



IN HISTORY: IMMIGRATION AND ETHNIC HERITAGE

Resources

Student Choice Reading List Grade 5 through Grade 8

Asbes of Roses by Mary Jane Auch

Rose and her Irish family arrive at Ellis Island to begin their new life in America, but her baby brother is denied entry. Rose and her younger sister remain in America. Later, Rose finds work in the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory and loses a friend in the tragic fire.

At Ellis Island: A History of Many Voices
by Louise Peacock

This book weaves together the stories of Sura, an Armenian girl, who travels to Ellis Island in 1910 and a contemporary visitor to Ellis Island.

Bound for Oregon by Jean Van Leeuwen

Mary Ellen and her family travel 2,000 miles from Arkansas to Oregon in 1852.

Britta's Journey: An Emigration Saga by Ann Mershon

Twelve-year-old Britta moves with her family from Finland to New York in 1904.

Dear America Series:

*Across the Wide and Open Prairie: The Oregon Trail
Diary of Hattie Campbell, 1847*
by Kristiana Gregory

*A Journey to the New World: The Diary of Remember
Patience Whipple, Mayflower, 1620*
by Kathryn Lasky

*Dreams in the Golden Country: The Diary of Zipporah
Felman, a Jewish Immigrant Girl, New York City,
1903* by Kathryn Lasky

*Land of the Buffalo Bones: The Diary of Mary Ann
Elizabeth Rodgers, An English Girl in Minnesota,
New Yoevil Minnesota, 1873* by Marion D. Bauer

*One Eye Laughing, The Other Eye Weeping: The Diary
of Julie Weiss, Vienna, Austria to New York, 1938*
by Barry Denenberg

*Seeds of Hope: The Gold Rush Diary of Susanna
Fairchild, California Territory 1849*
by Kristiana Gregory

*So Far from Home: The Diary of Mary Driscoll, an
Irish Mill Girl, Lowell, Massachusetts, 1847*
by Barry Denenberg

Delfino's Journey by Jo Harper

Delfino and his cousin, Salvador, venture to America to find work. After nearly drowning in the Rio Grande River, they are tricked into a slave camp in Texas.

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Esperanza Rising by Pam Manoz Ryan

Esperanza, a rich young Mexican girl, must move to America with her mother after her father's death. She must learn to live in a foreign country and a different social class.

Habibi by Naomi Shihab Nye

Liyana, the daughter of a native Palestinian, moves with her family from Saint Louis to Jerusalem. She must adjust to a new culture and violence between Palestinians and Jews.

Hannah's Journal: The Story of an Immigrant Girl by Marissa Moss

Hannah and her cousin, both young Eastern European Jewish girls, travel to Ellis Island and must wait for their sponsor to locate them.

How I Became an American by Karin Gundisch

Ten-year-old John moves with his family from Germany to Youngstown, Ohio, and adjusts to American life.

I Was Dreaming to Come to America by Veronica Lawlor

This picture book includes excerpts from immigrants, mostly children, to Ellis Island, between the years 1900 to 1925.

Immigrant Kids by Russell Freedman

This nonfiction book uses historical photographs to show how immigrant children lived in New York City around the turn of the century.

Journey to America by Sonia Levitin

A Jewish family flees Germany in 1938 and faces numerous struggles.

Meet Kirsten: An American Girl by Janet Shaw

Kirsten, a young Swedish girl, moves with her family to the Minnesota frontier in 1854.

New Kids in Town: Oral Histories of Immigrant Teens by Janet Bode

This book includes the stories of eleven teenage immigrants to America.

Tales from Gold Mountain: Stories of the Chinese in the New World by Paul Yee

A collection of stories reflecting the lives of the Chinese who overcame prejudice and adversity to build a unique place for themselves in North America.

Voices from the Fields: Children of Migrant Farmworkers Tell Their Stories by S. Beth Atkin

Interviews with nine children of Hispanic migrant farmworkers reveal some of their struggles and aspirations for life.