U.S. History Novels

“The more you know about the past, the better prepared you are for the future.”

 -Theodore Roosevelt

(These novels are selected to line up with Heritage Studies 4 on U.S. History from BJU Press. Sweet Friends—I may not love every other—but after reading the reviews to each piece—I think it’s worthy to note the title and to consider checking out or buying to read! Please also note that I’m preparing these for 4th and 5th grade children while 1st and 2nd grade children learn along. I am noting literature that is geared for the 1st/2nd graders. All other works are suitable for the older or as read alouds to all. If you are not using Heritage—you will notice that many of the chapters and time periods overlap in the text’s chapters.)



Ch. 1 and Ch. 2 – Justice and the Fear of God and Rebuilding the Nation (Time Period 1620 – 1880)

Novels to Read:

1. If you Sailed on the Mayflower in 1620 by Ann McGovern

2. The 4th of July Story by Alice Dalgliesh (1st/2nd grade)

3. And Then What Happened to Paul Revere by Jean Fritz

4. Rush Revere and the Brave Pilgrims by Rush Limbaugh

5. Boston Tea Party by Pamela Edwards

6. Carry On, Mr Bowditch by Jean Latham (following American Revolution)

7. Georgia Washington by James Cross Giblin (1st/2nd grade)

8. Yankee Doodle Boy by Joseph Plumb Martin

9. Who was Abraham Lincoln? By Janet Pascal

10. Abe Lincoln’s Hat by Martha Breener

11. Abe Lincoln: The Boy Who Loved Books (1st/2nd grade)

12. Shh! We’re Writing the Constitution by Jean Fritz (1st/2nd grade)

13. We the Kids: The Preamble to the Constitution of the United States (1st/2nd – all memorize)

14. Harriet Tubman: The Road to Freedom by Catherine Clinton

13. Who Was Harriet Tubman by Yona Zeldis McDonough

14. Henry’s Freedom Box (1st and 2nd graders) – by Ellen Levine

15. The Civil War by Douglas Rife and Gina Capaldi

16. If You Lived When Slavery Was in America – by Anne Kamma

17. Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt (1st and 2nd graders) – Deborah Hopkinson

18. Escape North: The Story of Harriet Tubman – by Monica Kulling and Teresa Flavin

19. The Story of Ruby Bridgest by Robert Coles and George Ford (1st/2nd graders)

Chapters 3 & 4 – The Wild West and Busy Cities (1860 – 1900)

1. Locomotive (1st/2nd graders) – by Brian Floca
2. Building the Transcontinental Railroad: An Interactive Engineering Adventure) You Choose: Engineering Marvels by Steven Otfinoski
3. Tales from Dust River Gulch by Tim Davis
4. Buffalo Bill by Ingri & Edgar Parin d’Aulaire
5. Brave the Wild Trail by Milly Howard
6. Carolina’s Courage by Elizabeth Yates
7. Prairie Anna by Peggy House
8. Understood Betsy by Dorothy Canfield
9. Pelts and Promises by Nancy Lohr

Chapter 5 & 6 – All that Glitters and America Expands (1880 – 1905)

1. Gold Rush Fever (1st/2nd) – by [Barbara Greenwood](http://www.amazon.com/Barbara-Greenwood/e/B000AP71OS/ref%3Dsr_ntt_srch_lnk_1?qid=1432438150&sr=8-1) and Heather Collins
2. What Was the Gold Rush by Joan Holub and Tim
3. Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain
4. Little Women and Little Men by Louisa May Alcott
5. Ira Sankey: Singing the Gospel by Kelley Deegan Bruss
6. A Girl Named Helen Keller by Margo Lundell
7. Little House Series by Laura Ingalls Wilder

Ch. 7 & 8 Progress and Problems & The Great War (1900-1920)

1. Who Were the Wrights Brothers? By James Buckley
2. The Wrights Brothers: How they Invented the Airplane by Russell Freedom
3. Time for Kids: Henry Ford by Editors of TIME for Kids
4. The Bobbsey Twins in a Great City by Laura Lee Hope (This piece was written and popular in this time period if you would like your child to read something that other children their ages were reading in this time.)
5. The Rover Boys on the Farm by Edward Stratemeyer (This piece was written and popular in this time period if you would like your child to read something that other children their ages were reading in this time.)
6. Tom Swift and His Aeriel Warship by Victor Appleton (This piece was written and popular in this time period if you would like your child to read something that other children their ages were reading in this time.)
7. The Story of World War I (1st/2nd Grade) – (Dover History Coloring Book) by Gary Zobaly
8. Pollyanna by Eleanor H. Porter (This piece was written and popular in this time period if you would like your child to read something that other children their ages were reading in this time.)
9. The Lost Prince of Samavia by Frances Hodgson Burnett

Chapters 9 & 10 – Enjoying the Peace & Living Through Hard Times (1920 – 1940)

1. Fashions from the Roaring Twenties (1st/2nd graders) – (Dover Coloring Books) by Tom Tierney
2. Who Was Albert Einstein by by Jess Brallier and Robert Andrew Parker
3. Six Days in October: The Stock Market Crash of 1929 (1st/2nd graders) – by Karen Blumenthal
4. The Great Depression: A History Just for Kids by KidCaps
5. Who was Franklin Roosevelt by by [Margaret Frith](http://www.amazon.com/Margaret-Frith/e/B001ILM8TQ/ref%3Dsr_ntt_srch_lnk_1?qid=1432439748&sr=1-1) and Nancy Harrison
6. Eleanore (1st/2nd graders) – by Barbara Cooney

Chapters 11 – At War Again (1920-1950)

1. A Father’s Promise by Donna L. Hess
2. Winston Churchill: Soldier, Statesman, Artist by John B. Severance
3. You Choose: World War II by Elizabeth Raum
4. WWII For Kids (1st/2nd graders) by Richard Panchyk and John McCain
5. A Boy at War: A Novel of Pearl Harbor by Harry Mazer
6. Code Talker: A Novel About the Navajo Marines of WWII by Joseph Bruchac
7. The Little Riders by Margaretha Shemin

Chapters 12-18 in this text focus on territories and geography of the United States so we will continue our U.S. History through the following pieces of litature for the time period 1945 – 2015 ranging form WWII to the Korean War to Segregation to the Twin Towers to the first black president.

1. No Surrender: My Thirty Year War by [Hiroo Onoda](http://www.amazon.com/Hiroo-Onoda/e/B001I7T32U/ref%3Dsr_ntt_srch_lnk_1?qid=1432440491&sr=1-1) and Charles S. Terry
2. You Choose: The Korean War - by [Michael Burgan](http://www.amazon.com/Michael-Burgan/e/B000APFWQM/ref%3Dsr_ntt_srch_lnk_1?qid=1432440524&sr=1-1)
3. Sputnik’s Child by Fred Ledley
4. Freedom on the Menu (1st/2nd graders) - by [Carole Boston Weatherford](http://www.amazon.com/Carole-Boston-Weatherford/e/B001IU0UC4/ref%3Dsr_ntt_srch_lnk_1?qid=1432440578&sr=1-1) and Jerome Lagarrigue Lagarrigue
5. Freedom’s Children: Young Civil Rights Activists Tell Their Stories by Ellen Levine (1st/2nd graders)
6. You Choose: The Civil Rights Movement by Heather Adamson
7. Who Was Rosa Parks? [Yona Zeldis McDonough](http://www.amazon.com/Yona-Zeldis-McDonough/e/B001IGNFNE/ref%3Dsr_ntt_srch_lnk_1?qid=1432440900&sr=1-1) and Nancy Harrison
8. Rosa by Nikki Giovanni
9. The Story of Ruby Bridges by Robert Coles (1st/2nd)
10. I Have a Dream (1st/2nd Graders) - by [Martin Luther King Jr.](http://www.amazon.com/Martin-Luther-King-Jr./e/B000APMH74/ref%3Dsr_ntt_srch_lnk_1?qid=1432440969&sr=1-1) and Kadir Nelson
11. Who Was Martin Luther King, Jr by Bonnie Bader and Nancy Harrison
12. Happy Birthday Martin Luther King by Jean Marzollo (1st)
13. Martin’s Big Words by Doreen Rappaport (1st/2nd grade)
14. History of the Civil Rights Movement by Steven James Petruccio – Dover Coloring Book (1st/2nd)
15. Paperboy by Vince Vowter
16. WALL by Tom Clohosy Cole
17. Candy Bomber by Michael O.Tunnell
18. Eleven by Tom Rogers