



We're History!

Finding and Sharing the Voices and Stories of our Past

California History in Books for Children
An Annotated Bibliography

The Association of Children's Librarians of Northern California
The ACL 2013 Institute
San Leandro, CA
April 12, 2013

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While the topic of the 2013 ACL Institute is history in general, this bibliography (which includes some online resources), focuses on California history materials for kindergarten through eighth graders. Because age and reading level do not always match neatly, the titles are broken out only into fiction and nonfiction, but all titles for primary readers are clearly identified as such within each annotation. Most of the titles listed are taken from titles published recently, with only a few earlier ones enclosed when particularly recommended. From the never-enough good titles on California, we tried to select those that present accurate information and those that help young readers become aware of the variety of voices that ring through history and encourage them to see history as a open-ended process of discovery, one that continues to evolve.

The list is divided into 8 categories, 6 of them by chronological era. The first (and smallest) section, includes books that cover a topic throughout the whole range of California history, from its pre-state, pre-European-presence days through the 20th century.

The chronological divisions are listed in the table of contents above.

The final section is aimed at the librarians and teachers who will be helping young readers discover and develop an appreciation for history. This piece includes jumping-off points to locate similar material on other aspects of history. A list of blogs introduces librarians and teachers from around the country who are passionate about promoting and identifying the best and the latest in history and historical fiction. Websites selected by librarians and educational groups, such as UC Berkeley's History Social Science Project, point to online collections of reliable and enlivening history. The books included in this section are ones I have found particularly helpful as I worked on this Institute and tried to sort through the questions of how we engage children in appreciating the past and seeing how the past continues to inform and challenge the present.

Thank you to Martha Shogren, Kathy Haug, Penny Peck, Kristina Bergen, and Lauren Teixeira, who contributed titles to this list. And of course, forgive our lapses and feel free to suggest other titles.

Elizabeth Overmyer



We're History!

California History in Books for Children

Author/Pub

Title/Annotation

Overview (all periods)

Fiction

- London, Jonathan
Candlewick
2003
- Giving Thanks***
When his father celebrates the natural world with his daily prayer of thanks, his son is embarrassed but learns that it can help him connect with himself and the world. For primary readers.

Nonfiction

- DeLorme
2008
- California Atlas and Gazetteer (cartographic material)***
This is a compilation of maps and topography of the whole state - lots and lots of relief maps.
- Ansary, Mir Tamin
Heinemann
2010
- All Around California: Regions and Resources***
Elementary overview of the state, divided out by regions and emphasizing natural and manmade resources and their effect on the California economy.
- Ansary, Mir Tamin
Heinemann
2002
- California History***
Ansary's workmanlike presentation begins with pre-state California and covers the gold rush, statehood, the depression, wartime and into the present.
- Hayes, Derek
University of California Press
2007
- Historical Atlas of California***
Contains many original maps of various areas of the state pointing out the historical significance of the geography from the earliest days of the Native peoples and the first settlers.
- Martin, Michael
Chelsea House
2003
- Chinese Americans***
They braved a treacherous sea voyage to come to America and were not well received. Once denied entrance to the U.S.A. by the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882, Chinese immigrants have become one of America's most respected ethnic groups.
- Muñoz Ryan, Pam
Scholastic Press
2008
- Our California***
Take a tour of California with this colorful nonfiction story in picture book style. Also available in Spanish as "Nueva California." For primary readers.
- Murphy, Claire
Walker
2006
- Children of Alcatraz: Growing Up On the Rock***
A chronological history of the San Francisco island and the children who called it home, including children of Native Americans, military families, lighthouse keepers and prison guards.
- Richards, Rand
Heritage House
2007
- Historic San Francisco: A Concise History and Guide***
This guide begins prior to 1542 and continues to 1989, covering the history of San Francisco while pointing out the locations of special buildings and unique, colorful artifacts.
- Rolle, Andrew
Harlan Davidson
2008
- California: A History***
Closely follows the outline of the Institute bibliography beginning with the Native peoples up to the present.



We're History!

California History in Books for Children

Title/Annotation

Author/Pub

Overview (all periods)

Nonfiction

St. Antoine

Milkweed

2001

Stories From Where We Live: The California Coast

The California coast has been the setting of many stories based on historical events, natural phenomena, and the experiences of many immigrants. This book contains samples of historical and contemporary stories, poems and memoirs from all the people who have lived there.



We're History!

California History in Books for Children

Author/Pub

Title/Annotation

pre-1769

Fiction

- Ross, Sylvia
Heyday Books
2010
Blue Jay Girl
A young Yaudanchi girl, from a smaller group related to the Yokuts, is advised to be more like a quail because she is often in trouble due to her impetuous nature. For primary readers.
- Ross, Sylvia
Heyday Books
2005
Lion Singer
Dog Cry, a young boy of the Chukchansi tribe, saves his little sister from a mountain to earn his new name. For primary readers.
- Slier, Debby
Star Bright
2012
Cradle Me
In this photo-filled board book, eleven babies from various Native American tribes are shown in their cradle boards. A great way to introduce the subject of the first people who live in North America. For primary readers.

Nonfiction

- Aloian, Molly
Crabtree
2005
Life of the California Coast Indians
There are many Indian groups that live or lived along the California Coast. This includes the history and customs of the various groups, their similarities, their differences, and their ability to adapt to each location.
- Arnold, Caroline
Clarion
1996
Stories in Stone: Rock Art Pictures by Early Americans
The rock art found on the Coso Range, about 10 miles from Los Angeles, is described in a concise text and clear color photos. Over 3,000 years old, this rock art depicts the life of the native California Indians who lived and hunted in that area.
- Brumage., Katherine
Heyday Books
2012
Many Worlds: Native Life Along the Anza Trail
An engaging look at the California world before the influx of Europeans. Many of the activities described are things a child can relate to, including counting in Quechan, traditional foods, canoeing in the Channel Islands, and more. For primary readers.
- Capelan, Mary
Heyday Books
2002
Coyote Fights the Sun: A Shasta Indian Tale
A Shasta Indian legend in which trickster Coyote shoots the sun when it misleads him about the coming of spring. For primary readers.
- Feinstein, Stephen
Heineman
2003
California Native Peoples
An overview of the many California native peoples: where and how they lived, their religious beliefs, clashes with settlers and where they are today.
- Gendar, Jeannine
Heyday Books
1995
Grass Games & Moon Races: California Indian Games and Toys
In a clear, easy-to-read style, the author describes dozens of games played by California Native American Indians, ranging from Cat's Cradle-like string games to ball games.
- Goerke, Betty
Heyday Books
2007
Chief Marin: Leader, Rebel, and Legend
The life of a Coast Miwok Indian who resisted the Spanish settlement and for whom Marin County was named.



We're History!

California History in Books for Children

Author/Pub

Title/Annotation

pre-1769

Nonfiction

- Gray-Kanatiiosh, Barbara A.
ABCO
2002-2007
Checkerboard Social Studies Library: Native Americans (series)
Brief photo-filled introductions to major California Native American Indian groups, describing home life, clothing, beliefs, and history from before Europeans came to their current status. Titles: Cahuilla, Chumash, Gabrielino, Kumuyaay, Maidu, Miwok, Modoc, Mojave, Ohlone, Pomo, Salinan, Yokut, and Yurok.
- Hicks, Terry Allen
Marshall Cavendish
2007
The Chumash
Provides comprehensive information on the background, lifestyle, beliefs, and present-day lives of the Chumash people. Series: "First Americans".
- San Souci, Robert D.
Yosemite Association
1997
Two Bear Cubs: a Miwok Legend
In this Miwok legend with colorful illustrations by Daniel San Souci, two bear cubs are stranded on El Capitan, the rock formation in what is now Yosemite National Park. Can the inchworm save them? For primary readers.
- Sonneborn, Liz
Heineman
2012
California Indians
An overview description of the first people to live in "California" that discusses customs, foods, daily life, their interactions with the settlers and how they live today. A workmanlike presentation but accurate.
- Williams, Jack
PowerKids Press
2002-2004
Library of Native Americans (series)
Describes the origins, social structure, spiritual beliefs, history, and daily life of major California Native American groups. Individual titles cover The Modoc, Mojave, Mono, Shasta, Shoshoni, Miwok, Esselen, Tongva, Ohlone, Pomo, Chumash and Luiseño people.
- Yee, Mary J.
Sunbelt
2004
The Sugar Bear Story
Yee learned this legend about how to be a good host from her grandmother, who lived near Santa Barbara. Yee was born in 1897 and learned the Chumash language from her family; some Chumash words are woven into this tale, which is illustrated by her daughter, Ernestine. For primary readers.



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Author/Pub

Title/Annotation

1769-1848

Fiction

- Eason, Althea
Spectacle Media
2012
Heron's Path: A Novel
A family moving west encounters several Indian groups on its journey. Their experiences are both frightening and gratifying as some people help them while others threaten them.
- Fleischman, Sid
Greenwillow
1998
Bandit's Moon
Thirteen-year-old Annyrose joins up with Joaquin Murrieta and his gang in the gold mining regions of California. Her assignment: teach him to read!
- Garland, Sherry
Scholastic
2001
Valley of the Moon: the Diary of Mária Roalia de Milagros
In 1846, a Native American servant girl works for a wealthy Californio family on a large hacienda outside of Sonoma, and bears witness to the events leading to the California Bear Republic Revolt.
- Jackson, Helen Hunt
Signet Classic
2002 (re-issue)
Ramona
This re-issue with a forward by Michael Dorris points out the significance of this novel which was revolutionary in its day for its portrayal of early rancheros and interracial romance.
- O'Dell, Scott
Houghton-Mifflin
1973
Zia
Zia and her younger brother Mando live at the mission in Santa Barbara. Eighteen years earlier, she and her family had been rescued from San Nicolas, the smallest of the Channel Islands off California. This story centers around Zia's efforts to rescue and bond with her aunt Karana, who speaks a native language that Zia no longer understands, and who was left alone on the island (Karana's story is told in "Island of the Blue Dolphins").
- Politi, Leo
Getty Publications
c1948, reprinted 2009
Song of the Swallows
Originally published in 1948, this timeless story of the swallows that fly to and from the San Juan Capistrano Mission as they migrate is a part of California history that should not be missed. Young Juan makes a friend of Julian, who is the gardener there, and learns how the swallows come back to Capistrano on March 19th (Saint Joseph's Day). Juan decides to create a special garden for the swallows' return. For primary readers.

Nonfiction

- Belyk, Robert C.
Wiley
2001
Great Shipwrecks of the Pacific Coast
Spanning 80 years from the gold rush through the Great Depression, this chronicles the alarming number of shipwrecks off the rugged coast from California to Alaska and the vast number of people lost on their way to hoped-for prosperity.
- Bowler, Sarah
Child's World
2003
Father Junipero Serra and the California Missions
Bowler presents a broader approach than many to the establishment of California missions; this covers the life of the Franciscan priest who established nine missions in coastal California.
- Keremitsis, Eileen
Lucent
2003
Life in a California Mission
The missions had a dual purpose: to convert natives to Catholicism and to establish Spanish territory. This discusses how the friars and natives worked toward those purposes for good and bad.



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1769-1848

Nonfiction

Stanley, Jerry

Crown

1997

Digger: The Tragic Fate of the California Indians From the Missions to the Gold Rush

The coming of the "white man" spelled upheaval and degradation for the Native groups living peacefully with their natural surroundings. This traces that upheaval from the mission period through the gold rush years.

Trafzer, Clifford E.

Sierra Oaks

1989

California Indians and the Gold Rush

Native Americans had a significant, often unrecognized role in the gold rush years. The author discusses the Maidus, Yokuts and Miwoks who lived in gold country, and describes the discrimination and violence faced by many. Some fought back, fueling the fear of whites; others worked with white miners and in some cases, embraced those who showed respect and interest in their culture.

Whiting, Jim

Mitchell Lane

2004

Junipero Jose Serra

A simple but accurate biography of the Franciscan priest who established the California Missions to teach Christianity to the native peoples.

Williams with Thomas Davis, Jack

PowerKids Press

2003-2004

People of the California Missions (series)

The six titles in this series cover the various groups of people who lived in the Spanish missions: "Craftsmen and Craftswomen", "Indians", "Padres", "Sailors, Merchants and Muleteers", "Soldiers and Their Families", and "Townsperson and Ranchers."



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Author/Pub

Title/Annotation

1849-1905

Fiction

- Altman, Linda Jacobs
Lee and Low
2000
The Legend of Freedom Hill
Rosabel, an African American, and Sophie, a Jew, team up to look for gold in California in order to buy Rosabel's mother's freedom. For primary readers.
- Balmes, Kathy
Silver Moon
2001
Thunder on the Sierra
In 1852, 13-year-old orphan Mateo becomes a mule driver bringing supplies to gold miners and searches for the bandit who stole his horse. When he hears that Yankee squatters are taking over the rancho where he grew up, he heads home.
- Blos, Joan
Atheneum
2007
Letters From the Corrugated Castle: A Novel of Gold Rush California 1850-1852
A series of letters and newspaper clippings reveal life in California in the 1850s through the eyes of 10-year-old Eldora and a young boy named Luke.
- Burger, James
Rosen
2002
The Quest for California's Gold
This 24-page book includes basic California gold rush facts printed in large font, eye-catching photographs and sketches, and back matter that includes websites and a glossary. It is part of a series called "Library of the Westward Expansion" and is typical of Rosen Publishing's nonfiction for primary grade children.
- Coerr, Eleanor
HarperC
1993
Chang's Paper Pony
During the 1850s gold rush, Chang longs to have a real pony, but cannot afford one. A friend helps him find another way to have a pony. For primary readers.
- Cushman, Karen
Clarion
1996
Ballad of Lucy Whipple
Lucy, originally named "California Morning", is distraught when her widowed mother moves the family from Massachusetts to a California mining town.
- Fleishman, Sid
Little, Brown and Company
c1963, republished in 1988
By the Great Horn Spoon!
In 1849 Jack, an orphan, sets out from Boston to the California coast, along with his aunt's butler, Praiseworthy, in hopes of finding enough gold to help out Jack's almost-penniless aunt. During the trip they meet a cast of eccentric characters in a rollicking adventure tale.
- Fletcher, Susan
Atheneum
2001
Walk Across the Sea
In late 19th century California, when Chinese immigrants were being driven out and even killed, 15-year-old Eliza Jane defies the townspeople and her lighthouse keeper father to help a Chinese boy.
- Gregory, Kristiana
Scholastic
2001
Seeds of Hope: The Gold Rush Diary of Susanna Fairchild, California Territory, 1849
Susanna Fairchild and her family are on board a ship sailing from New York to the West, where they plan to start a new life in Oregon. But tragedy strikes when Susanna's mother is lost to the sea. Hearing stories of great wealth, Susanna's physician father decides he wants to join the hordes of men rushing to California to mine for gold.



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1849-1905

Fiction

- Isaacs, Anne
Atheneum
2008
Ghosts of Luckless Gulch
During the gold rush period, a courageous young girl faces ghosts who have stolen her pets to make them work in the gold mines. For primary readers.
- Johnston, Tony
Houghton
2011
Levi Strauss Gets a Bright Idea: A Fairly Fabricated Story of a Pair of Pants
Tall tale legend of the invention of Levi pants and their value for gold miners. Tongue-in-cheek with some accurate information. For primary readers.
- Ketchum, Liza
Viking
2009
Newsgirl
Newly arrived in San Francisco in 1851, 12-year-old Amelia Forrester finds a job in the mostly-male city, and eventually ends up in the gold fields, where she realizes that the Chinese are as discriminated against as women.
- Krensky, Stephen
Delacorte
1994
The Iron Dragon Never Sleeps
In 1867, while staying with her father in a small mining town, 10-year-old Winnie meets a Chinese boy who tells her of the role the Chinese played in building the Transcontinental Railroad.
- Landroth, Susan
Tricycle Press
2010
Calico Dorsey: Mail Dogs of the Mining Camps
Dorsey, a border collie, helps Al deliver mail and carry supplies to miners living in Calico, California. This offers a picture of life in mining camps during the California gold rush. For primary readers.
- Lyons, Mary E.
Atheneum
2007
Letters From a Slave Boy: The Story of Joseph Jacobs
Joseph writes letters tracing his journey from North Carolina aboard a whaling ship that eventually arrived in California during the gold rush.
- Mayfield, Thomas Jefferson
Heyday Books
1997
Adopted by Indians: A True Story
A children's version of "Indian summer: traditional life among the Choinumne Yokuts of California's San Joaquin Valley." Malcolm Margolin edited this memoir by a Texas boy who moved to California at the age of 6.
- Maynard, Charles W.
Rosen
2003
John Charles Frémont - The Pathfinder
Rosen Publishing included this 24-page book in its series, "Famous Explorers of the American West." Facts about Frémont and his explorations are presented in large font and each two-page spread includes well-designed montages of photographs, maps, paintings and drawings. The back matter includes a glossary, a list of primary sources and websites.
- McCully, Emily
Farrar, Straus & Giroux
2004
Squirrel and John Muir
In 1868, John Muir got a job working for the first tourist business in the Yosemite Valley. Two actual historical figures, Muir and Floy Hutchings, the first "white" child born in the area, bond over their love of nature. An author's note clarifies the facts.



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Title/Annotation

1849-1905

Fiction

Patron, Susan Scholastic 2012	<i>The Diary of Angeline Reddy: Behind the Masks, Bodie, California, 1880</i> Angeline Reddy is told that her father, a criminal lawyer, is dead but she believes that he is lying low to avoid the lawless vigilantes in the small mining town of Bodie. She encounters humorous and quirky characters as she seeks to solve the mystery of her father's whereabouts. Back matter includes historical notes, source notes, fun projects, and photographs and etchings .
Ritter, John H. Philomel 2009	<i>The Desperado Who Stole Baseball</i> In 1881, in a California gold mining town, a rough-and-tumble baseball team enlists the help of a 12-year-old orphan and no less than Billy the Kid to win a game against the current National League champions.
Ryan, Pam Muñoz Viking 2004	<i>Riding Freedom</i> A fictionalized account of Charley (Charlotte) Parkhurst, who ran away from an orphanage to California and successfully posed as a boy.
Santiago, Chiori Children's Book Press 1998	<i>Home to Medicine Mountain</i> In the 1930s, two Maidu brothers find a way to escape their government-run Indian boarding school and spend the summer at home.
Uchida, Yoshiko Scribner/Heyday re-issue 2011	<i>Samurai of Gold Hill</i> Seeking a new life in 19th century California with his samurai father, a young Japanese boy must abandon his dream of becoming a samurai and learn to be a farmer.
Weiss, Ellen Aladdin 2001	<i>Hitty's Travels: Gold Rush Days</i> This transitional chapter book, narrated by a doll, describes a young girl, Annie, and her father who journey by sea and across the Isthmus of Panama to get to California in 1849. Her father is not striking it rich in the Sierra foothills and Annie finds ways to raise money by singing to the homesick miners and selling them wild raspberries. For primary readers.
Wood, Frances Delacorte 2002	<i>Daughter of Madrugada</i> Growing up in an aristocratic Mexican family in what will soon be California, 13-year-old Cesa copes with life after the United States wins the war with Mexico in 1848.
Yep, Laurence HarperC 1993	<i>Dragon's Gate</i> When he accidentally kills a Manchu, a 15-year-old Chinese boy is shipped to America to join his father and uncle working on a tunnel for the Transcontinental Railroad.
Yep, Laurence Scholastic 2000	<i>The Journal of Wong Ming-Chung: A Chinese Miner</i> A young Chinese boy records his journey from China to join his uncle during the California gold rush of 1850.



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Author/Pub

Title/Annotation

1849-1905

Fiction

- Yin
Philomel
2006
Brothers
After arriving in San Francisco to work in his family's Chinatown store, Ming is very lonely until he meets an Irish immigrant boy. For primary readers.
- Yin
Philomel
2001
Coolies
A young boy is told the story of his great-great-great grandfather who helped to build the Transcontinental Railroad. For primary readers.

Nonfiction

- Blumberg, Rhoda
Bradbury
1989
The Great American Gold Rush
Newbery Award honoree Blumberg writes a very readable account of the gold rush - including the hardships encountered on the various routes to California. The book is filled with anecdotes about the characters and wild chaos of the period. Back matter includes extensive notes and additional information for each chapter.
- Brown, Ron
Roaring Press
2011
Gold! Gold from the American River
An account for primary readers about the discovery of gold at Sutter's Fort in 1850.
- Burger, James R.
PowerKids
2002
The Transcontinental Railroad
Addressing younger readers, this is a history of the building of the railroad, emphasizing its importance in the rapid development of the West.
- Fraser, Mary Ann
Holt
1993
Ten Mile Day and the Building of the Transcontinental Railroad
By focusing on injustice to the Chinese laborers, as well as the impact on Native Americans, this brief illustrated history of the building of the Transcontinental Railroad avoids whitewashing the tragedies associated with the endeavor.
- Goldsmith, Connie
21st Century Publishing
2001
Lost in Death Valley: The True Story of Four Families in California's Gold Rush
This is the true story of four families lost in Death Valley and their positive and negative interactions with Native Americans and Californios.
- Groom, Winston
Knopf
2011
Kearny's March: The Epic Creation of the American West, 1846-1847
When Texas was annexed by James Polk, it marked the beginning of the war with Mexico. General Kearny set out for California determined to occupy all Mexican territory. The result reshaped the country so that the U.S. now stretched from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean.
- Halpern, Monica
National Geographic
2004
Railroad Fever: Building the Transcontinental Railroad, 1830-1870
In the 1840s as people were trickling west and the gold rush presented the lure of gold, the idea of a railroad connecting east and west tickled men's minds. This book presents a look at a day in the life of the railroad men, among them Chinese immigrants, former slaves and Irish immigrants.



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California History in Books for Children

Author/Pub

Title/Annotation

1849-1905

Nonfiction

- Huey, Lois
Marshall Cavendish
2010
American Archaeology Uncovers the Westward Movement
One chapter is dedicated to the gold rush and describes late twentieth century archaeological finds of ships and other artifacts under the streets of San Francisco. Back matter includes a timeline, glossary, bibliography, and listing of websites.
- Jorae, Wendy Rouse
University of North Carolina
2009
The Children of Chinatown: Growing Up Chinese American in San Francisco, 1850-1920
Concentrating specifically on the children of the immigrants, this chronicles the history of Chinese immigration to the U.S. from the gold rush to WWI.
- Murphy, Jim
Clarion
1993
Across America on an Emigrant Train
The author describes the arduous trip across country based on the journals of Robert Louis Stevenson who abruptly left Scotland to be with the woman he loved in Monterey, California. While recounting Stevenson's dramatic tale, the author adds historical information about the dangers of traveling by train, life in pioneer towns, and the status of Native Americans and Chinese immigrants. Stevenson is appalled by the class system on the trains, and by the vicious racist attitudes he witnesses.
- Olson, Nathan
Capstone
2007
Levi Strauss and Blue Jeans
Strauss came to California during the gold rush and found his "gold" making sturdy blue jeans for the miners to wear - jeans that are still popular today.
- Parker, Adam
Toucan
1999
People of the California Gold Rush
This collection of short biographies of people who were prominent during the gold rush includes John Sutter, Dame Shirley, Joaquin Murietta, Lotta Crabtree, Levi Strauss and others. Although each introduction is brief, interested readers will be prompted to explore further.
- Perl, Lila
Benchmark
2003
To the Golden Mountain: The Story of the Chinese Who Built the Transcontinental Railroad
Embellished with excerpts from diaries, newspapers and letters, this presents the experiences of Chinese immigrants who worked on the Transcontinental Railroad.
- Schroeder, Lisa Golden
Capstone
2001
Exploring History Through Simple Recipes: California Gold Rush Cooking
Woven into facts about the gold rush are recipes for switchel (a drink made to hide the foul taste of water on the long voyage to California), sea biscuits or hardtack, 18-carat hash, hangtown fry, chop suey and other dishes. A fun way to make the gold rush real to third through sixth grade students. Back matter includes a glossary, bibliography and Internet sites.
- Stanley
Crown
2000
Hurry Freedom: African Americans in Gold Rush California
Stanley discusses the complex reality that the Gold Rush afforded African Americans. Some were able to gather enough money from gold mining to buy loved ones out of slavery and establish successful businesses; some gave up and left the state; many continued to face the fierce racism of individuals, the press, and the legislature until the "testimony law" was finally passed in 1863.



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Title/Annotation

1849-1905

Nonfiction

- Thornton, Jeremy
Rosen
2004
The Gold Rush: Chinese Immigrants Come to America (1848-1882)
This 24-page book is part of a series called "Primary Sources: Immigration and Migration in America", and includes photographs, excerpts from documents, engravings and sketches. The text is presented in very large font, and makes the topic of Chinese immigration accessible to younger elementary school-aged children.
- Trimble, Paul
Arcadia
2011
Riverboats of Northern California
This history of riverboat travel along California rivers during the gold rush period also includes much biographical information about the very colorful captains.
- Wadsworth, Ginger
Clarion
2003
Words West: Voices of Young Pioneers
Using letters, diaries and memoirs of the children in wagon trains, this presents a poignant picture of the reality families faced both along the trail and when they reached their destinations, most often in California.
- Walker, Paul Robert
Kingfisher
2011
Gold Rush and Riches
Notable particularly for its plentiful period photographs, this covers the discovery of gold in 1848 at Sutter's Mill and the wild rush of people to the gold fields that followed.
- Young, Robert
Dillon
1997
The Transcontinental Railroad: America At Its Best?
Within this history of the phenomenal task of building a railroad across the country, many issues are raised about racism, inequality, and greed, especially of the California "Mighty Four" tycoons behind the building.

We're History!

California History in Books for Children

Author/Pub



Title/Annotation

1906-1940

Fiction

- Austin, Susan
Song Tree Books
2012
Bamboo Garden
Tori Takahashi and Polly Griffin are best friends in Berkeley, California, during the hot, dry summer of 1923.
- Blundell, Judy
Scholastic
2013
A City Tossed and Broken, San Francisco, California, 1906: The Diary of Minnie Bonner
Minnie Bonner travels as a lady's maid from her hometown in Philadelphia to San Francisco in 1906. Minnie is mistaken for a member of the wealthy family she works for when they perish in the earthquake. She struggles with taking over this new identity until she finds a better way to restart her life.
- Bunting, Eve
Harcourt
2006
Pop's Bridge
The four-year effort to build San Francisco's Golden Gate Bridge is seen through the eyes of two young boys whose fathers are bridge workers. For primary readers.
- Choldenko, Gennifer
G.P. Putnam's Sons
2004
Al Capone Does My Shirts
12-year-old Moose moves to Alcatraz Island, where his father is an electrician for the notorious prison. The 1935 setting is well-documented, and the story is warm and humorous.
- Cochrane, Patricia
Delacorte
1996
Purely Rosie Pearl
In 1936, 12-year-old Rosie Pearl Bush and her migrant family find work picking fruit in California orchards during the Great Depression.
- Currier, Katrina
Angel Island Association
2005
Kai's Journey to Gold Mountain: An Angel Island Story
In 1934, young Kai leaves China to join his father in America, but first must endure harsh questioning on Angel Island. For primary readers.
- Durbin, William
Scholastic
2002
The Journal of C.J. Jackson: A Dust Bowl Migrant
C.J. records in a journal the hardships of migrants as they travel from Oklahoma to California, eventually becoming migrant workers.
- Hopkinson, Deborah
Knopf
2006
Into the Firestorm: A Novel of San Francisco, 1906
Ten-year-old Nick Bray, newly orphaned, steals away from a migrant camp to San Francisco just in time for the great earthquake. The basement he is sharing with his boss's dog begins to shake and crumble. Will they make it out?
- Karwoski, Gail
Kingfisher
2005
Quake! Disaster in San Francisco, 1906
Jacob, a 13-year-old Jewish boy who lives with his father and sister in a boarding house, describes the terrors of the earthquake as his world falls down around him.
- Lee, Milly
Frances Foster
2001
Earthquake
A young Chinese-American girl moves with her family from Chinatown to Golden Gate Park during the 1906 earthquake. Prejudice is evident even among quake survivors.



We're History!

California History in Books for Children

Author/Pub

Title/Annotation

1906-1940

Fiction

- Lee, Milly
Farrar, Straus and Giroux
2006
Landed
Sailing from China in the early 1900s, 12-year-old Sun is held on Angel Island until he is finally released to his merchant father. For primary readers.
- Partridge, Elizabeth
Dutton
2001
Oranges on Golden Mountain
Jo Lee is sent from China to San Francisco where he helps his uncle fish and dreams of home. For primary readers.
- Ryan, Pam Muñoz
Scholastic
2000
Esperanza Rising
Esperanza joins her mother in the labor camps of Southern California where they suffer the plight of other Mexican farm workers on the eve of the Great Depression.
- Snyder, Zilpha Keatley
Delacorte
1994
Cat Running
When 11-year-old Cat builds a secret hideout, she meets a family from the migrant camp and encourages one of the boys to join her in the school races.
- Tarshis, Lauren
Scholastic
2012
I Survived the San Francisco Earthquake, 1906
Ten-year-old Leo loves being a newsboy. The job allows him to roam the city and check out new businesses and new families. But one day his world comes shaking down around him. Can he survive?
- Turner, Ann
HarperC
1995
Dust for Dinner
Jake tells the story of his family's trek from Oklahoma to California during the Great Depression.
- Yep, Laurence
HarperC
2008
Dragon Road
Unable to find regular jobs during the Great Depression, two long-time friends tour the country with a Chinese-American baseball team.
- Yep, Laurence
HarperC
2008
The Dragon's Child: A Story of Angel Island
In 1922, ten-year-old Gim Lew leaves his village in China to join his father in San Francisco where he will have to pass a language test - without stuttering - to be allowed into the country.
- Yep, Laurence
Embel
2006
The Earth Dragon Awakes: The San Francisco Earthquake of 1906
Eight-year-old Henry and 9-year-old Chin are satisfied to read about heroes in the popular "penny dreadfuls" until they witness at first hand real courage during the 1906 earthquake.

Nonfiction

- Barter, James
Lucent
2001
Golden Gate Bridge
Who knew that the idea for a bridge was first aired during the California gold rush? This traces the bridge from that first seed through its completion in 1937.



We're History!

California History in Books for Children

Author/Pub

Title/Annotation

1906-1940

Nonfiction

- Chetin, Helen
New Seed Press
1982
Angel Island Prisoner, 1922
In 1922, a young Chinese girl, her mother and baby brother arrive in San Francisco and are interred with 30 other women on Angel Island. Bi-lingual Chinese/English text includes information drawn from the Angel Island archives.
- Chippendale, Lisa
Chelsea House
2001
The San Francisco Earthquake of 1906
Peppered with eyewitness accounts, this provides a comprehensive look at the horrors of the earthquake and terrible fires that followed.
- Cooper, Michael
2004
Dust To Eat: Drought and Depression in the 1930s
Using archival photos and many print sources, the author chronicles the movement west to California along Route 66 during the Great Depression.
- Ferris, Jeri
CarolRhoda
1999
With Open Hands: A Story About Biddy Mason
Biddy Mason, an African-American slave who came to California in 1856 became a wealthy landowner in Los Angeles and proceeded to nurse the sick, deliver babies and establish many community projects. For primary readers.
- Flanagan, Alice K.
2006
Angel Island
This takes a close look at the "Ellis Island of the West" which functioned as an entry point for Chinese Americans, first to San Francisco and then beyond.
- Meltzer, Milton
Benchmark
2000
Driven From the Land: The Story of the Dust Bowl
In this very thorough account, Meltzer describes the environmental and economic conditions which led to the Great Depression and the horrific dust storms that drove people west to California.
- Nobleman, Marc Tyler
Compass Point
2007
The San Francisco Earthquake of 1906
Using primary documents, photographs, timelines and maps, this describes the horrors of the earthquake and the resulting fire emphasizing the valiant efforts of local citizens and military personnel to cope with the disaster.
- Rayner, Richard
Norton
2008
The Associates: Four Capitalists Who Created California
Read about Hopkins, Huntington, Stanford and Crocker, the four financiers and railroad boosters who greatly influenced what California was to become.
- Stanley, Jerry
Crown
1992
Children of the Dust Bowl: The True Story of the School at Weedpatch Camp
As a result of the vast migration west to California, federal labor camps were established to house the migrant families. This book describes a public school that was built for the children of the camps and the struggle against prejudice it embodied.
- Steinbeck, John H.
Heyday Books
1988
The Harvest Gypsies: On the Road to the Grapes of Wrath
Seven newspaper articles on migrant workers written by Steinbeck after touring squatters camps and Hoovervilles of California and led to the writing of the "Grapes of Wrath." Illustrated with photos by Dorothea Lange

We're History!

California History in Books for Children

Title/Annotation

Author/Pub



1906-1940

Nonfiction

Tanaka, Shelley

Hyperion

2004

Earthquake!: On a Peaceful Spring Morning Disaster Strikes San Francisco

Under the guidance of San Francisco archivist Gladys Hansen, Tanaka provides a glimpse into the events of that terrible day when the ground shook and buildings fell.

Wong, Li Keng

Peachtree

2006

Good Fortune: My Journey to Gold Mountain

The author traces his 1933 journey from China to the United States, which ended in Oakland. A very personal account of what it meant to emigrate from China.



We're History!

California History in Books for Children

Author/Pub

Title/Annotation

1941-1960

Fiction

- Conkling, Winifred
Tricycle Press
2011
Sylvia and Aki
At the start of WWII, Aki and her family are sent to an Internment camp in Poston, Arizona. Back in Southern California, a Mexican-American family leases their farm and Sylvia, the daughter, meets school segregation head on.
- Denenberg, Barry
Scholastic
1999
The Journal of Ben Uchida, Citizen 13559, Mirror Lake Internment Camp
Twelve-year-old Ben keeps a journal of his experiences as a prisoner in a Japanese Internment Camp during WWII.
- Kadohata, Cynthia
Atheneum
2008
Weedflower
After 12-year-old Sumiko and her family are relocated from their flower farm in Southern California to an encampment on a Mojave Indian reservation in Arizona, she dreams of one day owning her own flower shop.
- Komatsu, Kimberly and Kaleigh
Thomas George Books
2002
In America's Shadow
Black-and-white photos and a spare text tell the fictionalized account of the author's family's experience in the Manzanar internment camp.
- Lee, Milly
Farrar, Straus and Giroux
1997
Nim and the War Effort
Determined to prove that Chinese girls can help in the World War II efforts to help the troops, Nim astounds her grandfather by gathering more newspapers than anyone in her class. For primary readers.
- Lieurance, Suzanne
Enslow
2010
The Lucky Baseball: My Story in a Japanese-American Internment Camp
In 1942, after the attack on Pearl Harbor, 12-year-old Harry Makamoto and his family are sent to an internment camp in the California desert where Harry is lucky enough to join a baseball team.
- Mazer, Harry
Simon & Schuster
2004
Boy No More
In this sequel to "A Boy at War" (2002), Adam and his family have moved from Hawaii to Bakersfield, where he struggles with his conscience when a friend asks him to track down his family who are now living in a WWII internment camp. Well-documented.
- Mochizuki, Ken
Lee and Low
1993
Baseball Saved Us
Learning to play baseball at an internment camp during WWII helped a Japanese-American boy to endure his long imprisonment. For primary readers.
- Patt, Beverly
Marshall Cavendish
2010
Best Friends Forever: a World War II Scrapbook
After her best friend, a Japanese-American girl, is sent to internment camp with her family, 14-year-old Louise keeps a scrapbook of all that happens until they are reunited.
- Slone, Jeane
Jeane Slone
2010
She Built Ships During World War II
Bringing together references to the Port Chicago explosions, the Tuskegee airmen, the Japanese Internment and the women welders and riveters in California during World War II, Slone weaves a story filled with compassion, bravery and love of country.



We're History!

California History in Books for Children

Author/Pub

Title/Annotation

1941-1960

Fiction

Uchida, Yoshiko

Heyday Books

first published 1971

Journey to Topaz

In this somewhat autobiographical story, the author reveals what it was like to be a young girl in an internment camp for Japanese Americans. This was one of the first novels written for children that pictured life in exile during the war.

Uchida, Yoshiko

Philomel

1993

The Bracelet

Emi, a Japanese-American girl, is sent with her family to an internment camp during WWII. In the process, she discovers that although she has lost the bracelet her friend has given her, the memories it carried remain. For primary readers.

Vásquez, Arturo Muñoz

Vasquetzal Publishing

2004

Running Deer Plays Hooky

Embarrassed because he cannot read in the second grade, Running Deer runs to the forest where he learns another way of reading. For primary readers.

Yep, Laurence

HarperC

2011

The Star Maker

Rashly, a young Chinese American boy living in San Francisco Chinatown in the 1950s promises to provide firecrackers for all for Chinese New Year. A sympathetic uncle comes to the rescue!

Nonfiction

Burgan, Michael

Compass Point

2007

The Japanese American Internment: Civil Liberties Denied.

Analysis of the decision that is still being debated today.

Gitlin, Marty

Capstone

2012

World War II On the Home Front: An Interactive History Adventure

The author uses three different persons' accounts to describe life on the home front in World War II: a young mother who joins the work force; a 12-year-old California boy who tries to stop prejudice against the Japanese and a wounded African American.

Houston, Jeanne W. and James D.

Houghton Mifflin

2002 (re-issue)

Farewell to Manzanar: A True Story of Japanese American Experience During and After WWII Internment

Jeanne Wakatsuki recalls life at Manzanar through the eyes of a 7-year-old taken with her family from their fishing business in Long Beach to the high deserts in California. This re-issue contains a new foreword by the authors.

Kroeber, Theodora

University of California Press

2002 (reissue)

Ishi In Two Worlds: A Biography of the Last Wild Indian in North America

Karl Kroeber adds a new forward describing how this book came to be and how it reflected the author, her era and her empathy. Worth re-reading for the beauty of the writing and to understand the attitudes of the time it was written.

Oppenheim, Joanne

Scholastic

2006

Dear Miss Breed: True Stories of the Japanese American Incarceration During WWII and a Librarian Who Made a Difference

In the early 1940s, Clara Breed was a children's librarian in San Diego but also mentor to the many Japanese-American children who used her library. When they were sent to the camps, she wrote back and forth to them faithfully. Here are the letters and the memories of the children.



We're History!

California History in Books for Children

Title/Annotation

Author/Pub

1941-1960

Nonfiction

Stanley, Jerry

Crown

1994

I Am an American: A True Story of the Japanese Internment

Focusing on a teen-age boy, Shiro Nomura, Stanley describes conditions in a Japanese internment camp during WWII.

Uchida, Yoshiko

Messner

1991

The Invisible Thread: An Autobiography

The author, a Japanese-American Nisei, describes growing up in Berkeley, California, and her family's internment in a Nevada concentration camp during WWII.



We're History!

California History in Books for Children

Author/Pub	Title/Annotation
	1961 on Fiction
Ada, Alma Flor Atheneum 2011	<i>Dancing Home</i> When Margie's cousin Lupe moves with her family from Mexico to California, both girls deal differently with their assimilation issues.
Altman, Linda Jacobs Lee & Low 1993	<i>Amelia's Road</i> While she works in the fields with her family, Amelia dreams that they will some day live in a permanent home instead of moving constantly from field to field.
Cohn, Diane Cincos Puntos Press 2002	<i>Si, Si Puede = Yes, We Can! : Janitor Strike in L.A.</i> Bilingual Spanish/ English picturebook about the successful 2000 janitors' strike in Los Angeles, as seen through the eyes of young Carlitos. For primary readers.
English, Karen Farrar, Straus and Giroux 2004	<i>Speak To Me (And I Will Listen Between the Lines)</i> Describes events of one day at a San Francisco Bay Area school as perceived by different second-graders, from the observations of first to arrive on the playground to the walk home. For primary readers.
George, Jean Craighead HarperCollins 1995	<i>There's an Owl in the Shower</i> Borden resents the spotted owls whose presence has cost his father his logging job in the old growth forests of California. Discovering an actual baby owl changes things for his whole family, and brings out the complexity of what had been a one-sided issue.
Herrera, Juan Felipe Scholastic 2005	<i>Downtown Boy</i> As his family moves from working the central California fields to San Francisco's Mission District and then San Diego, Juanito Palomares is always the new boy in town. Told in verse.
Partridge, Elizabeth Bloomsbury 2011	<i>Dogtag Summer</i> The daughter of an American GI and a Vietnamese woman, Tracy is known as a "con lai" or half-breed in Vietnam, and is not so sure how she fits into her adoptive California family either.
Perez, L. King Lee & Low 2002	<i>First Day in Grapes</i> Chico, who spends the year following the crops around California, usually dreads the first day of school, but third grade is different. Based on the author's husband's experiences growing up as a migrant child in California. For primary readers.
S. Terrell, French Amulet Books 2009	<i>Operation Redwood</i> Set in Northern California, where Julian Carter-Li and his friends fight to save a grove of redwood trees from destruction.
Smith, D.James Atheneum 2005	<i>The Boys of San Joaquin</i> 12-year-old Pablo and his friends may have discovered treasure in their San Joaquin town but there is also some money missing from the church collection. Set in the 1950s.



We're History!

California History in Books for Children

Author/Pub

Title/Annotation

1961 on

Fiction

Soto, Gary

Harcourt Brace Jovanovich
1990

Baseball in April and Other Stories

Eleven short stories about growing up Latino in California's central valley. Soto is the author of many other books for young readers featuring California settings and experiences.

Yep, Laurence

HarperC
2011

Dragons of Silk

Beginning with the year 1882, the lives of four generations of Chinese and Chinese-American girls are tied together by the tradition of raising silkworms and weaving silk.

Nonfiction

Adler, David A.

Holiday House
2010

Fiction of César Chávez

After working in the fields as a child, César Chávez determined to seek better working conditions for farm workers. This is a simple but accurate picture of his efforts.

Altman, Linda Jacobs

Watts
1994

Migrant Farm Workers: The Temporary People

An overall look at the history and working conditions of migrant workers and their fight for decent treatment.

Ancona, George

Marshall Cavendish
2001

Harvest

This photo-essay on the lives of campesinos, migrant farm workers from Mexico, and their families includes the fine photography we have come to expect from Ancona.

Apte, Sunita

Bearport
2006

César Chávez: We Can Do It!

Using non-violent methods, Chávez worked hard to gain rights for all farm workers. This emphasizes the many marches, fasts, and other tactics used by Chávez and his fellow workers.

Atkin, compiler, S. Beth

Little, Brown
1993

Voices From the Fields: Children of Migrant Farm Workers Tell Their Stories

A compilation of interviews with accompanying photographs of children of Mexican American farm workers. Poignant comments describe their living conditions, families and desires for their future.

Brown, Tricia

Henry Holt
1995

Konnichiwa! I Am a Japanese-American Girl

Lauren Seiko Kamiya grows up in San Francisco with strong ties to the Japanese community.

Brown, Monica

Rayo

Side by Side: The Story of Dolores Huerta and César Chávez

A bilingual Spanish/ English text follows the lives of the two most powerful workers for the rights of farm workers.

Bruns, Roger A.

Greenwood
2011

César Chávez and the United Farm Workers Movement

A biography of the man who spearheaded the United Farm Workers union to fight for decent treatment of all farm workers but especially Mexican American migrants.



We're History!

California History in Books for Children

Author/Pub

Title/Annotation

1961 on

Nonfiction

- Collard, Sneed B.
Marshall Cavendish
2010
César Chávez : The Farm Workers' Best Friend
A simple biography of the civil rights and labor leader who founded the United Farm Workers.
- Hovius, Christopher
Mason Crest
2006
Latino Migrant Workers: America's Harvesters
An examination of the history of migrant workers, their fight for rights and their place in the labor market today.
- Jiménez, Francisco
Houghton Mifflin
1999
The Circuit
Now a professor at the University of Santa Clara, Jiménez describes his youth in a family of undocumented farmworkers in this poignant memoir. Sequels: "Breaking Through" (2001) and "Reaching Out" (2008).
- Margolin, Malcolm
Heyday Books
1995
Native Ways: California Indian Stories and Memories
A collection of stories and memories show the variety of the Native American experiences and cultures in California, with numerous black-and-white photos.
- Miranda, Deborah A.
Heyday Books
2013
Bad Indians: A Tribal Memoir
A memoir that covers the treatment of the California Indians, especially during the Spanish mission times, but also the use of "Indian costumes" by the movies and in other activities such as games and Halloween dress-up.
- O'Hare, Ted
Fitzgerald
2007
César Chávez
Introduction to the life and accomplishments of the Mexican-American leader for younger readers.
- Soto, Gary
Persea
2000
Jessie De la Cruz: A Profile of a United Farm Worker
As a child Jessie worked in the fields with her family and became well aware of the cruelties to the workers. As a young woman, she joined the United Farm Workers and fought for justice.
- Yamane, Linda
Lerner
1997
Weaving a California Tradition
11-year-old Carly Tex, a Western Mono Indian and basket maker, carries on a long tradition.



We're History!

California History in Books for Children

Author/Pub

Title/Annotation

Professional Books

Isaacs, Kathleen American Library Association Editions 2012	<i>Picturing the World: Informational Fiction for Children</i> Libraries preparing for the "Common Core" emphasis on nonfiction will find this introduction to informational picture books and subsequent survey of exemplary titles an invaluable professional tool.
Luthin, Herbert W. UC Berkeley 2002	<i>Surviving Through the Days: Translations of Native California Stories and Songs</i> Recorded in both the original language and in English, this anthology of folklore and song from Native California Indians can be used by teachers to inspire lessons on the first peoples of this region.
National Storytelling Association National Storytelling Press 1995	<i>Many Voices: True Tales from America's Past</i> Created specifically "to help breathe life into history," this includes 36 "essentially true" stories arranged chronologically, with the first story set in 1643. Also available: the "Many Voices Teacher's Guide" .
National Storytelling Association National Storytelling Press 1994	<i>Tales as Tools: The Power of Story in the Classroom</i> Chapter 8 is "Using Stories to Teach History."
Seale, Doris AltaMira Press 2005	<i>A Broken Flute: The Native Experience in Books for Children (Contemporary Native American Communities)</i> In a sequel to "Through Indian Eyes: The Native Experience in Books for Children", hundreds of books for children and teenagers are reviewed and the contributors discuss their criteria for selecting authentic books of this type.
Stenson, Jane and Sherry Norfolk Parkhurst 2012	<i>Social Sciences in the Storytelling Classroom; Exploring Our Cultural Voices and Perspectives</i> A former librarian (Norfolk) teams up with a teacher to suggest stories and activities to engage kids in a variety of social studies discoveries.
Zarnowski, Myra Heinemann 2003	<i>History Makers</i> Subtitled "A Questioning Approach to Reading & Writing Biographies", Zarnowski explains what she looks for in a good biography for children, suggests the use of multiple biographies on the same person, and grapples with how to engage and challenge children while encouraging their critical abilities. She also explains her admiration for "visible authors" who acknowledge gaps in information and conflicting historical accounts and dare to raise questions that are still unanswered.
Zarnowski, Myra Scholastic 2006	<i>Making Sense of History</i> While its primary audience is teachers, this book is recommended for any adult interested in how literature is best used to generate excitement about history in young students and to encourage habits of historical inquiry. Full of well-considered recommendations of historical nonfiction and fiction titles, it includes a fascinating discussion of the elements of good historical writing, along with practical lesson plans and materials. Bonus for California libraries and schools: the California gold rush of 1849 is one of the topics discussed in detail as an example.



We're History!

California History in Books for Children

Author/Pub

Title/Annotation

Professional Books

Zarnowski, Myra

The Best in Children's Nonfiction.: Reading, Writing, & Teaching Orbis Pictus Award Books

NCTE
2001

The Orbis Pictus Awards are given annually to exemplary works of K-8th grade nonfiction by the National Council of Teachers of English. Good introduction to the titles so honored and thoughtful tips on selecting great nonfiction for young readers.

Websites

California Digital Newspaper Collection

The California Digital Newspaper Collection contains over 400,000 pages of significant historical California newspapers published from 1846-1922, including the first California newspaper, the Californian, and the first daily California newspaper, the Daily Alta California. It also contains issues of several current California newspapers that are part of a pilot project to preserve and provide access to contemporary papers.

<http://cdnc.ucr.edu/>

Calisphere

Calisphere is the University of California's free public gateway to more than 200,000 digitized items relating to the history and culture of California. Many of them have been grouped into collections designed to support the California Content Standards for K-12 students. Examples: Californio Society:

http://www.calisphere.universityofcalifornia.edu/themed_collections/subtopic0a.html
and Mission Period:

http://www.calisphere.universityofcalifornia.edu/themed_collections/subtopic0b.html

<http://www.calisphere.universityofcalifornia.edu/>

Common Core Resources

A Pinterest collection of Common Core resources put together by Daryl Grabarek, an editor at SLJ, this is fun for its visual presentation.

<https://pinterest.com/sljournal/common-core-resources/>

Eureka! California in Children's Literature

California Library Association
2012

A compilation of work from over twenty years of Beatty Award committees, "Eureka! California in Children's Literature" is a bibliography of noteworthy children's and young adult books set in California and highlighting California history and culture. Critical annotations describe each title, and estimated grade levels are also included. Titles are organized into two categories, fiction and non-fiction, and within each category, by author. The Beatty Award is presented annually by the California Library Association to recognize an outstanding California-related title for young people.

<http://www.cla-net.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=113> - Eureka

Eureka! California in Children's Literature 2012

California Library Association
2012

The 2012 addendum to the cumulative 1989-2011 Eureka! bibliography includes titles considered for the Beatty Award in 2012 that are particularly worthy of recognition.

<http://www.cla-net.org/associations/12147/files/2012%20Beatty%20Annotations%20PDF.pdf>



We're History!

California History in Books for Children

Author/Pub

Title/Annotation

Professional Websites

Eureka! California in Children's Literature; Sortable File

California Library Association 2012 Kristin Lane of the Upland Unified School District prepared this Microsoft Excel version of the cumulative Eureka! list. While not optimized for hard-copy printing, it allows for sorting by various categories, including author, title, publisher, audience grade level, print status, etc.

<https://docs.google.com/viewer?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.cla-net.org%2Fassociations%2F12147%2Ffiles%2FEureka%25202012%2520Sortable.xls>

Internet Public Library

Just a reminder that our old friend, The Librarians' Internet Index, is now part of the Internet Public Library, which continues to discover and organize trustworthy web sites. Search for California history recommendations through the general index, or in the special kids section.

www.ipl.org

Online Archive of California

The Online Archive of California (OAC) provides free public access to detailed descriptions of primary resource collections maintained by more than 200 contributing institutions including libraries, special collections, archives, historical societies, and museums throughout California and collections maintained by the ten University of California (UC) campuses.

<http://www.oac.cdlib.org/>

Orbis Pictus Award for Outstanding Nonfiction for Children

Each year a committee from the National Council of Teachers of English singles out one Award Book and up to five Honor Books as outstanding examples of children's nonfiction and potential for use in classroom teaching.

<http://www.ncte.org/awards/orbispictus>

Robert F. Sibert Medal and Honor Books, 2001-Present

Like the Orbis Pictus Awards given out by the National Council of Teachers of English, this American Library Association Award for excellence in children's nonfiction, includes many books of history in its listings.

<https://www.google.com/search?q=Sibert+Award&aq=f&oq=Sibert+Award&aqs=chrome.0.57j62l3.3511j0&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8>

SLJ's Resources on the Common Core

Created for the October, 2012, issue of School Library Journal, this is a useful collection of weblinks.

<http://www.slj.com/2012/10/standards/common-core/sljs-resources-on-the-common-core/>

UCBHSSP Links

Suggested for teachers and students of history and the social sciences by the UC Berkeley History Social-Science Project

<http://ucbhssp.berkeley.edu/links.html>

We're History!

California History in Books for Children

Author/Pub



Title/Annotation

Professional Blogs

BadNDNS

Formerly called "When Turtles Fly", this blog by a California Indian teacher and author Deborah A. Miranda has several great resources for educators and librarians who want to bring authentic materials to students of this subject.

<http://whenturtlesfly.blogspot.com/2010/03/california-indian-resources-hard-facts.html?pref=fb>

Classroom Bookshelf: Teaching with Children's and Young Adult Literature in the 21st Century

Three professors in the Language and Literacy Department at Lesley University share thoughts and ideas about "some of the most exciting, arresting, profound, and beautiful books for children and young adults." They describe their mission as twofold: to review the most recent works of children's and young adult literature and to provide a variety of ideas and resources to help incorporate these texts into K-8 classroom teaching.

<http://classroombookshelf.blogspot.com/>

Fourth Musketeer: Reviews and More About Historical Fiction and History-Related Books for Children and Teens

Southern California children's librarian Margo Tannenbaum blogs specifically on historical fiction and nonfiction.

fourthmusketeer.blogspot.com

Great Common Core Nonfiction

Former ACL member Kathleen Odean blogs regularly on recommended nonfiction titles for Grades 6 and up, suggesting ways to integrate them with Common Core standards.

<http://www.greatcommoncorenonfiction.com/>

I.N.K. (Interesting Nonfiction for Kids)

Writers of nonfiction for young readers blog about what makes good nonfiction, how they research, how they combine photos and illustrations with text and other aspects of "rethinking" nonfiction for kids.

inkrethink.blogspot.com

Kidlit Celebrates Women's History Month

A collective website dedicated to celebrating women's history through children's literature. Founded in 2011, this year's collection is the third annual presentation.

kidlitwhm.blogspot.com

Kidlitosphere Central / Nonfiction Monday

Each Monday, a different children's literature blogger hosts a nonfiction round-up. Find the archives here as well as the sites and topics of coming discussions.

www.kidlitosphere.org/nonfiction-Monday

Nonfiction Detectives

A youth services public librarian and a school librarian, Louise Capizzo and Cathy Potter, review the best nonfiction books for children.

www.nonfictiondetectives.com

We're History!

California History in Books for Children

Title/Annotation

Author/Pub



Professional Blogs

Uncommon Corps: Champions of Nonfiction Literature for Children and Young Adults

As the Uncommon Corps, Marc Aronson, Myra Zarnowski, Mary Ann Cappiello, Sue Bartle, and Kathleen Odean combine their passion for and knowledge of nonfiction literature and their experience with children, teachers, and librarians to champion nonfiction and provide schools across the nation with access to kid-friendly, standards-based instructional ideas as they transition to the new Common Core Standards for English Language Arts and Content Literacy.

<http://nonfictionandthecommoncore.blogspot.com/>