassemble and dance and make music. Rich illustrations show a delighted young boy watching the nightly performance. Written in rhyming couplets, it would appeal to younger dinosaur fans. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation/Selection.  
**Outcome:** 4.1.1  
**Keywords:** Paleontology; Stories; Alberta; Fossil Heritage

Lethbridge, Alberta: Paramount Printers.  
$26.00  
ISBN 0968567819

As in the first volume, *Still Standing: the Grain Elevators of Southern Alberta* (1999), this documents the elevators of Central and Northern Alberta in four parts. Each part is dedicated to one geographical area, with a highway route (map) and photos of elevators along the route. All the photos are in colour, although some are not as crisp and clear as they should be and shots could have been better cropped. It includes a simple map of Alberta, introduction, table of contents and index. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation/Selection.  
**Outcomes:** 4.1.4; 4.2.2, 4.3.2; 4.3.4  
**Keywords:** Alberta; Heritage; Agriculture; Artifact; Change; Rural

Toronto, Ontario: Kids Can Press.  
$19.95  

An excellent survey of the successive immigrant waves which have knit the fabric of Canada together today. This highly visual text moves chronologically through Canadian history to feature the stories of many ethnic groups. It is replete with first-person accounts, maps and archival documents. Chapters deal with Canada’s First Nations, Explorers, French settlers, Loyalists, West Coast Settlers, Asian Immigrants, Prairie settlers, Pier 21, and the War Years. The text includes a chapter highlighting facts and figures, immigration terms and an index. Previewed at Olympic Heights Elementary.  
**Outcomes:** 4.2.1; 4.2.2  
**Keywords:** Stories; Alberta; Aboriginal Peoples; Immigration; Identity; Communities; Diversity; French; Heritage

$9.95  
ISBN 1894004345

This historical look at prairie life, including Alberta, details how moving and settling in have always been a part of prairie life. Early homes on the Canadian prairies were as diverse as the people who lived in them. When newcomers from other cultures and places arrived on the prairies, one of the first tasks was to build shelter for themselves. This informative book details different ways of life, cultural expectations, and construction techniques of First Nations, explorers, fur traders, missionaries, North West Mounted Police, and early pioneers as they built dwellings in the often inhospitable prairie climate. Previewed by Curriculum Support Social Studies.  
**Outcomes:** 4.1.1; 4.3
Holubitsky, Katherine. (2005) *The mountain that walked.*
$9.95 ISBN: 1551433761

Also on the grade 7 list.
This is an historical novel set in Alberta in 1903. Barnardo Home boy Charlie Sutherland has spent two years in Macleod, but when one of the men who "adopted" him dies under mysterious circumstances, Charlie is blamed and has to flee. He ends up in Frank. As a seventeen-year-old doing a man's work on the day Turtle Mountain "walks", Charlie survives, but his friend James does not. Charlie is given a chance at a new life, with James' inheritance and James' identity. Along the way, Charlie's adventures are realistic, and the portrayal of prairie life is informative. The writing is accessible, and the story is for more advanced readers than Shadows of Disaster (2003) by Cathy Beveridge, or *The Girl from Turtle Mountain* (2004) by Deborah Ellis, which are also about the Frank slide. Previewed at Cecil Swanson Elementary and Dr. E. P. Scarlett Senior High.

Outcomes: 4.1; 4.2
Keywords: Historical Sites; Communities; Stories; Geological Features; Land Use; Events

New York: Greenwillow Books.
$23.99 ISBN 0060090898

Picture book
When a pioneer family moves West to begin a new homestead, the mother misses her home so much that she will not even name her new baby. The young daughter takes charge and devises a plan to cheer her mother up. With her Pa's help, Annie clears a patch of land and gets it all ready to plant. The mother unwraps a packet of seeds from her sister and life again looks bearable. Wonderful gouache and oil paintings depict the prairie landscape. This is reminiscent of Eve Bunting's *Dandelions* (1995). Though set in the United States, the pioneer story of Western settlement in Canada was similar. Previewed at Hillhurst Elementary.

Outcomes: 4.1.1; 4.2.1
Keywords: Rural, Stories; Change; History; Agriculture

Calgary, Alberta: Weigl Educational Publishers.
$22.95 ISBN: 1553881028

Part of the *Special Canadian Communities* series.
Also on the grade 7 list.
This series includes four books that examine different Canadian cultural groups. The French in Canada is an easy-to-read look at Canada's French communities. The book briefly examines Coming to Canada, French Communities, Celebrating Culture, Forming French Words, Art and Culture (traditional clothing), Music, Food, and Cultural Contributions. It has a section on further research that identifies websites, a "what
have you learned" section as well as a glossary and an index. There is no pronunciation guide for French words. Previewed at James Fowler Senior High.

Outcomes: 4.2.1; 4.2.2; 4.3.1
Keywords: Francophone; Communities; Identity--Collective; Culture; Regions

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**Hughes, Monica.** (1978) *The ghost dance caper.*
Toronto, Ontario: Methuen.
$5.99 ISBN 0458802409

Tom strives to maintain a relationship with his aboriginal great-grandfather even though it is against his mother’s wishes. Neither of his parents support his aboriginal heritage. As he learns more about his heritage, he begins to prepare to take part in traditional ceremony. But Tom finds himself involved in a crime which further solidifies his intentions to be resilient and have courage. The character’s struggle to find his own identity by exploring his roots is redeeming to readers as is the importance of preservation of aboriginal culture and heritage. This is an older book that carries significant importance and should not be disregarded because the term “Indian” is used. Teachers can easily remedy this through discussion with their students. Previewed by Curriculum Support Social Studies.

Outcomes: 4.2.1; 4.3.1; 4.3.3
Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Belonging; Diversity; Multiple Perspectives

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**Hundey, Ian.** (2006) *John Ware.*
Markham, Ontario: Fitzhenry & Whiteside.
$8.95 ISBN 1550418726

Part of *The Canadians* series.
John Ware, an ex-slave from the American South, rode into Alberta in 1882. Over the next 23 years, John lived through many changes in Alberta’s early history. As a cowboy, he was one of the best and was a living legend at the Bar U Ranch. John was known for his loyalty, his generosity, and his kindness to fellow ranchers and neighbours. It is a biography about a remarkable man who displayed courage and integrity in times of tragedy and triumph. It includes archival photographs, a timeline, table of contents, and an index. Due to the small font and advanced reading level it would be useful as a resource for student research or as a teacher resource. John Ware’s biography will help students build their understanding and appreciation of Alberta’s history, peoples, and stories. Previewed by Curriculum Support Social Studies.

Outcomes: 4.2.1; 4.2.2
Keywords: Alberta; History; Stories; Change; Identity

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**Hurst-Archer, Lisa.** (2005) *Under the wide new sky: Alberta stories to read and tell.*
$16.95 ISBN 0889953244

Every human being is a living treasure house of stories. This collection was written to celebrate and preserve the richness that can be found in our storytelling heritage. The eighteen tales reflect the rich experiences of Albertans of all kinds from long-time residents and recent immigrants, from the aboriginal community and the original settler generation. Outstanding black and white illustrations help us picture Alberta then and now. “The thousand and one tales tucked away in each of our hearts are our most precious possessions, and to
give voice to them is a powerful assertion of our identity and our presence in the world.” Previewed by Curriculum Support Social Studies.

**Outcome:** 4.2  
**Keywords:** Stories; Alberta; Identity; Aboriginal; Multiple Perspectives; Quality of Life; Land Use

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**Jam, Teddy.** (1999) *The stoneboat.*  
Toronto, Ontario: Douglas & McIntyre.  
$15.95 ISBN 0888993684

**Picture book**  
This story is set in the rural 1920s countryside. By helping a frightening, powerful neighbouring farmer, a boy accidentally improves a tense relationship between his father and the neighbour to whom he owes a large sum of money. The colour illustrations are dark, reflecting the grim situation in the story. Content illustrates 1920s rural life and demonstrates how common, if difficult, courtesy and humanity can improve social relationships. Previewed at Erin Woods Elementary and by (SSS) Evaluation/Selection.  
**Outcomes:** 4.1.1; 4.2.2; 4.3.1  
**Keywords:** Rural; Stories; Communities; Agriculture; Belonging

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**Kalman, Bobbie.** (1997) *Celebrating the Powwow.*  
New York: Crabtree Publishing.  
$25.95 ISBN 865056404

Also on the grade 1 list, the grade 2 list, and the grade 3 list.  
This book includes a table of contents, glossary and index. The author uses labelled diagrams, and photographs, making it an excellent visual resource. The terminology, traditions, and culture around powwows are chronicled. A variety of First Nations people celebrate their individual cultures and shared beliefs through the powwow. This book illustrates the diversity that exists among the First Nations people. Previewed by Curriculum Support Social Studies.  
**Outcomes:** 4.3.1; 4.2.1  
**Keywords:** Aboriginal; First Nations; Identity; Diversity; Culture; Multiculturalism

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**Kalman, Bobbie.** (1997) *The general store.*  
Toronto, Ontario: Crabtree Publishing.  
$23.95 ISBN 0865054320

This describes the general stores of the past, how they were stocked, the roles of storekeepers in communities, and what happened to general stores in the twentieth century. Although based on general stores in the United States, the text was reviewed by an Alberta senior citizen for authenticity, and information provided is the same for Alberta's general stores at the turn of the century. Easy-to-read, simple text with good content accompanied by quality colour photographs, illustrations and historical reproductions on two-page spreads, there is also a table of contents and glossary. Previewed at Montgomery Elementary-Junior High.  
**Outcomes:** 4.1.1; 4.2.2; 4.3.3  
**Keywords:** Communities; History; Economy; Change; Growth
Toronto, Ontario: Maple Tree Press.
$29.95 ISBN 1894379551
The well-designed features in this book provide a variety of visuals that enhance the informative text. Each two-page spread has been organized to present information on dinosaur country, paleontology, carnivorous and herbivorous dinosaurs, and what lies ahead in the future. Each spread includes text features that include captivating photographs, illustrations, historical information, relative quotes, current research, dinosaur facts, and researcher profiles, as well as a table of contents, glossary, and an index. Previewed by Curriculum Support Social Studies.
Outcomes: 4.1.1; 4.1.3; 4.1.4; 4.3.4
Keywords: Alberta; Archaeologists; Archaeology; Fossil Heritage; Paleontologists; Paleontology

Sainte-Foy, Quebec: Les Editions GID
$34.95 ISBN 2922668908
This pictorial and textual chronicle of French Canadian history could be used as a teacher or student resource because it is a collection of black and white photographs from the Alberta archives, with captions that include information on the subject, location and history of the photograph. This collection reflects the author’s desire to pay homage to the French-speaking men and women who have left their imprint on the history of Alberta. Included is an introduction that celebrates the creation of a province that in part owes to the work of Francophones. Previewed by Curriculum Support Social Studies.
Outcomes: 4.2.1; 4.2.2; 4.3.3
Keywords: Francophone; Culture; History; Identity; Languages

Calgary, Alberta: Fifth House.
$19.95 ISBN 1894856325
A clever and funny trivia book that focuses on the obscure and lighter side of Alberta. The author, a humorist, travels around Alberta on a quest to find out “What is so funny about Alberta?” As such, he finds himself at the Calgary Stampede, the West Edmonton Mall, and Banff. This unique perspective on Alberta is not only eclectic but its travelogue format is popular right now in the media. The book is multi-formatted and is filled with trivia, jokes, tourist questions, and top ten lists, to name a few. It is sure to be a hit with all audiences, although its intended audience is adult. Yet the book can still be shared with students and will provide an entertaining layer to any grade 4 social studies unit. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation/Selection.
Outcome: 4.3
Keywords: Alberta; Recreation; Tourism; Social; Regions; Recreational Sites; Culture

$19.95 ISBN 1552856704
This photo journal of the landscapes of Alberta includes quality colour photographs with captions that provide pictorial representation of many sites highlighted in social studies. No table of contents or index. Good for those students who are visual learners. Previewed at Ernest Morrow Junior High.
Outcome: 4.1
Keywords: Alberta; Land; Climate; Resources

This well-formatted book includes interesting and factual information about the traditional Blackfeet people of the Plains. Well-suited to research, it includes a table of contents, index, glossary, bibliography for further reading, dictionary of Blackfeet words, useful addresses in Canada and the United States, and Internet sites. Each chapter is written on a two-page spread, and the picture to accompany the text has a short caption. An interesting feature is the inclusion of photos of modern day Blackfeet people. Although American, the emphasis is on history, homes, food, clothing, families, religion, and government. Previewed at Simons Valley Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 4.2.1; 4.2.2

**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Identity; Multiple Perspectives; Belonging


A non-fiction resource for teachers and/or a supplemental research resource for students, this covers typical research topics such as the fur trade, First Nations, settling the west and life in Alberta today. A geographical section about prairies, mountains and forests begins the text. Black and white authentic photographs are included throughout the book. It includes table of contents and detailed chronologies, bibliographies and indexes. While the most of the content is relevant and meaningful, some statistics, such as population are not current. Previewed at Midnapore Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 4.1.1; 4.1.2; 4.3.2; 4.3.3

**Keywords:** Geography; Climate; Geology; Culture; Economy


**Picture book**

An old woman sitting in her rocking chair, talks only to her creaking bones. Her husband and neighbours try unsuccessfully to cheer her up. Finally a little girl helps turn the tide of her depression by offering her some scraps of bright yellow material to sew together. Soon all her friends and family are bringing her pieces of cloth to make into a wonderful quilt, each square of which represents something in their lives. Unique story portrays a wonderful supportive, cooperative environment. The text is rich in imaginative language – “The cold white dog of winter howled home ... The night sky filled with owls and echoes.” The paintings are dynamic and varied in size and viewpoint. This is a book to share and discuss. Previewed at Canyon Meadows Elementary and Simons Valley Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 4.2; 4.3

**Keywords:** Stories; Change; Communities; Belonging; Heritage; Oral Traditions


This historical novel focuses on eleven-year-old Sam whose life changes when his father decides to farm at Curlew, Alberta. Sam’s gradual acceptance of the prairies, seasonal changes, and twentieth century farm life are all described with precision. An accurate portrayal of Canadian rural life, this is an excellent, delightful story. Winner of the 1993 CLA Book of the Year for Children Award. Previewed by (SSS) Curriculum Support.
Outcomes: 4.1; 4.2
Keywords: Stories; Historical Significance; Rural; Alberta; Immigration; Identity

Vancouver, British Columbia: Groundwood Books.
$7.95 ISBN 0888993463

Sequel to *Ticket to Curlew,* this is the story of the Ferrier family as they strive to settle into a new life in a new country. It centers on eleven-year-old Josie and the adventures she pursues. It is enhanced with a great cover illustration, good-sized print, black and white drawings, fabulous plot and development of characters, a delightful sequel that is a must read for all Curlew fans. The story helps students to understand values and attitudes about Alberta’s history, culture and heritage. Previewed at Midnapore Elementary.

Outcomes: 4.1; 4.2
Keywords: Alberta; Stories; Rural; Immigration; Identity; Quality of Life

Loyie, Oskiniko Larry. (2002) *As long as the rivers flow: a last summer before residential school.*
Toronto: Douglas & McIntyre.

Also on the grade 7 list
A detailed account of the author’s last summer before being taken to a residential school in 1944, this is written in the third person as he captures the sense of freedom he felt and his connection with the natural world around him. Through observation, stories and practice, he learns from his extended family the ways of his First Nations people. Sensitiveiy told without rancour, it is a hardcover chapter book with small, expressive and poignant watercolour illustrations on most pages. An epilogue describes the fate of children like Larry who were taken to residential schools. Photos of the author and his family are included. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation/Selection.

Outcomes: 4.2.2; 4.3.1; 4.3.3
Keywords: Aboriginal; First Nations; Sense of Belonging; Change; Diversity; Identity; Stories

Edmonton, Alberta: Plains Publishing.
$14.99 ISBN 1551105292

This informative, easy-to-read book helps children learn about the history of Alberta from its beginnings to the boom years and the oil industry. It discusses aboriginal peoples, and women and men who contributed to the growth of the province. The language seems very elementary and might discourage older readers. It tells a "story" of two children using a CD-ROM to get information, yet there isn’t a program included. Attractive format has many colour and black and white photographs, illustrations, maps, charts, and easy-to-read print, as well as a table of contents, glossary, and index. Teacher’s guide and blackline master package to accompany this text are available. Previewed at Simon Fraser Junior High.

Outcomes: 4.2; 4.3
Keywords: Alberta; History; Identity; Heritage; Diversity; Change; Growth

$11.00 ISBN: 0889951012

Picture Book
Set in 1900, a young unnamed narrator tells about his friend Josepha, a teenage immigrant boy who shares a desk with him at school. Josepha is in
school to learn English so he can converse in the workplace. The narrator values his friendship and his sensitivity toward younger children. He tells how Josepha is discouraged at his lack of progress. After a year, Josepha decides to leave and work as a labourer to help his poor family. He gives his teacher a miniature carved violin, and the narrator gives shoeless Josepha a pair of leather boots with newspapers stuffed in the toes. Poignant story is well-illustrated with bold, full-page colour illustrations with excellent, interesting perspectives. Winner of the 1994 Governor General's Literary Award for Children's Literature. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation / Selection

Outcomes: 4.1.1; 4.1.4; 4.2; 4.3.3

Keywords: Immigrants; Stories; Rural; History; Land Use; Quality of Life

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Edmonton, Alberta: Blue Bike Books.

This bathroom reader is solely devoted to all things Alberta and can be enjoyed from the intermediate reader to adult. The focus is on interesting people, places and events that have shaped the province across history. Highlights include “Edmonton versus Calgary”; “Who do Albertans think they are?”; “Sports and Champions”; and “The Long Arm of the Law” among many others. Trivia books provide a light and fun layer to the Grade 4 Social Studies Curriculum and this one is sure to be a hit. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation / Selection.

Outcome: 4.3

Keywords: Alberta; Recreation; Tourism; Social; Regions; Recreational Sites; Culture

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$17.95 ISBN 0889951535

Picture Book

Tyler, a city boy, finally gets real cowboy boots, bought for the annual cattle drive at Uncle Roy's ranch in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains. But there is so much going on that no one on the cattle drive notices his shiny boots until the drive is over and his once new boots look old and worn. All ends well when Jessica, his cousin, points out that his boots, which he considered ruined, are now like everyone else's. Depicting Alberta's sweeping ranchlands, the beautiful, realistic watercolours extend the well-written text. Previewed at Dr. E.W. Coffin Elementary and West Dalhousie Elementary.

Outcome: 4.1

Keywords: Alberta; Change; Land Use; Quality of Life

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Markham, Ontario: Fitzhenry & Whiteside.
$19.95 ISBN 1550416715

This is an elaboration of some of the Christmas stories first told in *Five Pennies: A Prairie Boy's Story* (1999) by the same author. Based on her father's stories about his boyhood and growing up in a Danish family homesteading near Innisfail, Alberta in the 1920s and 1930s, it gives a detailed description of the preparations and celebration of Christmas in this immigrant family. Accompanied by detailed paintings, the stories are a little more sentimental than in the previous books, but still valid to portray the pioneer Christmas. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation/Selection.

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Based on the stories of his early life in the 1920s and 1930s, that Archie Morck told his daughter Irene, this series of vignettes is filled with details about pioneer life. Told from the perspective of young Archie, it chronicles the daily struggles, challenges, joys and triumphs faced by a Danish family homesteading near Innisfail, Alberta. Family photographs supplement the text. Although organized chronologically, each episode is two to three pages long and could be read separately. Easy-to-read, captivating stories give a clear sense of the era. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation/Selection.

Outcome: 4.2
Keywords: Alberta; Stories; Rural; Immigration; Identity; Quality of Life


Part of the *Amazing Stories* series.
*Dinosaur Hunters* combines historical information with a healthy dose of story mixed throughout. The book discusses George Dawson and Joseph Tyrell’s lives as surveyors and details the significant contributions they have made to the field of Canadian paleontology. With Dawson’s first bone find and Tyrell’s discovery of the large deposit of dinosaur bones where Drumheller, Alberta is now located, many interesting facts and anecdotes help the reader understand what it is like to be in the field. Of interest is the rivalry that the author documents between Canadian and American paleontologists and other stakeholders during the period known as the “Great Canadian Dinosaur Rush”. The book is text-rich with limited illustrations, table of contents, no index, but the stories will be of interest to readers and would make a good read-aloud or literature circle selection. Previewed at James Fowler Senior High and by (SSS) Evaluation/Selection.

Outcome: 4.1
Keywords: Archaeologists; Archaeology; Fossil Heritage; Paleontologists; Paleontology


Picture Book
This brightly illustrated picture book, written in English and in the Michif language, tells of a young boy’s experience learning to finger-weave a belt at school. Upon sharing his creation with his parents, his mother shows him her Metis sash. She explains how the Metis culture is made up of many different cultural threads including French, Cree, Scottish and Ojibwa. This story emphasizes the historical significance of the Metis Sash, Metis Culture and the importance of cultural diversity. The author expresses the importance of sharing knowledge and wisdom through stories, traditions, and experiences to ensure the sustainability of the Metis culture for future generations. Previewed by Curriculum Support Social Studies.

Outcome: 4.2.2
Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Métis; Historical Significance; Stories; Identity; Diversity; Culture; Artifact

Although this book focuses on the North American Indian, its value should not be overlooked. This beautiful book chronicles both the time before the arrival of the Europeans to America as well as after. Its relevance lies in the relationship that existed between the buffalo and the Plains Indians, who valued the buffalo not only for their survival but also as essential to their spirituality. This delicate relationship was disrupted with the arrival of the Europeans that eventually led to a destruction of both the Plains way of life as well as a near-extinction of the buffalo. Myth is woven throughout the book adding to its authenticity. Illustrations are to be admired as well as the large and easy-to-read text—making this book accessible to early intermediate and up. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation / Selection.

Outcomes: 4.1.4; 4.2
Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples; Change; European; Diversity; History; Landscapes; Multiple Perspectives

$17.99 ISBN 0141004339

Part of the Dylan Maples Adventure series.
In this story, Dylan and Terry win a trip to Alberta to explore the badlands. The boys are separated from their team and are left to survive in the desert—hungry, among the snakes, and with an escaped killer on their trail. Other characters add to the story well—the boys meet Dorothy from Drumheller, who despite being a girl, proves very helpful to the boys. The novel is well-researched for its geological and paleontological features as well as Alberta history. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation / Selection.

Outcomes: 4.1; 4.2
Keywords: Alberta; Paleontology; Geological Features; Landforms; History; Fossil Heritage; Geographic Place Names; Stories

$16.95 ISBN 155143069X

Picture book
Set in the early twentieth century, an immigrant family arrives in North America, and travels by oxcart to the prairies where they build a sod house and plant crops. Soft watercolour illustrations show the family's life through the seasons. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation/Selection.

Outcomes: 4.1; 4.2.2
Keywords: Stories; Rural; Immigration; Identity; Quality of Life; History; Land Use

$8.95 ISBN 1551431378

An Alberta author tells the story of the dangers of prairie fires for pioneer families. Although his parents refuse to let him take on heavy chores until he is older, Percy uses his good sense when he spots a prairie fire racing toward their homestead. The story shows how the family members rely on each other to survive. This picture book has wonderful paintings with a detailed text, useful for study of aspects of prairie history. Previewed at Captain John Palliser Elementary.

Outcomes: 4.1; 4.2.2

This text presents a comprehensive overview of Cree history and geography in a very appealing format. It has short sections of print with clear headings, accompanied by excellent photographs that vividly portray the concepts introduced. The book includes a table of contents, glossary, index, and “Finding Out More” pages, that provide clear access to information relevant to research and inquiry-based learning. The readability level is very appropriate for students of this age group. Highly recommended for “telling the story” of the Cree First Nation. Previewed at Coventry Hills Elementary.

Outcome: 4.1.1

Keywords: Alberta; Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Diversity; Quality of Life; Geography


This book celebrates the 100th Anniversary of Alberta, honouring our history and reflecting our contemporary diversity. The text presents 100 Albertans who have helped shape the province. It highlights premiers (Ralph Klein), human rights pioneers, musicians, and sports icons (Kurt Browning, the Sutters) and many more. It includes a table of contents, detailed chronologies, and an index. The readability is beyond the capability of grade 4 learners, but is valuable as a non-fiction resource for teachers and/or a supplemental research for students. Previewed by Curriculum Support Social Studies.

Outcome: 4.2.1

Keywords: Alberta; Culture; Diversity; Historical Significance; Identity—Individual; Identity—Collective


An affordable and succinct handbook of Alberta place names, Sanders has included the location, a brief history of the naming of places with noted personalities, and often an archival black and white photo. Included are a table of place names by category (e.g., aboriginal, descriptive), extensive notes, selected bibliography and index. Highly recommended for reference collections in all school libraries. Previewed at Chinook College.

Outcomes: 4.2; 4.3.3; 4.3.4

Keywords: Alberta; Heritage; Communities; Geographic Place Names; Historic Sights; Recreational Sites; Stories

This is a wonderful book attributed to a great American chief over a hundred years ago. The text eloquently and poetically captured the central belief of North American First Nations: that the Earth and every creature on it is sacred. Chief Seattle describes his people's respect and love for the Earth and concern for its destruction. Susan Jeffers' extraordinary paintings illuminate the words and transform them into an experience for children of all ages and locations. It will stimulate an awareness of a natural world that is rapidly losing its beauty. This timeless story demonstrates care and concern for the environment, and an appreciation of how land sustains communities and quality of life. Previewed by Curriculum Support Social Studies.

Outcomes: 4.2; 4.3
Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Environment; Change; Heritage; Landscapes; Multiple Perspectives


Part of the *Native Nations of North America* series. This examines information on housing, storage, village structure, and family life among the different aboriginal nations of this area. Topics are laid out in a simple way. Large illustrations help to explain life and daily activities. Content is minimal, there are no source notes, and the glossary has no pronunciation guide.

Illustrations at times are blurry. However, this series fills a niche where other books may be hard to find. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation/Selection.

Outcomes: 4.2.1; 4.2.2
Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Identity; Multiple Perspectives; Belonging


Part of the *Energy at Work* series.

This looks at natural sources of energy, the history of development of the source, how energy is generated, benefits and drawbacks and future possibilities. Well-illustrated with captioned photographs, diagrams, charts and written at a reading level appropriate for the intended audience, it includes a glossary, index, table of contents, summary of facts, hands-on activities, and Internet sites. Previewed at Hawkwood Elementary.

Outcomes: 4.1.1; 4.1.4
Keywords: Natural Resources; Climate; Environment; Sustainability


Part of the *Energy at Work* series.

This looks at natural sources of energy, the history of development of the source, how energy is generated, benefits and drawbacks and future possibilities. Well-illustrated with captioned photographs, diagrams, charts and written at a reading level appropriate for the intended audience, it includes a glossary, index, table of contents, summary of facts, hands-on activities, and Internet sites. Previewed at Hawkwood Elementary.

Outcomes: 4.1.1; 4.1.4

A very broad look at North American Aboriginal culture featured through an ABC format. Each letter of the alphabet contains information about an aspect of Aboriginal life. The sidebars on each page provide deeper information about the artifact or cultural aspect. Most references concern United States peoples with three or four specific Canadian references. Previewed at Olympic Heights Elementary.

Outcomes: 4.2.1

Keywords: Communities; Heritage; History; Identity—Collective; Agriculture; Rural


Picture book

Also on the grade 7 list.

Anna and Ivan escape hardship in the Ukraine by immigrating to Canada and homesteading in the West. When World War I breaks out, Ivan is imprisoned as an enemy. Anna tries hard to hold on to their land as she waits for Ivan's return. This is a well written and illustrated picture book. However, the illustrations portray an idealized concept that does not quite match the bleak reality of the text. The story is similar to *Lesia's Dream.* The end page has an informative historical note and lists other resources on the subject. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation/Selection.

Outcomes: 4.1; 4.3.1; 4.3.3

Keywords: Immigration; Immigrants; Belonging; European; Quality of Life; Stories; Rural


Part of the *Adventure Net* series.

In this third instalment, Rick and Willow find themselves in the Badlands with their filmmaker parents. The kids are excited that they can help the paleontologists with their dig. But the mystery unfolds as things go missing and accidents happen. The siblings, with the help of friends they have made, set out to solve the mystery. The format is enriched with non-fiction fact boxes inserted throughout as well as websites for further study. Both the reading level and the curricular content make this a good fit for grade 4. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation/Selection.

Outcomes: 4.1; 4.2

Keywords: Alberta; Paleontology; Paleontologists; Landforms; Fossil Heritage; Stories


While this book is a work of fiction, the issues dealt with reflect current concerns of First Nations’ peoples. This delightful story focuses on Danny Budzynski, who finds
a strange object shaped like an arrowhead, but it is unlike anything in the museum at Fort MacLeod. Danny meets Joshua Brokenhorn, a boy from the Peigan Reserve near Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump. Joshua tells him that it is a lance head. Danny has to find out more about the mysterious artifact. Danny’s adventure begins, and as the story unfolds he gains valuable insight, and a better understanding of the history of the Peigan Nation. The novel gives students a chance to learn more about the issue of ownership of discovered artifacts. Enriching text relates well to social studies. Previewed by Curriculum Support Social Studies.

Outcomes: 4.1; 4.2
Keywords: Stories; Aboriginal Peoples; Multiple Perspectives; Geographic Place Names; Identity


Picture Book
A young boy, who has always lived on a prairie farm, finds himself living in the city far away from his mother when his parents separate. Ian makes friends with an elderly Chinese man next door who has a beautiful garden. These two unlikely companions share memories and treasures from their distant lands and become best friends. This is a wonderful story about friendship and accepting change. Spalding's style is easy to read and moves along well with a very satisfying ending. The paintings are beautifully done and help develop the story’s intensity. Previewed at Dr. E.W. Coffin Elementary and by Curriculum Support Social Studies.

Outcomes: 4.2.2, 4.2.3
Keywords: Culture; Diversity; Social; Belonging; Identity


Part of the *Alberta in the 20th Century History* series.
This special edition tells Alberta's story from settlement, naming the "provisional capital" in Edmonton, missionaries and railways, earliest automobiles, Calgary's meat packing success, World War I and Albertans who served, Prohibition, drought and depression, oil at Turner Valley, the rise of Social Credit, World War II and Albertans, return of prosperity, Manning and Leduc No. 1, polio, the baby boomers, the oil boom and war with Ottawa, recession, the Edmonton Tornado and the "Alberta Advantage". Sophisticated text and hundreds of excellent sepia, black and white and colour photos, table of contents and index. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation/Selection.

Outcomes: 4.2; 4.3
Keywords: Alberta; Environment; Economics; Growth; Historical Significance; Change; Institutions; Events

Part of the Native American Peoples series. Also on the grade 7 list.
This overview examines the culture of the Blackfoot, including their origins, history, traditional way of life and their modern descendents. It is simply written, with many colour photographs, illustrations, reproductions and sidebars. There is a table of contents, timeline, glossary, bibliography and an index. Previewed at Ernest Morrow Junior High.

Outcomes: 4.1.1; 4.2.1; 4.2.2
Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Multiple Perspectives; Identity; Culture; Language; Historical Significance

Part of the Native American Peoples series.
This is a well-formatted book about the history, traditions, government, religion, and culture of the Cree Nation. An entire chapter is devoted to issues facing the Cree today, including the James Bay Hydroelectric Project, The Treaty Land Entitlement Agreement, and rebirth of their culture. Information is presented in readable text, maps, illustrations, photographs, captions, timelines, glossary, and suggested further activities. Web sites and recommended readings are current. The table of contents annindex are well organized for student research. Previewed at Simons Valley Elementary.
Outcomes: 4.1.1; 4.2.1; 4.2.2
Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Multiple Perspectives; Identity; Culture; Language; Historical Significance

Part of the Our Canadian Girl series, including Book One: Buffalo Hunt, Book Three: Autumn Alone, and Book Four: Angel in the Snow.
This series consists of short, readable novels about intelligent, courageous girls from various places and times in Canadian history. The website www.ourcanadiangirl.ca gives book summaries and teaching suggestions. This is the second title about Angelique and her Metis family. In 1865 Angelique and her family are hunting buffalo across the prairies when horse thieves raid their camp. Angelique, her young brother, Joseph, and her friend, Francois, undertake a dangerous mission to bring home their beloved horses. This is an engaging plot, appropriate reading level and authentic glimpse of Metis life on the prairies. Previewed at Hawkwood Elementary.
Outcomes: 4.1.1; 4.2
Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Métis Nation; Stories; Land Use; Identity; Communities
Vancouver, British Columbia: Douglas & McIntyre.
$7.95 ISBN 1550544578

A well-crafted story about the struggles of a family during the Depression on the prairies, and how twelve-year-old Pip, the eldest of the three children, believes that the new Russian blacksmith in town is actually the Mad Monk, Russia’s notorious Rasputin. Including a good story-line and well-developed, strong characters that readers can relate to, this imaginative tale with its Russian history and legend also provides a spring board for an interdisciplinary study of the Depression in Alberta, human relationships, and survival theme, with a satisfying conclusion. Winner of the 1994 CLA Book of the Year for Children Award. Previewed at Le Roi Daniels Elementary and by Curriculum Support Social Studies.

**Outcomes:**  4.2; 4.3  
**Keywords:**  Alberta; Stories; History; Immigration; Identity; Landscapes

Montreal, Quebec: Tundra Books.  
$17.99 ISBN 0887763278

Seven well-told folktales originating from the cultures of the Zuni, Mandan, Cree, Chuckchee, Osage, Mohawk, and Modoc, these creation myth stories are complemented by Taylor’s usual vivid illustrations. Each legend shares a belief that people, animals, and the Earth are all connected. The message is as important now and as universal today as when these ancient legends were first told. It concludes with notes about each of these First Nations. Good for reading aloud.  Previewed by Curriculum Support Social Studies.

**Outcome:**  4.2  
**Keywords:**  Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Diversity; Multiple Perspectives; Identity; Stories; Narrative

Westmount, Quebec: Tundra Books.  
$12.95 ISBN 0887762638

Based on an Arapaho legend, Lone Warrior, injured and separated from his hunting party, finds his strength tested as he faces the cold, hunger and loneliness. He proves his endurance to the Great Spirit of the Buffalo and is healed and guided back to his village. Fine illustrations in autumn colours capture the vast beauty of the prairie landscape. The book emphasizes the spirit of the Arapaho people and their respect for nature, gratitude, dignity and survival. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation / Selection.

**Outcome:**  4.2  
**Keywords:**  Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Diversity; Multiple Perspectives; Identity; Stories; Narrative
Westmount, Quebec: Tundra Books.
$12.59 ISBN 0887763022

A collection of nine North American aboriginal legends that describe the origins of various animals and their behaviour, and natural phenomena, such as tornadoes, Niagara Falls, why the dog is our best friend, and why the owl and rabbit look the way they do. It provides a multiple perspective for respect and their place in the environment. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation / Selection.

**Outcome:** 4.2  
**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Diversity; Multiple Perspectives; Identity; Stories; Narrative

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$22.99 ISBN 0887765475

This book tells the Iroquois legend of Hiawatha and Tekanawita. It is a time when the Five Nations of the Iroquois Confederacy are led by the cruel and unjust Chief Atotarho. Hiawatha was the only one who refused to do his bidding and as a result was driven mad and banished to the wilderness. Through his solitude, he envisions times of peace and harmony but no one will listen when he tries to talk to his People. The same fate befalls Tekanawita, a young Huron, who is predestined to meet a great man and bestow peace among the Nations. When they meet, they spend endless time convincing their people to challenge the Chief and bring about peace. The story is filled with rich imagery and fantastical events, yet principles of First Nations governance, democracy and individual rights and freedoms can easily be pulled from the story. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation / Selection.

**Outcome:** 4.2  
**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Diversity; Multiple Perspectives; Identity; Stories; Narrative

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Tingley, Ken (2005) *A is Alberta: a centennial alphabet.*
Regina, Saskatchewan: Simple Truth Publications.
$24.95 ISBN 0973350024

**Picture Book**

"It is my hope that this book will create a sense of place for its readers...". With beautiful oil on linen paintings, this book features text about places all over Alberta. With each location, Tingley provides information about the origin of the place name, its history, stories about it, or recent happenings. It is a valuable addition to school libraries. Previewed by Curriculum Support Social Studies.

**Outcomes:** 4.1; 4.2; 4.3  
**Keywords:** Alberta; Identity; History; Land; Climate; Resources; Change

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Toronto, Ontario: Stoddart Kids.

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Planted lovingly in the springtime of her youth, Emily's tree, a weeping willow, becomes a living symbol of the warmth, strength and history shared by one family. It stands as a marker for all those who bravely pioneered to set their roots down in the rich soil of the prairies. Illustrated with lovely paintings, this beautiful book has a very strong message. Children can strongly identify with the characters in the story. Previewed at Midnapore Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 4.1.1; 4.2; 4.3.1

**Keywords:** Stories; Land Use; Landscapes; History; Agriculture; Change

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**Truckey, Don. (2005) The adventures of Caraway Kim...Southpaw.**
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan: Thistledown Press.
$10.95 ISBN 1894345908

In this is a lovely coming-of-age novel about living in rural Alberta during the early 1960s, Kim is an eleven-year-old boy who is mischievous and good-natured, and often finds himself in a misunderstanding. He lives in the fictitious town of Caraway and along the way we meet interesting and colourful characters that occupy the town with Kim. It is through these characters and the town that he finds his spirit and learns lessons that teach him honesty, pride and standing up for what he believes. The reader will be privy to rural life at a time that was innocent and slower. Historical and cultural references are present. A memorable and gentle book about growing up, it would make a good read-aloud. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation/Selection.

**Outcomes:** 4.2.1; 4.3.3

**Keywords:** Rural; Stories; Sense of Belonging; Quality of Life; Identity—Individual; Communities

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**Truss, Jan. (2005) A very small rebellion.**
Markham, Ontario: Fitzhenry & Whiteside.
$11.95 ISBN 1550419307

In a rich multiple literacies format which provides a story within a story, Paul Gauthier is playing the role of Louis Riel in a school play. As he studies his character, he becomes influenced by Riel's bravery and fortitude. This is artfully tied into Paul's life and community as the local government plans to build a highway through their Métis settlement. This is a time for Paul to find his own identity and defend his rights. The story line makes direct parallels between historical events involving the Métis and the rebellion and today with special emphasis on our aboriginal peoples and preservation of their quality of life. Previewed by (SSS) Evaluation / Selection.

**Outcomes:** 4.2; 4.3

**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Métis Nation; Métis Settlement; Change; Diversity; Historical Significance; Identity; Events

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**Tunnell, Michael O. (1993) Chinook.**
$24.10 ISBN 0688108709

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Andy tells Thad and Annie some tall tales about the spectacular effects of Chinooks, warm, dry, winter winds that suddenly spring up and cause dramatic changes in the temperature. This tall tale is a welcome story for anyone who has lived through an unpredictable winter and wild climate change.

Van Camp, Richard. (1998) What’s the most beautiful thing you know about horses?
San Francisco, California: Children’s Book Press.
$22.95 ISBN 0892391545

On January's coldest day of the year, in a small community in the Northwest Territories, the author, Richard Van Camp, from the Dogrib Nation, a people who use dogs instead of horses, searches among family and friends for answers to an important question. By answering the question, children are inspired to see the world and themselves in entirely new ways. Excellent colour artwork by the internationally renowned aboriginal artist, George Littlechild, from the Plains Cree Nation. This book is written and designed by aboriginal people and its portrayal of the culture is authentic. Previewed by (SSS) Aboriginal Education and Curriculum Support Social Studies.

Outcomes: 4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.3.3
Keywords: Aboriginal, First Nations, Culture, Identity, Stories

Toronto, Ontario: Thomson Gale.
$24.95 ISBN 1585362239

Another in this series of alphabet books, this uses the letters of the alphabet as the framework to share information about the history, culture, geography, and people of Alberta. Engagingly illustrated, the content highlights features of Alberta (the Columbia Icefields, the Hoodoos, the Rocky Mountains); events (the Frank Slide, the Calgary Stampede, Klondike Days); natural wonders (big horn sheep, wild rose, and chinooks) and historical personalities (Anthony Henday, John Ware, the Famous Five). An entertaining and enlightening volume, it can be used as a context for more in-depth studies of this province. Previewed by (SSS) AISI Teacher-Librarians.

Outcome: 4.1.1
Keywords: Geography; Story; Symbols and Landmarks; History

$14.95 ISBN 0889950865

Picture Book
On Christmas Eve, Eric and his sister Anni are surprised and delighted when the white, frozen landscape melts into vivid colours and wonderful, fresh smells as a warm Chinook wind blows across the Rocky Mountains through the small
Mennonite town where they live in Southern Alberta. Set in the 1940s, the story will help students make connections and develop an understanding and appreciation of how Alberta has grown and changed culturally, and socially since 1905. Previewed by Curriculum Support Social Studies.

Outcomes: 4.1; 4.2; 4.3
Keywords: Alberta; Climate; Change; Activities—Seasonal; Diversity; Identity; Events


Picture book
The Cree people are worried because winter is approaching and they have been unable to find the buffalo. Young Sky Running has a vision that reveals to him where the herds are, but the Cree are reluctant to travel to the rival territory of the Siksika in the Badlands to see if the vision is true. This is a beautifully written and illustrated story of aboriginal culture. Cree artist Michael Lonechild captures the prairie landscape and his paintings are full of authentic detail. Previewed at Hawkwood Elementary.

Outcomes: 4.1.1; 4.2
Keywords: Stories; Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Change; Historic Sights; Land Use; Multiple Perspectives