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Featured Book

Baseball Saved Us by Ken Mochizuki

Told by a Japanese American boy, this story shows how baseball made life in the internment camps more bearable for many Japanese Americans. This first-person narrative candidly exposes the hardships that Japanese Americans experienced before, during, and after internment.

Topics: Asian Pacific American History, 20th-Century History

Age Group: Early Elementary (K-3)

Book Type: Fiction

Award: Scott O'Dell Historical Fiction Award

Publisher: Lee & Low Books, Inc., 1993, New York, NY

So Far From the Sea

by Eva Bunting

A young girl and her family visit her grandfather's grave at Manzanar War Relocation Camp to say good-bye one last time. Color and black-and-white illustrations bring to life the story of the internment of Japanese Americans.

Topics: Asian Pacific American History, 20th-Century History

Age Group: Early Elementary (K-3)

Book Type: Fiction

Award: Coretta Scott King Award

Publisher: Clarion Books, 1985, New York, NY

The Eternal Spring of Mr. Ito

by Sheila Garrigue

A novel about the hardships a girl named Sara Warren faces in World War II, and the strength and courage she displays during this confusing and tragic time.

Topics: Asian Pacific American History, 20th-Century History

Age Group: Early Elementary (K-3)

Book Type: Fiction

Award: Scott O'Dell Historical Fiction Award

Publisher: Lee & Low Books, Inc., 1993, New York, NY







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A Fence Away from Freedom: Japanese Americans and World War II

by Ellen Levine

Japanese Americans reflect on their years spent in internment camps as children or young adults. They discuss the process of being forced from their homes, and their ability to make the prisons more livable despite oppressive conditions.

Topics: Asian Pacific American History, 20th-Century History

Age Group: Middle School, High School, Adult

Book Type: Fiction

Award: Caldecott Medal

Publisher: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1995, New York, NY

The Children of Topaz: The Story of a Japanese American Internment Camp

by Michael O. Tunnel and George W. Chilcoat

The diary entries of children from one particular class in an internment camp in Topaz, Utah, reveal what daily life was like for students. The entries are placed in historical context, and are accompanied by many photographs illustrating the experiences of these students and other Japanese Americans.

Topics: Asian Pacific American History, 20th-Century History Age Group: Late Elementary (4-6), Middle School, High School

Book Type: Nonfiction

Publisher: Holiday House, 1996, New York, NY

The Bracelet by Yoshiko Uchida

Emi, a young Japanese American, realizes that although she is forced to leave her home and school, she will always have the memories of her friends in her heart.

Topics: Asian Pacific American History, 20th-Century History

Age Group: Early Elementary (K-3)

Book Type: Fiction

Publisher: Paperstar, 1993, New York, NY







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A Carp for Kimoko

by Virginia Kroll

Kimiko very much wants a calico carp kite like her brother's to fly on Children's Day. She can't have one, though, because she's a girl, and Japanese tradition dictates that only boys get colorful kites. Luckily, Kimiko has understanding parents, and the day after the festival, she wakes to find a real calico carp swimming in a tank in her room.

Topics: Asian Pacific American History, 20th-Century History

Age Group: Early Elementary (K-3)

Book Type: Fiction

Publisher: Charlesbridge Publishing, 1996, Watertown, MA

Remembering Manzanar: Life in a Japanese American Internment Camp

by Michael L. Cooper

This close look at life in Manzanar Relocation Camp recalls the hardships of life behind barbed wire through diary and journal entries, memoirs, photographs, and news accounts.

Topics: Asian Pacific American History, 20th-Century History

Age Group: Late Elementary (4-6), Middle School

Book Type: Nonfiction

Publisher: Clarion/Houghton Mifflin, 2002, New York, NY

The Journal of Ben Uchida

by Barry Denenberg

Twelve-year-old Ben and his family are sent to live in one of America's Japanese internment camps during World War II. Ben's family is sent to the Mirror Lake Internment Camp, a desolate, barren place. While there, Ben records his thoughts in a journal.

Topics: Asian Pacific American History, 20th-Century History

Age Group: Late Elementary (4-6), Middle School

Book Type: Fiction

Publisher: Scholastic, 1999, New York, NY







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Weedflower by Cynthia Kadohata

After the attack on Pearl Harbor, a Japanese American girl and her family move to an internment camp on a reservation. There she befriends a Native American boy and learns about the parallels between Native relocation in the 19th Century and her current plight.

Topics: Asian Pacific American History, 20th-Century History

Age Group: Late Elementary (4-6), Middle School

Book Type: Fiction

Publisher: Atheneum/Simon & Schuster, 2006, New York, NY

A Boy at War: A Novel of Pearl Harbor

by Harry Mazer

A 14 year old boy living in Hawaii with his family witnesses the attack on Pearl Harbor. After being mistaken for a young recruit, he is pulled into the rescue efforts while searching for his father, who was on the *U.S.S. Arizona* when it was attacked.

Topics: 20th-Century History

Age Group: Late Elementary (4-6), Middle School

Book Type: Fiction

Publisher: Simon & Schuster, 2002, New York, NY

A Boy No More by Harry Mazer

After his father is killed in the attack on Pearl Harbor, a 14 year old boy moves with his family to California. While there, a Japanese American friend from Hawaii writes to request his help in finding his father, who has been arrested and taken to an internment camp on the mainland.

Topics: Asian Pacific American History, 20th-Century History

Age Group: Late Elementary (4-6), Middle School

Book Type: Fiction

Publisher: Simon & Schuster, 2004, New York, NY







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Heroes Don't Run: A Novel of the Pacific War

by Harry Mazer

After 17 year old defies his mother's wishes and enlists in the Marines during World War II after his father dies aboard the *U.S.S. Arizona* in the attack on Pearl Harbor. He goes to boot camp, and then Okinawa, and learns the realities of war firsthand while facing the memory of his father's sacrifice.

Topics: 20th-Century History

Age Group: Late Elementary (4-6), Middle School

Book Type: Fiction

Publisher: Simon & Schuster, 2005, New York, NY

Dear Miss Breed: True Stories of Japanese American Incarceration during World War II and a Librarian Who Made a Difference

by Joanne Oppenheim

Clara Breed was the children's librarian at the San Diego Public Library, and friend to many Japanese American children when World War II began. The story of what happened to these American citizens and what life was like in an internment camp is told through letters that her young friends wrote to Miss Breed during their internment.

Topics: Asian Pacific American History, 20th-Century History

Age Group: Middle School, High School, Adult

Book Type: Nonfiction

Publisher: Scholastic, 2006, New York, NY

Stanley Hayami, Nisei Son

by Joanne Oppenheim

Stanley Hayami was sixteen when he was sent to Heart Mountain, an internment camp for Japanese Americans during World War II. He kept a diary of his life in the camps, augmented with sketches and drawings. He was drafted into an all–Nisei unit and served with the 442nd Infantry Regional Combat Team in Europe, where he was killed. Based on his diary, this biography honors his sacrifice.

Topics: Asian Pacific American History, 20th-Century History

Age Group: Middle School, High School, Adult

Book Type: Nonfiction

Publisher: Brick Tower, 2008, New York, NY







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Journey Home by Yoshiko Uchida

After their release from a Japanese internment camp, a young girl and her family try to rebuild their life in California. Experiencing prejudice, segregation, and loss of friendship as a result of the war, she learns that life will never be the same again.

Topics: Asian Pacific American History, 20th-Century History

Age Group: Late Elementary (4-6), Middle School

Book Type: Fiction

Publisher: Simon & Schuster, 1982, New York, NY

Journey to Topaz: A Story of the Japanese American Evacuation

by Yoshiko Uchida

Based on the author's personal experience, this story explores the consequences of prejudice through the experience of an 11 year old girl and her family in Topaz Internment Camp.

Topics: Asian Pacific American History, 20th-Century History

Age Group: Late Elementary (4-6), Middle School

Book Type: Fiction

Publisher: Scribner, 1971, New York, NY

A Place Where Sunflowers Grow

by Amy Lee-Tai

Arriving at Topaz Internment Camp, a little girl grows quiet as she struggles to understand the changes around her. After enrolling in an art class at school, she searches for something beautiful to draw, and struggles to find anything in the dusty desert. A new friend, the kind art teacher, and her family help her to adapt to life in the camp.

Topics: Asian Pacific American History, 20th-Century History

Age Group: Early Elementary (K-3)

Book Type: Fiction

Publisher: Children's Book Press, 1996, San Francisco, CA





