

Primary Civics (K-2)

Theme Addressed: Citizens' Rights and Privileges

Title	Author	Subject	Brief Description
A Long Way to Go	Zibby Oneal	Women's suffrage movement	Lila is the 8-year-old daughter of a wealthy family living in New York City. She never questions her father's authority until her grandmother is arrested in a suffrage demonstration. Chronicles young Lila's political awakening.
Aunt Chip and the Great Triple Creek Dam Affair	Patricia Polacco	Free expression and free press	Highlights what happens when a city sacrifices its right to read books. Town's librarian takes to her bed for 50 years but reemerges when youngsters show interest in reading.
Baseball Saved Us	Ken Mochizuki	Japanese internment during WWII	Tells the story of a family who is forcibly relocated by the US government and how they turn to baseball in the camp in order to pass the time and gain dignity and self-respect.
Escaping to America: A True Story	Rosalyn Schanzer	Immigration	This book is based on the true story of the authors' relatives who fled Poland after WWI due to anti-Semitic violence. The family's relatives had already established themselves in America and would vouch for them. However, they still had to escape from the war zone in Poland and survive the voyage to the U.S.
For Every Child	text adapted by	The UN	This book explains fourteen of

	Caroline Castle	Convention on the Rights of the Child	the more prominent rights of the child under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Each article is accompanied by a two page illustrated spread. There is a compassionate forward by the Archbishop Desmond Tutu, and the full text of the Convention featured at the back of the book. The book is illustrated by fourteen acclaimed artists.
Freedom School, Yes!	Amy Little sugar	Civil Rights during the Summer of 1964	This story is based on the 1964 Mississippi Freedom School Summer Project. Despite the church where the Freedom school was to be taught being burnt down and other hardship, the freedom school is established, and Jolie, the main character learns about her Black-American heritage. Illustrated by Floyd Cooper.
Freedom Summer	Deborah Wiles	Civil Rights during the Summer of 1964	This book takes place during the summer when the Civil Rights act of 1964 was passed. Segregation, southern white retaliation to the law, and the willingness to stand up for what you believe are exposed through the friendship of two young boys, one white and one black.
I Am Rosa Parks	Rosa Parks	Biography of Rosa Parks	This brief autobiography introduces readers to Rosa Parks and the Montgomery bus boycott. The subjects of segregation in the South and Parks's experience when she refused to give up her seat set a serious and later, hopeful mood.
I Remember	Raintree/Steck-	Freedoms and	Tells the story through a child's

China	Vaughn (1995)- publisher	democracy	perspective of a Chinese family who supported the Tiananmen Square demonstration and since the family no longer felt safe in China, they emigrated.
In America	Marissa Moss	Immigration and rights	Tells a grandfather's story of coming to America from Lithuania to gain religious freedom
"In Response to Executive Order 9066" in Celebrate America in Poetry and Art	Dwight Okita	Japanese internment during WWII	A moving poem that tells about a Japanese-American's loss of her best friend because of the relocation order. The child hopes her friend will miss her and not forget her when she is gone.
My Teacher for President	Kay Winters	Elections and Presidential Responsibilities	Kindergarten-Grade 3–Oliver's class has been learning about elections and presidential responsibilities. He writes a letter to Channel 39, putting forth a plethora of reasons why his teacher would be perfect presidential material.
The Ballot Box Battle	Emily Arnold McCully	Women's right to vote	Tells parallel stories of a young girl's struggle for acceptance and her neighbor's efforts to vote (her neighbor is the suffragist Elizabeth Cady Stanton)
The Bracelet	Yoshiko Uchida	Japanese internment during WWII	Story of a young girl who loses the bracelet a friend gives her. Girl's mother tells her that she can still remember the friend without the bracelet, just as they can remember the grandfather who has been sent to an internment camp in Montana.
The	Diane Stanley	Conflict between	Peter is invited to join neighbor's

Conversation Club		rights and values	conversation club but quickly leaves when everybody talks at once. Forms his own "listening club" where nobody except Peter can speak. Changes the rules to only one person can speak at a time and then everyone is happy.
The Day Gogo Went to Vote	Elinor Batezat Sisulu	Right to vote	Tells the story of an elderly South African woman who votes for the first time in the 1994 South African elections after the end of apartheid.
The Inside-Outside Book of Washington D.C.	Roxie Munro	Visiting Washington D.C.	Two good large-format books about our nation's capital. In Kremenz' photo-filled book, six-year-old Matt Wilson, who lives with his family in Washington, D.C., narrates a tour of the city.

Intermediate Civics (3-4)

Theme Addressed: Citizens' Rights and Privileges

Title	Author	Subject	Brief Description
A Fence Away from Freedom: Japanese Americans and World War II	Ellen Levine	Japanese internment during WWII	Collection of oral histories from Japanese Americans who were children or young adults at the time of WWII. Histories cover life before the war, the immediate effects of Pearl Harbor, and life in the camps.
A Long Way to Go: A Story of Women's Right to Vote	Zibby O'Neal	Women's right to vote	Young female character must struggle with the restrictions that her parents and brothers think women are incapable of accomplishing. Also learns of her grandmother's efforts to win women the right to vote.
All for the Better: A Story of El	Nicholasa Mohr	Immigration; The Depression; One	An eleven-year-old Puerto Rican girl living in New York's

Barrio		person can make a difference	Spanish Harlem in 1932 encounters prejudice and hardships. With determination and patience she finds success and makes a positive difference in her community.
Aunt Chip and the Great Triple Creek Dam Affair	Patricia Polacco	Freedom of expression and the press	Highlights what happens when a city sacrifices its right to read books. Town's librarian takes to her bed for 50 years but reemerges when youngsters show interest in reading.
Baseball Saved Us	Ken Mochizuki	Japanese internment during WWII	Tells the story of a family who is forcibly relocated by the US government and how they turn to baseball in the camp in order to pass the time and gain dignity and self-respect.
Dancing to America	Ann Morris	Immigration and rights	Tells the story of a young boy whose family emigrates from the Soviet Union to America in order to gain both religious freedom and freedom of expression.
I Am Rosa Parks	Rosa Parks	Biography of Rosa Parks	This brief autobiography introduces readers to Rosa Parks and the Montgomery bus boycott. The subjects of segregation in the South and Parks's experience when she refused to give up her seat set a serious and later, hopeful mood.
I Remember China	Raintree/Steck-Vaughan (publisher)	Freedoms and democracy	Tells the story through a child's perspective of a Chinese family who supported the Tiananmen Square demonstration and since the family no longer felt safe in China, they emigrated.
If You Grew Up	Ruth Below	1730's and	This book tells you what it was

With George Washington	Gross	1740's Life in Virginia	like to live in Virginia during the colonial times of the 1730's and 1740's.
"In Response to Executive Order 9066" in Celebrate America in Poetry and Art	Dwight Okita	Japanese internment during WWII	A moving poem that tells about a Japanese-American's loss of her best friend because of the relocation order. The child hopes her friend will miss her and not forget her when she is gone.
Kids at Work: Lewis Hine and the Crusade Against Child Labor	Russell Freedman	Child Labor	This book contains amazing photographs, taken by Lewis Hine, of child labor in the United States before World War I. During this time, Hine was working as an investigative photographer for the National Child Labor Committee.
Let it Shine: Stories of Black Women Freedom Fighters	Andrea Davis Pinkney	Black Freedom fighters and civil rights.	This book is a compilation of short biographies about black women who fought for their rights and the rights of other people. The women covered in this book are; Sojourner Truth, Biddy Mason, Harriet Tubman, Ida B. Wells-Barnett, Mary McLeod Bethune, Ella Josephine Baker, Dorothy Irene Heights, Rosa Parks, Fannie Lou Hamer, and Shirley Chisholm. Illustrated by Stephen Alcorn.
Letters from Rifka	Karen Hesse	Immigration and freedoms	Story of immigration to gain religious and other freedoms.
My Teacher for President	Kay Winters	Elections and Presidential Responsibilities	Oliver's class has been learning about elections and presidential responsibilities. He writes a letter to Channel 39, putting forth a plethora of reasons why his teacher would be perfect presidential material.

Rosa	Nikki Giovanni	Personal Story of Rosa Parks	Grade 3-5–Rosa Parks's personal story moves quickly into a summary of the Civil Rights movement in this striking picture book. Parks is introduced in idealized terms.
Rosa Parks: Civil Rights Pioneer	Time for Kids	Rosa Parks	Take a close-up look at Rosa Parks, a dignified woman who took a stand against segregation. Interviews with experts and lively writing deliver the accurate reporting you expect from <i>Time For Kids</i> ®
Tales of Famous Americans	Connie and Peter Roop	Tales of Famous Americans	Profiles the lives and major accomplishments of seventeen fascinating men and women, including Pocahontas, Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, Davy Crockett, and Abraham Lincoln.
The Children of Topaz: The Story of a Japanese-American Internment Camp, Based on a Classroom Diary	Michael O. Tunnell and George W. Chilcoat	Japanese internment during WWII	Actual journal entries kept by a third grade class in 1943 which provide a daily account of life in the internment camp through the eyes and voices of children.
The Conversation Club	Diane Stanley	Conflict between rights and values	Peter is invited to join neighbor's conversation club but quickly leaves when everybody talks at once. Forms his own "listening club" where nobody except Peter can speak. Changes the rules to only one person can speak at a time and then everyone is happy.
The Day Gogo Went to Vote	Elinor Batezat Sisulu	Right to vote	Tells the story of an elderly South African woman who votes for the first time in the 1994 South African elections after the end of apartheid.

The Inside-Outside Book of Washington D.C.	Roxie Munro	Visiting Washington D.C.	Kindergarten-Grade 4 Two good large-format books about our nation's capital. In Kremenz's photo-filled book, six-year-old Matt Wilson, who lives with his family in Washington, D.C., narrates a tour of the city.
The Fall of the Berlin Wall: The Cold War Ends	Nigel Kelly	Freedom of speech	This book explains how the Cold War began, persisted, and ended in a way that elementary students can understand.
The Invisible Thread	Yoshiko Uchida	Japanese internment during WWII	Author recounts her childhood in California, her father's imprisonment after Pearl Harbor and the family's internment at a camp in Utah.
You Want Women to Vote, Lizzie Stanton?	Jean Fritz	Women's suffrage movement	Biography of Elizabeth Cady Stanton

Advanced Civics (5-6+)

Theme Addressed: Citizens' Rights and Privileges

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A Fence Away from Freedom: Japanese Americans and World War II	Ellen Levine	Japanese internment during WWII	Collection of oral histories from Japanese Americans who were children or young adults at the time of WWII. Histories cover life before the war, the immediate effects of Pearl Harbor, and life in the camps.
Big Annie of Calumet: A True Story of the Industrial Revolution	Jerry Stanley	Worker's rights and human rights	True story of the role women played in the Copper Country mining area. Women saw the inherent dangers in mining and led the effort to get U.S. workers legal rights to organize for safe working conditions and higher working wages.
Dancing to America	Ann Morris	Immigration and rights	Tells the story of a young boy whose family emigrates from the Soviet Union to America in order to gain

			both religious freedom and freedom of expression.
Fighting for Honor	Michael Cooper	Japanese internment and the 442 nd Regimental Combat Team	An easy to understand, captive history of the long-standing prewar prejudice against the Japanese Americans, the Japanese internment during World War II, and the experiences of the Japanese American infantry battalion, the most highly decorated unit in U.S. Military history. Also explores the problems the Japanese Americans faced after the war. Excellent photographs.
Grandpa's Mountain	Carolyn Reeder	Taking property away from people to make the Shenandoah National Park. The Great Depression	Carrie spends her summers with her grandparents in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. This particular summer they must all grapple with the decision of the government to clear all homesteads out of the area that is designated to become the Shenandoah National Park. Grandpa uses every legal means to try to stop the movement. Others are happy with the offer of a home and land near schools and hospitals to replace their poorer accommodations in the mountains. Economic themes as well.
If You Grew Up With George Washington	Ruth Below Gross	1730's and 1740's Life in Virginia	This book tells you what it was like to live in Virginia during the colonial times of the 1730's and 1740's.
"In Response to Executive Order 9066" in Celebrate America in Poetry and Art	Dwight Okita	Japanese internment during WWII	A moving poem that tells about a Japanese-American's loss of her best friend because of the relocation order. The child hopes her friend will miss her and not forget her when she is gone.
Kids at Work: Lewis Hine and the Crusade Against Child Labor	Russell Freedman	Child Labor	This book contains amazing photographs, taken by Lewis Hine, of child labor in the United States before World War I. During this time, Hine was working as an investigative photographer for the

			National Child Labor Committee.
Let it Shine: Stories of Black Women Freedom Fighters	Andrea Davis Pinkney	Black Freedom fighters and civil rights.	This book is a compilation of short biographies about black women who fought for their rights and the rights of other people. The women covered in this book are; Sojourner Truth, Bidly Mason, Harriet Tubman, Ida B. Wells-Barnett, Mary McLeod Bethune, Ella Josephine Baker, Dorothy Irene Heights, Rosa Parks, Fannie Lou Hamer, and Shirley Chisholm. Illustrated by Stephen Alcorn.
Letters from Rifka	Karen Hesse	Immigration and freedoms	Story of immigration to gain religious and other freedoms
Radical Red	James Duffy	Women's suffrage movement	Story of a young girl and her mother who become involved in the suffrage movement despite opposition from their father/husband.
Rosa	Nikki Giovanni	Personal Story of Rosa Parks	Rosa Parks's personal story moves quickly into a summary of the Civil Rights movement in this striking picture book. Parks is introduced in idealized terms.
Rosa Parks: Civil Rights Pioneer	Time for Kids	Rosa Parks	Take a close-up look at Rosa Parks, a dignified woman who took a stand against segregation. Interviews with experts and lively writing deliver the accurate reporting you expect from <i>Time For Kids</i> ®
Tales of Famous Americans	Connie and Peter Poop	Tales of Famous Americans	Profiles the lives and major accomplishments of seventeen fascinating men and women, including Pocahontas, Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, Davy Crockett, and Abraham Lincoln.
The Amistad Slave Revolt and American	Karen Zeinert	Rights of slaves	Account of the historic slave revolt on the ship La Amistad which was bringing slaves to America from

Abolition			Sierra Leone. Gives the intricacies of court cases, summary of individuals on the slave ship, and maps.
The Children of Topaz: The Story of a Japanese-American Internment Camp, Based on a Classroom Diary	Michael O. Tunnell and George W. Chilcoat	Japanese internment during WWII	Actual journal entries kept by a third grade class in 1943 which provide a daily account of life in the internment camp through the eyes and voices of children.
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The Invisible Thread	Yoshiko Uchida	Japanese internment during WWII	Author recounts her childhood in California, her father's imprisonment after Pearl Harbor and the family's internment at a camp in Utah.
The Last Safe Place on Earth	Richard Peck	Right to free expression conflicts with other rights	Various vignettes of what happens when rights conflict with others' values and rights.
The Printer's Apprentice	Stephen Krensky	Bill of Rights	This story presents the trial of John Peter Zenger, a 1700s New York newspaper publisher, whose landmark case significantly affected American journalism.
The Rifle	Gary Paulsen	Highlights conflict between right to bear arms and right to life	Details story of a young boy who is accidentally killed when a fireplace spark ignites the powder in a Revolutionary War era rifle that is on display in a home.
Tinker v. Des Moines: Student Rights on Trial	Doreen Rappaport	Nonfiction account of conflicts among rights	Includes narrative text about the famous free speech case as well as newspaper clippings, excerpts from the trial and judge's decision and interviews with the major players in the case 27 years later. Can use to structure a mock trial activity.

When Justice Failed: The Fred Korematsu Story	Steven A. Chin	Japanese Internment during WWII; the Supreme Court trial of Fred Korematsu who challenged the internment as a violation of Constitutional rights.	Fred Korematsu, a law-abiding American citizen, challenges the internment of himself and other Japanese Americans. His case is heard at the US. Supreme Court and he loses the case. In 1983, evidence that has been suppressed by the government lawyers was presented in San Francisco Federal Court, and the government had to admit its error in the Supreme Court case. Ultimately, the government apologized and made reparations to all of those internees still alive.
You Want Women to Vote, Lizzie Stanton?	Jean Fritz	Women's suffrage movement	Biography of Elizabeth Cady Stanton