

**CYRM RESOURCE GUIDE
PICTURE BOOKS FOR
OLDER READERS
(GRADES 4 AND UP)
2014-2015**

***Brothers at Bat: The True Story of an
Amazing All-Brother Team***

By Audrey Vernick
Illustrated by Steven Salerno
Clarion, 2012

***The Camping Trip that Changed
America: Theodore Roosevelt, John
Muir, and Our National Parks***

By Barb Rosenstock
Illustrated by Mordicai Gerstein
Dial Books for Young People, 2012

These Hands

By Margaret H. Mason
Illustrated by Floyd Cooper
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2010

BROTHERS AT BAT: THE TRUE STORY OF AN AMAZING ALL- BROTHER BASEBALL TEAM BY AUDREY VERNICK

SYNOPSIS

Big. Baseball. Brothers. What do all three of these have in common? They describe the Acerra brothers, the all brother baseball team who played from the 1930s through the 1950s. *Brothers at Bat* is the true story of a family of 12 brothers, from a family of 16 children, who made history by being the longest playing all-brother baseball team. In 1938, with their father as coach, the oldest nine brothers formed the their first semi-pro team and played against other New Jersey teams. At that time the ages of the brothers ranged from 13 to 32. The Acerra brothers helped and encouraged each other throughout their careers. According to the story, they all stuck together. Even through hardships including a World War and great distances between them, they managed to overcome any obstacle thrown their way. The book's illustrations are vintage looking. Salerno's style is similar to the illustrations found in such stories as *Mike Mulligan and His Steam Shovel* or from other stories of the 1930s.

MEET THE AUTHOR

Audrey Vernick is the author of both fiction and nonfiction books for all ages. She grew up in Whitestone, New York and has always loved to read. *Harriet the Spy* continues to be one of her favorite books. Audrey did not always want to be an author. She developed a love of writing while in college and has been writing ever since. She has received the New Jersey Arts Council's fiction fellowship twice. Like the setting of her story *Brothers at Bat*, Audrey currently lives in New Jersey with her husband and two children.

For more information, see
<http://www.audreyvernick.com/BrothersAtBat.html>

MEET THE ILLUSTRATOR

Steven Salerno is originally from Vermont, but he currently lives in New York City. He is a graduate of the Parsons School of Design and has illustrated over 20 children's books, including *Brothers at Bat*, which was named a *Notable Picture Book of the Year* by *The New York Times Review*. In addition to illustrating children's literature, Salerno has created artwork for magazines, newspapers, web pages, retail, and online advertising. His work has been recognized by many organizations such as The Junior Library Guild, The Art Director's Club, and the Society of Illustrators.

For more information, see his website at www.stevensalerno.com

HOOKS

- Inform students they will be reading a book about baseball. Create a series of statements related to baseball, families, and the 1930s. (See the "Statement Activity" sheet below). Have students complete the statement chart either individually or as a class. Then have students make predictions based on their answers to what the story will be about. Do not show or tell the students the title. Keep these and revisit answers after reading book.
- Make a list of activities that require teamwork. Discuss how working together with someone either helps or hinders an activity or solving a problem. Are there times when working independently is better? Why or why not?
- Create a KWL chart on what students know about the Baseball Hall of Fame (BHOFF). What character traits does it take to be successful and get into the BHOFF?
- Would you like to play on a team with your family members? What would be the advantages/disadvantages of playing with family members?

CONNECTIONS

Baseball

Hubbard, Crystal. *Catching the Moon: The Story of A Young Girl's Baseball Dream*. Lee & Low Books. 2005.

Picture Books for Older Readers

Meshon, Aaron. *Take Me Out to the Yakyu*. Atheneum Books for Young Readers. 2013.

Meyers, Water D. *Down to the Last Out The Journal of Biddy Owens: the Negro Leagues*. Scholastic. 2013.

Park, Linda S. *Keeping Score*. Sandpiper. 2008
Robinson, Sharon. *Testing the Ice: A True Story about Jackie Robinson*. Scholastic Press. 2009

Skead, Robert. *Something to Prove: The Great Satchel Paige vs. Rookie Joe DiMaggio*. Carolrhoda Books. 2013

Winter, Jonah. *Roberto Clemente: Pride of the Pittsburgh Pirates* Aladdin Paperbacks. 2008

WRITING PROMPTS

- Baseball is a very popular American past time. Why? Write an opinion paper telling why you believe baseball is such a popular sport in the United States.
- You really want to join a baseball league, but your parents tell you that you can't. Write a letter to your parents persuading them to let you join.

CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

Write a Bio Poem for the Acerra brothers: Introduce the poem structure.

Format for the poem:

Line 1 – Character's name

Line 2 - Another name for character
(teenager, friend, mother, etc.)

Line 3 – Four words describing character.

Line 4 – Lover of...

Line 5 – Who believed...

Line 6 – Who wanted...

Line 7 – Who used...

Line 8 – Who gave...

Line 9 – Who said...

Line 10 – Last name or another word describing character.

Picture Books for Older Readers

Create a poster to persuade fans to attend a baseball game featuring the Acerra brothers: Use the Internet to research specific games and locations. Be sure to include dates, locations and teams involved.

Research the history of baseball or one of the members of the Baseball Hall of Fame: Compare their accomplishments to those of the Acerra brothers. How were they different? How were they similar?

Double-Journal Entries: Fold a sheet of paper in half and write **Note Taking** on top left side of the paper and **Note Making** on the upper right side. Under Note Taking, students log three to five statements, ideas, quotes, or events from the story. Under Note Making, students respond to entries with new learning, lingering questions, clarification or personal connections. Students should avoid using statements such as "I like/dislike this part because..."

Listen to Abbott and Costello's skit, *Who's On First?* available on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J_gSWTQKE-0&feature=kp.

Visit the Baseball Hall of Fame's website: There are a variety of lessons and activities for those who visit the museum personally or electronically. Go to <http://baseballhall.org/education>

For more activities, visit:

<http://www.baseball-almanac.com/family/fam1.shtml>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JpMQdLLxPAQ>

<http://www.nypl.org/blog/2012/10/25/baseball-nicknames-and-hall-fame>

STATEMENT ACTIVITY

Directions: Answer each of the following statements about baseball. Use one of the following codes:

Y = Yes

N = No

- ___ Baseball is a popular American sport.
- ___ During the 1930s, people usually came from large families.
- ___ Men are the only members of the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.
- ___ In 1943, The first All-American Girls Professional Baseball League was founded.
- ___ The Baseball Hall of Fame is located in New Jersey.
- ___ Eleven players are needed to play the field on a baseball team.
- ___ All players of a team cannot be related.
- ___ Dedication is an important quality for a player to have to be a successful baseball player.
- ___ During the 1930s families didn't have a lot of money due to the Great Depression.

ANSWERS

Yes Baseball is a popular American sport.

Yes During the 1930s, people usually came from large families.

Yes Men are the only inducted members of the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.

Yes In 1943, the first All-American Girls Professional Baseball League was founded.

No The Baseball Hall of Fame is not located in New Jersey. It is located in Cooperstown, New York.

No Eleven players cannot play on the baseball diamond at one time. Only nine players are needed.

No All players of a team can be related. The Acerra Brothers were related.

Yes Dedication is an important quality for a player to have to be a successful baseball player.

Yes During the 1930s families didn't have a lot of money due to the Great Depression.

THE CAMPING TRIP THAT CHANGED AMERICA: THEODORE ROOSEVELT, JOHN MUIR, AND THE NATIONAL PARKS

**BY BARB ROSENSTOCK
ILLUSTRATED BY MORDICAI
GERSTEIN**

SYNOPSIS

President Theodore Roosevelt read a book about the beautiful redwood trees written by the famous naturalist, John Muir. In his book Mr. Muir expressed concern for the protection of this amazing wilderness. President Roosevelt wrote a letter to John Muir and asked if he could go camping with him to see the magnificent trees for himself. John Muir took him to Yosemite. This trip led to the creation of national parks, national forests, and national sanctuaries in the U.S. Eventually, Theodore Roosevelt set aside more wild land than any president in history.

Go to www.barbrosenstock.com to see a book trailer of the story.

MEET THE AUTHOR

Barb Rosenstock was born on April Fool's Day. She lives near Chicago with her husband, sons, and two big poodles. Her favorite place is the library because she loves to read – especially true stories. She also loves dancing, singing, and acting. She enjoys going on school visits to talk to students about her passion for writing. She has written five non-fiction picture books for children and won several awards.

Find out more about Barb Rosenstock on her website at www.barbrosenstock.com.

MEET THE ILLUSTRATOR

Mordicai Gerstein always knew he'd be an artist. He moved from Los Angeles to New York after he graduated from art school. He designed and directed animated television commercials and made some animated films of his own. Mr. Gerstein is also a painter and a sculptor.

In 1970 he met a young writer who had written a mystery for children entitled *Something Queer is Going On*. She asked him to illustrate it. It became a series, and he has been illustrating children's books for more than 30 years now. He found that he loved the picture book medium so much that he began writing his own stories. After writing for over 10 years he published his first book in 1983. Although *Arnold of the Ducks* was turned down by seven publishers, it was finally published and was named one of the year's ten best books for children by the New York Times. Three of his other books have also received this honor from the New York Times.

Mordicai Gerstein has illustrated 15 books by other authors and has written and illustrated 33 books of his own. He won the Caldecott Medal in 2004 for his illustrations of *The Man Who Walked Between the Towers*.

Find out more about Mordicai Gerstein on his website at www.mordicaigerstein.com.

HOOKS

- Have you ever been camping? Did you like it?
- Have you ever seen the huge redwoods or giant Sequoias in California? How are they different from other trees?
- Have you ever been to a national park? What was it like? Why do you think it was designated a national park? What was special about it?
- Have you been to Yosemite? Describe it to your friends. Can you imagine what it would be like if it wasn't a national park?
- Would you like to be a naturalist? What would you study?

CONNECTIONS

Theodore Roosevelt

Adler, David A., *Colonel Theodore Roosevelt*. Holiday House, 2014.

Picture Books for Older Readers

Britton, Tamara, *Theodore Roosevelt*. ABDO Publishing Co., 2009.

Chesterman, Barnaby, *Famous Americans in History*. Naxos Audiobooks, 2002.

Fritz, Jean, *Bully for You, Teddy Roosevelt*. Illustrated by Mike Wimmer. Putnam & Grosset Group, 1997.

Hollihan, Kerrie Logan, *Theodore Roosevelt for Kids: His Life and Times - 21 Activities*. Chicago Review Press, 2010.

McKay, Sindy, *President Theodore Roosevelt*. Treasure Bay, 2006.

Olson, Nathan, *Theodore Roosevelt: Bear of a President*. Capstone Press, 2007.

Roosevelt, Ted, *My Tour of Europe: by Teddy Roosevelt, Age 10*. Millbrook Press, 2003.

Roosevelt, Theodore, *The Boyhood Diary of Theodore Roosevelt, 1869 – 1870: Early Travels of the 26th President*. Blue Earth Books, 2001.

Yosemite

Baron, Kathy, *The Tree of Time: A Story of a Special Sequoia*. Yosemite Conservancy, 1994.

Bosveld, Jane, *While a Tree Was Growing*. Illustrated by Daniel O'Leary. Workman Publishing Company, 1997.

Graf, Mike, *My Yosemite: A Guide for Young Adventurers*, Illustrated by Annette Filice. Yosemite Conservancy, 2012.

Madden, Jonathan, *A History of Yosemite National Park for Kids*. Shamrock Eden Publishing, 2011.

John Muir

Anderson, Peter, *John Muir: Wilderness Prophet*. Franklin Watts, a Division of Grolier Publishing, 1990.

Cornell, Joseph, *John Muir: My Life with Nature*. Dawn Publications, 2000.

Dunham, Montrew, *John Muir: Young Naturalist*. Illustrated by Al Fiorentino. Simon and Schuster, 1998.

Picture Books for Older Readers

Elliot, Henry, *Voices for Green Choices: John Muir: Protecting and Preserving the Environment*. Crabtree Publishing Co., 2009.

Greene, Carol, *John Muir: Man of the Wild Places*. Children's Press, 1991.

Lasky, Kathryn, *John Muir: America's First Environmentalist*. Illustrated by Stan Fellows. Candlewick Press, 2006

Ledbetter, Cynthia E. and Richard C. Jones, *John Muir*. Rourke Publications, Inc., 1993.

Locker, Thomas, *John Muir: America's Naturalist*. Fulcrum Publishing, 2003.

Maynard, Charles, *John Muir: Naturalist and Explorer*. The Rosen Publishing Group, Inc., 2003.

Naden, Corrinne J. and Rose Blue, *John Muir: Saving the Wilderness*. The Millbrook Press, 1992.

Talmadge, Katherine S., *John Muir: At Home in the Wild*. 21st Century Books, Henry Holt & Co., 1993.

Wadsworth, Ginger, *John Muir: Wilderness Protector*. Lerner Publications Co., 1992.

Wadsworth Ginger, *Camping With the President*. Illustrated by Karen Dugan. Calkins Creek Books, 2009.

For information on the National Parks check out the books in the National Parks series published by ABDO Publishing.

Books by Barb Rosenstock

The Noisy Paint Box: The Colors and Sounds of Kandinsky's Abstract Art. Illustrated by Mary GrandPrè. Knopf Books for Young Readers, 2014.

The Streak: How Joe DiMaggio Became America's Hero. Illustrated by Terry Widener. Calkins Creek, 2014.

Thomas Jefferson Builds a Library. Illustrated by John O'Brien. Calkins Creek, 2013.

Picture Books for Older Readers

The Camping Trip That Changed America: Theodore Roosevelt, John Muir, and the National Parks. Illustrated by Mordicai Gerstein. Dial Books for Young Readers, 2012.

The Littlest Mountain. Illustrated by Melanie Hall. Kar-Ben Publisher, 2011.

Fearless, The Story of Legendary Driver Louise Smith. Illustrated by Scott Dawson. Dutton Children's Books, 2010.

Books Written and Illustrated by Mordicai Gerstein (partial list)

A Book. Roaring Brook, 2009.

Leaving the Nest. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2006.

The White Ram. Holiday House, 2006.

Carolinda Clatter! Publishers Weekly, 2005.

The Old Country. Roaring Brook Press, 2003.

The Man Who Walked Between the Towers. Roaring Brook Press, 2003.

Sparrow Jack. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2003.

What Charlie Heard. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2002.

Fox Eyes. Golden Books, 2001.

Queen Esther the Morning Star. Simon & Schuster, 2001.

The Absolutely Awful Alphabet. Harcourt Brace, 1999.

Noah and the Great Flood. Simon & Schuster, 1999.

Victor. Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 1998.

The Wild Boy. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 1998.

Stop Those Pants! Harcourt Brace, 1998.

Jonah and the Two Great Fish. Simon and Schuster, 1997.

Behind the Couch. Hyperion Books, 1996.

Bedtime Everybody! Hyperion Books, 1996.

The Giant. Hyperion Books, 1995.

The New Creatures. HarperCollins, 1991.

The Mountains of Tibet. HarperCollins, 1987.

WRITING PROMPTS

- President Roosevelt read a book by John Muir that described the wilderness of the Sierra Mountains in California. Look at the illustrations in the book and write your own description of Yosemite.
- Choose a natural area you know about and write a description of it. What kinds of plants and animals does it have? What can you do there?

Picture Books for Older Readers

- Look at the illustrations of the giant Sequoia trees in the book and read what John Muir said about them. Then write a description of them.
- Read the bear story that John Muir told President Roosevelt when they were camping. Why do you think he said "...the bear had the better manners"?
- What do you think would have happened if President Roosevelt hadn't gone camping with John Muir?
- Theodore Roosevelt's nickname was Teedie and John Muir was called Johnnie. Have you ever had a nickname? How did you get it and who called you by that name?
- There are many trees mentioned in the story. Do you have a favorite tree? Describe it and tell why it is important to you.

CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

Endangered Places and Species:

- John Muir helped to preserve the wilderness by writing a book that was read by President Roosevelt. Research land regions that are in danger of being developed. Write an article about why this area should or should not be protected.
- Research plant or animal species that are threatened or endangered. Write an article about why this species should or should not be protected.
- Turn your article into a letter or email sharing your thoughts and concerns and send it to a local or national politician.

Yosemite:

- This story takes place in Yosemite National Park. Make a KWL Chart about Yosemite. Before reading the story, make a list of what the students already know about Yosemite. Then make a list of what they want to learn about Yosemite. After reading the story, make a list of what they learned about Yosemite from the story. Add to the chart as they learn more from further research.

Picture Books for Older Readers

- Where is Yosemite located? Find it on a map.
- What animals live in Yosemite? Make a book about them.
- What plants live in Yosemite? Make a book about them.
- Research the redwood trees. Make a book or presentation to share the information with your class.
- The American system of national parks is unique. Choose one of the many national parks to research. Write a report or prepare a presentation to share what you've learned with your class. The PBS documentary by Ken Burns, *The National Parks: America's Best Idea*, is a good resource.
- Yosemite is a valley created by rivers and glaciers. Create a valley.
 - Materials needed:
 - Rectangular aluminum baking dish
 - Soil and sand mixture
 - Small terrarium rocks
 - Water
 - Procedure
 1. Place soil and sand mixture and terrarium rocks in bottom of baking dish.
 2. Tilt it slightly.
 3. Pour water over it.
 4. Vary the water technique: trickle it, pour it, and drizzle it.

John Muir & Theodore Roosevelt:

- Make a Venn diagram to compare the lives of John Muir and Theodore Roosevelt. How are they alike? How are they different?
- Create a Sequence Flow Chart to sequence the events in the story from beginning to end.
- Johnnie and Teedie told stories around their campfire. This is an age-old tradition. Write a story to be told around a campfire. It can

Picture Books for Older Readers

be a real life experience or completely fictional. Create a picture book of your story or tell your story to the class.

- John and Theodore wrote letters to each other for the rest of their lives. Write a letter to a friend and mail or give it to them.
- John Muir started the Sierra Club to promote the love of the wilderness and to help protect it. Think of a club you'd like to start. Make a flyer to advertise your club.
- Create a Cause and Effect Flow Chart to show what might have happened if John Muir and President Roosevelt had not gone camping. How would it affect wildlife? Ecosystems? Air quality? Water quality?

Vocabulary:

- Find the definitions for this list of vocabulary words from the story: baggage, sequoia, pyramids, conservation, ancient, Egyptians, glacier, granite, valley, Congress, sanctuary, wilderness, prospectors, immigrant, naturalist, politician, brawny, sketching. Use the words in sentences.

Natural Resources:

- Yosemite has huge granite cliffs. We use granite for many things. We also use many other materials from nature, such a wood. Make a list of some of the materials from nature we use in our daily lives.

The Redwoods:

- Coast redwoods are the tallest living things on Earth. A mature redwood tree may grow more than 360 feet tall – taller than the Stature of Liberty. Hyperion has been measured to be 379.3 feet tall! On the playground measure off 360 feet to see how tall a coast redwood can grow.
- One of the largest trees in the world is General Sherman, a giant sequoia. It is more than 100 feet wide. On the playground measure off 100 feet. That is the diameter. Then find the circumference by drawing a circle. By standing on the lines of the circle, see how many students it would take to encircle General Sherman.

Picture Books for Older Readers

- Redwood seeds are very tiny. It takes about 125,000 of them to make a pound. Gather an assortment of seeds and compare their sizes. Sequence them from smallest to largest.
- The oldest known trees are about 2,500 years old. Make a 2,000 year timeline and list events that happened in the world during a redwood tree's lifetime.
- There are two kinds of redwoods: giant or coast redwoods and giant sequoias. Make a Venn diagram to compare them. Check out www.visitsequoia.com/redwoods for more information.
- California is the only place in the world where redwoods grow. Get a California map and mark the areas where you can still see them.

Check out the Teaching Guide created for this title at www.jenniferwardbooks.com.

THESE HANDS

BY MARGARET H. MASON

ILLUSTRATED BY FLOYD COOPER

SYNOPSIS

Joseph's grandpa's hands can still teach a young fellow how to tie his shoes, play the piano, do card tricks, or hit a line drive. But because they weren't allowed to touch bread dough in the factory where he worked, "these hands joined with other hands," writing petitions and demonstrating, until their proud hands could finally touch the bread dough. And Joseph, too, can do lots of things with his hands, now, all by himself, including baking "a fine loaf of bread." A refrain of "yes, you can" unites the free verse poetry of Mason's text.

MEET THE AUTHOR

Margaret H. Mason learned about the Detroit Wonder Bread factory's discriminatory policies in the 1950s and '60s from an old friend and Bakers Union stalwart whose voice still trembled thirty years later when he talked about the humiliation the workers endured at the bakery. The author lives in Ferndale, Michigan. Also by Margaret H. Mason, *Inside All*, Dawn Publications, 2008. Visit her at www.margarethmason.com

MEET THE ILLUSTRATOR

Floyd Cooper began drawing on discarded pieces of plasterboard from his father's work as a builder when he was only three. As a young boy, he filled his math and reading worksheets with drawings! After graduating from college with a degree in fine art, Cooper worked for a greeting card company. He eventually moved to New York to fulfill his dream of being an illustrator there. The first book he illustrated was *Grandpa's Face* by Eloise Greenfield, and he has worked with many famous authors since that time, including Virginia Hamilton, Patricia McKissack, and Jane Yolen. Cooper has also written and illustrated his own books, including *Coming Home: From the Life of Langston Hughes* and *Mandela: From the Life of the South African Statesman*. Cooper uses an unusual art process called oil wash on board. First, he paints an illustration board with oil paint. Then, he uses an eraser to "subtract" some paint from the board—he loves

Picture Books for Older Readers

showing his fans that there can be innovative ways to approach traditional problems. Floyd Cooper says his goal as an artist is to take readers on a sensory journey, allowing them to feel the atmosphere of the book, including the sights, smells, and sensations.

To learn more about Floyd Cooper, visit his website at <http://www.floydcooper.com/>

HOOKS

- Can you think of a time when you were not allowed to do something, or participate in an activity because of a particular physical characteristic? How did you feel? What did you do about it?
- Name three things an older adult has taught you how to do. Name three things you have taught someone else how to do.
- What is your favorite story your grandparents have told you about themselves?

CONNECTIONS

Abdul-Jabar, Kareem & Raymond Obstfeld. *What Color Is My World? The Lost History of African-American Inventors*. Candlewick Press, 2012.

Cameron, Ann. *The Kidnapped Prince: The Life of Olaudah Equiano*. Random House, 1995.

Curtis, Christopher Paul. *The Watsons Go to Birmingham-1963*. Random House, 1995.

Ehrhardt, Karen. *This Jazz Man*. Harcourt, 2006.

Fox, Mem. *Whoever You Are*. Harcourt, 1997.

Goldenbock, Peter. *Teammates*. Harcourt, 1990.

Levine, Ellen. *Henry's Freedom Box: A True Story from the Underground Railroad*. Scholastic, 2007.

McDonough, Yona Zeldis. *Who Was Rosa Parks?* Grosset & Dunlap, 2010.

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Paulsen, Gary. *Nightjohn*. Bantam Doubleday Dell, 1993.

Rappaport, Doreen. *Martin's Big Words: The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.* Hyperion, 2007

Ryan, Pam Munoz. *When Marian Sang*. Scholastic, 2002

Weatherford, Carole Boston. *Moses: When Harriet Tubman Led her People to Freedom*. Hyperion, 2006

Winter, Jeanette. *Follow The Drinking Gourd*. Dragonfly Books, 1992.

Woodson, Jacqueline. *The Other Side*. G. P. Putnam's Sons, 2001.

CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

Classrooms across the United States celebrate African American History Month in February. Below are some activities that encourage students to learn about and reflect upon important events and significant figures in African American history.

The African American Read-In is endorsed by the National Council of Teachers of English: This event promotes literacy during the month of February. On any one day during the month, participants are invited to share books written by African Americans. A completed host report card can be mailed or faxed to the NCTE and will affirm participants who joined the read-in. This activity is suitable for grades K through 12. To learn more, go to <http://www.ncte.org/action/aari>

Wax Museum: Students choose an African American historical figure and create a speech to inform their audience about that person. Students should come to class dressed up as the figure and stay “frozen” until an audience member presses an imaginary button to bring the character to life. This activity is recommended for grades 3 through 8.

Dream Book: This is a great activity for children in grades 3 through 5. The teacher can read the “I Have a Dream” speech given by Martin Luther King, Jr. Afterward, students discuss the meaning and purpose of the speech. Each student then completes an “I Have a Dream” page by writing and illustrating the dreams or goals that s/he has for the country or for him/herself. Compile the pages into a classroom book for all to read and enjoy. To see the text of the speech, go to <http://www.archives.gov/press/exhibits/dream-speech.pdf>

Online Rosa Parks Lesson: This social studies lesson from Scholastic teaches students in grades 4 through 8 about how Rosa Parks became the “mother of the civil rights movement.” There is a scripted interview with Rosa Parks, along with background information on the Montgomery Bus Boycott. Go to <http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/lesson-plan/rosa-parks-how-i-fought-civil-rights-teachers-guide>

Interactive Underground Railroad: National Geographic Education offers an interactive Underground Railroad simulation in which students have to make decisions to determine their fate as they escape slavery on their way to freedom. This is a great social studies activity for students in grades 4 through 8. Go to

Picture Books for Older Readers

http://education.nationalgeographic.com/education/media/underground-railroad-journey-freedom/?ar_a=1

Understanding Segregation: The teacher can split the classroom in half, allowing only half of the classroom to ask questions, sharpen their pencils, participate in special activities, or anything else that students would find appealing. The other half of the classroom must remain seated and not talk. Depending on the grade level, a teacher may be able to set up this activity without explaining it to students beforehand. Afterwards, the class can talk about how they felt while being segregated from the rest of the class. Students can then write a paragraph describing their reactions to the experiment. This is a good language arts/social studies activity, appropriate for grades 4 through 12.

Folk Tales: Encourage students to learn about African American culture by reading aloud an African folk tale and instructing them to illustrate the tale. Visit the American Folklore website as a starting point, <http://americanfolklore.net/folklore/africanamerican-folklore/>

For more great ideas visit these websites:

www.africanamericanhistorymonth.org

www.history.com/topics/black-history/black-history-month