

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.

Standards are cited, followed by titles that align.

SS1H1 Read about and describe the life of historical figures in American history.

a. Identify the contributions made by these figures: Benjamin Franklin (inventor/author/ statesman), Thomas Jefferson (Declaration of Independence), Meriwether Lewis and William Clark with Sacagawea (exploration), Theodore Roosevelt (National Parks and the environment), George Washington Carver (science), and Ruby Bridges (civil rights).

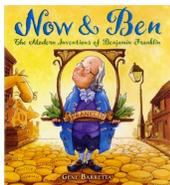
b. Describe how everyday life of these historical figures is similar to and different from everyday life in the present (for example: food, clothing, homes, transportation, communication, recreation, etc.).

SS1G1 Describe how each historic figure in SS1H1a was influenced by his or her time and place.

- a. American colonies (Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson).**
- b. American frontier (Lewis & Clark and Sacagawea)**
- c. National Parks (Theodore Roosevelt)**
- d. Southern U.S. (George Washington Carver and Ruby Bridges)**

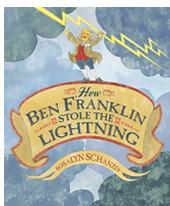
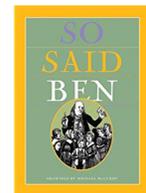
SS1CG1 Describe how the historical figures in SS1H1a display positive character traits such as: fairness, respect for others, respect for the environment, courage, equality, tolerance, perseverance, and commitment.

Children’s books about Franklin:



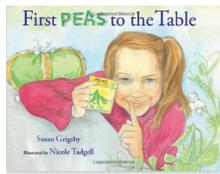
Now and Ben: The Modern Inventions of Benjamin Franklin by Gene Barretta – engaging compare/contrast of Franklin’s inventions with the modern form of them today. Very kid-accessible.

So Said Ben by Michael McCurdy – beautifully illustrated with woodcuts that illustrate a single Ben Franklin quote on each page. Consider sharing with students and having them pick a favorite quote, and then defend their choice with a mix of drawing and text for a good opinion writing activity.



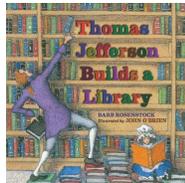
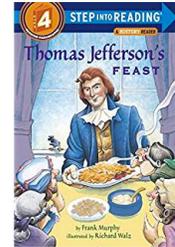
How Ben Franklin Stole the Lightning by Rosalyn Schanzer – lively and enjoyable discussion of Franklin’s inventions and discoveries, with extensive author notes that teachers can use to extend the discussion and learning about this fascinating founding father.

Children’s books about Jefferson:



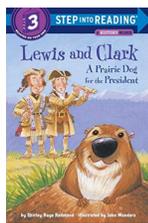
First Peas to the Table: How Thomas Jefferson Inspired a School Garden by Susan Grigsby – a unique look at Jefferson’s interest in vegetable gardening with opportunities for STEM connections.

Thomas Jefferson’s Feast by Frank Murphy – Thomas Jefferson’s interest in food is well documented. Here young learners can find some filling facts to extend their knowledge of this fascinating man.



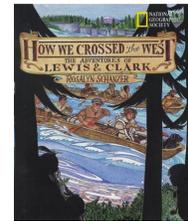
Thomas Jefferson Builds a Library by Barb Rosenstock – This book provides a wonderful introduction to Jefferson as a book lover and collector, and tells the story of his lifelong reading habit and how his book collection was used to help rebuild the Library of Congress. Connect this book to images of Monticello and the Library of Congress to build student background on Jefferson.

Children’s books about Lewis and Clark:

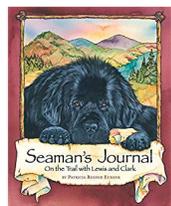


Lewis and Clark: A Prairie Dog for the President by Shirley Raye Redmond – a very kid-friendly, easy to read picture book focused on the “presents” that are sent back to President Jefferson.

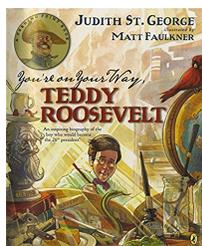
How We Crossed the West: The Adventures of Lewis and Clark by Rosalyn Schanzer – Although written for slightly older learners, this picture book of the expedition may shared in whole or excerpts with first graders. The text is broken into small chunks and quotes from the journals of Lewis and Clark are used throughout, providing an opportunity for young learners to explore primary sources.



Seaman’s Journal by Patricia Reeder Eubank – First graders will embrace this tale of the journey from the perspective of Seaman, the Newfoundland dog owned by Meriwether Lewis. The original story of Seaman comes from the writings of Meriwether Lewis himself. Much history is woven into this light-hearted treatment of the story, also useful for exploring point of view and journal writing. Included is a map of the expedition route and a recipe for pemmican in the back, both of which add more dimension to the reading experience.

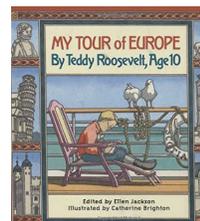


Children’s books about Theodore Roosevelt:

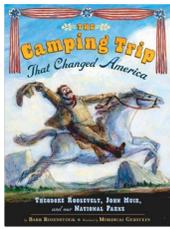


You’re On Your Way, Teddy Roosevelt by Judith St. George – a kid-friendly biography focused on the boyhood of Teddy Roosevelt, and providing young learners with a wonderful chance to see how a difficult and sickly childhood spurred him to achieve all that he did.

My Tour of Europe, By Teddy Roosevelt, Age 10 Edited by Ellen Jackson – Excerpts from T. Roosevelt’s own journal of his trip to Europe as a ten year old, charmingly illustrated and accompanied by notes from the author on keeping journals, more background on Roosevelt, and a discussion of his unique spellings of words. A map of his journey is included in the endpages. This book provides a wonderful prompt for journal writing by your own students.

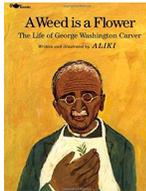


GCSS – Children’s Literature Titles Aligned to First Grade Social Studies Standards



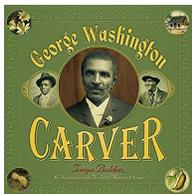
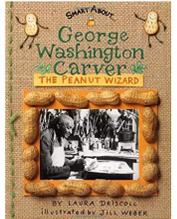
The Camping Trip That Changed America: Theodore Roosevelt, John Muir, and our National Parks, by Barb Rosenstock – provides young learners with an up-close story of the camping trip that John Muir invited Theodore Roosevelt to take, a trip that changed both of their lives and helped to preserve the Yosemite for future generations.

Children’s books about George Washington Carver:



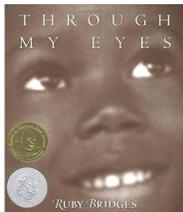
A Weed is a Flower by Alike - a good introduction to Carver for first graders and should spark many questions and inspire further learning. Carver’s work provides a wonderful opportunity to link to science understandings.

George Washington Carver: The Peanut Wizard by Laura Driscoll – another excellent, kid-friendly introductory biography on this scientist. The story incorporates photos and drawings that will engage your learners.



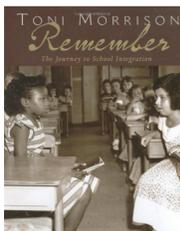
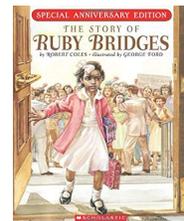
George Washington Carver by Tonya Bolden – This Carver biography is more in-depth than the other two titles featured here. For first graders, consider using it to share specific information or excerpts about Carver, pulling those most appropriate for your students. The book includes many primary sources – photographs and documents- that will enhance your study of this amazing man.

Children’s books about Ruby Bridges:



Through My Eyes by Ruby Bridges and Margo Lundell - a historically rich, compelling story of Ruby’s experiences, filled with photographs and Ruby’s first person account of events. First graders should find this introduction to Ruby inspiring and thought-provoking.

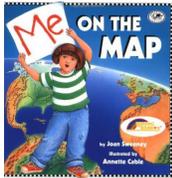
The Story of Ruby Bridges by Robert Coles – Research psychiatrist Coles recounts the basics of the Ruby Bridges story in a good introductory narrative. Pairing this book with Bridges’ own account would help provide multiple perspectives.



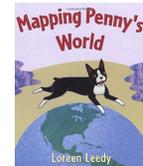
Remember: The Journey to School Integration by Toni Morrison – the renowned writer uses text sparingly, along with riveting photographs of segregated and integrated classrooms of children. This book would be a powerful resource to prompt students to write or tell stories of their own related to school integration.

SS1G2 Identify and locate the student’s city, county, state, nation (country), and continent on a simple map or globe.

Children’s books about this concept:

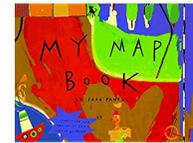


Me on the Map by Joan Sweeney – young kid-friendly introduction to concepts of place and simple maps.



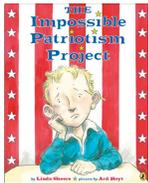
Mapping Penny’s World by Loreen Leedy – another great teacher favorite for young learners to fall in love with maps.

My Map Book by Sara Fanelli – a creative and fresh take on maps and map-making for young learners.



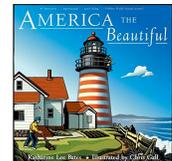
SS1CG2 Explore the concept of patriotism through the words in the songs America (My Country ‘Tis of Thee) and America the Beautiful (for example: brotherhood, liberty, freedom, pride, etc.).

Children’s books that align to this standard are:



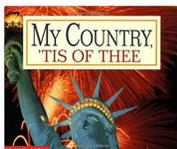
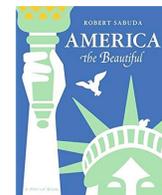
The Impossible Patriotism Project by Linda Skeers – a very kid-friendly exploration of various ways to define patriotism.

America the Beautiful by Katherine Lee Bates, illus. by Chris Gall – beautifully illustrated rendition of this song’s lyrics. Use images to bring the lines to life. Your first graders could make their own illustrated version of the song lyrics.



America the Beautiful: Together We Stand by Katherine Lee Bates, illus. by Bryan Collier – incorporates artwork from ten distinguished artists along with presidential quotes.

America the Beautiful: A Pop-Up Book by Robert Sabuda – adds dimension in every way to the consideration of patriotism.



My Country, ‘Tis of Thee by Samuel Francis Smith – filled with patriotic images to illustrate the lyrics, can be used to spark writing and drawing on the patriotism theme.

SS1E1 Identify goods that people make and services that people provide for each other.

Children’s book titles related to SS1E1 –

- *Anna the Bookbinder* by Andrea Chang
- *On Market Street* by Arnold Lobel
- *Ox-Cart Man* by Donald Hall
- *Strega Nona Meets Her Match* by Tomie dePaola

- *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* by Laura Joffe Numeroff
- *Down the Road* by Alice Schertle

SS1E2 Explain that scarcity is when unlimited wants are greater than limited resources.

- *The Lorax* by Dr. Seuss
- *The Little House* by Virginia Lee Burton
- *Fly Away Home* by Eve Bunting
- *The Great Fuzz Frenzy* by Janet Stevens and Susan Stevens Crummel
- *The Mitten* by Jan Brett
- *Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain* by Verna Aardema

SS1E3 Describe how people are both producers and consumers.

- *Abuela’s Weave* by Omar Castañeda
- *Curious George Takes a Job* by H.A. Rey
- *Market Day* by Carol Fosskett Cordsen
- *The Pen That Pa Built* by David Edwards
- *Tops and Bottoms* by Janet Stevens
- *To Market, To Market* by Anne Miranda

SS1E4 Explain that people earn income by working and that they must make choices about how much to save and spend.

- *Beatrice’s Goat* by Paige McBrier
- *A Chair for My Mother* by Vera Williams
- *My Rows and Piles of Coins* by Tololwa Mollel
- *The Penny Pot* by Stuart J. Murphy
- *Chicken Sunday* by Patricia Polacco