

Title: Remember the Bridge: Poems of a People

Author: Carole Boston Weatherford

Publisher: Philomel Books

Copyright Year: 2002

Level: 5th Grade

Genre: Historical Fiction

Synopsis: This is a book of poems about African Americans. There are poems from the time they left Africa up to Martin Luther King Jr. It talks about slaves, Harriet Tubman, and other famous African Americans. It also talks about African Americans in sports and music. It is a really neat book of poems.

Theme: African American History

Activity 1

Source: Leanne Rakestraw

Objectives: The students will research a famous African American.

Activity: From the book, students will select an African American and research their life. They will talk about their early life, their schooling (if any), their older years, and why they are important to history. This paper will be written as a report one to two pages long.

Activity 2

Source: Leanne Rakestraw

Objectives: The students will create a timeline of events in African American history

Activity: As a class, have each student create a timeline of African American events from the book. Give each student big poster board or big piece of paper. After each event, the teacher will do a mini-lesson on what happened and its importance.

Title: Molly Bannaky

Author: Alice McGill

Publisher: Houghton Mifflin Co.

Copyright Year: 1999

Level: 4th Grade

Genre: Historical Fiction

Synopsis: Molly is a dairymaid from England. She is accused of stealing milk, but in reality she didn't. She is sent to the colonies in the New World as an indentured servant. Eventually she works her way free and makes a life for herself. She buys a slave and ends up marrying him. They have children and live a good life.

Theme: New beginnings and courage

Activity 1

Source: Leanne Rakestraw

Objectives: The students will trace the route from England to the New World and have them write a story as if they were in the shoes of a traveler going from England to the New World.

Activity: The students will be given a blank map and using crayons they will draw a line from England to the New World. They will then write a story as if they were a traveler. Talk about why they were going to the New World, what they ate on the journey, and what they wanted to do in the New World.

Activity 2

Source: Leanne Rakestraw

Objectives: The students will research Molly Walsh.

Activity: The students will use the internet and encyclopedias to research Molly Walsh. They will try to find information about her life before the New World. They will also compare and contrast the book to the information found. It will be written as a report.

Title: The Legend of King Christian X of Denmark

Author: Carmen Agra Deedy

Publisher: Peachtree Publishers

Copyright Year: 2000

Level: 6th Grade

Genre: Historical Fiction

Synopsis: During WWII, King Christian X of Denmark rode through the streets everyday, alone. The Nazis came and tried to fly their flag, but the king didn't let it happen. They then wanted all the Jews to wear the yellow star. The king had a plan. Everybody in Denmark wore the star, including him. It ended up that Denmark saved more Jews than any other country during WWII.

Theme: Leadership responsibility

Activity 1

Source: http://www.holocaust-trc.org/yello_lp.htm

Objectives: The students will learn information about WWII.

Activity: The teacher will have a guest speaker talk to the class who was alive during WWII. Each student will prepare a couple questions to ask him or her. Afterwards, the students will write about three things that they thought were interesting that the speaker said.

Activity 2

Source: http://www.holocaust-trc.org/yello_lp.htm

Objectives: The students will write a newspaper article about one of the events in the story.

Activity: Write a news story, editorial or letter to the editor based on one of the events of the story. Do you think stories like the ones you have written would be published in the newspapers while the Nazis occupied Denmark? Do some research to see whether censorship existed in the countries occupied by the Nazis.

Title: Goodbye, Charles Lindbergh

Author: Louise Borden

Publisher: Margaret K. McElderry Books **Copyright Year:** 1998

Level: 4th Grade

Genre: Historical Fiction

Synopsis: Gil Wickstrom could hardly believe his eyes when he saw a plane in the sky. It landed in his friend Artie's field. After seeing the pilot, he knew it was Charles Lindbergh, even though he never told his name. The pilot stayed in the field all night and left the next day. Gil had waved goodbye to Charles Lindbergh.

Theme: Charles Lindbergh

Activity 1

Source:

<http://www.fastq.com/~jbpratt/education/theme/transportation/aviation.html>

Objective: Students will make paper airplanes.

Activity: Out of paper, students will make airplanes. They will have the chance to decorate them with whatever they want before and after they are finished. But they need to be careful not to decorate them too much. There will be a contest to see who's plane flies the furthest.

Activity 2

Source: Leanne Rakestraw

Objective: Students will learn about the beginnings of aviation.

Activity: The students will research the Wright Brothers in order to gain a better understanding of the beginning of aviation. They will focus on the aviation part of their lives. They will learn about their first flight along with anything else they come across that is of interest to them.

Title: In the Time of the Drums

Author: Kim L. Siegelson

Publisher: Hyperion Books for Children **Copyright Year:** 1999

Level: 3rd Grade

Genre: Historical Fiction

Synopsis: This is a story about Mentu, who was born on an island near the coasts of Georgia and South Carolina. His grandmother, Twi, was born in Africa. She tells and teaches him the culture of Africa because she doesn't want it to be forgotten. One day, a ship of Ibo slaves lands on the island and Twi decides she wants to go home. She leads a group of people into the waters of Teakettle Creek, to go home.

Theme: Culture and its preservation

Activity 1

Source: Leanne Rakestraw

Objective: Students will learn about other African stories and respond to them.

Activity: The teacher will get other books about the African culture and their stories. Each student will choose two books to read. After reading, they will compare and contrast the different stories using a Venn diagram. They will then share with the class what they have discovered.

Activity 2

Source: Leanne Rakestraw

Objective: The students will learn about Harriett Tubman and the Underground Railroad.

Activity: Given a map of the United States, students will map out a route that slaves in the south used to escape to freedom. The teacher will have done mini lessons about slavery and the Underground Railroad.