

# HISTORICAL FICTION UNIT

3<sup>rd</sup> QUARTER - reading

Choose a historic event or time period.

Read 1 historical fiction chapter book, 1 picture book, and 1 nonfiction book about that event or time period.

Complete the following project on a tri-fold board:

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Diary Entries</u></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"><tr><td style="width: 50%; height: 50%; border: 1px dashed black; text-align: center; vertical-align: top;">1</td><td style="width: 50%; height: 50%; border: 1px dashed black; text-align: center; vertical-align: top;">2</td></tr><tr><td style="width: 50%; height: 50%; border: 1px dashed black; text-align: center; vertical-align: top;">3</td><td style="width: 50%; height: 50%; border: 1px dashed black; text-align: center; vertical-align: top;">4</td></tr></table>	1	2	3	4	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Synthesizing Problems, Challenges, Differences from Our Lives Now</u></p> <p>What would it be like to live during this time period? Support your thoughts with evidence and examples from the texts you read.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Nonfiction Text Features</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Timelines</li><li>• Charts</li><li>• Maps</li><li>• Any other features you would like to add!</li></ul>
1	2					
3	4					



Using the books you read, write 4 journal entries. These entries can be from the main character's point of view and/or from any other character(s) point of view in the books. Then, write a journal entry as if YOU were alive during this time period or event. In all, you should have 4 journal entries. You get to decide how many of those are from the characters from books you read, and how many are from your imagination, just as long as you have both. Add an illustration to each entry!

Today, daddy came home with a Golden Cadillac. It was huge and had eight seats. We told mommy and she couldn't believe it. We took it out for a quick drive around the block. Our neighbors loved it. Daddy sold our old car because it was old and starting to break. Grandma invited us for dinner tomorrow night and we are taking the new car. I cannot wait.

Daddy seemed worried. We asked him why and he said the police were suspicious about our new car. They think he stole it. We drove our new car to grandma's and sure enough - the police gave daddy a fine and towed our car. Grandma picked us up. Daddy has to go to court tomorrow to get his car back. I'm exhausted from all this. Going to bed.

From: The Golden Cadillac

I finally get to come home. After travelling around in the negro bus league, I am home. Some places people treated us as white and others as colored. I could not write on the bus cause Piper said we needed to rest. The last game, Pepper hit it so far that Piper said "a white man had to catch that ball because colored can't catch it in the back of the bus".


I am telling dad all about the negro league and all the different places we went. They had a lot of different ice cream flavors. Dad loves ice cream and the unique different flavors all around the country. I told dad and Aunt Patty about the games like game 12, we lost against a white team with a white umpire - it was an exhibition game. Aunt Patty, suddenly says, why did god... but she couldn't finish because lunch came. We had mom buy it.

From Bud Owens

Examples of  
Diary Entries

### BAD WAYS


- Some of your family members could have died when they were searching for gold or if they got an illness on the ship. I know this because in the book Gold Rush it said that many people died because they fell in mines etc.
- It would have taken a long time to have gotten to California. In the book The Diary of David D. Leeper it took them 7 months and 19 days to get to California.



These are white and chinese men in California to search for gold.

### GOOD WAYS

- It would be a good time to free some slaves because if you give gold to the slave catchers they might give your family member back for a trade of some gold. I know this because in Freedom Hill, Sophie found a golden nugget and traded it to the slave catcher for her mom back.
- You get to be rich if you find some gold because in the nonfiction book Gold Rush, it says that gold is a lot of money in the olden days and still is now.
- Maybe you are in a great depression and gold will make you happy if you find some gold the depression might go away because you found some gold. Because in The GREAT HORN SPOON Josh was really happy when he found some gold.



A gold miner is using a washpan to search for gold in the river.

Examples of Problems,  
Challenges, and Differences  
from Now

### DIFFERENCES FROM OUR LIVES NOW

There is a lot of difference in our lives now compared to the Gold Rush Time Period. It wouldn't be that easy if I was born in that time period because it would have taken a very long time to get to one place to another. I learnt about this in the book Diary of David R. Leeper. But, now it takes about 4 hours to get from NC to California.

Another reason I would prefer to live in 2014 than the 1800's was that there are really bad laws like you are allowed to have slavery. In some states that don't allow slavery, African American kids had to carry papers that says that they don't have to become a slave. However in states like California they have slave catchers that can take kids away their mom if you are an African American if they don't have a claim. I learnt about this in the book Freedom Hill. Then children had to find a valuable object like gold that you can trade it for your mother or one of your family members that are slaves.

I would feel good that I could have a chance to get a lot of money and people that are suffering from poverty would have a chance to get some money, but I wouldn't like it if one of my family members died in their Gold Rush journey.

In the end, I think there are a lot of bad situations that can happen in 1800's than good ones.

What about you? What do you think about flying back in time machine and living in 1800's?


Examples of  
Nonfiction  
Features

### TEXT FEATURES

Timeline of the California Gold Rush

- 1848 - James W. W. Mitchell found some gold when he was building a sawmill.
- 1849 - Everyone was coming to California to find some gold!
- 1850 - Some miners gave up because they couldn't find any.
- 1850-1855 - The gold rush ends and another rush starts!!!

### TIMELINE



How CALIFORNIA looked in the Gold Rush period!!

Where miners used to dig!!

This is a list of possible historical fiction texts for you to consider for your Level 4 project this quarter. The books on this list range in level from late 3<sup>rd</sup> grade to 6<sup>th</sup> grade. There is also a wide range of topics and events. I am providing this list as a starting point for you. You do not have to select books from this list. There are many other historical fiction books to choose from in our school library, classroom library and public library. Remember to check out whatever text you select to see if it is “just right” for you by thinking about the following items: text length, text subject matter, challenging vocabulary, size of print, amount of text per page, your background knowledge, and project relatedness. You should also consult with your parents or me if you are having difficulty finding texts to use for this project. :]

- Collier-War Comes to Willy Freeman- Revolutionary War, East Coast
- Curtis-Bud, Not Buddy-1930's, US Depression era
- Cushman-Ballad of Lucy Whipple-1849, Massachusetts/California
- Cushman-Catherine, Called Birdy-13th C., England
- Cushman-The Midwife's Apprentice-Middle Ages, England
- Divakaruni- Neela, Victory Song-1939, Calcutta
- Fleishman-Bandit Moon-1850, California territory
- Fleishman-By the Great Horn Spoon-1849, California Gold Rush
- Fleishman-Saturnalia-17th C., Colonial America

- Fleishman-The 13th Floor-17 C., Massachusetts
- Fleishman-The Whipping Boy-18th C., Europe?
- Forbes-Johnny Tremain-Revolutionary War, US
- Fox-Slave Dancer-1840, New Orleans
- Fritz-Early Thunder-Revolutionary War, Massachusetts
- Fritz-The Cabin Faced West-Revolutionary War, US
- Fritz-Traitor:The Case of Benedict Arnold- Revolutionary War, US
- Furlong-Robin's Country-Middle Ages, England, Sherwood Forest
- George-Julie of the Wolves series-1970's, Northern Alaska
- George-The Talking Earth-Modern era, Florida Everglades
- Gipson-Old Yeller-Late 1860's, Texas
- Gregory- Across the Wide and Lonesome Prairie-
- Gregory-Earthquake at Dawn-1906, San Francisco
- Hamilton-Return to Dies Drear-Modern Era/Civil War Era, Ohio
- Hansen-I thought my soul would Rise and Fly- 1865, South Carolina
- Hesse-Out of the Dust- 1930's, Oklahoma
- Hobbler-Treasures in the Stream-1848, California
- Holm-Boston Jane -1854, Philadelphia/Pacific Northwest
- Ho-The Clay Marble-1980's, Cambodia
- Hurmence-A Girl Called Boy-Modern Era/1853
- Kadahata-Weedflower-1942, Arizona Desert
- Keith-Rifles for Watie-1861, Kansas

- Kerr-When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit-1930, France/Germany
- Kimball-Star Spangled Secret-1812, Battle of 1812, Baltimore, Maryland
- Konigsburg, E. L. -The Second Mrs. Giaconda- 16th C., Florence, Italy
- Konigsburg, E. L.-A Proud Taste of Scarlet and Miniver-12 C., England
- Krensky-The Iron Dragon Never Sleeps- 1867, California
- Larson- Hattie Big Sky- 1918-Iowa
- Lasky-Dreams in the Golden Country- 1903, New York City
- Laugaard- Patty Reed's Doll-1849, Trail to California
- Lester- Day of Tears -1859, Georgia
- Levine-Dave at Night-1920's Harlem Renaissance- New York
- Levitin-Journey to America-1938, Germany
- Levoy-Alan and Naomi-1940s, New York- Post Holocaust
- London-Call of the Wild-19th C, Yukon Territory, Canada
- London-White Fang- Late 1800's, Yukon Territory, Canada,
- Lord-In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson-Post WWII, China/Brooklyn
- Lowry-Number the Stars-1943, Denmark
- Magorian-Good Night Mr. Tom-WWII, England
- Mcguire-The Good Liar- WWII, France
- McKissack- A Picture of Freedom-1859, Virginia
- McKissack-Let My People Go-1800s, South Carolina

- Munoz-Ryan-Riding Freedom-Mid-1800's, California
- Namioka-Yang the Youngest and his Terrible Ear-
- Napoli-Stones in Water-1940s. Italy
- O'Dell-Sarah Bishop 1770s, Colonial America
- O'Dell-The Serpent Never Sleeps-1609-England/Bermuda/Jamestown
- O'Dell-Zia-late 1800s, San Nicolas Island off California
- O'Dell-Island of the Blue Dolphins-mid 1800s, San Nicolas Island off California
- O'Dell-Sing Down the Moon-1800's, Arizona
- O'Dell-Streams to the River, River to the Sea-1803, Lewis and Clark expedition
- Orlev-Island on Bird Street-WWII, Polish ghetto
- Park-The Single Shard-Late 12 C. Korea
- Paterson-Jip, His Story-1855, Vermont
- Paterson-Lyddie-1843, Vermont
- Paterson-The Master Puppeteer -Feudal Japan
- Paulsen-Mr. Tucket series-Early 1900's Western U.S.
- Paulsen-Nightjohn-Pre Civil War, Southern plantation
- Paulsen-Sarny: a Life Remembered-Post Civil War, Southern plantation
- Paulsen-Soldier's Heart-Civil War era, Gettysburg
- Peck-A Day No Pigs Would Die-early 1900s, Vermont
- Peck-A Long Way from Chicago-1929, Illinois
- Peck-A Year Down Yonder-1937, Illinois
- Petry-Tituba of Salem Village-Colonial Era, Salem, Massachusetts
- Porter-Pollyanna-Late 1800's, United States
- Propp- After the Soldiers Were Gone-Netherlands, 1945
- Pullman-Ruby in the Smoke-19th C. London
- Rawls-Where the Red Fern Grows -1930's, Ozark Mountains
- Rinaldi-Hang a Thousand Trees with Ribbons: Story of Phillis Wheatley-1770's, Boston
- Rinaldi-Wolf by the Ears -18th C., Monticello/Washington D.C.
- Russell-Child Bride-1948, Southeastern China
- Schmidt-Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy-Early 1900's Maine
- Senzai- Shooting Kabul- 2001, Pakistan
- Speare-Calico Captive -1750s, French/Indian War, New Hampshire
- Speare-Witch of Blackbird Pond-1687, Colonial Connecticut
- Spinelli- Milkweed-1939, Warsaw, Poland
- Sterman-Saratoga Secret-Revolutionary War, U.S.
- Stevenson-Treasure Island-1760s, England
- Taylor-Let the Circle Be Unbroken-Depression era, Mississippi
- Taylor-Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry-1930s, Mississippi
- Taylor-The Road to Memphis-1941, Mississippi
- Tingle-The Edge on the Sword-Late 800s, Saxon England
- Tomlinson-The Forest Wife-Middle Ages, England
- Uchida-A Jar of Dreams-1930s, California
- Uchida-Journey Home-Post WWII, Salt Lake City, Utah
- Uchida-Journey to Topaz-WWII, Japanese Internment Camp, Berkeley, CA
- Uchida-The Invisible Thread-WWII, Japanese Internment Camp
- Vanderpool-Moon Over Manifest-Kansas, 1917 WWI era
- Vande Velde-There's a Dead Person Following my Sister Around-1800s, New York, Underground Railroad
- Whitmore-Trapped Between the Lash and the Gun-1800s, Antebellum South
- Wiles- Countdown -1962, Washington DC
- Woodruff- Orphan of Ellis Island- 1908 from Italy to U.S.
- Woods- The Red Rose Box- 1953, Los Angeles
- Yates-Amos Fortune, Free Man-18th C., Massachusetts
- Yep-Dragonwings-Early 20th C., California
- Various authors- The Dear America diaries
- Various authors- The American Girl series