

## Challenge Book Ideas

### Historical Fiction that enriches what you are learning about in Social Studies

Anderson, Laurie Halse. **Chains**. 2008.

As the Revolutionary War begins, thirteen year-old Isabella wages her own fight for freedom.

Anderson, Laurie Halse. **Forge**. 2010.

The young soldiers at Valley Forge are suffering from hunger, cold, and the threat of the British Army. Their newly forged bonds of friendship might be enough to help them survive.

Anderson, Laurie Halse. **Fever, 1793**. 2000.

In 1793 Philadelphia, sixteen-year-old Matilda Cook learns about perseverance and self-reliance when she is separated from her mother and forced to cope with the horrors of a yellow fever epidemic.

Avi. **The Fighting Ground**. 1984.

Thirteen-year-old Jonathan goes off to fight in the Revolutionary War.

Collier, James Lincoln. **My Brother Sam is Dead**. 1974.

Tragedy strikes the Meeker family when one son joins the rebel forces while the rest of the family tries to stay neutral in a Tory town.

Fast, Howard. **April Morning**. 1961.

The story of one day in the life of a young American boy in colonial Lexington during the Revolutionary War, the day on which he joined the militia and sees his father shot down by the British.

Rees, Celia. **Witch Child**. 2000.

Fourteen-year-old Mary Newbury keeps a journal of her voyage from England to the New World and her experiences living as a witch in a community of Puritans near Salem, Massachusetts.

Rinaldi, Ann. **A Break with Charity: A Story about the Salem Witch Trials**. 1992.

The daughter of a wealthy Salem merchant recalls the malice, fear and accusations of witchcraft that tore her village apart in 1692.

Rinaldi, Ann. **Time Enough for Drums**. 1986.

Fifteen-year-old Jemina of New Jersey, is a member of a family divided between American patriots and Tories. She is a patriot but what would happen if she were to fall in love with her Tory tutor?

Charbonneau, Eileen. **In the Time of the Wolves**. 1994.

Joshua Woods is 14 in 1824, the year without summer that wreaks devastation on his Catskill mountain home.

Rinaldi, Ann. **Cast Two Shadows**. Harcourt Brace, 1998.

In South Carolina in 1780, fourteen-year-old Caroline sees the Revolutionary War take a terrible toll among her family and friends and comes to understand the true nature of war.

Deborah H. DeFord. **An Enemy Among Them**. Houghton Mifflin, 1987.

A young Hessian soldier questions his loyalty to his king after fighting with the British in America during the Revolutionary War and spending time as a prisoner in the home of a German American family from Pennsylvania.

Avi. **The Fighting Ground**. Lippincott, 1984.

Thirteen-year-old Jonathan goes off to fight in the Revolutionary War and discovers the real war is being fought within himself.

Seymour Reit. **Guns for General Washington: a Story of the American Revolution**.

Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1990.

Frustrated with life under siege in George Washington's army, nineteen-year-old Will Knox and his brother Colonel Henry Knox undertake the task of moving 183 cannons from Fort Ticonderoga to Boston in the dead of winter.

Esther Forbes. **Johnny Tremain** . Houghton Mifflin, 1943.

A fourteen year-old silversmith apprentice finds himself tragically injured and fighting in the Revolutionary war. Newbery Award Winner.

Kathleen Duey. **Mary Alice Peale, Philadelphia, 1777** . Aladdin Paperbacks, 1996.

When her wounded brother returns from battle, twelve-year-old Mary must get help for him without telling her father, a wealthy Tory, who has disowned his son for joining General Washington's Continental Army.

Vivian Schur Franz. **A Message for General Washington**. Silver Moon Press, 1998.

Twelve-year-old Hannah accepts the challenge of sneaking behind enemy lines to deliver a message to General Washington which will result in the British surrender at Yorktown.

James Lincoln Collier. **My Brother Sam is Dead** . Four Winds Press, 1974.

Recounts the tragedy that strikes the Meeker family during the Revolution when one son joins the rebel forces while the rest of the family tries to stay neutral in a Tory town.

John F. Waters. **Night Raiders Along the Cape** Silver Moon Press, 1997.

When British raids off the coast of New England become more frequent, young Asa must row through the night to warn his friends on the Massachusetts coast of an impending attack.

Gary Paulsen. **The Rifle** by Harcourt Brace, 1995.

A priceless, hand-crafted rifle, fired throughout the American Revolution, is passed down through the years until it fires on a fateful Christmas Eve of 1994.

Scott O'Dell. **Sarah Bishop** . Houghton Mifflin, 1980.

Left alone after the deaths of her father and brother who take opposite sides in the War for Independence, and fleeing from the British who seek to arrest her, Sarah Bishop struggles to shape a new life for herself in the wilderness.

Betsy Serman **Saratoga Secret** . Dial Books for Young Readers, 1998.

In 1777, as General Burgoyne and his British troops invade the Upper Hudson River Valley, sixteen-year-old Amity must carry a secret message to the Continental army to give warning of an impending attack.

Ann Rinaldi **The Secret of Sarah Revere** . Harcourt Brace, 1995.

Paul Revere's daughter describes her father's "rides" and the intelligence network of the patriot community prior to the American Revolution.

Bonnie Pryor **Thomas** . Morrow Junior Books, 1998.

In the early years of the Revolutionary War, eleven-year-old Thomas and his family escape a bloody massacre at Wyoming Valley and endure innumerable hardships as they try to make their way to Philadelphia.

## The “Classics” Reading List

- [1984](#) by [George Orwell](#) (1949)
- [The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn](#) by [Mark Twain](#) (1884)
- [The Adventures of Tom Sawyer](#) by [Mark Twain](#) (1876)
- [Alice's Adventures in Wonderland](#) by [Lewis Carroll](#) (1865)
- [All's Quiet on the Western Front](#) by [Erich Maria Remarque](#) (1929)
- [Animal Farm](#) by [George Orwell](#) (1945)
- [Around the World in Eighty Days](#) by [Jules Verne](#) (1872)
- [Brave New World](#) by [Aldous Huxley](#) (1932)
- [The Bridge of San Luis Rey](#) by [Thornton Wilder](#) (1927)
- [The Call of the Wild](#) by [Jack London](#) (1903)
- [The Chronicles of Narnia](#) by [C.S. Lewis](#) (1950-1956)
- [The Count of Monte Cristo](#) by [Alexandre Dumas](#) (1844)
- [David Copperfield](#) by [Charles Dickens](#) (1850)
- [Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde](#) by [Robert Louis Stevenson](#) (1886)
- [Dracula](#) by [Bram Stoker](#) (1897)
- [Emma](#) by [Jane Austen](#) (1816)
- [Fahrenheit 451](#) by [Ray Bradbury](#) (1953)
- [A Farewell to Arms](#) by [Ernest Hemingway](#) (1929)
- [The Fellowship of the Ring](#) by [J.R.R. Tolkien](#) (1954)
- [Frankenstein, or, The modern Prometheus](#) by [Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley](#) (1818)
- [The Giver](#) by [Lois Lowry](#) (1993)
- [Go ask Alice](#) (1971)
- [Go Tell it on the Mountain](#) by [James Baldwin](#) (1953)
- [The Good Earth](#) by [Pearl S. Buck](#) (1931)
- [The Grapes of Wrath](#) by [John Steinbeck](#) (1939)
- [Gulliver's Travels](#) by [Jonathan Swift](#) (1726)
- [The Hobbit](#) by [J.R.R. Tolkien](#) (1937)
- [The Hunchback of Notre Dame](#) by [Victor Hugo](#) (1831)
- [I, Robot](#) by [Isaac Asimov](#) (1950)
- [The Invisible Man](#) by [H.G. Wells](#) (1897)
- [Ivanhoe](#) by [Walter, Sir Scott](#) (1819)
- [Jane Eyre](#) by [Charlotte Brontë](#) (1847) .
- [Kidnapped](#) by [Robert Louis Stevenson](#) (1886)
- [Little Women](#) by [Louisa May Alcott](#) (1868)
- [Lord of the Flies : a novel](#) by [William Golding](#) (1954)
- [Moby-Dick](#) by [Herman Melville](#) (1851)
- [Of Mice and Men](#) by [John Steinbeck](#) (1937)
- [The Old Man and the Sea](#) by [Ernest Hemingway](#) (1952)
- [Oliver Twist](#) by [Charles Dickens](#) (1838) .
- [The Picture of Dorian Gray](#) by [Oscar Wilde](#) (1891)

- [Pride and Prejudice](#) by [Jane Austen](#) (1813)
- [The Red Badge of Courage](#) by [Stephen Crane](#) (1895)
- [Robinson Crusoe](#) by [Daniel Defoe](#) (1719)
- [The Scarlet Letter](#) by [Nathaniel Hawthorne](#) (1850)
- [The Sea-wolf](#) by [Jack London](#) (1904)
- [Tales of Mystery and Terror](#) by [Edgar Allan Poe](#) (1838)
- [The Three Musketeers](#) by [Alexandre Dumas](#) (1844) .
- [The Time Machine](#) by [H.G. Wells](#) (1888)
- [To Kill a Mockingbird](#) by [Harper Lee](#) (1960)
- [Treasure Island](#) by [Robert Louis Stevenson](#) (1883)
- [A Tree Grows in Brooklyn](#) by [Betty Smith](#) (1943)
- [The War of the Worlds](#) by [H.G. Wells](#) (1897)
- [Where the Red Fern Grows](#) by [Wilson Rawls](#) (1961)
- [White Fang](#) by [Jack London](#) (1906)
- [The Yearling](#) by [Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings](#) (1938)
- [The Virginian](#)--Owen Wister
- [Shane](#)--Jack Shaefer
- [Lonesome Dove](#)--Larry McMurtry

*You may also challenge yourself by reading a genre that you normally don't read or by choosing to read a series of books in one quarter.*