Literature Connections to
The New Social Studies Curriculum
Grade 5

…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 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 keywords 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 but have 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:

Andrea Cartwright, Social Studies Consultant, Curriculum Support Services, Calgary Board of Education;
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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/cbesocialstudies](http://www.uls.com/ULS/cbesocialstudies)
Screening Literature Through the Lens Of Social Studies

The following templates have been used by teachers to help identify literature, videos, pictures and music that best meets the learning outcomes of the new program of studies. Teachers have been encouraged to use or adapt the templates as a tool to assist them with material selection.

Templates:

- Connecting to the Strands
- Connecting to the Learner Outcomes:
  - values and attitudes
  - knowledge and understanding
  - skills and processes
Template for Screening Literature Connections for Social Studies

Title (Book, video, song etc.)

General Outcome Connection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Social Studies Outcomes (Specific Learner Outcomes)</th>
<th>Which Outcomes connections can be identified in this story, video or song? (Record specific Outcomes and keywords to explain how the resource best connects to the Program of Studies)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Values and Attitudes

Knowledge and Understanding

Skills and Processes

Dimensions of Thinking

Critical and Creative Thinking

Historical thinking

Geographic Thinking

Problem Solving and Decision Making

Social Participation as a Democratic Practice

Research for Deliberative Inquiry

Communication

This resource/story highlights the strands of: (Place a checkmark beside the appropriate strand) LPP ( ), CC ( ), GC ( ), TCC ( ), ER ( ), PADM ( ), C ( ), I ( )

Are multiple perspectives represented in this resource: (e.g. Aboriginal, Francophone etc.)

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# Template for Screening Literature Connections for Social Studies

**Title (Book, video, song etc.)** Picture Book - *Two Homes* by Claire Masurel

**General Outcome Connection** 1.1 My World: Home, School and Community

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Social Studies Outcomes (Specific Learner Outcomes)</th>
<th>Which Outcomes connections (where applicable) can be identified in this story, video or song? (Record specific Outcomes and keywords to explain how the resource best connects to the Program of Studies)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Values and Attitudes</strong></td>
<td>1.1.2 – to share and cooperate with others</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Knowledge and Understanding**                    | 1.1.3 – Community, Belonging  
1.1.4 – living together peacefully  
- how people cooperate                                                                                 |
| **Skills and Processes**                           |                                                                                                                                                                |
| Dimensions of Thinking                             |                                                                                                                                                                |
| Critical and Creative Thinking                     |                                                                                                                                                                |
| Historical thinking                                |                                                                                                                                                                |
| Geographic Thinking                                |                                                                                                                                                                |
| Problem Solving and Decision Making                |                                                                                                                                                                |
| Social Participation as a Democratic Practice      |                                                                                                                                                                |
| Research for Deliberative Inquiry                  |                                                                                                                                                                |
| Communication                                      |                                                                                                                                                                |

This resource/story highlights the strands of: (Place an X beside the appropriate strand)  
LPP (    ), CC (   X   ), GC (    ), TCC (    ), ER (    ), PADM (    ), C (    ), I (   X   )

Are multiple perspectives represented in this resource: (e.g. Aboriginal, Francophone etc.)  
**Yes**  
**No**  
_________________________________________  


5.1 **Physical Geography of Canada**

**General Outcome**
Students will demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of how the physical geography and natural resources of Canada affect the quality of life of all Canadians.

**Specific Outcomes**

› **Values and Attitudes**

*Students will:*

5.1.1 **value Canada’s physical geography and natural environment:**
- appreciate the variety and abundance of natural resources in Canada (ER, LPP)
- appreciate the diversity of geographic phenomena in Canada (LPP)
- appreciate the environmental significance of national parks and protected areas in Canada (ER, LPP)
- appreciate how the land sustains communities and the diverse ways that people have of living with the land (GC, LPP)
- appreciate the influence of the natural environment on the growth and development of Canada (LPP)
- demonstrate care and concern for the environment through their choices and actions (GC, LPP)
- appreciate the geographic vastness of Canada (LPP)

› **Knowledge and Understanding**

*Students will:*

5.1.2 **examine, critically, the physical geography of Canada by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:**
- What are the major geographical regions, landforms and bodies of water in Canada? (LPP)
- How do landforms, bodies of water and natural resources affect the quality of life in Canada? (LPP)
- How have natural disasters and severe weather been part of Canada’s physical geography? (LPP, TCC)
- What are the differences and similarities among the geographical regions of Canada? (LPP)
- How is the geographical region they live in different from other regions of Canada? (LPP)
- What are the factors that determine climate in the diverse geographical regions of Canada (e.g., latitude, water, mountains)? (LPP)
- How are Canada’s national parks and protected areas important to the sustainability of Canada’s natural environment? (ER, LPP)

5.1.3 **analyze how people in Canada interact with the environment by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:**
- In what ways do natural resources and the physical geography of a region determine the establishment of communities? (ER, LPP)
- How are natural resources used, exchanged and conserved in Canada? (ER, LPP)
- Whose responsibility should it be to ensure the preservation of Canada’s national parks and protected areas? (C, ER, LPP)
5.2 Histories and Stories of Ways of Life in Canada

General Outcome
Students will demonstrate an understanding of the people and the stories of Canada and their ways of life over time, and appreciate the diversity of Canada’s heritage.

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, creation 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 Canada’s history and contemporary society.

Specific Outcomes

▶ Values and Attitudes

Students will:
5.2.1 appreciate the complexity of identity in the Canadian context:
- recognize how an understanding of Canadian history and the stories of its peoples contributes to their sense of identity (I, TCC)
- acknowledge oral traditions, narratives and stories as valid sources of knowledge about the land and diverse Aboriginal cultures and history (CC, I, TCC)
- acknowledge the roots of Francophone identity and presence in Canada (CC, I, TCC)
- acknowledge British influence and presence in Canada (CC, I, TCC)
- acknowledge the contributions made by diverse cultural groups to the evolution of Canada (CC, I, TCC)
- recognize how changes in society can affect identity (CC, I)

▶ Knowledge and Understanding

Students will:
5.2.2 examine, critically, the ways of life of Aboriginal peoples in Canada by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:
- What do the stories of First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples tell us about their beliefs regarding the relationship between people and the land? (I, CC, TCC, LPP)
- How are the Aboriginal cultures and ways of life unique in each of the western, northern, central and eastern regions of Canada? (I, CC, TCC)
- How were the natural environment and geography of each region of Canada determining factors of the diversity among Aboriginal groups (e.g., languages, symbolism)? (LPP, TCC)
- What was the significance of the potlatch to the identity of the Aboriginal peoples of the Northwest Coast? (I, CC, LPP)
- In what ways do anthropology and archaeology contribute to our understanding of First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples? (CC, LPP, TCC)
5.2.3 **examine, critically, ways of life in New France by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:**
- How do stories and legends of the coureurs des bois and voyageurs inform us about Francophone history, culture and presence throughout Canada? (I, CC, TCC)
- What do stories about the habitants tell us about Francophone history, culture and presence in Canada? (I, CC, TCC)

5.2.4 **examine, critically, ways of life of the fur traders by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:**
- How are the stories of the Métis people, their culture and heritage rooted in the fur trade? (CC, I, TCC)
- How do stories about ways of life in fur trade forts reflect the British influence in Canada? (CC, TCC, PADM)
- What were the main languages spoken by fur traders and their families in the fur trade forts? (I, CC, TCC, ER)

5.2.5 **examine, critically, ways of life of the United Empire Loyalists by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:**
- What do stories of the United Empire Loyalists tell us about British culture and presence in Canada? (CC, I, TCC)
- How did the diversity of United Empire Loyalists contribute to Canadian diversity? (I, CC, TCC, LPP)

5.2.6 **examine, critically, the ways of life of immigrants from the British Isles during the Great Migration by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:**
- What do stories of Irish and Scottish immigrants tell us about their heritage and presence in Canada? (CC, I, TCC)
- What do stories of British peoples tell us about the British history, culture and presence in Canada? (CC, I, TCC)

5.2.7 **examine, critically, how the North West Mounted Police shaped ways of life in Canada by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:**
- What do stories of the North West Mounted Police tell us about the settlement and development of western and northern Canada? (LPP, PADM)
- How have stories of the North West Mounted Police shaped identity in western and northern Canada? (I, TCC, PADM)

5.2.8 **examine, critically, ways of life of non-European immigrants by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:**
- How do stories of Chinese immigrants (i.e., railway workers) contribute to an understanding of the development of Canada? (CC, I, TCC)
- What do stories of the Underground Railroad tell us about the history and presence of Black communities in Canada? (CC, I, TCC, LPP)
- How do stories of immigrants from India contribute to an understanding of diversity in Canada? (CC, I)
5.2.9 examine, critically, how European immigrants shaped ways of life in western Canada by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:

- What do stories of immigrants from Ukraine, Poland, Russia and Germany tell us about their history and presence in western Canada? (CC, I, GC, LPP, TCC)
- How were European immigrants affected by pressures to conform in western Canada? (C, CC, I, GC, LPP, TCC)
5.3  Canada: Shaping an Identity

General Outcome
Students will demonstrate an understanding of the events and factors that have changed the ways of life in Canada over time and appreciate the impact of these changes on citizenship and identity.

Specific Outcomes

» Values and Attitudes

Students will:

5.3.1 appreciate how changes impact citizenship and identity:
- recognize how economic and political changes impact ways of life of citizens (C, ER, I, PADM)
- recognize the effects of Confederation on citizenship and identity from multiple perspectives (C, I, PADM, TCC)
- recognize the historical significance of French and English as Canada’s official languages (C, I, PADM)

» Knowledge and Understanding

Students will:

5.3.2 assess, critically, the changes that occurred in Canada immediately following Confederation by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:
- How did John A. Macdonald and George-Étienne Cartier contribute as partners of Confederation? (TCC, PADM)
- How did the circumstances surrounding Confederation eventually lead to French and English becoming Canada’s two official languages? (I, C, PADM)
- How did the building of Canada’s national railway affect the development of Canada? (CC, ER, PADM)
- Why were Aboriginal peoples excluded from the negotiations surrounding Confederation? (TCC, PADM)

5.3.3 assess, critically, how the Famous Five brought about change in Canada by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:
- Who were the Famous Five? (LPP, TCC)
- How did they identify the need for change in Canadian laws? (C, I, PADM)
- How did the changes brought on by their actions affect individual rights in Canada? (C, I, PADM)

5.3.4 assess, critically, how economic booms and crashes affected ways of life in Canada by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:
- How did the First World War contribute to the industrialization and urbanization of Canada? (ER, LPP)
- In what ways did the Great Depression of the 1930s affect ways of life in urban and rural communities? (ER, LPP, TCC)
- How did the economic boom immediately following the Second World War affect ways of life in Canada? (CC, ER, TCC)
5.3.5 assess, critically, how historical events shaped collective identity in the Canadian context by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:

- How was the Statute of Westminster a recognition of Canada as a country? (C, I, TCC)
- How did Lester B. Pearson’s initiative within the United Nations contribute to Canada’s identity as a peacekeeping country? (GC, I, PADM)
- How did the adoption of the Canadian flag affect collective identity within Canada? (I, LPP)
- How was the patriation of the Constitution in 1982 a step toward nationhood? (GC, I, PADM)
- How is the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms a symbol of Canada’s emerging identity? (I, PADM)
- What factors led to the creation of Nunavut? (I, CC, LPP, PADM)
Grade 5 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.

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<tr>
<th>Aboriginal Peoples</th>
<th>Industrialization</th>
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<tr>
<td>Beliefs</td>
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<td>Bodies of water</td>
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<tr>
<td>British (peoples)</td>
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<td>Canada</td>
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<td>Change over time</td>
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<td>Famous Five</td>
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<td>Fur trade</td>
<td>Ukrainians</td>
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<td>Geography</td>
<td>Underground railroad</td>
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<td>Growth</td>
<td>United Empire Loyalists</td>
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<td>Heritage</td>
<td>Urbanization</td>
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<td>Voyageurs</td>
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<td>Identity</td>
<td>Western Canada</td>
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<tr>
<td>Immigrants</td>
<td>World War I</td>
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<tr>
<td>Immigration</td>
<td>World War II</td>
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<tr>
<td>Individual rights</td>
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</table>

Canadian Author

Eleven year old Josie Grun escapes from East Germany with her family in 1989, when her father feels their lives are at risk from the Communist Party’s Secret Police. They steal away into the night to cross the Hungarian border and Josie must leave her home, her grandmother, her best friend and her figure skates behind. After flying across the Atlantic and bussing across Canada, they arrive to stay with Uncle Fritz and Aunt Beth in Calgary. Josie has become a ‘refugee’ and she must deal with learning a new language, starting at a new school, and learning about the Canadian way of life. It is not easy, and at first, Josie longs for her German home. Gradually, she learns English and when she begins to skate again, she finds friendship and happiness. Realistic story of the immigrant experience. Previewed by Hillhurst Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.1; 5.2.9

**Keywords:** Immigrants; Citizenship; Culture; Change; Diversity


**Series:** Amazing Stories Junior Edition

This is the Junior Edition of Amazing Stories HBC Adventurers- The Rollicking Saga of Canada’s Fur Traders. This accessible recounting of some of the adventures of historical figures associated with the Hudson’s Bay Company includes the role of the fur trade in the colonization of Canada; the initiative and exploits of voyageurs Pierre-Esprit Radisson and Medard Chouart des Groseilliers; the impact of Prince Rupert and James Knight; the explorations of Henry Kelsey; the competition of the North West Company; the Red River settlement and the contribution of First Nations and Metis peoples. Contains a table of contents, map but no index. Previewed by Langevin School and (ESS) Social Studies.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.4

**Keywords:** Fur Trade; French; Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; British; Métis


**Series:** Amazing Stories Junior Edition

A collection of important adventures and escapades of historical figures associated with the establishment of the North West Mounted Police. In 1873 the NWMP were established to restore law and order to the Western frontier. The men who joined the Mounties shared many characteristics. They had a love of adventure, extreme endurance, and a strong sense of pride in the new country. Their stories are an important part of Canadian history. There is a table of contents and map but no index. Previewed by (ESS) Social Studies.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.7

**Keywords:** North West Mounted Police; Geography; Historical Significance; Identity
Toronto : Groundwood Books. $6.95 ISBN: 0888992408

In a fishing village on the coast of Newfoundland, a family of three try to survive on their own as the father is off for many months on a fishing trip. Keri, the 13-year-old, struggles with many emotional issues as she strives for her independence from her family. However, a beached whale, and her efforts to save it, bring about many changes in her life. Good character development and imagery in this well-written story. Previewed by Prince of Wales Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.2
**Keywords:** Geography; Natural environment; Ways of life

Toronto : Douglas & McIntyre. $18.95 ISBN: 9780888990433

**Picture Book**

A fairly simple, but interesting story is greatly embellished by eloquent, colourful illustrations in yellows and purples, with multiple spirit images. Eva, 12, an Inuit girl, experiences joy and fear in her very first walk under the sea ice gathering mussels. Offers an appreciation of the Arctic landscape.

Previewed by W. O. Mitchell Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.1; 5.2.2
**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; Inuit; Ways of life; Culture

Charlottetown, P.E. : Acorn Press. $18.95 ISBN: 9781894838023

This anthology contains 8 folktales, 13 legends and 13 songs with lyrics. The author, a historian and folklorist interviewed P.E.I. Acadians in the 1970’s and their stories were recorded. Originally published in French, the English translation offers an extensive bibliography, footnotes and photos. This is a good teacher resource and read aloud to express Acadian stories, traditions and social attitudes. Social Studies Grade 5 – Histories and stories of ways of life in Canada. Previewed by (ESS) Social Studies.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.1; 5.2.3
**Keywords:** Immigrants; Heritage; Identity; Oral traditions

Calgary : Weigl Educational Publishers. $22.95 ISBN 1553880188

**Series:** Canadian sites and symbols

This book briefly covers the following topics: how Canada got its name, explanation of the parts of the coat of arms, history of the flag, animals that are symbols of Canada, national tree, provincial minerals and gemstones, features of the national mace, national parks and historic sites. Each chapter is presented on a two-page spread with good quality captioned photographs and fact boxes. Includes a brief glossary and index as well as a student quiz. Social Studies Grade 5 - Histories and stories of ways of life in Canada. Previewed by Hawkwood Elementary and Windsor Park.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.1
**Keywords:** Heritage; National Parks; Identity

**Picture Book**
Richly illustrated by the author, a noted Cree artist, this story shows the importance of the spiritual beliefs of the Elders in teaching youth about their heritage. Respect for the world around them, and for the wisdom of the elders, is conveyed in the text. Kayas, a young man whose name means "Long Time Ago", is a powerful hunter for his people. But he becomes conceited and lazy, and forgets the ways he has learned. He forgets how to find his prey. He has to learn and practice humility. The reader will be grateful for the Cree Glossary (including pronunciation) as the two languages are mixed smoothly - if practiced - in telling the story. Previewed by Cecil Swanson Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.2
**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Elders; Identity; Stories


**Picture Book**
During the great migration to North America a Swedish family is separated at the New York docks. The father searches for his wife and son while the wife and son are left homeless and without money. The son is discovered by a movie producer who puts him in his next movie. The father sees his son up on the screen at a Nickelodeon and goes in search of his family. The excellent black and white illustrations compliment the text well. This provides an informative description of migration and hardships of a non-English speaking family in Early North America. Grade 5 – Histories and Stories of Ways of Life in Canada. Previewed by Marlborough Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.1
**Keywords:** Immigration; Immigrants; Migration; Citizenship; Quality of life.

Montréal : Tundra. $16.99 ISBN 987088776342

**Picture Book**
The authors of "A Prairie Alphabet" (1992) now capture 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. Grade 5 Social Studies—5.1 Physical Geography of Canada. Previewed by (ESS) Social Studies.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.1; 5.1.2
**Keywords:** Geography; Natural environment; Ways of life

**Series:** Canadian Geographic Regions  
**Other titles in the series:** The Great Lakes; The North; The Cordillera; The St. Lawrence Lowlands; The Interior Plains; The Canadian Shield  
This series celebrates Canada's diverse and unique landscapes and presents each region's peoples, geology, history, plants, climate, animals, and environment. One natural disaster, specific to the area, is highlighted. Near the back of each book are examples of two geography-related careers and two activities for students to try at home. Other chapters include the map of the various regions, the forming of Earth's continents from Pangaea, and the climate maps which show the average temperature, average snowfall and the growing season. This particular title explores the Appalachian region, where students will find out about logging, mining, fishing and aquaculture (fish, farming) as well as a feature on Hurricane Juan which caused much damage in 2003. Previewed by Queen Elizabeth Junior/Senior High.  
**Outcomes:** 5.1.1; 5.1.2; 5.1.3  
**Keywords:** Canada; Environment; Geography; Growth; Historical; Natural environment; Natural resources; Climate


**Also on the Grade 7 list**  
This series entitled “Early Canadian Life” is designed for young readers and focuses on the life of the pioneers who settled in Canada in the 1800s. In *The RCMP* the book is filled with archival material and interesting fact boxes, this book gives a short overview of the history of the Royal Mounted Canadian Police, and its role in the development of Western Canada. Includes two-page spreads with historical photographs and detailed captions, concise and readable text, first-hand accounts, "Did You Know" boxes, and a map. 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 (ESS) Evaluation/Selection  
**Outcome:** 5.2.7  
**Keywords:** North West Mounted Police, Identity


**Picture Book**  
"The task of being the canoe-maker was one of the most important and respected in the culture of the First Nations of the Northwest coast." Interwoven through the story of the making of Jason's canoe are many readable pieces of information about the culture of the Nootka. The process of making the canoe from cedar is described, and Jason takes an active part in building his new one when his old one is destroyed in a storm. Social Studies Grade 5 Histories & Stories of Ways of Life in Canada. Previewed by Cecil Swanson Elementary.  
**Outcomes:** 5.2.2  
**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Identity; Culture
Also on the Grade 7 list
William Maclean is just eleven-years-old when his father and older brother are injured in an accident in the Ocean Deeps Colliery on Cape Breton. William wants nothing more than to continue in school and enjoy the company of Gem, the pony captured from Sable Island to work in the mine. If there is no mineworker in the family, they will be evicted from the company house they live in. This means not only William, his injured father and his brother, but his sisters and his grandmother. Much as he would not prefer to do so, William goes to work in the mine first as trapper, then as a driver with his much beloved Gem. It is only when a bump in the mine precipitates another cave-in that William's integrity and courage are recognized by his family and the whole community. Previewed by (SSS) AISI Curriculum Support.

Outcomes: 5.1.2
Keywords: Geography; Natural environment; Ways of life; Natural resources

Toronto: James Lorimer & Company Publishers. $16.95 ISBN 9780888627940

Set in Western Canada in the 1830’s, this the story of a young girl who is in search of her identity and place. Isobel Macpherson is the daughter of Scottish father and a Peigan Aboriginal mother, living in Fort Edmonton. When her father leaves them to return to his home in Scotland, Isobel is devastated. Her mother decides to remarry and sends Isobel to spend some time with her maternal grandparents at their Peigan camp on the Bow River. With family and friends between cultures, Isobel must clarify her own thinking about who she is and where she belongs. A short novel that provides an excellent insight into this time period, and the meeting of cultures. Grade 5 – Histories and Stories of Ways of Life in Canada. Previewed by Hillhurst Elementary.

Outcomes: 5.2.1; 5.2.2; 5.2.4
Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples; Métis; Fur trade; Identity; Western Canada; Ways of life

Markham, ON: Fitzhenry and Whiteside. $8.95 ISBN 1550414779

Series: The Canadians
Profiles the life of Nellie McClung looking at her childhood, leaving home, becoming a young school teacher and writer, speaking passionately about women’s suffrage and rights, becoming a member of the Alberta legislature, the famous women as ‘persons’ case, and her tireless work to better the lives of others. Written at an upper elementary level in small print with numerous b/w archival photos. Would be challenging for most elementary students to access the information, though the photos would provide interesting study. Social Studies Grade 5.3 – Canada, Shaping an Identity; English Language Arts – biography. Previewed by Hillhurst Elementary.

Outcomes: 5.3.1; 5.3.3
Keywords: Famous Five; Citizenship; Individual rights; Ways of life; Change over time

Also on the Grade 7 list
Collection of 5 previously published works: The railway pathfinders, The men in sheepskin coats, A Prairie nightmare, Steel across the plains, and Steel across the shield. Forward by Arthur Slade. This omnibus is the first in a series of Canadian history titles intended for teen readers, listed previously, and now out of print. Berton's accounts of the railway pathfinders, the immigrants and building the railway offered excitement, personality and entertainment. Because these stories are useful for Canadian studies but are more suited as a teacher resource, we recommend this title for professional use for Elementary and Junior High Schools. Social Studies Grade 5 – Histories and stories of ways of life in Canada. Previewed by (ESS) Evaluation/Selection.

Outcomes: 5.2.1; 5.2.8; 5.2.9
Keywords: History; Immigrants; Change over time; Geography


Sequel to: *Shadows of disaster*
On a family vacation to Halifax, 12-year-old twins, Jolene and Michael, travel back in time to 1917, the date of a major Canadian disaster, the Halifax harbour explosion which killed over two thousand people. Jolene and Michael arrive on the scene only days before the disaster and make friends with children who live in the area devastated by the explosion. They know that they cannot change history, but Michael is determined to try, and leads the twins into incredible danger. Written by a Calgary author, this is a fascinating adventure novel about a terrible event in Canadian history. Grade 5 - Histories and Stories of Ways of Life in Canada. Previewed by Hawkwood Elementary.

Outcomes: 5.2.1
Keywords: Eastern Canada; Historical events; Ways of Life; Identity


Jolene and Michael are twins living in Calgary. Michael is off on a swim competition and time with cousins in Vancouver for part of the summer, and Jolene is stuck going to the Crowsnest Pass area with her dad 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. Previewed by Brentwood Elementary and (ESS) Social Studies.

Outcomes: 5.1.2
Keywords: Geography; Natural disasters; Natural environment
Jolene and Michael, the time travelling twins of “Shadows of Disaster” and "Chaos in Halifax", are staying on the shores of the Great Lakes while their father and grandfather conduct research into the Great Storm of 1913. When Grandfather discovers a time crease, he takes the twins back to the year 1913 where Jolene meets a girl named Em who is involved in the suffragette movement. Jolene admires Em's passion and commitment to the cause. Their time travel adventure turns dangerous when Jolene and Michael join Em aboard the "Regina", one of the ships involved in the Great Storm. When the "Regina" starts to sink, Em, Michael and Jolene escape to a lifeboat. Michael is injured in the escape so it is up to Jolene to find the strength to save them from the sea and return them to their own time and their home. An action-packed adventure story about a real event in Canadian History. Previewed by Hillhurst Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.2  
**Keywords:** Geography; Natural disasters; Natural environment


**Picture Book**  
A beautiful, sensitive story about the relationship of a little girl and her immigrant grandfather. Stephanie, the little girl, longs to play with Grandpa's wooden doll which is out of her reach. She climbs on a chair and brings the doll down only to discover it has a secret. Later she learns that the doll belonged to her Grandpa's mother, and she had given the doll to Grandpa when he left Poland. Previewed by Sunnyside Community.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.9  
**Keywords:** Immigrants; Ways of life; Heritage

Toronto : Kids Can Press. $16.95 ISBN 9781550742954

**Picture Book**  
A drought on a prairie farm reminds a grandfather of the “Dirty Thirties” as three generations of family (grandfather, father and son) fight hardship on the family farm. A story about courage and stamina and a history of the Great Depression when it hit the Prairies. Shaping an Identity. Previewed by (ESS) Evaluation/Selection.

**Outcomes:** 5.3.4  
**Keywords:** Depression; Ways of life; Geography

Mankato, Minn : Capstone Press. $10.95 ISBN 9780736869515

**Series:** Countries and Cultures  
This book provides an overview to Canada's climate, landforms, history, government, economy, people, culture and daily life. It includes excellent chapter headings, clear layout, colour photos, coloured sidebars, maps, fast facts and timeline. This is an excellent resource to find a variety of information quickly. Social Studies Grade 5 – Physical geography of Canada; Histories and stories of ways of life in Canada. Previewed by Windsor Park.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.1 ; 5.1.2 ; 5.2.1 ; 5.2.2  
**Keywords:** History; Landforms; National Parks; Confederation

This is a beautiful, poetic text, a nostalgic pilgrimage evoking the mood and uniqueness of prairie life and landscape - sky, wind, snow, cold, trees, hockey, etc. Ripplinger’s full page, expressive paintings complement the detail and mood of the poetry. Cameo images placed with the text, opposite the paintings, add further interest and information about prairie features. An attractive format with much white space and sweeping prairie skies in these images of the past. Illustrates how living in a particular region helps shape individual and collective identity. This is a lovely book, a wonderful visual journey, and good companion to "A Prairie Alphabet" (1992) by Jo Bannatyne-Cugnet. Grade 5 Social Studies— 5.1 Physical Geography of Canada. Previewed by Silver Springs Elementary & (ESS) Social Studies.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.1 ; 5.1.2

**Keywords:** Geography; Natural environment; Ways of life


An explorer by the name of Etienne Mercier tells in his journal about his visit to the Queen Charlotte Islands. He speaks a lot about the Haida, their culture and beliefs. The paintings and ink sketches are magnificent. They depict the beauty of the Queen Charlotte Islands and the mystery. The CD, that retells the story in the book, is wonderful. The sound of the waves in the background and the storyteller (who has a strong French accent when he speaks English) makes it very authentic. You can hear the Haida drums, the fire crackling, etc. He also sings the songs. Previewed at Kingsland Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.1 ; 5.2.2 ; 5.2.4

**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Western Canada; Geography; Oral traditions; Fur trade


**Picture Book**

A bilingual picture book offered in both English and Cree. The essence of the book is to illustrate the need to protect heritage, beliefs and in this case the Aboriginal way of life. This is the task for the a little boy’s Nokum (Grandmother), as she teachers her grandson the importance of respecting and learning the “old ways” and fielding her grandson’s important questions about where he fits in a modern world and his Cree culture. Nokum answers An important book for all. A Cree translation is next to the English poem on every page and a CD is included with the book that contains a reading as well as music by a Northern Cree drumming circle. Previewed by (ESS) Evaluation/Selection

**Outcomes:** 5.2.2

**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Elders; Identity; Oral Traditions; Ways of life

**Picture Book**
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 pow wow. 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 Crossing Park Elementary & (ESS) Social Studies Team.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.1; 5.2.2

**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Ways of life; Identity


The content of this book is based on questions submitted by children from all across Canada. Divided into three categories - animals, geography and land features, history and Canadian "habits" - the information is presented in question and answer format with the question written in blue on the left side of the page and the answer in regular text on the right. The text is readable and engaging. Well-illustrated with an interesting variety of photographs, computer enhanced images, collages, drawings, diagrams, maps. An appealing resource loaded with fascinating Canadian facts and trivia. Includes index and table of contents. Previewed by Hawkwood Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.1; 5.1.2; 5.1.3; 5.3.1

**Keywords:** Geography; Identity; Ways of Life


**Series:** Wow Canada

A fun Canadian trivia book. Kids will love the factual, but "kooky", facts, such as where you will find the world's largest porcupine, an ancient underwater forest, monstrous asteroid craters, black bears that are actually white, and police officers who always get their man. To match the humorous text are the "goofy" collage art illustrations. Previewed by Crossing Park Elementary & (ESS) Evaluation/Selection.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.1; 5.1.2; 5.1.3; 5.2.1; 5.2.2; 5.3.1; 5.3.2

**Keywords:** Aboriginal peoples; Inuit; Fur trade; Geography; Identity; New France; Natural resources


**Series:** Wow Canada

A fascinating book about everything that makes us Canadian! Chapter One looks at our official national symbols, Chapter Two features a double-page spread on symbols of each province and territory, and Chapter Three examines other distinguishing facets of our country such as bilingualism, Hockey Night in Canada, spellings, Mounties, etc. Table of contents, index, numerous colour photos, and cartoon characters. Part of the Wow Canada! series of books. Social Studies Grade 5.1 - Physical Geography of Canada. Previewed by Hillhurst Elementary, Queen Elizabeth Junior/Senior High & Windsor Park Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.1; 5.1.2

**Keywords:** Canada; Geography; Identity
Toronto: Maple Tree Press Inc. $19.95 ISBN 9781897066942

**Series: Wow Canada**

An updated edition of the original publication, this is the cross-Canada trip taken by eleven-year old Guy, his younger sister Rachel, her stuffed toy beaver, Bucky, and their parents. They travel through all ten provinces and three territories where they learn about the communities they visit. Each section includes “Things We’ll Do and Places We’ll Go Next Time”, as well as Guy’s emails to his friends at home, Rachel’s postcards, and sidebars titled, “Exceedingly Weird” and “Food I was Introduced to for My Own Good”. The easy-to-read and engaging text is supplemented with graphics that include illustrations, maps, slides, photographs, and cartoons. Readers will appreciate the humour and interplay among family members, and especially “Guy’s Family Car Trip Survival Tips”. Social Studies Grade 5 – Physical geography of Canada. Previewed by Langevin Science School.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.1 ; 5.1.2

**Keywords:** Canada; Communities; Geography; Heritage; History; Landforms; National Parks; Provincial Parks; Regions; Western Canada

Markham, ON.: Scholastic Canada. $14.99 ISBN 9780439989794

**Also on the Grade 7 list**

**Series: Dear Canada**

Set at the end of the American War of Independence, this is the fictional diary of Mary Macdonald, born in Albany, New York. Under intense, and often violent pressure from their Patriot neighbours, Mary and her family flee their farm and travel with great difficulty to Sorel, Quebec. There they find Angus, the eldest son of the family, who has joined the British Army. The family spends a cold and difficult winter in an army cabin, but in the spring, begins to clear land for their new farm. This is a compelling story told through the eyes of a young girl with responsibilities far exceeding her years. Previewed by Ernest Morrow Junior High.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.5

**Keywords:** United Empire Loyalists; Ways of life

Toronto: Jackfruit Press. $19.95 ISBN 9780973640601

**Series: Canadian prime ministers : warts and all**

This is one of a series of books about Canada's Prime Ministers. Each book is colourful and well organized. The organization has been done by year. Many interesting gems of information about the individual's life are included. The books include drawings, cartoons, charts, tables and a very attractive timeline. The books all conclude with the Prime Minister's legacy. Also included in this series and specific to Grade 5—5.3 Shaping and Identity is *Lester B. Pearson: the geek who made Canada proud.* Previewed by Centennial High and (ESS) Evaluation/Selection.

**Outcomes:** 5.3.2

**Keywords:** Identity; Canada; Identity; History; Confederation

An action-packed portrayal of Mohawk village life in the 1400s. The long standing peace between two neighboring groups is threatened by a group of adolescent Mohawks. Eleven-year-old Ohkwari overhears their plans and tells the council thus making him the target of their revenge. While playing Tekwaarathon (lacrosse) he finds himself the violent target. Modern day parallels could be made with the reader and the young character about consequences and doing the right thing and therefore making this story one that young readers can identity with. Previewed by (ESS) Evaluation/Selection

Outcomes: 5.2.1; 5.2.2

Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Ways of life; Culture

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Collection of eighteen short stories about plants and the sources of life as selected and told by Bruchac. Stories from a variety of First Nations people across North America – Eastern woodland, Plains, Southeast, Southwest, Pacific Northwest, and Arctic. Includes a map, tribal nation description, glossary and pronunciation key. Illustrated with b/w pencil drawings by Mohawk artists.

Social Studies Grade 5 – Histories and stories of ways of life in Canada. Previewed by Hillhurst Elementary.

Outcomes: 5.2.1; 5.2.2

Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Stories; Beliefs; Geography; Natural environment

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Buchan, Bryan. (1972) *Copper Sunrise.* Markham, ON: Scholastic. $7.99 ISBN 9780439961813

Also on the Grade 7 list

Jamie, his parents and two brothers settle on the coast of Canada where they hope to make a new life after difficult times in Scotland. Troubling to them and their neighbours are the native people who live in the vicinity. Suspicious and hostile, the adults in the community are ready to hunt the aboriginals to kill them. Jamie, on a foray into the woods, meets Tethani, a Beothuk youth. Despite their lack of common language, they begin to build a friendship. Over time, each learns enough of the other’s language and family to know the real danger posed by the settlers eager to exterminate the native people. Neither is able to prevent the tragedy that consumes the Beothuk. Previewed by AISI Teacher-Librarians and (ESS) Social Studies.

Outcomes: 5.2.1; 5.2.6

Keywords: Aboriginal; Immigration; Settlement; First Nations
Vancouver, BC: Raincoast Books $12.95 ISBN 9781551928395

Also on the Grade 7 list
Born into slavery in the state of Missouri in the 1840s, Jenny Estes believes in her father’s dream of freedom. As she works in the plantation kitchen, Jenny tries to give her mistress no cause to sell her to a slave-trader. Remarkably, she is learning to read, a skill that will be of critical importance to her family’s survival as they trek from the Deep South to California, then to SaltSpring Island on Canada’s west coast. Their ordeal includes disease, privation, loss of family members and the struggles of homesteading. Based on a true story, this coming-of-age tale demonstrates the spirit and courage needed to build a new life in a new land. Social Studies Grade 5 – Histories and stories of ways of life in Canada. Previewed by AISI Teacher-Librarians and (ESS) Social Studies.

Outcomes: 5.2.1 ; 5.2.7
Keywords: Historical significance; Immigrants; Underground railroad


In this new book, Newfoundland-born Geoff Butler has taken the anthem "Ode to Newfoundland", and provided bright, joyous paintings to illustrate the unique and wonderful place that it is. Using various text, e.g., words, pictures and music, he has provided readers with intriguing facts and delightful insights into the magic of The Rock. He provides additional information and the musical score at the end of the book which provides the reader with a greater depth of understanding and enjoyment of this wonderful picture book.

Previewed by (ESS) Evaluation/Selection.

Outcomes: 5.1.1 ; 5.1.2
Keywords: Geography; Natural environment; Ways of life

New York: Parragon. $15.99 ISBN 9781405417280

Answers to over 1000 intriguing questions about Canada are presented in this engrossing encyclopedia as the many facets of Canada, the land, its people, their history, and their achievements, are explored. Fascinating facts, figures, stories and legends make up the contents of this informative book. Previewed by (ESS) Social Studies.

Outcomes: 5.3.5
Keywords: Identity; Geography; History; Aboriginal Peoples; Potlach

Red Deer, AB: Red Deer Press. $18.95 ISBN 9780889952201

An Inuit legend about Pani, a young girl who desires to be a great hunter though she is taunted by friends who tell her all great hunters are men. Pani learns the importance of compassion when she encounters an injured bear cub that she nurses back to health. She is rewarded by the bear’s mother with a magic polar bear fur bag that can be used so that she will never be hungry or cold again. The realistic watercolour illustrations depict the vast, empty, striking landscape of the Arctic. Inuit vocabulary included. Exemplifies relationship between people and the land. Previewed by Somerset Elementary and (ESS) Evaluation/Selection.

Outcomes: 5.2.2
Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples; Inuit; Ways of life; Stories; Northern; Natural environment

**Picture Book**

George and his grandfather sail to an abandoned fishing outport to visit grandmother’s grave. On the way back they are caught in a terrible storm. Grandfather courageously gives his life in hopes of saving his grandson George. In this story, grandfather shares stories that explain changes over time in Newfoundland. Words unique to Nfld. are explained in a glossary. Background historical information of Nfld. is also provided. Teachers will find this well written book useful when discussing unique identities within Canada, and how these identities are kept alive through the stories of the elders. The colourful illustrations are detailed, providing the reader with a clear vision of the book’s setting. Grade 5: Physical Geography of Canada, Canada - Shaping an Identity. Previewed by Midnapore Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.1 ; 5.1.2 ; 5.1.3 ; 5.2.1 ; 5.3.1 ; 5.3.4  
**Keywords:** Change over time; Eastern Canada; Identity; Oral traditions; Climate; Ways of Life; Natural resources


**Also on the Grade 7 list**

**Picture Book**

This is a poignant and thoughtful, picture book presentation of the “special days” in a young native girl’s life before she leaves for residential school. Simple and beautiful artwork depicts the autumn colours as her family shares the teachings of her heritage, to carry with her as memories to her new life. The author shows the richness of the culture, and the point of view of those who were separated from their communities by outsiders who had no knowledge of or value for their culture. This will be useful in studies of European contact, and of aboriginal life. A foreword by the author tells briefly of the loss suffered by not only Canadian aboriginals by this treatment, but of aboriginals of other parts of the world. Previewed by Cecil Swanson Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.1 ; 5.2.2  
**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Identity; Ways of life; Historical significance


**Picture Book**

During the spring break, a young boy goes to his grandfather’s farm, and helps him collect maple sugar. Describes drilling the holes, hanging the pails, collecting the sap, and boiling it down to make maple sugar. Provides interesting small details, e.g., Holes are drilled on the southeast side of the trees since this is the side that first warms in spring. Soft watercolour illustrations with close-up and wide-angle views, and the minimal text convey all the pleasures of the sugar bush. Grade 5 Social Studies— 5.1 Physical Geography of Canada. Previewed by (ESS) Evaluation/Selection.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.1 ; 5.1.2  
**Keywords:** Geography; Natural environment; Ways of life

**Series: Canada : A People's History**

Have you ever wondered why we have two official languages in Canada? Through this supplemental resource for the film series of the same name, students will demonstrate a better understanding of events and factors that have changed the ways of life in Canada over time and appreciate the impact of these changes on citizenship and identity. Chapters deal with Battling for New France, Conquest of New France, Building a New Continent, Quebec and the American Revolution and Fast Forward. The series includes short sections of print with clear headings, accompanied by excellent photographs that vividly portray the concepts introduced. It includes "Telling Their Stories" excerpts that invite the reader into the lives of historical peoples of Canada. There is a table of contents, glossary and index. Suitable for Social Studies Curriculum, Grade 5 and Grade 7. Can also be used as a teacher resource. Previewed by (SSS) AISI Teacher-Librarians & (ESS) Curriculum Support, Social Studies.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.1 ; 5.2.3 ; 5.3.1 ; 5.3.2

**Keywords:** Official languages; New France; Identity; Citizenship; History; Canada

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**Also on the Grade 7 list**

Settlement in Upper Canada is seen through the eyes of an orphaned fifteen year old boy. He arrives at his uncle’s farm and is unprepared for the grinding physical labor of working on a farm. With his dog always at his side, Callum works hard to find his place within the family and the New World he has come to. Grade 5 – Histories and Stories of Ways of Life in Canada. Previewed by Windsor Park.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.1 ; 5.2.6

**Keywords:** Ways of Life; Responsibility; Scottish; Quality of Life; Natural Environment; Immigration

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**Also on the Grade 7 list**

Series: Dear Canada

Mei-ling is the twelve-year-old Chinese daughter of an immigrant Chinese family in the early part of the twentieth century in Canada. She lives with her father in a small room in Chinatown. He works long days as a houseboy after he is cheated out of his business by unscrupulous partners. Mei-ling attends school with an assortment of Canadian children, some of whom torment her. She is a gifted artist, and diligent student, whose teacher gives her a bright red diary for her birthday, to acknowledge her tremendous intellectual growth. After school, Mei-ling works at assorted jobs to help her father accumulate the money to pay the head tax that would allow her family to join them in Canada. She notes her experiences in her diary. This accurately portrays the arduous life of immigrants in a particularly racially charged time in Canadian history. Pages of historical data included, black and white photographs, glossary, explanation of Chinese characters and maps. Previewed by (SSS) AISI Curriculum Support and David D. Oughton Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.8

**Keywords:** Canada; Communities; Immigration; Western Canada; Chinese

This book is an environmental history of the Nashua River in Massachusetts, U.S.A. It chronicles the river from its discovery by Aboriginals (called Indians in the book), through the arrival of fur traders, settlers, the Industrial Revolution, and on to the present day. The book describes the river as clean and free at first, then gradually polluted and dying, until an Aboriginal descendant and a local woman work to have laws passed that stop the dumping of wastes into the river. Slowly, the river is cleaned up. Although the book is based on an American river, the story could take place on any river. Lovely two page spreads illustrate realistic water colour scenes of the river. Beautifully drawn or painted borders full of related scenes, objects, or animals. Grade 5 – Physical Geography of Canada. Previewed by Willow Park School.

Outcomes: 5.1.1 ; 5.1.2 ; 5.1.3

Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples; Change over time; Geography; Industrialization; Natural environment; Preservation; Protected areas; Quality of life; Responsibility; Sustainability; Urbanization


Set in 1835, nine-year-old Ellie, her father and brother set off to build a new life in Canada. Ellie's father leaves her with another family, as he goes off to get their homestead ready. This story is about bravery and friendship, and illustrates the dependency people had on one another for support. The author attempts to deal with stereotypes with humour and through the actions of the characters. The book gives a clear picture of the hardships settlers of early Canada went through. Previewed at Glamorgan Elementary.

Outcomes: 5.2.6

Keywords: Immigrants; Ways of life; Geography


Also on the Grade 7 list

Not wanting to marry an old neighbour after her parents die, Justine, twelve-years-old, and her younger brother set out to find sanctuary at a convent in Quebec City. Justine and her brother survive in the treacherous Quebec wilderness by befriending a Montagnais boy who teaches them the skills of his people. Set in New France in 1650, this is a suspenseful, well-paced, survival story full of interesting history about both French settlers and First Nations. Social Studies Grade 5 - Histories and Stories of Ways of Life in Canada. Previewed by H.D Cartwright Junior High.

Outcome: 5.2.1 ; 5.2.2 ; 5.2.3 ; 5.2.4

Keywords: Historical significance; New France; First Nations; Land; Quality of life; Interaction

Also on the Grade 7 list
This novel is set in Canada at the time when Loyalists were removed from the Eastern United States. The main character, 12-year-old Kate, has to take care of her younger twin brothers and her father as they claim their land and build their first home in the Canadian wilds. There is the added strain on Kate as she is required to fulfill the role of mother to her young brothers and maintain the family home for all four family members, which is a huge change from their previous life in Albany. The family experiences hunger, extreme weather conditions, and wild animals. They are supported by neighbours, who experienced similar conditions when having to resettle in Canada, as well as local First Nations people. Previewed by Montgomery Junior High.

Outcomes: 5.2.5

Keywords: United Empire Loyalists; Ways of life; Environment

St. John’s NF : Breakwater Books.   $16.95     ISBN 9781550812060

This exciting adventure story features two young friends - Paul an Acadian boy and Swift Arrow his loyal friend. The story is set in the mid 1700’s around Chebucto, presently known as Halifax. Smoke Over Grand Pré explains the events leading up to the expulsion of the Acadians. This well-written story captures the confusion of the French farmers as they struggle to obey the parish priest and stay loyal to France or swear allegiance to the British so as to live in peace. Readers will be able to see the many perspectives of the French, English and Aboriginal people and can decide for themselves how to judge this part of Canadian history. This novel would be of interest for your better readers or as an excellent read-aloud. Previewed by Midnapore School.

Outcomes: 5.1.1; 5.1.3; 5.2.1; 5.2.2; 5.2.3; 5.2.4

Keywords: Aboriginal peoples; British; Coureurs des bois; French; Fur trade; Official languages; Interaction

New York : Delacorte Press.  $7.99    ISBN 9780440411840

Also on the Grade 7 list
This coming-of-age novel is set in 19th century Quebec. When Pierre’s father gets into an accident, 13-year-old Pierre takes his father’s place and signs on to work as a fur trader for the North West Company in Northern Quebec. The rough life of a voyageur, the extreme territory travelled, the Ojibwa Indians and the early days of French Canada are all highlighted. The novel is a good mix of historical detail as well as an exciting adventure story. Previewed by (ESS) Evaluation/Selection.

Outcome: 5.2.3

Keywords: Fur trade; New France; First Nations; History; Voyageurs

New York : Delacorte Press.  $21.50     ISBN 9780385325981

Series: Sequel to the Broken Blade
Fourteen-year-old Pierre LaPage has a summer's experience as a voyageur. In 1801, he is given the chance to travel with William McHenry’s brigade to winter over and trade in Northwestern Ontario thousands of miles from his home in Lachine, Quebec. He must learn to face the cold, poor hunting, isolation, and living in close quarters. Includes a map of Pierre's route. Previewed at Ernest Morrow Junior High

Outcomes: 5.2.3

Keywords: Fur trade; New France; First Nations; History; Voyageurs

*Also on the Grade 7 list*

**Series: Dear Canada**

Ivy Weatherall, age eleven, is the second child in an English family of four, the daughter of a blacksmith who has chosen to immigrate to Canada in 1926. At the end of the Great War, Ivy’s father found that the government's promise of jobs for returning soldiers did not materialize. At the urging of his wife’s brother, he brings his family to Milorie, a small farming community outside of Regina. There, the family makes adjustments to life on the prairie, where the geography and weather present new challenges. Ivy makes friends with Elizabeth, the daughter of a successful German immigrant family, and discovers that her inquisitive nature can be a problem in some social circumstances. Eventually, she finds her true calling in helping her mother deliver a baby. Accurate historical portrayal of immigrant life on the prairie, this includes a strong story line and engaging characters. Previewed by Robert Warren Junior High & (SSS) AISI Teacher-Librarians.

**Outcomes: 5.2.9**

**Keywords: Geography; Immigrants; Weather; Ways of life**

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This is the story of a young Ojibwa girl who lives on an island in Lake Superior in 1847. The story details the traditional lifestyle of Omakayas and her family through the seasons—from building a birchbark house in the summer to maple-sugaring camp at the end of winter. She cares for her brother and happily lives her life. Until an ailing white man enters the settlement bringing the smallpox disease with him. Tragedy strikes as many, including Omakayas family fall ill. She must nurse her family back to health and deal with tragedy at the same time. A good novel from which many conversations can spring including interaction with the Europeans and its effect on the Aboriginal way of life including the introduction of disease. Previewed by (ESS) Evaluation/Selection.

**Outcomes: 5.2.1 ; 5.2.2**

**Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Identity; Ways of life; Interaction**

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*Also on the Grade 7 list*

**Series: Amazing Stories**

The Life of A Loyalist is from the "Amazing Stories" series and details Loyalist life through case study. This is the true story of Christiana Margaret Davis, a young Loyalist girl who escaped the American Revolution and escaped with her family to Nova Scotia. Redeeming to the book is that the reader will identify with the age of the main character, which gives perspective to this time period. As with all of the series, black and white pictures in paperback format. Grade 5 - Canada: the Land, Histories and Stories. Previewed by (SSS) AISI Curriculum Support.

**Outcomes: 5.2.5**

**Keywords: United Empire Loyalists; Ways of life; History**

**Series: Canadian Heritage Collection**
Explores the Canadian immigrant experience through a collection of primary source documents organized by decade. This is a quality resource that offers students 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. Documents describe the impact that immigrants have made on the cultural, economic and social values of Canadian society. Social Studies Grade 5 – Histories and stories of ways of life in Canada. Previewed by Coventry Hills School.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.1 ; 5.2.6 ; 5.2.8 ; 5.2.9

**Keywords:** Immigrants; Identity; Heritage; Diversity; Citizenship


**Series: Great Canadian Stories**
Ten chapters describe the life and times of ten famous Canadian women who have influenced Canadian History. Chapters are: Catherine Schubert, Thanadelthur, Sharon Wood, Jeanne Mance, Marie-Anne Lagimodiere, Sylvia Stark, Emily Pauline Johnson, Faith Fenton, Emily Carr and Roberta Bondar. The book is not illustrated but the stories are very readable and offer a number of interesting quotes from authentic documents. A nice addition to a biography collection. Social Studies Grade 5 - Histories and stories of ways of life in Canada. Previewed by Centennial High.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.1 ; 5.2.2

**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; Historical; Identity; Stories


**Series: Canadian prime ministers : warts and all**
This is one of a series of books about Canada's Prime Ministers. Each book is colourful and well organized. The organization has been done by year. Many interesting gems of information about the individual's life are included. The books include drawings, cartoons, charts, tables and a very attractive timeline. The books all conclude with the Prime Minister's legacy. Also included in this series and specific to Grade 5—5.3 Shaping and Identity are Sir John A. Macdonald: The rascal who built Canada. Previewed by Centennial High and (ESS) Evaluation/Selection.

**Outcomes:** 5.3.5

**Keywords:** Identity; Canada ; History


**Picture Book**
The touching story of Gita and her family who moved to Canada from India three years ago. During a visit to Canada by her grandmother, Naniji, Gita learns that the family may move back to India. The story deals with Gita's feelings toward the move and her relationship with her grandmother as she relates to a gift of stacking dolls she received from Naniji. A very sensitive story dealing with issues surrounding families in new cultures and transitions. Previewed at Bowcroft Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.8

**Keywords:** Immigrants; India; Ways of life; Identity

A small volume that takes the reader on a visit to 21 of Canada’s national historic sites (at least one in each province). There is brief historical background provided for each along with colour photos. Some of the sites included are Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump, L’Anse aux Meadows, Fortress of Louisbourg, Batoche and Skung Gwaii. Discussion at beginning explains the work of anthropologists and archaeologists. Though the information is fascinating, it is limited and most photos are small. "Dig This" fact boxes add some additional detail. Table of contents, map of sites, websites and index. Would serve as a supplement to Grade 5 - Canada: The Land, Histories, and Stories. Previewed by Hillhurst Elementary.

Outcomes: 5.1.1
Keywords: Historical Significance; Geography; Natural environment


This book successfully blends fiction and nonfiction as seen through the eyes of Eliza, a runaway slave and Johanna, the white girl that takes her in with her family. As Eliza waits to be reunited with her family, her and Johanna forge a friendship. Themes of history, prejudice, the underground railroad and life on a plantation are also explained with accurate information for this age group. Activities are also included such as songs, storytelling and crafts that are reflective of the period, making this a book that is filled with multiple literacies and therefore can be used for multiple purposes. Social Studies: 5.2 Histories and Stories of Ways of Life in Canada. Previewed by (ESS) Evaluation/Selection.

Outcomes: 5.2.8
Keywords: Immigrants; Ways of life; Underground railroad


**Picture Book**

Wordless picture book about a boy who goes on a field trip to a Canadian art gallery. His imagination takes flight and he journeys across Canada into the landscapes of Emily Carr, E.J. Hughes, Lawren Harris, Ivan Eyre, William Kurelek, Tom Thomson, J.E.H. MacDonald, C. Gagnon, J.P Lemieux, Alex Colville, Christopher Pratt and David Blackwood. Interesting for study of perspective, art appreciation, introduction to Canadian artists as they were shaped by the Canadian landscape. NOTE: Individual pictures are not identified by artist. Previewed by Hillhurst Elementary.

Outcomes: 5.1.1; 5.1.3
Keywords: Canada; Geography; Environment; Identity


Written by the daughter of a RCMP officer, this interesting overview of the Canadian Mounties includes the history of the police force, requirements and training, special sections within the force, crime labs and crime detection. It also looks to the future. B&W illustrations, showing multi-cultural male and female officers, complement the text. The information is up-to-date, including the RCMP website and a "fax-on-demand" line to access further information. Previewed by Sam Livingston Elementary.

Outcomes: 5.2.7
Keywords: North West Mounted Police; Identity

Also on the Grade 7 list
Series: Our Canadian girl
Also in the series: Ellen Hobo Jungle: book one
Ellen and her family are living with Grandpa Sanders, next door to Amy's family who are Japanese Canadians. A new girl, Marjorie, moves to town, she came from China when her missionary parents fled as the Japanese soldiers attacked and burned their mission. When the girls go trick or treating, Marjorie reacts negatively to Amy who looks Japanese, although she was Canadian born. When Ellen and Amy are telling Marjorie all about the new technicolor movie, *The Wizard of Oz,* she breaks down and tells them how she, too, has lost her home. Feelings of understanding cement the girls' friendship - and Ellen's wish comes true. Set early in the Second World War, the girls' lives are a reflection of world events and tensions. The author's brief, simple explanation of world events allows readers who are capable to set the story into a wider context giving it an added richness. The events unfold chronologically and the story is easy to follow. Characters are good models of tolerance; for example, Ellen's mother often observes that war is never a good thing. Previewed by Dr. E.W. Coffin Elementary.

Outcomes: 5.3.4
Keywords: Depression, Immigrants, World War II, Ways of life


Series: Dear Canada
The great depression is the event being highlighted in this Dear Diary issue. Sally Cohen, is a Jewish immigrant who chronicles the difficulties she and others like her, face during a time of severe poverty and anti-Jewish sentiment. Her cousin, who continually encourages her to stand up for herself, warns of the rise of Hitler in Europe. The overall theme is one of courage, strength of spirit and identity. Endnotes give readers background on the effects of the Great Depression in Canada and also describes the way Jews were treated in Canada and our early struggles with prejudice and anti-Semitism. Social Studies 5.2: Histories and Stories of Ways of Life in Canada. Previewed by (ESS) Evaluation/Selection.

Outcomes: 5.2.9
Keywords: Depression, Immigrants, World War II, Ways of life

Harrison, Ted and Lister Sinclair and Gloria Saarinen. *North America in picture, poetry and piano.* Oakville, ON: Key Connections Management. $80.00 ISBN 0973622709

This title is a collection of poetry by Lister Sinclair, paintings by Ted Harrison and classical piano music (music is on 2 accompanying Cd's). Includes poetry and illustrations related to physical regions of North America – Pacific Coast, California, Hoodoos, Mountains, Arctic, Prairies, the Grand Canyon, Mississippi, Boreal Forest, Niagara Falls, New England, Atlantic and Florida. At the end of each poem is a description of the musical piece that has been chosen to accompany it. A unique compilation that could be used in a variety of ways across subject areas. Social Studies Grade 5 – Physical geography of Canada. Previewed by Hawkwood Elementary.

Outcomes: 5.1.1; 5.1.2; 5.1.3
Keywords: Geography; Landforms; Natural resources

**Picture Book**

This beautifully illustrated alphabet book shows for each letter names of some of the people, places, animals and objects connected with Northern Canada. Can be used for artistic enjoyment, place names, games, puzzles. Grade 5 Social Studies—5.1 Physical Geography of Canada. Previewed by (ESS) Evaluation/Selection.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.1; 5.1.2

**Keywords:** Geography; Natural environment; Northern; Ways of life

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**Picture Book**

This delightful story deals with a topical issue, the lack of sufficient fish to support the East Coast fishing industry. The story begins with a fisherman on the Grand Banks of Newfoundland. Gradually, he catches fewer and fewer fish until—nothing. The fisherman, McGinty, decides to travel across Canada with his fishing boat named “Heart’s Content,” to fish in the Pacific Ocean instead. The regions and vastness of Canada are highlighted as McGinty first flies to Toronto, then he and “Heart’s Content” travel by train, across the prairies and foothills, through the mountains and the Fraser Canyon, to the Strait of Georgia and the Pacific Ocean. Here, McGinty catches salmon. The story and illustrations are decidedly Canadian and they complement each other very well. Grade 5 – Physical Geography of Canada. Previewed by Willow Park School.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.1; 5.1.2

**Keywords:** Bodies of water; Change over time; Natural resources; Quality of Life; Sustainability

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**Also on the Grade 7 list**

Between 1870 and 1930, over 100,000 British “Home” children were taken from harsh situations in England and sent to Canada to work as farm help in homes in the Maritimes, Ontario, and Quebec. This story is a fictional account of 13-year-old Arthur, an orphan, who is sent to the Wilson farm in Ontario. The family ostracizes him except for Sadie, 12, who is torn between family allegiance and this sensitive, bright boy. This simple story is written with angst and warmth of a "Road to Avonlea" novel. Each chapter begins with a factual account (newspaper, quotes, excerpts, anecdotes) from the life of a home child. Previewed by (ESS) Evaluation/Selection.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.9

**Keywords:** Immigrants; Ways of life

**Picture Book**

**Series: Companion book to Under the Quilt of Night**

Clara is separated from her mother and sent to another plantation where she works as a slave in the "Big House." She listens carefully to the conversations about runaway slaves and sews a map-quilt from scraps of material which guides her to freedom in the North. After her escape, Clara is eventually reunited with her mother. A well-told, colourfully illustrated story that dramatizes Clara's perseverance and courage. It connects readers to stories that tell of the Underground Railroad which played an important part in Canada's history and identity. Social Studies Grade 5 – Histories and stories of ways of life in Canada. Previewed by (ESS) Social Studies.

**Outcomes: 5.2.8**

**Keywords: Quality of life; Underground railroad; Historical significance**


**Picture Book**

Beautiful illustrations and rich language tell the tale of a young girl escaping the farm where she is used as a slave. She uses the Underground Railroad to escape to the North. This book will be particularly useful when examining the history and presence of Black communities in Canada. It could also be used to examine varying perspectives, folklore and descriptive language. Grade 5 - Histories and Stories of Ways of Life in Canada. Previewed by Midnapore Elementary.

**Outcomes: 5.2.8**

**Keywords: Quality of life; Underground railroad; Historical significance**


**Series: Wow Canada!**

The book traces the place names of Canada in order to look at places, peoples and events that made the country what it is. Place names highlight the incredible diversity of the country, and some are plain wacky, too. Hughes has pulled together anecdotes, historical facts, and legends about the names of villages, towns, rivers, lakes, mountains, provinces, and more from across the country. Grade 5 Social Studies—5.1 Physical Geography of Canada. Previewed by (ESS) Social Studies.

**Outcomes: 5.2**

**Keywords: Stories, Ways of Life, Geography, Immigrants, History**


This book includes the three books in the trilogy, plus the story "Visitors from Saskatoon". Set in the suburb of Toronto during the Depression, the stories revolve around the irrepressible Booky (Beatrice) and her family and friends as they struggle to survive during difficult financial times. The engaging, likeable Booky reminds the reader of Anne in the L.M. Montgomery series. The author crafts a very realistic picture of life during the Depression. Black and white photographs throughout the novel (many from the author's collection) further depict the life in the 1930's. Previewed at Hawkwood Elementary.

**Outcomes: 5.3.4**

**Keywords: Depression, Ways of life; Narratives**

Allison, a 12-year-old girl from Toronto, is visiting relatives in Banff for the summer. One day she notices snow falling out of a painting in her room and on investigating she finds herself stepping through the picture, and travelling back through time into the 1890s. The adventures Allison experiences in the past teach her more about herself and her relatives. Well-developed characters and good portrayal of Canadian pioneer life, but the transition from the present to the past may be confusing to younger students. An interesting text with much historical detail. Previewed by William Reid Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.2  
**Keywords:** Geography; Natural environment; Ways of life

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**Picture Book**  
A story about farm life in rural Canada in the early 1920’s (specific location not referred to). A young boy out fishing sees his neighbour fall into a rushing river. After he and his friend haul the large man out of the water, he discovers that his father owes ‘Mr. Richard’ two hundred dollars. Mr. Richard (Ree-shard if his French heritage was to be acknowledged), is a hardworking farmer who owns much of the surrounding land and makes money loans to his neighbours. The young boy decides that after rescuing Mr. Richard, perhaps he could ask him to forgive his father’s debts. However he finds him out working in the dusk of night, removing large stones from his land. The young boy (and later his father) decide to pitch in and help. This forges a neighbourly bond between the families for years to come. Bold acrylic paintings help to tell this story of rugged geography, rural life, and selfless giving to others. Grade 5 – Physical Geography of Canada; Histories and Stories of Ways of Life in Canada. Previewed by Hillhurst Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.1; 5.2.1  
**Keywords:** Rural; Ways of life; French; Citizenship; Communities

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**Series:** The Canadians  
Profiles the life of Emily Murphy looking at her childhood, leaving home, becoming a parson’s wife, writing about social issues, fighting for women’s rights in Alberta, becoming a judge, and the famous women as ‘persons’ case. Written at an upper elementary level in small print with numerous b/w archival photos. Would be challenging for most elementary students to access the information, though the photos would provide interesting study. Social Studies Grade 5 – Canada, shaping an identity; English Language Arts – biography. Previewed by Hillhurst Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.3.1; 5.3.3  
**Keywords:** Famous Five; Citizenship; Individual rights; Ways of life; Change over time

This is the story of Captain Angus Walters and the Bluenose. It describes the historical facts - what the Bluenose is and why is it important to Canadian history. Students will learn about the historical importance of this way of life on the Atlantic coast. The information is chunked, words are clear and easy to understand. Pictures, photos, and charts are added to hook students and provide additional supporting information. Readers will find the glossary, index, timeline, and website list useful as it explains the important information and vocabulary, and to the meaning of the book. Previewed by Louis Riel Elementary/Junior High.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.1

**Keywords:** Canadian; Culture; Identity; Quality of life; Stories

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This book provides an in-depth look at the rich and complex history of Louisbourg, N.S. including the fortifications, the seaport, and daily life in the community. Includes black/white photographs, site plans, and terminology. Activities are suggested after each section. There is a table of contents and suggestions for books, articles and videos. This would be a good teacher resource for building background information. Previewed by (ESS)

**Outcomes:** 5.1.3 ; 5.2.1

**Keywords:** French, Historical Significance

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A found story from Pauline Johnson, of Aboriginal descent. The illustrations are both hauntingly beautiful and mystic. The story prophesizes the future city of Vancouver which would be built on native land—the lost island. Although the medicine man, cannot prevent this from happening, when he is dying he transfers his wishes and courage to the island and his people to never stop searching for it. It is a native elder who is narrating and although he has spent his life searching, he has only ever seen the the shadow of the lost island on the water. Grade 5.2

Histories and Stories of Life in Canada and specifically, the ways of life of Aboriginal Peoples in Canada. Previewed by (ESS) Evaluation/Selection.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.1 ; 5.2.2 ; 5.3.1

**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples, First Nations, Environment; Change over time; Western Canada; Stories; Preservation; Narratives; Identity; Growth; Urbanization

*Series: Our Canadian Girl*
*Also in the Series: Rachel: a mighty imagining Book 1; Rachel: the maybe house Book 2; Rachel: An elephant tree Christmas Book 4*

There is racial tension between the white British settlers & the black freed slaves that immigrated from the U.S. after the revolution. Unscrupulous British soldiers capture 12-year-old Rachel & her mother & sell them as slaves despite their certificates of freedom. Rachel develops a loyalty to the kindly sick woman she is to serve & insists on staying even when her father comes for her. Before her death, Missus Eliza insists her husband not only free her, but also pay for her labour. Rachel is a patient, honest & a very admirable protagonist, though modern children may have difficulty accepting her servient attitude & the life of former slaves in early Nova Scotia. Rachel's family are strong, positive characters. Captivating picture of life in early Canada. Previewed by Dr. E.W. Coffin Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.8

**Keywords:** Immigrants; Ways of life

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This book lets young readers experience the 100-year evolution of the Canadian National Anthem from its composition in 1880 to the moment it was officially proclaimed national anthem in 1980. Line by line, in both official languages, “O Canada” is brought to life by beautiful collage illustrations, and is accompanied by sheet music. Social Studies Grade 5 – Canada: shaping an identity. Previewed by (ESS) Social Studies.

**Outcomes:** 5.3.1

**Keywords:** Historical significance; Identity; Canada; Heritage

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Three stories about Agatha, a young girl in Repulse Bay. The stories take place in the late 1950’s & tell of the traditional way of life of the Inuit in two of the stories "Agatha & the Ugly Black Thing" & "Agatha & the Most Amazing Bird". The last story, "Agatha Goes to School", tells of the residential schools run by the Catholic Church to educate the Inuit. Told in Michael Kusugak's trademark style of the oral tradition, this is a delightful collection of stories. A forward describes the helium filled airship that is the basis of the first story & the afterward tells about the residential schools & charges now surfacing against the nuns & priests. However, Kusugak also points out the positive things about the experience (a good education, skis, skates & Father Fafard). Previewed by Simons Valley Elementary & Beddington Heights Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.1 ; 5.2.2

**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; Inuit; Ways of life; Culture

**Picture Book**
Arvaarlak and his friends discover a perfect use for the six Christmas trees flown into their treeless community in Repulse Bay, NWT. Well-written, humorous story with warm, detailed colour illustrations of life in the north. Social Studies—5.1 Physical Geography of Canada. Previewed by (ESS)

Evaluation/Selection.
**Outcomes:** 5.1.1; 5.1.2
**Keywords:** Geography; Northern; Natural environment; Ways of life; Aboriginal Peoples; Inuit


**Picture Book**
A little girl named Allashua, playing hide and seek, is lured away by an "Ijiraq", a little golden-brown ptarmigan/man of mischievous intent. Although the writing is for young children, the story is strong and suspenseful and aptly introduces the Canadian Arctic landscape and wildlife as well as the Inuit way of life. Previewed by (ESS)

Evaluation/Selection.
**Outcomes:** 5.2.1; 5.2.2
**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; Inuit; Ways of life; Culture


**Picture Book**
Kataujaq, a little Inuit girl, is very lonely for her Mother who has died, until her grandmother tells her the story of the Aurora Borealis being loved ones who have died, playing soccer in the sky. A clear, chronological plot with beautifully described resolution. Kataujaq matures as the story progresses, and learns to accept her Mother's death. Delightful watercolours show the beauty of the Northern Lights and are an extension of Kataujaq's imagination as she sees the image of her mother in the sky. Each page of text opposite a full-page illustration is decorated with pictures of Inuit beadwork. This is a beautiful story with a peaceful perspective on death. Presents an informative look at the Inuit way of life, as well as their relationships. Grade 5 Social Studies—5.1 Physical Geography of Canada. Previewed by Penbrooke Meadows Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.1; 5.1.2; 5.2.1
**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; Inuit; Natural environment; Geography; Ways of life; Northern


A fictional story based on real events in Rogers Pass, British Columbia at the turn of the century. Twelve-year-old Karin is trying to find her place as a new Canadian, but her mother's "old country" Ways embarrass and frustrate her. When her mother is lost in a landslide, Karin must sort out her feelings of guilt and loss. At the same time she wonders if her mother's goldstone pendant really predicts the future, especially when she dreams of another landslide headed for her father's railway crew. A touching tale of suspense with realistic, well-researched descriptions of this part of British Columbia at the time. Recreates the harshness of the environment and the strengths of the people who lived and worked there. Previewed at Hillhurst Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.2
**Keywords:** Geography; Natural disasters; Natural environment; Ways of life
Toronto: Kids Can Press. $6.95 ISBN: 9781553377665

**Picture Book**
This picture book is about Noah, a young boy, and his father who join the Gold Rush to the Klondike in 1896. As they begin their journey, Noah smuggles his cat, Shadow, on the steamship. Noah's father allows him to keep the cat on the condition that it not cause trouble. Along the way, Shadow has kittens. Upon arriving at Dawson City, they find that they cannot afford to buy a good claim. Noah sells Shadow's kittens to prospectors willing to pay a high price for a cat to catch mice. A tale of a young person who overcomes adversity and whose actions allow his father to keep his gold-fever dream alive. A page at the back provides some historical information about the Klondike Gold Rush. Oil paintings complement the text. Previewed by (SSS) AISI Literacy, Glenmeadows.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.1

**Keywords:** Western Canada; History; Communities; Natural resources; Economics

Markham, ON: Scholastic Canada. $14.99 ISBN 9780439988483

**Also on the Grade 7 list**
**Series:** Dear Canada
Kate uses her diary to record her feelings about life in 1882 Yale, British Columbia. As well as realistic notes about daily events (going to school, best friend disagreements, etc.), she records the hype around a proposed visit by Princess Louise, comments and attitudes about Chinese workers, and the role of women. Easy-to-read - some guidance / explanation / expansion would be best to use in supporting curriculum in Canadian history. For children who have this support, it is excellent. Twenty pages of historical information, maps, and photos are included to assist the reader. Previewed by Captain John Palliser Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.8

**Keywords:** Immigrants; Chinese; Western Canada; Identity


After the death of her mother, Jasmine is left with her aunt in Victoria while her father goes to work in China. While visiting Chinatown, she discovers that she is able to enter the world of the Chinese immigrants of 1881, who are coming to Gold Mountain to work on the new railroad. While in the past, she encounters the racism and working and living conditions faced by the Chinese workers. Her adventure takes her into the Fraser canyon with a young man who is in search of his father. Jasmine encounters secrets about her own past while they also try to find the elusive White Jade Tiger that holds its own secrets. An exciting read that gives an honest account of the trials and injustices facing Chinese immigrants in the 1880s. There is a nice blending of Chinese traditions and mythological beliefs woven into the story line. Novel would serve as a good read-aloud as it is upper elementary level. Previewed by (SSS) AISI Curriculum Support.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.8

**Keywords:** Immigrants; Ways of life; Chinese; Identity

Also on the Grade 7 list
Series: Our History in Pictures
These archival photographs illuminate the landing of new immigrants to Canada in the early twentieth century. It is captioned with text that seeks to give a brief explanation of who these people were as shown in their faces. This is a visually compelling record of those coming to a new world. Previewed by (SSS) AISI Teacher-Librarians.

Outcomes: 5.2.6 ; 5.2.8 ; 5.2.9
Keywords: Immigrants, Immigration, Stories


Twelve year old Tess and her mother move from Toronto to Pit Meadows (just east of Vancouver) after the death of Tess’ grandfather. Tess finds solace in the neighbouring marsh with the birds and plants. It is in the marsh that Tess meets Clara, an elderly woman, and together they fight to save the marsh and its inhabitants, including Sandhill cranes, from developers. Tess also makes friends with an Aboriginal girl and hears stories from the past about the First Nations. The book contains many facts about Sandhill cranes and other wetland flora and fauna. Glossary describes many birds and plants mentioned in text. Contains five realistic, b/w illustrations. Would evoke lively discussion. Previewed by Willow Park School.

Outcomes: 5.1.1 ; 5.1.2 ; 5.1.3 ; 5.2.1 ; 5.3.1
Keywords: Aboriginal peoples; First Nations; Change over time; Conservation; Environment; Growth; Oral traditions; Quality of life; Western Canada


Picture Book
Two young children, Katelyn and Matthew, become lost in a British Columbia coastal fog. They find a new friend, not a ghost, as they first thought, but a real girl who lives with her family in the forest. The story is a mixture of fantasy and reality, with Katelyn and Matthew discovering a lifestyle different from their own. A very deep and mysterious plotline with lots of interesting details about life on the British Columbia coast. Grade 5 Social Studies—5.1 Physical Geography of Canada. Previewed by Eugene Coste Elementary.

Outcomes: 5.1.1 ; 5.1.2
Keywords: Geography; Natural environment; Ways of life


Also on the Grade 7 list
Elspet Mary has experienced much sadness in her 16 years. In her own words, she recounts her life. Orphaned at a young age in Scotland in the mid 1800’s, she tells of her adoption by her aunt and uncle, and their quest for a new life in Upper Canada. Heartwarming story gives insight into the hardships of life in the 19th century. Touches on topics of adoption, immigration, family relationships, and friendships. There are not many children’s books on Canadian settlement written for children. Grade 5 – Histories and Stories of Ways of Life in Canada. Previewed by Annie Gale Junior High & Cambrian Heights Elementary.

Outcomes: 5.2.6
Keywords: Immigrants; Ways of Life; Rural; Scottish

Also on the Grade 7 list
Series: Dear Canada
As the diamond jubilee of Queen Victoria approaches, life becomes more complicated for eleven-year-old Victoria Cope. Her mother seems to be constantly tired, something her doctor father cannot seem to cure. Her older brothers continue to irritate her, especially David who is so coldly logical and smitten with the influence of his friend Nathan. Into the family to help Victoria's mother comes Marianna Wilson, a Barnardo Home Child. She is capable, bright and observant, and in good time, becomes Victoria's friend. Jasper, Marianna's brother, does not fair nearly so well. When he runs away from farmer Carl Stone, the whole family is thrown into turmoil, as David intervenes in such a way that he jeopardizes his family relationships. Social Studies Grade 5 - Histories and Stories of Ways of Life in Canada. Previewed by (SSS) AISI Teacher-Librarians.

Outcomes: 5.2.9
Keywords: Immigrants; Ways of life

Littlechild, George. (1993) *This land is my land.*
San Francisco, CA : Children's Book Press. $25.50 ISBN 0892391197

Also on the Grade 7 list
This title celebrates the author’s ancestors and the history and traditions of the Plains Cree First Nations people. The story begins over 500 years ago when Columbus arrived in the Americas. The plight of the First Nations people is outlined as their land is taken away from them and they try to survive in the white man’s world. This book emphasizes the beliefs and spirit of George Littlechild and how he made his way in the world. Beautiful, bold paintings accompany the reflections. Grade 5 – Histories and Stories of Ways of Life in Canada. Previewed by Windsor Park.

Outcomes: 5.2.1 ; 5.3.1 ; 5.2.2 ; 5.2.7
Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Change over time; Elder; Culture; Identity

Markham, ON. : Fitzhenry &Whiteside. $12.95 ISBN 1550051377

Also on the Grade 7 list
Series: Discovering Canada
"Black Heritage" takes you from the early slave days to the present. Reading level is good for the elementary grades and the information is relevant for the older grades. This fits in with the Grade 5 Social Studies curriculum and touches on the lives of many people from the past to the present (short biographies). The book includes maps, illustrations, index, and how to do pages. Previewed by Cappy Smart Elementary.

Outcomes: 5.2.8
Keywords: Immigrants; Underground railway
$27.00 ISBN: 0792275616

**Picture Book**
Covers a year in the far north in picture book format, with inserted pictures to show helpful details.  Text is poetic, but informative.  Content gives seasonal changes as well as information about northern animals.  Artwork is National Geographic standard; visual literacy support.  Last two pages are "factual" description of the ptarmigan life cycle.  This is a wonderful example of a "new" information book.  It blends visual literacy / textual with equally high standards.  No index.

Grade 5 Social Studies—5.1 Physical Geography of Canada.  Previewed at Captain John Palliser Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.1 ; 5.1.2  
**Keywords:** Geography; Natural environment; Northern

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

**Also on the Grade 7 list**
A detailed account of the author's last summer before being taken to a residential school in 1944.  It 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.  Sensitively 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 (ESS) Evaluation/Selection.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.1 ; 5.2.2 ; 5.3.1  
**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Narratives; Identity; Historical significance; Ways of life

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Lunn, Janet.  *Charlotte.*
Toronto : Tundra Books.  $18.00 ISBN 0887763839

**Also on the Grade 7 list**
When America achieved independence from Great Britain in 1783, the Haines family was split by their different allegiances.  Now Charlotte's cousins, Sally and Betsy, and their loyalist parents are being shipped off to the wilds of Nova Scotia, while families like Charlotte's will stay in the U.S.  Charlotte defies her father, and goes to see Betsy and Sally one more time.  Unfortunately she stays too long, and her father is furious when she returns.  Not listening to reason, he calls her a traitor for her defiance, and refuses to let her come in the house ever again.  In shock, she returns to the home of her cousins, is welcomed as part of the family, and departs for Nova Scotia with them the next day.  This story is an account of a real person, Charlotte Haines Peters, who lived her whole life in the Saint John River area.  The lovely watercolor paintings help to convey the emotions in the text.  Grade 5: Histories and Stories of Ways of Life in Canada.  Previewed by (ESS) Social Studies.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.1 ; 5.2.5 ; 5.2.6  
**Keywords:** British; Change; Communities; History; Identity; United Empire Loyalists

**Picture Book**

A heartwarming and heartbreaking tale of the reality of homelessness while portraying the generosity and concern of two children for a stranger. Ben's story tells how he and his sister try to help the "lady in the box" who keeps her "home" over the heating grate outside the Circle Deli. They take her gifts of food and warm clothing and eventually find out her name, Dorrie. When the owner of the deli she lives in front of tries to force her to move, their mother convinces him to let her stay where it is warm. The family volunteers at the soup kitchen, where they see Dorrie and she smiles in gratitude. It's a nice moment as the boy realizes that he has made a difference in someone else's life. The oil illustrations effectively portray the emotions brought on from the severity of the cold winter and Dorrie's thankful smile. This is a book to share and discuss to help improve social relationships. Grade 5: Canada – Shaping an Identity. Previewed by Marlborough Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.3.4

**Keywords:** Quality of life; Responsibility; Depression; Economics


**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. Previewed by (ESS) Evaluation/Selection.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.9

**Keywords:** Immigrants; Immigration; Narratives; Communities; Rural


**Series:** Amazing Stories

A title from the "Amazing Stories" series, this book profiles Laura Secord. This story details the life of heroine Laura Secord, the wife and mother, who risked her life to warn the British of an American attack. Clearly written in accessible language, with some black and white photographs. Includes table of contents, further reading, no index. Previewed by (ESS) Evaluation/Selection.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.5

**Keywords:** United Empire Loyalists; Ways of life

**Picture Book**

Young Cameron is fascinated by camels, but is very surprised to find them in the British Columbia Cariboo. Cameron and his father take on the job of using the camels to transport goods back and forth along the trail. Unfortunately, the camels are found to be unsuitable for a lot of reasons. In the end Cameron and his father are able to keep one of the camels as they settle down to their life in the Cariboo. This is a well-written fictionalized account of an interesting time in British Columbia history. Social Studies - Histories and Stories of Ways of Life in Canada. Previewed by Hawkwood Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.1

**Keywords:** Geography; Environment; Natural resources; Western Canada


Interesting collection of "pourquoi" stories from the Okanagan area of B.C. Developed with Aboriginal cultural protocol, these three traditional legends with themes of sharing and respect are compiled with Council permission. The stories have been reformatted from an earlier award-winning publication and have colourful, playful illustrations to enrich the text. Print is large and well-spaced. The anthropomorphic characters have First Nation names with English translation. Delightful storytelling that children will enjoy. Winner of the British Columbia Book Award 2000. Social Studies Grade 5 – Histories and stories of ways of life in Canada. Previewed by Hillhurst Elementary and (SSS) AISI Curriculum Support.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.1 ; 5.2.2

**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; Stories; First Nations; Natural environment; Beliefs; Culture


Also on the Grade 7 list

**Series:** Dear Canada

Isobel Scott, her father and two brothers, leave Scotland because of the Clearances and they sail to Canada. They arrive just after the Pemmican Proclamation (1841) and at the height of the conflict for control over Rupert's Land between the North West Company and the Hudson's Bay Company. The story details historically accurate events, the hardships of the new settlers and the role of the Native peoples in ensuring the survival of the newcomers during their first winters in Canada. The story also deals with relationships between individual family members and the settlers and the Natives. Previewed at Ernest Morrow Junior High.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.6

**Keywords:** Immigrants; Heritage; Ways of life; Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Interaction
Cochrane, AB. : Western Heritage Centre.  $16.95  ISBN: 9780968596203

Clearly written yet not simplistic overview of the women from Alberta who took the case of women as people to England in 1929. Includes information on the "Persons Case" as well as the women. Also has good B&W photographs, timelines of the five women, a quick summary of the "Persons Case", table of contents, lists of books by Nellie McClung and Emily Murphy, and index. Useful as a teacher resource. Previewed at Western Canada High. Previewed by Outcomes: 5.3.3
Keywords: Famous Five; Change over time; Individual rights


A comprehensive look at Canada, organized by provinces and territories. Includes contents, index, maps, annotated, bibliography, forward by Janet Lunn. Each province has the following headings – Landscapes, Moments (timeline), People, On the Map (noteworthy places), At work (industry), Law and Order (politics), Good guys/bad guys (key colorful personalities), At a Glance (fast facts) and a page of trivia. Illustrations consist of Canadian art, photography, and cartoons. Social Studies Grade 5 – Physical Geography of Canada; Histories and stories of ways of life in Canada; Shaping an Identity; English Language Arts. Look for an update. Previewed by Crossing Park Elementary & (ESS) Evaluation/Selection.
Outcomes: 5.1.1 ; 5.1.2 ; 5.1.3 ; 5.2.1 ; 5.2.2 ; 5.3.1
Keywords: Aboriginal peoples; Inuit; Fur trade; Geography; Identity; Natural Resources

Murphy, Angela. (2005) *Great Canadians : twelve profiles of extraordinary people.*
Edmonton, AB : Lone Pine Publishing. $9.95 ISBN: 1894864468

Outcomes: 5.2.1 ; 5.2.6 ; 5.3.2 ; 5.3.3 ; 5.3.5
Keywords: Famous Five; Identity; Métis; Lester B. Pearson; John A. Macdonald; Immigrants; Citizenship

Winlaw, BC : Sono Nis Press. $19.95 ISBN: 9781550391558

*Picture Book*
Yetsa is Coast Salish, and she learns from her mother and grandmother the process of cleaning, carding and spinning wool for the beautiful Cowichan sweaters they knit. Artwork by Joan Larson details the process and the beauty of the finished articles. Previewed by Cecil Swanson Elementary.
Outcomes: 5.2.2
Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Elder; Belonging; Tradition; Ways of life
Olsen, Sylvia. *Catching spring.*
Victoria, B.C.: Orca Book. $7.95 ISBN: 1551432986

**Series: Orca young readers**
B.C.'s west coast Tsartlip First Nation is the setting for this novel. Bobby is in Grade 4, but it's summer and his job at the boat rental is most on his mind - until there's a fishing contest. Bobby wants that first prize bicycle, and it seems almost in reach. The time is 1957, but the attitudes and actions of children and adults are realistic and bring the story to a logical and satisfying ending. Easy to read, this novel gives a good picture of the life and values of Bobby and his community. It shows day-to-day events from the child's point of view, and, supported by the adults he is able to win the contest and prove that "the good guys win". Grade 5 Social Studies - Canada's People and Regions. Previewed by Cecil Swanson Elementary.

**Outcomes: 5.2.2**
**Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Ways of life**

Mankato, Minn.: Blue Earth Books. $25.15 ISBN 073682166X

**Series: Many Cultures, One World**
A look at modern day cultures in many lands, this series offers a look at legends, history, seasons, family, laws, rules and customs, pets, and sites to see. The large text is very readable, the photographs big and bright. A good series for research in both elementary and middle school. The content is user friendly. Includes maps, recipes, craft ideas, captions, glossary, useful addresses and internet sites, index and contents. Social Studies 5.1 Physical Geography of Canada. Previewed by Windsor Park.

**Outcomes: 5.1.1; 5.1.2**
**Keywords: Canada; Geography; Identity**

*Over Canada [videorecording]. -- (1999)*

An aerial trip showing the variety of landscapes and expanse of Canada from the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the Canadian/US border to the vast snowy north. The soundtrack includes music from prominent artists. Grade 5 Social Studies—5.1 Physical Geography of Canada. Previewed by (ESS) Social Studies.

**Outcomes: 5.1.1; 5.1.2**
**Keywords: Geography; Canada; Natural environment**

Toronto: Kids Can Press. $6.95 ISBN 1550744593

Visually appealing, informative and easy to read book covers the history of our Canadian flag including the first flags over Canada, the Union Jack, the great flag debate, Joan O'Malley's maple leaf flag, flag day, flag etiquette, provincial flags with Nunavut, how to make your own Canadian flag, flag parts and relevant web sites. Also looks at "before flags" and signal flags and how to send a message. Includes numerous colour illustrations and maps, table of contents and index. Unique source of Canadian information. Previewed at Brentwood Elementary & by (ESS) Evaluation/Selection.

**Outcomes: 5.3.5**
**Keywords: Identity; Canada; Heritage**

*Also on the Grade 7 list*

Attractive, well-organized book on early Canadian explorers, beginning with the Vikings through to the first to reach the North Pole. Large bolded headings, good page spacing; colourful and attractive diagrams and illustrations and maps. Profile boxes highlight specific persons in history. Has "Did You Know" boxes, index, table of contents and a great Canadian history timeline. Previewed by (SSS) AISI Curriculum Support.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.1

**Keywords:** Identity; History; Geography; Canada


Two young Acadian children join a lobstering expedition where they learn that there are many unexpected difficulties in the lobster trade. The book is a valuable information source for lobster researchers. Includes a labeled diagram of a lobster crate, comparisons, and a variety of sea life.

Previewed by Somerset Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.1

**Keywords:** Natural resources; Geography; Eastern Canada


**Picture Book**

A little girl and her father cross Lake Superior at night in a sailboat. When she takes the dawn watch it is her job to look for ships, logs, land, and lights. Her father goes below to sleep and she is all alone on the great inland sea. Green iridescent Northern Lights shine about her and then she sees "...one green eye from a sea serpent..." and realizes that it is the light of a huge freighter. She quickly sounds the alarm so her father can avert a collision and proves herself a worthy first mate. Stunning watercolours evoke the mood and expanse of the huge lake in darkness. Social Studies-Geographical Thinking. Previewed by Hillhurst Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.1; 5.1.2

**Keywords:** Bodies of water; Natural environment


*Also on the Grade 7 list*

This beautifully illustrated picture book is set in British North America in the early 1800’s during the fur trade which brought together the native trappers and hunters and the voyageurs who traveled the immense wilderness around Fort William. A young Metis boy helps a gentleman from the North West Company after his canoe is badly damaged by rocks and waves. This story helps to illustrate how the culture and heritage of the Metis are rooted in the fur trade. An authentic picture of life at a busy fur-trading post. Social Studies Grade 5 – Histories and stories of ways of life in Canada. Previewed by (ESS) Social Studies.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.4

**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Métis; Fur trade; Identify; History

Eleven-year-old Georgia lives with her grandparents on the edge of the Blackfoot reservation. Tragedy strikes one spring, when torrential rains flood their home, and destroys all they own. Georgia, Gramma and Paw Paw must somehow rebuild their lives. When Georgia finds a foal that has survived the flood, she names it Sky. Caring for Sky brings hope and renewal to the family. This is a beautifully written novel of triumph over adversity, told with a realistic Aboriginal voice, very evocative and moving. Previewed by Hawkwood Elementary and Bowcroft Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.1

**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Identity; Interaction

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**Picture Book**

Writer Lori Punshon introduces us to Grey Owl - Wa-Sha-Quon-Asin, He-Who-Flies–By-Night. He is really Archie Belaney, from Hastings, England. As a young boy Archie dreamed of living in Canada’s wilderness and at eighteen his dream came true. After traveling to Canada he immersed himself in First Nations culture, language and traditions while he lived with an Ojibwa family on Bear Island. He married an Ojibwa woman. His greatest desire was to protect and preserve Canada’s wildlife and vast wilderness. Prime Minister John Diefenbaker once said, “Grey Owl was the best conservationist Canada has ever had.” The book tells of Grey Owl’s adventures with wildlife of the north. Two beavers actually lived with him after they built a beaver lodge inside his cabin. Grey Owl is a character that would appeal to children of all ages. Social Studies Grade Five – Histories and stories of ways of life in Canada. Previewed by (ESS) Social Studies.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.1 ; 5.2.4 ; 5.2.6

**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Métis; Immigration; Conservation; Land

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**Series:** (Amazing stories)

Well-written account, in anecdotal style, of Sam Steele’s life. Covers his life from the time he was a boy in Orillia, Ontario until his death in London, England at age 68. Filled with accounts of his adventurous life, not only of his work in the Kootenays and southern Alberta, but of his involvement in the Boer War in South Africa, and World War I. Describes his non-violent approach to his duties. Upper elementary and junior high reading level. Difficult to access information as there are few headings and no index. Has table of contents and is a good read-loud. There are limited resources in this area. Previewed by Bishop Pinkham Junior High & (ESS) Evaluation/Selection.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.7

**Keywords:** North West Mounted Police; Identity

Series: My Canada Series

**Outcomes:** 5.2.1 ; 5.3.5
**Keywords:** Canada; Identity; Historical events


*Picture Book*
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 rely on each other to survive. This picture book has wonderful paintings with a detailed text (reading level grades 3-4). Useful for study with small groups to show some important aspects of prairie history. Grade 5 Social Studies—5.1 Physical Geography of Canada. Previewed at Captain John Palliser Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.1 ; 5.1.2
**Keywords:** Geography; Natural environment; Ways of life


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 British Columbia. Engagingly illustrated, the content highlights features of British Columbia (Yoho National Park, Queen Charlotte Islands and Whistler); events (Gold Rush, salmon runs); natural wonders (dogwood, killer whales, spirit bears) and historical personalities (Emily Carr, Bill Reid, Steve Nash). An entertaining and enlightening volume, it can be used as a context for more in-depth studies of this province, or part of studies of Canada. Previewed by Langevin Science School.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.1 ; 5.1.2 ; 5.1.3
**Keywords:** Culture; Environment; First Nations; Geographic Phenomena; Historical Significance; Landforms; National Parks; Western Canada

**Picture Book**

Wonderful colour woodblock prints and patient text build to a climax where the reader sees the caribou he wants to see. Along the way the reader experiences its environment and practises the patience needed to be a stalker of wildlife. As a picture book, it could be compared to "Owl Moon" (1987) by Jane Yolen for its building toward a single moment. It is an excellent portrayal of the Canadian Shield. For recreational reading, and for visual representation in the study of Canadian Regions (Grade 5 Social Studies). Previewed by Captain John Palliser Elementary.

**Outcomes: 5.1.1**

**Keywords: Bodies of water; Natural environment; Geography**


Twenty-six stunning paintings capture vivid images from the mountain ranges of western North America including "a bear browsing on berries, deer standing amid daisies and dandelions, kayakers glimpsing Kokanee salmon". The imaginative, alliterative text matches the scenes perfectly. Grade 5 Social Studies—5.1 Physical Geography of Canada. Previewed by (ESS) Selectin/Evaluation.

**Outcomes: 5.1.1 ; 5.1.2**

**Keywords: Geography; Natural environment; Ways of life**


Well-organized and formatted. Includes table of contents, index and timeline. Great colour illustrations support the text. This is an excellent Canadian resource which outlines the history of the Black person in Canada, from 1700s to present day. Deals with issues of slavery, rights, freedom, education, culture, early pioneers, the Underground Railway, segregation and prejudice. Previewed by Bishop Pinkham Junior High.

**Outcomes: 5.2.8**

**Keywords: Immigrants; Ways of life; Identity; Underground railroad**


**Picture Book**

Published in French in 2002, this is the English translation of an Innu tale of North America. A group of half humans/animals embark on a journey to find summer. A myth about seasons. Authenticated by the authors' note at the back, it also includes a glossary and source information. The retelling is smooth and readable. Previewed by Cecil Swanson Elementary.

**Outcomes: 5.2.2**

**Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples; First nations; Ways of life; Stories; Beliefs; Natural environment**
Schwartz, Virginia Frances. (2001) *If I just had two wings.* Markham, ON: Fitzhenry & Whiteside. $19.95 ISBN 9780773733022

Thirteen-year-old Phoebe, born a slave on an Alabama cotton plantation, has a powerful dream—a dream about flying to "the freedom place." Despite her parents' objections, she befriends Liney, 19, the courageous, strong "troublemaker" who is determined to flee with her two children to Canada. With Phoebe's help they start their journey to "the freedom place" with the help of codes through songs and the help of strangers along the Underground Railroad. A map in the front allows readers to follow the route taken by Phoebe and her friends. This book is well researched and historically accurate. It can be used for addressing issues of freedom, human rights, racism and the characters can be used as wonderful role models for our kids—strong, empowered young women and a young man who protects and sacrifices himself for the safety of the group. This novel helps student understand the rights and freedoms we have as Canadians from a historical perspective. Grade 5 – Histories and Stories of Ways of Life in Canada. Previewed by Marlborough Elementary.

Outcomes: 5.2.8

Key Words: Underground Railway; Immigration; Quality of life


Series: Special Canadian Communities
Also in the series: The Méts in Canada; Jewish people in Canada; French in Canada; Chinese in Canada; Sikhs in Canada; Ukrainians in Canada

Books in this series feature numerous colour, captioned photographs and "Think about it" boxes posing questions that connect the reader to the topic (e.g., What special holidays does your family celebrate? What are important symbols in your culture?). Each book examines where these people traveled from (with small map), how they established communities in Canada, language (with translations of a few words into English), art and culture, food (including one recipe), cultural contributions to Canadian society, further research (including Canadian websites and possible search terms to use), an art activity, and 10 questions to test what the reader has learned (with answers). Table of contents, glossary and index. Useful as a supplemental resource to stimulate discussion about pluralism and the inclusive nature of Canadian society. Grade 5 Social Studies – Histories and stories of ways of life in Canada. All titles in the series would support and enhance Social Studies Grade 5 as they relate to the complexity of identity in the Canadian context. Previewed by Hillhurst Elementary.

Outcomes: 5.2

Keywords: Identity; Immigration; Diversity; Communities; Stories


Series: Stories of Canada

This is the story of David Thompson. The book goes through the historical facts and explains who David Thompson was and who and what he encountered on his journey across Canada. Students will learn the importance of the beaver, First Nations people, fur traders, explorers and the fur trading posts. The information is chunked together with a bolded title, words are clear and easy to read/understand. Readers will find the glossary, index, timeline, and websites useful as they explain important information and vocabulary. Social Studies Grade 5 – Histories and stories of ways of life in Canada. Previewed by Louis Riel Elementary/Junior High.

Outcomes: 5.2.1; 5.2.2

Keywords: Canadian; Culture; Identity; Quality of life; Stories; Voyageurs

**Also on the Grade 7 list**

Written by an Aboriginal writer, the book gives an overview of the seven main cultural groups and looks at how the Aboriginal peoples were affected by contact with European explorers and settlers. Numerous detailed illustrations based on museum artifacts, accessible language, clear headings and subheadings, index and table of contents and excellent layout make this a valuable addition to the First Nations collection. Provides Aboriginal perspectives, and names reflect changes. Previewed by Centennial High.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.2

**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Historical significance; Interaction


**Picture Book**

A superstitious sea captain allows a red-headed girl on board against his better judgement. When caught in a devastating storm, he pleads with her image for help and is rewarded by calmer seas. Well-crafted story is a treasure of fishing vocabulary and imagery. The watercolour illustrations could almost stand alone as a study of the fishing industry. This is a rare find that will fill a need for Canadian (West Coast) material. Previewed at Fred Parker Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.1; 5.1.2

**Keywords:** Bodies of water; Natural environment; Natural resources


**Series: Dear Canada**

Anya, the young character travels with her family from the Ukraine and meets her father in Montréal. The book begins by highlighting the anticipation and stresses of immigrating to a new country and then details how these stresses are realized with Anya’s rough reception. When World War I breaks out the social climate for Ukrainian Canadians becomes tense and dangerous which leads to many being sent to an internment camp. Students will be sobered and enlightened about this, not often, documented time in history. There are not many books that describe the treatment of Ukrainians in Canada, this one is sensitively done through the eyes of a young girl and detailed historical fiction.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.9

**Keywords:** Immigrants; Ways of life; Ukraine; World War I

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**Also on the Grade 7 list**

**Picture Book**

Anna and Ivan escape hardship in Ukraine to start a new life on the Canadian frontier. As they struggle to build their homestead, World War I breaks out. Ivan volunteers to fight for his new homeland but is taken prisoner as an enemy of their new country. Now Anna is left alone to complete the homestead and maintain traditions from the old country as she waits for the miracle that will bring her husband back. This powerful story illustrates how Ukrainian immigrants shaped ways of life in Western Canada and how their stories help us to understand the hardships they faced in a new land. Previewed by (ESS) Social Studies.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.1; 5.2.9; 5.3.2

**Keywords:** Ukrainians; Immigrants; World War I; Rural; Ways of life
Regina : Coteau Books. $9.95 ISBN 9781550501827

**Series: In the Same Boat**
Ray lives in a small Northern Ontario community with her mother and brother and sister. Ray struggles with belonging in her community and family. She is part Ojibway and part white and is extremely self-conscious of her appearance, especially her green eyes. She spends summers with her Ojibway grandmother, an elder and healer, and as the story progresses it becomes abundantly clear that it is in this isolated part of Northern Ontario that she feels most at home and that her grandmother sees that she is the one to take over her own role as medicine woman in her community. Previewed at Ernest Morrow Junior High & Terry Fox Junior High.

**Outcomes: 5.2.2**
**Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Elder; Belonging; Identity; Ways of life**


This story details how two young girls escaped slavery by running way from a Mississippi plantation, on a hazardous route toward Canada and freedom. Terms and phrases are used in historical context that may offend so teacher-directed discussion is recommended. Well written and knowledgeable, an honest account of the hardships endured. Previewed by (ESS) Evaluation/Selection.

**Outcomes: 5.2.8**
**Keywords: Immigrants; Ways of life; Identity; Underground railroad**

Victoria, B.C. : Beach Holme Publications. $8.95 ISBN: 9780888783592

While this book is a work of fiction, the issues dealt with reflect current concerns of First Nation's peoples. This delightful story focuses on Danny Budzynski, who finds a strange object shaped like an arrowhead, but it's unlike anything in the museum at Fort MacLeod. Danny meets Joshua Brokenhorn, a boy from the Peigan Reserve near Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump, who 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. Previewed by (ESS) Social Studies Team.

**Outcomes: 5.1.1 ; 5.2.1**
**Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Ways of life; Interaction; Identity; Protected areas**

Victoria, B.C : Orca Book Publishers. $19.95 ISBN 9781551433967

In 1885 the Canadian government passed a law forbidding Aboriginal people to hold ceremonials. This story takes place in 1935 and tells how a family of the Kwakiutl nation defied the law and held a potlatch at Kingcome Inlet in northern British Columbia. Distinctive illustrations depict the symbols of the Kwakiutl people. A historical note at the end of the book tells how this story is based on an incident in the life of the Aboriginal co-author. Includes glossary. Best used as a read aloud, some children would have difficulty with the Aboriginal names and terms. Grade 5 Social Studies - Histories and Stories of Ways of Life in Canada. Previewed by Hawkwood Elementary.

**Outcomes: 5.2.2**
**Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples, First Nations, Identity, Potlach**

Picture Book
A young boy’s favourite tree falls in a storm. Part of the tree is carved into a mask representing the spirit of the tree. The book also highlights the culture of First Nations people on the West Coast of Canada. Text has rich adjectives. Great detailed oil painting support the text. Opportunities for further discussion, but the plot is not entirely gripping. Grade 5 Social Studies—5.1 Physical Geography of Canada. Previewed by Janet Johnstone Elementary.
Outcomes: 5.1.1 ; 5.1.2
Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Geography; Natural environment; Ways of life

Toronto: Groundwood Books. $19.95 ISBN 9780888995766

Etseh, Etsi and their three grandchildren have just embarked on a month-long canoe trip in the Northwest Territories. Starting from the town of Rae, they are following the Idaa Trail, a trade route used by the Dogrib people for hundreds of years. The children’s grandparents traveled the trail when they were young and are now sharing the knowledge of special sites along the way. The cousins learn the history behind an abandoned village, the legend of the wolverine at Sliding Hill, a mysterious gravesite, and how herds of caribou were ambushed. They also learn how their people survived by hunting and drying moose, building birch bark canoes and caribou skin tipis, using willow lines for fishing, and using dog teams in the winter to travel. It is an enticing story that helps the children reconnect to the land they see through their grandparents’ eyes. Social Studies Grade 5 – Histories and stories of ways of life in Canada. Previewed by (ESS) Social Studies.
Outcomes: 5.2.1 ; 5.2.2 ; 5.2.4
Keywords: Stories; Historical significance; Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Fur trade

Sterling, Shirley. My name is Seepeetza.
Toronto: Groundwood Books. $7.95 ISBN 0888991657

Also on the Grade 7 list
Told from the perspective of Seepeetza, who is twelve years old. This is a recount of her thoughts and feelings about her life at a residential school and at home through her diary over a year. Based on the author’s experiences at a school run by Catholic sisters, it is honest in its description of the horrible experiences she faced -- forced to take a new non-Indian name; forbidden to speak her native language; family visits are rare and not encouraged; verbal and physical abuse by some of the staff. She also recounts troubles at home and also reflects on the good times both at home and at school. Previewed by (ESS) Evaluation/Selection.
Outcomes: 5.2.1 ; 5.2.2 ; 5.31
Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples, First Nations, Identity, Narratives; Ways of life; Historical significance

**Series: Our Canadian girl**
The "Our Canadian Girl" 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 fourth title about Marie-Claire and her French-Canadian family. In 1885 Montreal, Marie-Claire looks forward to celebrating Christmas. She wants to give her rich, English friend, Laura, a special gift. But the gift she receives in return brings an unexpected reaction. This is a pleasant read with plausible characters and an authentic glimpse of life in Montreal at this time period. 5.2: Histories and Stories of Ways of Life in Canada. Previewed by Hawkwood Elementary.

**Outcomes: 5.2.1**
**Keywords:** Francophone; Eastern Canada; History; Identity; British

Vancouver, BC: Greystone Books. $10.95 ISBN 9781553651635

**Picture Book**
During a walk in the forest with her Dad, Katie learns about the life cycle of the sockeye salmon, as well as its place in the larger circle of life. Simple text, with beautiful watercolour illustrations, describe the web of life, life cycle of a salmon, and the interconnectedness of the living organisms within a river and forest ecosystem. Includes a simple glossary and a salmon recipe. A message of conservation. Highly recommended. Previewed by West Dalhousie Elementary.

**Outcomes: 5.1.1**
**Keywords:** Natural Resources; Natural Environment; Conservation


In 1941, when Shizuye (Shichan) was eleven-years-old, she and thousands of other Japanese-Canadians were forced from their homes and sent to live in internment camps in the Canadian Rockies. None of them had been convicted of any crime, but the country was at war with Japan, so they were considered enemies of the country. In this true story of sadness and joy, Shichan uses simple text and striking watercolours to recall her life in the days leading up to her family's forced movement to the camp and her feelings as the war drags on. Previewed by (ESS) Evaluation/Selection.

**Outcomes: 5.2.8**
**Keywords:** Immigrants; Chinese; Ways of life; World War II


This title presents a retelling of 8 different aboriginal legends from eight different tribes from all over North America - Cheyenne, Commanche, Gwich'in, Malecite, Micmac, Mohawk, Seneca and Tlingit. The two-page legends are well-written and each is illustrated with a colorful acrylic painting. The style of the text and the illustrations seems very authentic. Students would enjoy this as a read aloud or reading on their own. Grade 5.2 Histories and Stories of Ways of Life in Canada. Previewed by Hawkwood Elementary.

**Outcomes: 5.2.1; 5.2.2**
**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; Stories; Beliefs; Culture

Series: Our Canadian Girl
The "Our Canadian Girl" series consists of short, readable novels about intelligent, courageous girls from various places and times in Canadian history. 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 their beloved horses home. An engaging plot, appropriate reading level and authentic glimpse of Metis life on the prairies. Previewed by Hawkwood Elementary & (ESS) Social Studies.

Outcomes: 5.2.2
Keywords: Métis, Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Ways of life


Picture Book
A young girl and her father leave everything familiar behind when they move to Canada. The only piece of home they bring is a Chinese violin. As they face huge challenges in their new home, the violin provides comfort of the home they left and leads the girl to a musical future. Set in Canada. Gives a brief glimpse into the challenges of children moving from another country. Previewed by (ESS) Evaluation/Selection.

Outcomes: 5.2.1
Keywords: Immigration; Western Canada; Diversity; Chinese

Vancouver, BC: Ronsdale Press. $8.95 ISBN 0921870744

Also on the Grade 7 list
This story is told from the perspective of Peter, a young boy who at the age of six is orphaned and struggles with the hardships of surviving at Fort St. James, the Hudson's Bay Company's main northern outpost for New Caledonia in the 1820's. This novel focuses on the relationship between the newcomers and the Carrier people who taught them skills for survival. Woven into the tale are real historical people and events; James Douglas and his wife Amelia, Company Governor Sir George Simpson, Chief Trader James McDougall and Carrier Chief Kwah. This book would be a great read aloud or would meet the needs of strong independent readers at the elementary level. 5.2: Histories and Stories of Ways of Life in Canada. Previewed by Windsor Park.

Outcomes: 5.2.1; 5.2.2; 5.2.4; 5.2.6
Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples; British; French; Fur Trade; Identity; Scottish

Toronto: Oxford University Press. $7.95 ISBN 9780195402902

A collection of nine North American Native legends that describe the origins of various animals and their behaviour, natural phenomena (ie. tornadoes, Niagara Falls) and pourquoi explanations of why the dog is our best friend and why the owl and rabbit look the way they do. Colourful, vibrant illustrations. Written in simple, easy to understand language. Social Studies Grade 5 – Histories and stories of ways of life in Canada. Previewed by (ESS) Social Studies.

Outcomes: 5.2.1; 5.2.2; 5.2.4
Keywords: Aboriginal Peoples; Stories; Beliefs; Natural environment
The death of their father has left large debts for Catherine St. Onge who is sixteen and her younger sister, Helene, who is thirteen. Catherine agrees to become "une fille a marier", a marriageable girl, in the belief that she will marry a young man with whom her father was negotiating. He lives in Montreal, New France. The sisters embark on an arduous ocean voyage, during which Catherine and several other "filles a marier" die of fever. Helene agrees to become "une fille a marier", in her sister's place. When she arrives in Montreal, she is embraced by her late uncle's widow, who teaches her the survival skills a young woman needs on the frontier. Told in diary form, this authentically portrays life for settlers in New France in the seventeenth century. Previewed by (SSS) AISI Curriculum Support.

Outcomes: 5.2.3

Keywords: French; New France; Way of Life

Small format book profiles Jacques Cartier, Samuel de Champlain, Pierre de la Verendrye, Samuel Hearne, and David Thompson. Part of the Scholastic "Canada Biographies" series. Text is written at elementary level and provides a synopsis of major events and accomplishments in each person's life. Illustrated with some colour pencil drawings and black and white photos. Could be useful for beginning biography research. Social Studies Grade 5.2: Histories and stories of ways of life in Canada; English as a second language; English Language Arts – biography. Previewed by Brentwood Elementary.

Outcomes: 5.2.1; 5.2.3; 5.2.4

Keywords: Fur trade; New France; Aboriginal Peoples; British; Voyageurs

Relates the true-life stories of five Canadian personalities including revolutionary heroine Laura Secord, World War I flying ace Billy Bishop, women's rights activist Nellie McClung, scientist Frederick Banting, and hockey great Wayne Gretzky. Text is written at elementary level and provides a synopsis of major events and accomplishments in each person's life. Illustrated with some colour pencil drawings and black and white photos. Table of contents. Social Studies Grade 5.2: Histories and stories of ways of life in Canada. English Language Arts – biography; English as a second language. Could be useful for beginning biography research. Previewed by Hillhurst Elementary.

Outcomes: 5.2.1; 5.2.5; 5.3.3

Keywords: Identity; World War I; Stories; Citizenship, Famous Five

**Series:** Scholastic Canada Biographies

This small format chapter touches upon the broad biographical details about Madeleine de Vercheres, Norman Bethune, Tommy Prince, Roberta Bondar and Terry Fox as exemplars of Canadian heroes. Simply written, it includes a table of contents and is supplemented with colourful illustrations and photographs. Suitable for grade 5 and grade 7 Social Studies. Social Studies Grade 5.2: Histories and stories of ways of life in Canada; English as a Second Language; English Language Arts – biography. Previewed by Langevin Science School.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.1

**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Francophone; Historical Significance; Narratives; New France; Stories; World War II

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**Series:** Scholastic Canada Biographies

Written at an upper elementary reading level, this relates the true-life stories of five Canadian pioneers: Louis Hebert, our first habitant; Marie-Anne Gaboury, the feisty grandmother of Louis Riel; John Crysler, Loyalist; Susanna Moodie, cultured English gentlewoman roughing it in the bush; and Wasyl Eleniak, Ukrainian prairie pioneer. They are highlighted in short chapters accompanied by original illustrations and reproductions from the National Archives of Canada. Social Studies Grade 5 - Histories and Stories of Ways of Life in Canada; English as a second language; English Language Arts – biography. Previewed by Simons Valley Elementary and Langevin Science School.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.1 ; 5.2.2 ; 5.2.3 ; 5.2.5 ; 5.2.6 ; 5.2.9

**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; British; Francophone; Identity; Métis; New France; Stories; Ukraine; Western Canada

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**Also on the Grade 7 list**

**Series:** Dear Canada

Genevieve Aubuchon, aged twelve, has two names: her birth name, Miguen which means feather in Abenaki and her adopted name, given in baptism when she and her older brother Chegual were taken in by Madame Claire Pastorel and her husband Monsieur Jacques Aubuchon. Genevieve and Chegual had survived a massacre that destroyed their entire community. In the spring of 1759, war was coming to Quebec, the result of conflict between England and France, a conflict that traveled to the colonies of both nations. After the subsequent siege and defeat of the French at Quebec, Genevieve is required to care for a Scottish officer whose hand has been amputated. In doing so, she comes to terms with the defeat of her country as she knew it. Told in diary form, this authentically portrays life for settlers in New France in the eighteenth century. Social Studies Curriculum Grade 5.2: Histories and stories of ways of life in Canada. Previewed by (SSS) AISI Curriculum Support.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.2 ; 5.2.3

**Keywords:** New France; Aboriginal peoples; First Nations; Historical significance

Also on the Grade 7 list

**Picture Book**

This is a heart warming fictional tale of Laura, as a young girl, already strong, brave and determined, making a scary journey to save a family friend. It was an old milk cow who had wandered away. The journey was difficult and the sadness of finding the dead cow turned to determination to save her newborn calf. The story is simple in nature, but rich in description. It shows the bravery of Laura and the depth of the empathy of such a young girl. The description at the end of the story tells factual information of Laura's life. Bravery, heroism, Previewed by Prince of Wales Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.5

**Keywords:** United Empire Loyalists; Ways of life

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**Picture Book**

The Ontario author has worked with a Cape Breton artist to produce a dual language (English and Mi'kmaq) original folk tale ... The native boy Wood Duck dreamed of sailing from the east coast to see what lies beyond the sea. He built a "huge canoe, longer and higher than any canoe ever made" and set out with 9 other curious adventurers. Strong watercolors and clear text describe the long voyage, and the arrival at a strange land where white, fluffy animals grazed in a flock, and the people, though friendly, spoke a strange language. They welcomed the travelers, and over a period of time Wood Duck began to wonder about the differences in the two groups of people. This is an interesting twist to the familiar history of the Norse explorers, suggesting the Mi'kmaqs first traveled east, and could have foreseen the changes contacts would bring. Previewed by Cecil Swanson Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.1; 5.2.2

**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; History; Interaction; Identity; Stories

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**Picture Book**

Illustrated in evocative water colours, this is the tale of the origin of the Inuksuk (Innukshuk), the stone sentinels of the Arctic. An Inuit girl, energetic and inquisitive, learns the skills necessary to make use of the bounty of the land. Wherever her family lives, she builds stone figures which seem to have personality - some point to a lake, others to the horizon. However, when her father and brothers appear to be lost in a snowstorm, she enlists her friends to help her build Inuksuit (Innuksweet) to guide the hunters successfully home. Previewed by (SSS) AISI Teacher-Librarians.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.2

**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; Inuit; Natural environment; Ways of life; Northern

**Picture Book**
Three linked stories in which a child gradually learns the ways of nature and discovers his place in the world - in harmony with nature - guided by his grandfather's wise, patient and loving ways. The author is a Nishinawbe Ojibway whose writing reflects her respect and love for our natural surroundings and her people's traditions. Outstanding artwork clearly demonstrates passing on a people's history to their children. Grade 5 Social Studies—5.1 Physical Geography of Canada. Previewed at Midnapore Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.1 ; 5.1.2 ; 5.2.1
**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Elders; Natural environment; Geography; Ways of life; Stories


**Picture Book**
Two Ojibway sisters from Northern Ontario head out at night to see the "SkySpirits" - Northern Lights. They encounter a rabbit, deer and coyote on their way and wait under the northern sky to be rewarded by seeing "SkySisters" in the northern lights. The oil paintings are beautiful. Text has an authentic tone reflecting the northern culture. Grade 5 Social Studies—5.1 Physical Geography of Canada. Previewed at Hawkwood Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.1 ; 5.1.2
**Keywords:** Aboriginal Peoples; First Nations; Geography; Natural environment; Ways of life


**Picture Book**
Set in Cape Breton at the turn of the century, this is the story of a boy's first day of work with his father in the coal mine. After descending into the caves below the Atlantic Ocean to begin to learn the coal miner's work, a sudden calamity puts him and his father in terrible danger. The well-written, descriptive language is enhanced by exceptional artwork depicting the setting. Uses vernacular of the region. Much information about coal mining is nicely woven into this fascinating story. The previewer read it to a grade 4 and 5 class who were really intrigued by it. Grade 5 – Histories and stories of ways of life in Canada Previewed by Ogden Elementary & at Simons Valley Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.1 ; 5.1.2 ; 5.1.3
**Keywords:** Geography; Natural Resources; Ways of Life; Environment; Eastern Canada

**Picture Book**

This story is about a Newfoundland family who struggles with the loss of the cod fisheries. Duncan's father spends his days watching television and baking breads and pies. Many fishermen have left the community in search of work. Duncan realizes there is a way to combine his father's baking skills with his experience as a ship's skipper to create his own business. Illustrates how life differs for Canadians on the east coast of Canada. Soft water color pictures portray a unique Canadian community. The book helps to develop a sense of place and an understanding of the relationship between the people and the land. Grade 5: Physical Geography of Canada. Previewed by Hawkwood Elementary, Greenview Elementary and (ESS) Evaluation/Selection and (ESS) Social Studies.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.1 ; 5.1.2 ; 5.1.3 ; 5.3.1

**Keywords:** Change; Communities; Economics; Identity; Quality of Life; Natural resources


**Picture Book**

A beautiful story about a family on the prairies in the 1930’s. Father is traveling, looking for work. The family always keeps a place for him at the table during the long winter months. On Christmas a stranger arrives and the family treats him kindly. He grants the children a wish. Their wish is granted—their father returns. This story shows a more positive perspective of the Depression years and could be used to initiate discussion about how the economic conditions during the Great Depression affected the ways of life in rural communities. 5.2: Histories and stories of ways of life in Canada, Shaping an Identity. Previewed by Crossing Park Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.1 ; 5.2.9 ; 5.3.4

**Keywords:** Natural environment; Rural; Depression; Identity; Historical significance


Written to remember a family member who perished, this gripping picture book about the sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald in Lake Superior in 1975 takes us on the ship's last voyage through the storm to its watery grave. Paralleling the story of the men and the storm is a poem about the ship's bell, written in italics on every other page or two. In the epilogue, we learn of the recovery of the bell and the subsequent memorial to the crew. Atmospheric paintings capture the original tranquility of the lake and the ensuing violent storm. This book could be used on many levels as a curriculum fit with Grade 5 Social Studies and as a companion to Gordon Lightfoot's ballad of the Edmund Fitzgerald, as an impetus to writing poetry based on history, and as a model for another way to represent student learning. Previewed by Simons Valley Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.2

**Keywords:** Bodies or water; Natural environment; Historical events; Natural disasters
Wells, Don (editor). (2005) *Canada’s road to independence*.

Also on the Grade 7 list
**Series: Canadian Government**
*Canada’s road to independence* accounts Canada’s quest to become a country from Confederation to sovereignty. Topics detailing this quest include: the BNA Act; World War I and II and post-war industrialization. The constitution is covered extensively from the important figures that have contributed to its growth as well as how it is amended. The Charter of rights and freedoms and various accords are discussed. The ease of format of this book (series) and the uncomplicated text make it a gem whereas books on this theme tend to be too difficult for upper elementary and middle school students. See series description at *Canadian citizenship*. Previewed by (SSS) AISI Curriculum Support.

**Outcomes:** 5.3.1; 5.3.2; 5.3.4; 5.3.5

**Keywords:** Confederation; Identity; World War I; World War II

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Also on the Grade 7 list
**Series: Canadian Government**
*Canadian Citizenship* offers a concise look at citizenship and the rights and freedoms afforded to Canadians. The series is published in Calgary and there are many examples used from Alberta. There is a mix of historical Canada and modern day Canada throughout the series. Redeeming to this series is its thoughtful and unbiased reporting on the topics. Fact boxes are well done and encourage further thought. There is ample archival material and government documents. Topics in this series are essential and current and will be an asset to all school libraries. The series describes different facets of Canadian Government: Canadian citizenship, system of government, Canadian identity, Canadian unity and Canada and global citizenship. Contains: contents, index, timeline, quiz, further research, glossary. Previewed by (SSS) AISI Curriculum Support.

**Outcomes:** 5.3.1; 5.3.5

**Keywords:** Heritage; Culture; Citizenship

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Also on the Grade 7 list
**Series: Canadian Government**
*Canadian identity* stresses the importance of Canada as a pluralistic society and our adoption of this into our identity. It offers an honest look into the challenges of maintaining our identity as we grow and the importance of strengthening it for the future of Canada. Symbols such as the maple leaf, the flag and celebrations like Canada Day are highlighted. History of Canada’s Aboriginal Peoples as well as the population of Canada are described and from this topics such as multiculturalism and French language rights are artfully framed. An essential book / series for the study of Canada. See series description at *Canadian citizenship*. Previewed by (SSS) AISI Curriculum Support.

**Outcomes:** 5.3.1; 5.3.5

**Keywords:** Identity; Immigrants; Official languages; Heritage; Culture

**Series: Canadian Government**
*Canadian unity* offers a glimpse into what it is like to govern such a diverse country. It aptly discusses both the difficulty in governing such a diverse country (economically, geographically and culturally) as well as the fact that we celebrate our unity fundamentally as Canadians. Discussion of Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, Trans-Canada Highway, Western alienation and Québec sovereignty are but a few topics touched on. See series description at *Canadian citizenship.* Previewed by (SSS) AISI Curriculum Support.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.1; 5.3.2
**Keywords:** Geography; Diversity; Economics


**Series: Stories of Canada**
This is the story of Catharine Parr Traill. It describes who Catharine Parr Traill was and how her writing affected Canada’s early literature. Discusses the important experiences that she had in early Canada. Information is chunked together with a bolded title, words are clear and easy to read/understand. Pictures, photos, and charts are added to hook students and to give additional information. Readers will find the glossary, index, timeline, and websites useful as they explain important information and vocabulary. Previewed by Louis Riel Elementary/Junior High.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.1; 5.1.3
**Keywords:** Immigrants; Geography; Ways of life; Natural environment.


A beautifully illustrated and authentic collection of folk stories from the Coast Salish people of British Columbia, re-told and translated by a Salish elder Ellen White whose name is Kwulasulwut, or "many stars". Illustrations are bold and in true Salish fashion by Okanagan artist and teacher Bill Cohen. Grade 5 Social Studies - Histories and Stories of Ways of Life in Canada. Previewed by (SSS) AISI Curriculum Support.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.2
**Keywords:** Aboriginal peoples, First Nations, Western Canada, Stories


**Picture Book**
This tale is based on French-Canadian folklore, tells the story of young Beatrice who is clever and brave. Beatrice is determined to find out who has been riding her pony at night and returning him to the stable bedraggled and tired. She goes to visit Monsieur Le Pain, the baker from Quebec, for advice. He suspects Beatrice's pony is in danger from a lutin, an elf with great strength. While Monsieur Le Pain is considering solutions, Beatrice solves the problem herself. Very well-written story with lovely illustrations that complement the text perfectly. Previewed by Hawkwood Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.3
**Keywords:** Francophone; Eastern Canada

**Picture Book**
Set in modern day Cape Breton, this is the story of a young boy who longs for his own instrument to play to be a part of his musical family. To this point, he has contributed by humming to the music they make. He listens to the various sounds of the landscape/seascapes around him as well as to the instruments played at a local ceilidh. After he chooses a fiddle, the challenge is his to master it, and contribute his own music to the rich traditions of his community. Grade 5 – Histories and stories of ways of life in Canada. Previewed by Hillhurst Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.2.6 ; 5.2.1

**Keywords:** Communities; Identity; Heritage; Narratives; Culture; Geography


**Series: Our Canadian girl**
The "Our Canadian Girl" 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 Izzie and her family who live in Nova Scotia during World War II. In 1942, Izzie's life is turned upside down when her father is finally accepted into the navy and her family must move from small town Granite Cove to Dartmouth. Along with the difficulties of adjusting to a new home and school, Izzie and her family must survive a potential disaster when the warship Trongate, loaded with ammunition, catches fire in Halifax Harbour. This is an engaging read with plausible characters and an authentic glimpse of life in Nova Scotia during the War. Grade 5 Social Studies – Histories and Stories of Ways of Life in Canada. Previewed by Hawkwood Elementary.

**Outcomes:** 5.3.4

**Keywords:** World War II; Nova Scotia; Historical events


**Series: Exploring Canada**
The authors of this book recreated the lives of voyageurs on a trip from Grand Portage to Cumberland House. They describe the birchbark canoe, the food, the challenges of the rapids and portages, the recreations, the climate, and the winter trip to gather furs by dog team & snowshoes. Numerous b/w photos and line drawings illustrate the adventure. A few special craft features are included like how to build a birchbark canoe and how to make galette, a type of bread eaten regularly by the voyageurs. Simple text in large print makes this book accessible for most Grade 5's - might be very useful for ESL students. The text is well supported with photos and historical blackline drawings. Includes a table of contents and a glossary, but no index. Previewed by Falconridge Elementary, Haultain Memorial Elementary and (ESS) Social Studies.

**Outcomes:** 5.1.2 ; 5.2.3 ; 5.2.4

**Keywords:** Voyageurs, Fur Trade; History

**Picture Book**
This is a reissue of the title from 1988. Runaway slaves follow directions in a song "The Drinking Gourd" taught to them by an old sailor, as they journey north along the Underground Railroad to freedom in Canada. Dramatic, primitive, colour illustrations complement the text. The story is grade level appropriate and would enhance student understanding of the Underground Railroad, and the presence of Black communities in Canada. Social Studies Grade 5 – Histories and stories of ways of life in Canada. Previewed by (ESS) Social Studies.

**Outcomes: 5.2.8**
**Keywords: Underground Railway; Stories; Historical significance**

Vancouver, BC: Tradewind Books. $22.95   ISBN 9781896580074

**Also on the Grade 7 list**
**Picture Book**
Living from the sea, Yenyee and her family exist simply in nineteenth century China. Then one day, her father drowns in a fierce storm at sea. Yenyee tries to appease the sea by throwing into the ocean her most prized possession, her jade fish necklace. But the sea does not give back her father or her necklace. Eventually, her mother must pawn her gold jewelry to buy food. The merchant to whom she sends Yenyee instead makes an offer of passage to Canada to be nanny to the merchant's daughter. Yenyee takes good care of May-jen. One day walking in Stanley Park, May-jen falls from the seawall into the water. Yenyee rescues her and finds tangled in the seaweed in May-jen's hair, her jade fish. Her reward for saving May-jen is to bring her mother and brother to Canada. The story will help readers understand the contributions made by diverse cultural groups to the evolution of Canada. Social Studies Grade 5 – Histories and stories of ways of life in Canada. Previewed by AISI Teacher-Librarians, and (ESS) Social Studies.

**Outcomes: 5.2.1**
**Keywords: Immigration; Western Canada; Diversity; Chinese**

Toronto: Douglas and McIntyre. $18.95   ISBN 9780888990983

**Also on the Grade 7 list**
Eight original stories by the author illustrate the difficulties of life in Canada for Chinese immigrants in the nineteenth century. Included are tales about building the railway, participating in the Gold Rush, and building new lives on the west coast of British Columbia. The stories by Yee, will provide a vital opportunity for readers to develop a better understanding of historical events, and the dynamics of peoples that are integral to Canada's history and contemporary society. Social Studies Grade 5 - Histories and Stories of Ways of Life in Canada; Canada - Shaping an Identity; Social Studies Grade 7 - Canada: Following Confederation. Previewed by (ESS) AISI Teacher-Librarians and (ESS) Social Studies.

**Outcomes: 5.2.7 ; 5.3.2**
**Keywords: Western Canada; Diversity; Stories; Immigration; Chinese**