

GCSS – Children’s Literature Titles Aligned to Fifth Grade Social Studies Standards

Children’s Literature Titles – The book titles listed below have been recommended by Georgia teachers and GCSS. Teachers should always read books themselves before using them with their students, to determine their appropriateness for their particular students. The titles are not an exhaustive list and teachers are encouraged to grow their collection of books useful for teaching these concepts and historical figures. Be aware that specific titles go in and out of print regularly, so do not be surprised to find that some titles may be harder to find than others. Often you may be able to snag a used copy of an out-of-print book that is perfectly fine for your use.

5th Grade	Arranged generally in historically chronological order
Julius Lester	Black Cowboy Wild Horses: A True Story
Lillian Schlissel	Black Frontiers: A History of African American Heroes in the Old West
Andrea Davis Pinkney	Bill Pickett: Rodeo-Ridin’ Cowboy
Tony Johnston	The Cowboy and the Black-Eyed Pea
Lisa Waller Rogers	Get Along, Little Dogies (The Chisholm Trail Diary of Hallie Lou Wells)
Tod Olson	How to Get Rich on a Texas Cattle Drive
Heather Schwartz	Cattle Trails and Cowboys
George Washington Carver	A Weed is a Flower: The Life of George Washington Carver
Tonya Bolden	George Washington Carver
Cheryl Harness	The Groundbreaking, Chance-Taking Life of George Washington Carver and Science and Invention in America
Mary Ann Fraser	Alexander Graham Bell Answers the Call
Tom L. Matthews	Always Inventing: A Photobiography of Alexander Graham Bell
Russell Freedman	The Wright Brothers: How They Invented the Airplane
Wendie C. Old	To Fly: The Story of the Wright Brothers
Annette Whipple	The Story of the Wright Brothers
Gene Barretta	Timeless Thomas: How Thomas Edison Changed Our Lives
Suzanne Slade	The Inventor’s Secret: What Thomas Edison Told Henry Ford
Barry Wittenstein	The Boo-Boos That Changed the World: A True Story About an Accidental Invention (Really!)
Cheryl Harness	The Remarkable Rough Riding Life of Theodore Roosevelt and the Rise of Empire America
Doreen Rappaport	To Dare Mighty Things: The Life of Theodore Roosevelt
Jean Fritz	Bully for You, Teddy Roosevelt
David A. Adler	Colonel Theodore Roosevelt
Judith St. George	You’re On Your Way, Teddy Roosevelt
Barb Rosenstock	The Camping Trip That Changed America: Theodore Roosevelt, John Muir, and our National Parks
Janet B. Pascal	What is the Panama Canal?

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Leslie Connor	Miss Bridie Chose a Shovel
Amy Hest	When Jessie Came Across the Sea
Eve Bunting	Dreaming of America: An Ellis Island Story
Paul Fleischman	The Matchbox Diary
Milly Lee	Landed
Julie Leung	Paper Son: The Inspiring Story of Tyrus Wong, Immigrant and Artist
Yin	Coolies
Emily Arnold McCully	The Bobbin Girl
Katherine Paterson	Lyddie
Michelle Markel	Brave Girl: Clara and the Shirtwaist Makers’ Strike of 1909
Marie Bradby	More Than Anything Else
Jabari Asim	Fifty Cents and a Dream: Young Booker T. Washington
Kai Jackson Issa	Howard Thurman’s Great Hope
Linda Glaser	Hannah’s Way
Chris Barton	Dazzle Ships
Barbara E. Walsh	The Poppy Lady
Blake Hoena	Stubby, the Dog Soldier World War I Hero
John McCutcheon	Christmas in the Trenches
John Hendrix	Shooting at the Stars: The Christmas Truce of 1914
Timothy Decker	The Letter Home
Michael Foreman	War Game: The Legendary Story of the First World War Football Match
Marcia Williams	Archie’s War
Jim Murphy	Truce
Linda Granfield	When Poppies Grow: A World War I Companion
Rosemary Wells	The Language of Doves
Linda Granfield	In Flanders Field: The Story of the Poem by John McCrae
Alison Hart	Darling: Mercy Dog of World War I (1917)
Kathryn J. Atwood	Women Heroes of World War I: 16 Remarkable Resisters, Soldiers, Spies, and Medics
Deborah Hopkinson	Knit Your Bit: A World War I Story
Duncan Tonatiuh	Soldier for Equality: José de la Luz Saenz and The Great War
Linda Sue Park	Prairie Lotus
Lesa Cline-Ransome	Just a Lucky So and So: The Story of Louis Armstrong

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Patricia C. McKissack & Fredrick McKissack	Louis Armstrong: King of Jazz (Famous African Americans)
Eric A. Kimmel	A Horn for Louis: Louis Armstrong..as a kid! (A Stepping Stone Book)
Roxane Orgill	If I Only Had a Horn: Young Louis Armstrong
Bob Thiele	What a Wonderful World
David Roessel, Arnold Rampersad, et al	Poetry for Young People: Langston Hughes
Langston Hughes	My People (Charles R. Smith Jr. Illustrator)
Langston Hughes & Daniel Miyares	That Is My Dream!: A picture book of Langston Hughes’s “Dream Variation”
Lesa Cline-Ransome	Finding Langston (Book 1 of 2, the Finding Langston Trilogy)
Floyd Cooper	Coming Home: From the Life of Langston Hughes
Robert Burleigh	Home Run: The Story of Babe Ruth
Matt Tavares	Becoming Babe Ruth: Candlewick Biographies
Josh Gregory	Henry Ford: Father of the Auto Industry (A True Book: Great American Business)
Peggy Thomas	Full of Beans: Henry Ford Grows a Car
Michael John O’Hearn	Henry Ford and the Model T (Inventions and Discovery) – graphic nonfiction
Ronald A. Reis	Henry Ford for Kids: His Life and Ideas, with 21 Activities (For Kids Series)
Robert Burleigh	Flight
Irene Latham	Meet Miss Fancy
Sharon Draper	Stella by Starlight
Dandi Daley Mackall	Rudy Rides the Rails: A Depression Era Story
Christopher Paul Curtis	Bud, Not Buddy
Christopher Paul Curtis	The Mighty Miss Malone
Karen Hesse	Out of the Dust
Ann Turner	Dust for Dinner
Kate Lied	Potato: A Tale of the Great Depression
Mildred D. Taylor	Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry
Jacqueline Woodson	This is the Rope: A Story from the Great Migration
Elizabeth Van Steenwyk	First Dog Fala
Kathryn Selbert	War Dogs: Churchill and Rufus
Andrea Davis Pinkney	Duke Ellington: The Piano Prince and His Orchestra

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Ntozake Shange	Ellington Was Not a Street
Kwame Alexander/Kadir Nelson	The Undefeated
Sue Stauffacher	Bessie Smith and the Night Riders
Mara Rockliff	My Heart Will Not Sit Down
Jonah Winter	Born and Bred in the Great Depression
Kathleen Krull	A Boy Named FDR: How Franklin D. Roosevelt Grew Up to Change America
Judith St. George	Make Your Mark, Franklin Roosevelt
Leslie Kimmelman	Hot Dog! Eleanor Roosevelt Throws a Picnic
Barbara Cooney	Eleanor
Doreen Rappaport	Eleanor, Quiet No More: The Life of Eleanor Roosevelt
Amnesty International	We Are All Born Free: The Universal Declaration of Human Rights
National Geographic	Every Human Has Rights: A Photographic Declaration for Kids
Eloise Greenfield	Mary McLeod Bethune
Shirley Hughes	Hero on a Bicycle
Kimberly Brubaker Bradley	The War That Saved My Life
Tami Lewis Brown & Debbie Loren Dunn	Instructions Not Included: How a Team of Women Coded the Future
Kirby Larson	Dash (Dogs of World War II)
Kate Messner	History Smashers: Pearl Harbor
Kate Messner	Ranger in Time: Attack on Pearl Harbor
Kate Messner	Ranger in Time: D-Day: Battle on the Beach
Joseph Bruchac	Code Talker: A Novel About the Navajo Marines of World War II
Ian Graham	You Wouldn't Want to be a World War II Pilot!
Carole Boston Weatherford	You Can Fly: The Tuskegee Airmen
Louise Borden	Across the Blue Pacific: A World War II story
Lois Lowry	Crow Call
Carmen Agra Deedy	The Yellow Star: The legend of King Christian X of Denmark
Karen Hesse	The Cats in Krasinski Square
Lois Lowry	Number the Stars
Meg Wiviott	Benno and the Night of the Broken Glass
Cynthia Grady	Write to Me: Letters from Japanese American Children to the Librarian They Left Behind
Ken Mochizuki	Baseball Saved Us

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Yoshiko Uchida	The Bracelet
Eve Bunting	So Far From the Sea
Margot Theis Raven	Mercedes and the Chocolate Pilot
Candace Fleming	Boxes for Katje
Jennifer A. Nielson	A Night Divided
Wendy Conklin	The Cold War
Patricia McCormick	Sergeant Reckless: The True Story of the Little Horse Who Became a Hero (Korean War)
Gavin Curtis	The Bat Boy and His Violin
David A. Adler	A Picture Book of Thurgood Marshall
Jonah Winter	Thurgood
Elizabeth Fitzgerald Howard	Virgie Goes to School With Us Boys
Toni Morrison	Remember: The Journey to School Integration
Duncan Tonatiuh	Separate is Never Equal: Sylvia Mendez & Her Family’s Fight for Desegregation
Christy Hale	Todos Iguales – All Equal: Un corrido de (A Ballad of) Lemon Grove
Kristin Levin	Lions of Little Rock
Calvin Alexander Ramsey	Ruth and the Green Book
Richard Michelson	Busing Brewster
Deborah Wiles	Freedom Summer
Andrea Davis Pinkney	Sit-In: How Four Friends Stood Up by Sitting Down
Angela Johnson	A Sweet Smell of Roses
Rita Williams Garcia	One Crazy Summer
Christopher Paul Curtis	The Watsons Go to Birmingham
Deborah Wiles	Countdown; Revolution; Anthem (1960’s trilogy of documentary novels)
Enrique Flores Galbis	Ninety Miles to Havana
Gary D. Schmidt	The Wednesday Wars
Gary D. Schmidt	Okay for Now
Jerry Spinelli	Maniac Magee
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. & Kadir Nelson	I Have a Dream (book & CD)
Faith Ringgold	My Dream of Dr. Martin Luther King
Barry Wittenstein	A Place to Land: Martin Luther King, Jr., and the Speech That Inspired a Nation
Eve Bunting	The Cart That Carried Martin

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Doreen Rappaport	Martin’s Big Words: The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
Jonah Winter	Lillian’s Right to Vote
Shane W. Evans	We March
Christine King Farris	March On: The Day My Brother Martin Changed the World
Diane McWhorter	A Dream of Freedom
Ellen Levine	Freedom’s Children
Andrea Davis Pinkney	Let It Shine: Stories of Black Women Freedom Fighters
Diane Z. Shore	This is the Dream:
Gwenyth Swain & David Geister	Riding to Washington
Tessa Allen	Sometimes People March
Debbie Levy	We Shall Overcome: The Story of a Song
Stuart Stotts	We Shall Overcome: A Song That Changed the World
Jacqueline Woodson	The Other Side
Carole Boston Weatherford	Freedom on the Menu
Kelly Starling Lyons	Sing a Song: How “Lift Every Voice and Sing” Inspired Generations
Stephen Alcorn	Odetta: The Queen of Folk
James Haskins	John Lewis in the Lead: A Story of the Civil Rights Movement
Evelyn Coleman	White Socks Only
Eve Bunting	The Wall (Vietnam)
Kate Messner	Rolling Thunder (Vietnam)
Glyn Harper and Jenny Cooper	My Grandfather’s War (Vietnam)
Suzanne Collins	Year of the Jungle: Memories From the Home Front (Vietnam)
Bao Phi	A Different Pond (Vietnam)
Jeanne Walker Harvey	Maya Lin: Artist-Architect of Light and Lines
Deborah Hopkinson	Carter Reads the Newspaper
Sarah Aronson	Just Like Rube Goldberg: The Incredible True Story of the Man Behind the Machines
Carmen T. Bernier-Grand	Lyndon B. Johnson (Presidential Biographies)
Kathleen Krull	Harvesting Hope: The Story of Cesar Chavez
Michelle M. Hasselius	Cesar Chavez: The Struggle for Justice
Nikki Giovanni	Rosa
L. King Perez	First Day in Grapes
Michael Burgan	Ronald Reagan: A Photographic Story of a Life

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Nico Medina	What Was the Berlin Wall?
DK Publishing	How Technology Works: The Facts Visually Explained
Tracy Sorell	Classified: The Secret Career of Mary Golda Ross, Cherokee Aerospace Engineer
Pam Pollack	Who Was Steve Jobs?
Patricia Brennan Demuth	Who Is Bill Gates?
Carmen Agra Deedy	14 Cows for America
Mordecai Gerstein	The Man Who Walked Between the Towers
Maira Kalman	The Heroic Adventures of the John J. Harvey
Kate Messner	Ranger in Time: Escape From Twin Towers
Georgia Heard & others	This Place I Know: Poems of Comfort
Jonah Winter	The Sad Little Fact
Traci Sorell	We Are Still Here! Native American Truths Everyone Should Know

5th Grade	Government/Civics Titles
Gwenyth Swain	Documents of Freedom: A Look at the Declaration of Independence, the Bill of Rights, and the U.S. Constitution
Mara Rockliff	Around America to Win the Vote: Two Suffragists, A Kitten, and 10,000 Miles
Emily Arnold McCully	The Ballot Box Battle
Kirsten Gillibrand & Maira Kalman	Bold and Brave: Ten Heroes Who Won Women the Right to Vote
Diane Bailey	Discovering History’s Heroes: Ida B. Wells, Fighter for Justice
Tanya Lee Stone	Elizabeth Leads the Way: Elizabeth Cady Stanton and the Right to Vote
Doreen Rappaport	Elizabeth Started All the Trouble
Deborah Diesen	Equality’s Call
Barb Rosenstock	Fight of the Century: Alice Paul Battles Woodrow Wilson for the Vote
Ann Malaspina	Heart on Fire: Susan B. Anthony Votes for President
Kate Messner	History Smashers: Women’s Right to Vote
Linda Arms White	I Could Do That! Esther Morris Gets Women the Vote
Walter Dean Myers	Ida B. Wells: Let the Truth Be Told
Dean Robbins	Miss Paul and the President: the Creative Campaign for Women’s Right to Vote
Deborah Hopkinson	Susan B. Anthony: Fighter for Women’s Rights
Lucile Davis	Susan B. Anthony: Photo-Illustrated Biographies

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Mary Kay Carson	Why Couldn’t Susan B. Anthony Vote and Other Questions about Women’s Suffrage (Good Questions Series)
Nancy B. Kennedy	Women Win the Vote: 19 for the 19 th Amendment
Jean Fritz	You Want Women to Vote, Lizzie Stanton?
Philip Dray	Yours for Justice, Ida B. Wells: The Daring Life of a Crusading Journalist
Kate Messner	The Next President
Eleanor Roosevelt with Michelle Markel	When You Grow Up to Vote: How Our Government Works for YOU
	Economics
Mona Kerby	Owney, the Mail-Pouch Pooch (economic role of gov’t)
Diana Stanley	Rumpelstiltskin’s Daughter (economic role of gov’t)
Sara Pennypacker	Sparrow Girl (economic role of gov’t)
Katie Smith Milway	One Hen: How One Small Loan Made a Big Difference ((economic role of gov’t)
David M. Schwartz	If You Made a Million (banking, opportunity cost, loans, money)
Omar Castañeda	Abuela’s Weave (producers/consumers)
Yusuke Yonezu	A Cup for Everyone (producers/consumers)
Ginger Howard	A Basket of Bangles: How a Business Grows (entrepreneurs)
Kim Norman	Jack of All Tails (entrepreneurs)
Kathryn Lasky	Vision of Beauty: The Story of Sarah Breedlove Walker (entrepreneurs)
Natascha Biebow	The Crayon Man: The True Story of the Invention of Crayola Crayons (entrepreneurs)
Doreen Rappaport	Lady Liberty: A Biography (human resources, scarcity, immigration, economic history)
Gary Paulsen	The Lawn Boy (stock market, investing, jobs)
Andrew Clements	Lunch Money (entrepreneurship, competition, productive resources)
Jacqueline Davies	The Lemonade War (entrepreneurship, profit, specialization, competition)
Gennifer Choldenko	Al Capone Does My Shirts (entrepreneurship, competition)