

Teaching Women's History through Literature

EIU SRC (Student Reading Council)

<http://www.eiu.edu/~reading>

Using Literature to Teach SS

One educator describes social studies textbooks as “deadly dull” and suggest that “history is a story and textbooks eliminate the story”.

Dennis Denenberg, *“Teaching with Heroes,”* Millersville Review

Primary Grades

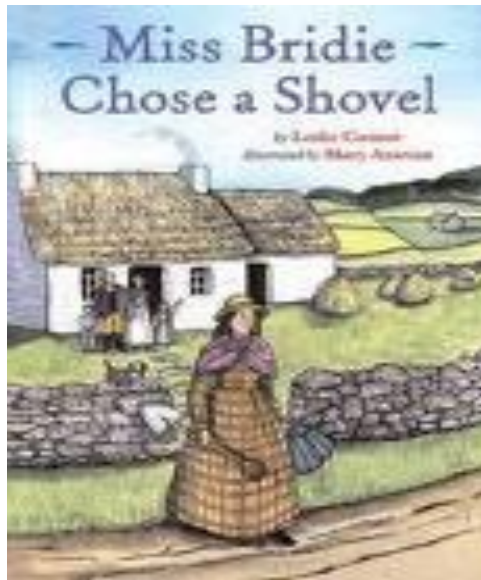
Young children have experienced emotions so that they can make connections. Examples: love/hate, fear/security, good/bad, courage/cowardice

Use developmentally appropriate time language. Example: before; after; long, long ago

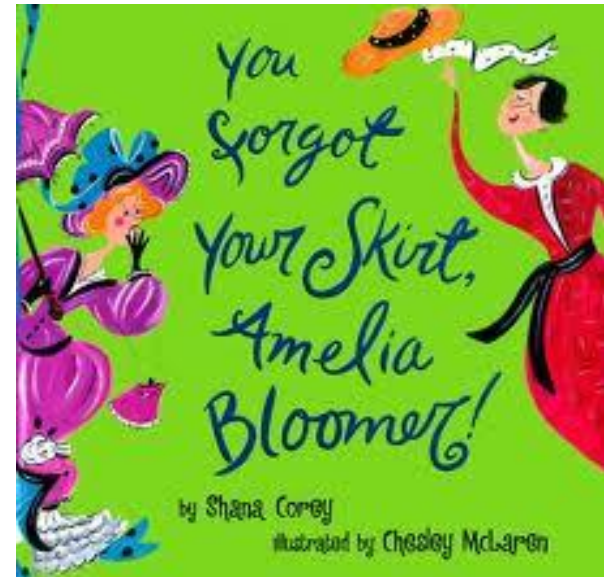
Select historical events that capture interest and curiosity.

Timelines: manipulative, interactive, visual

Primary Examples



Miss Bridie: Choose a Shovel
by Leslie Connor, 2004



You Forgot Your Skirt Amelia Bloomer
Written by Shana Corey, 2000

Intermediate Grades

Begin with historical narratives.

Assess student's misconceptions.

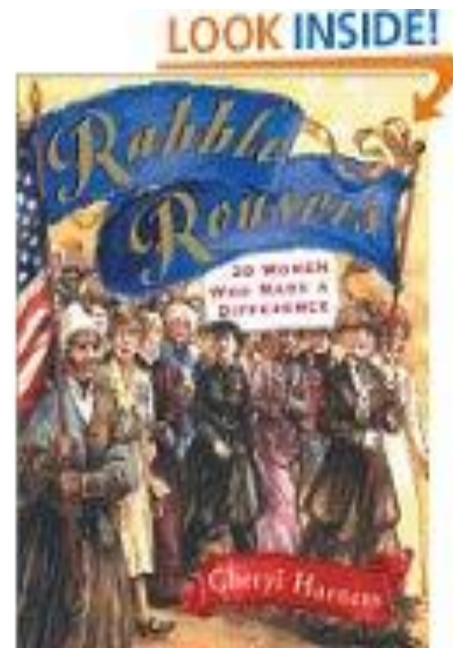
Use active learning through the use of primary sources, artifacts, use of children's literature and problem solving.

Intermediate students must see the relevance of the study of history.

Intermediate Examples



Talkin' About Bessie: The Story of Aviator
by Nikki Grimes, 2002



Rabble Rousers: 20 Women Who Made a Difference by Cheryl Harness, 2003).

History Comes to Life

Lucille Ball



(August 6, 1911 – April 26, 1989) was an American comedienne, film, television, stage and radio actress, model, film and television executive, and star of the sitcoms *I Love Lucy*, *The Lucy-Desi Comedy Hour*, *The Lucy Show*, *Here's Lucy* and *Life With Lucy*. She was a television star in the 1950's.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lucille_Ball

Resources

Notable Tradebooks for Young People

<http://www.socialstudies.org/notable>

NCSS Sale of Books, Starting in February 2010: 5 for 50!

<http://www.socialstudies.org/publications/booksale>

Teaching Women's History through Literature: Standards-Based Lesson Plans for Grades K-12 *Kay A. Chick* NCSS Bulletin No. 107, 132 pp. 2008

Seeing the Whole Through Social Studies by Tarry Lindquist, 2002.

Ways that Work: Putting Social Studies Standards into Practice, by Tarry Lindquist, 1997.

Children's Books

A is for Abigail: An Almanac of Amazing American Women by Lynne Cheney, 2003.

Phoebe the Spy by Judith Berry Griffin, 1977.

Rosa Parks by Maryann N. Weidt, 2003.

Sojourner Truth: Ain't I a Woman by Patricia C. & Fredrick McKissack, 1992.

Tales of Famous Heroes by Peter & Connie Roop, 2010.

The Diary of a Young Girl by Anne Frank, 1952.

The Double Life of Pocahontas by Jean Fritz, 1983.

The Wright Sister: Katherine Wright & Her Famous Brothers by Richard Maurer, 2003.