

# Immigration

## Immigration - Picture Books

Aliki. **Marianthe's Story One: Painted Words/Marianthe's Story Two: Spoken Memories**

New York: Greenwillow, c1998. ISBN: 0-688-15662-2

Two separate stories in one book, the first telling of Mari's starting school in a new land, and the second describing village life in her country before she and her family left in search of a better life.

Edwards, Pamela Duncan. **Barefoot: Escape On the Underground Railroad**

HarperCollins, c1997. ISBN: 0-06-027138-8

A group of animals help a runaway slave escape his pursuers.

Garay, Luis. **The Long Road**

Tundra: Toronto, c1997. ISBN: 0-88776-408-8

When civil war breaks out in Jose and his mother's small Latin American village, they flee across the boarder and slowly begin to make a new life for themselves.

Garland, Sherry. **The Lotus Seed**

Harcourt Brace Jovanovich: New York, c1993. ISBN: 0-15-249465-0

A young Vietnamese girl saves a lotus seed and carries it with her everywhere to remember a brave emperor and homeland she must flee.

Hest, Amy. **When Jessie Came Across the Sea**

Candlewick: Cambridge, Massachusetts, c1997. ISBN: 0-7636-0094-6

A thirteen-year-old Jewish orphan reluctantly leaves her grandmother and immigrates to New York City, where she works for three years sewing lace and earning money to bring Grandmotehr to the United States too.

Levine, Ellen. **I Hate English!**

Scholastic, c1989. ISBN: 0-590-42304-5 (pbk.)

Mei Mei, a young immigrant girl from Hong Kong, who arrives in New York's Chinatown, learns that she can have the best of two worlds by learning to communicate in two languages.

Levinson, Riki. **Watch the Stars Come Out**

Reading Rainbow: New York, c1985. ISBN: 0-525-44205-7

Grandma tells about her mama's journey to America by boat, years ago. (Also contains behind the scenes information and activities.)

Levitin, Sonia. **A Piece Of Home**

Dial: New York. ISBN: 0-8037-1625-7

When Gregor and his family move from Russia to America, he takes with him a blanket to remind him of home.

McGugan, Jim. **Josepha: A Prairie Boy's Story**

Northern Lights: Alberta, c1994. ISBN: 0-88995-101-2

Josepha, a newcomer to the Prairies, finds life difficult in school as he is past fourteen and trying to learn in primary row.

Polacco, Patricia. **The Butterfly**

Philomel: New York, c2000. ISBN: 0-399-23170-6

During the Nazi occupation of France, Monique's mother hides a Jewish family in her basement and tries to help them escape to freedom.

Reynolds, Marilyn. **The New Land: A First Year on the Prairie**

Orca: Victoria, c1997. ISBN: 1-55143-069-X

The New Land takes the young reader through the first year of the author's family's adventure, from the long journey by boat, train and wagon to their own plot of land on the prairie, and through the task of finding water, building the homestead, ploughing the land and surviving their first winter.

Say, Allen. **Grandfather's Journey**

Scholastic: New York, c1993. ISBN: 0-590-48864-3

Through compelling reminiscences of his grandfather's life in America and Japan, Allen Say delivers a poignant account of his family's love for two countries and the strong and constant desire to be in both places at once.

Smucker, Barbara. **Selina and the Bear Paw Quilt**

Lester: Toronto, c1995. ISBN: 1-89555-70-1

When Selina and her Mennonite family just flee Pennsylvania in the 1860s due to the upcoming civil war, she is comforted by the Bear Paw quilt she made with her grandmother, that helps her maintain her memories.

Yee, Paul. **Ghost Train**

Groundwood: Toronto, c1996. ISBN: 0-88899-257-2

Choon-yi finally arrives in North America to be reunited with her father, who left China to work on the railroad, only to find that he was killed a week earlier when the side of a mountain collapsed on his crew. Choon-yi paints the fire-car her father and his fellow countrymen died for and it becomes a magical means to return the dead Chinese worker's spirits to their homeland.

## Immigration - Novels

Ackerman, Karen. **The Night Crossing**

Scholastic, c1995. ISBN: 0-590-62430-X

Clara's family must flee Austria to Germany in 1938 when Hitler's soldiers begin rounding up Jews and sending them to concentration camps.

Avi. **Beyond the Western Sea Book 1: The Escape From Home**

Avon, c1996. ISBN: 0-380-72875-3 (pbk.)

Maura O'Connell (15) and her brother, Patrick (12), escape Ireland's brutal poverty in 1851, with only their belongings in their gundles and the tickets for ocean passage to America.

Avi. **Beyond the Western Sea Book II: Lord Kirkle's Money**

Avon, c1996. ISBN: 0-380-72876-1 (pbk.)

Maura and Patrick have escaped the desperate poverty and dangers of leaving home in Ireland to face even greater peril as they continue their daring voyage to the New World (Boston) with their friend and stowary laurence Kirkle.

Dorris, Michael. **Guests**

Hyperion, c1994. ISBN: 0-7868-1356-3 (pbk.)

Moss and Trouble, an Algonquin boy and girl, struggle with the problems of growing up in the Massachusetts area during the time of the first Thanksgiving.

Dorris, Michael. **Morning Girl**

Hyperion, c1992. ISBN: 0-7868-1358-X (pbk.)

Morning Girl, who loves the day, and her younger brother, Star Boy, who loves the night, take turns describing life on an island in pre-Columbian America, in Morning Girl's last narrative, she witnesses the arrival of the first Europeans to her world.

Duncan, Sandy Frances. **Cariboo Runaway**

Pacific Edge, c1990. ISBN: 1-89511000-9 (pbk.)

Disguised as a boy, 13 year-old Elva Parkhurst leaves Victoria in 1864 to find her father somewhere in the Cariboo, where he has been prospecting for six years.

Estes, Eleanor. **The Hundred Dresses**

Scholastic, c1944, 1973. ISBN: 0-590-40400-8

Wandra Petronski, a poor student with a strange name and a different family background, tries to be part of the "in crowd" at school by stating she has one hundred dresses all lined up in her closet at home.

Fox, Paula. **The Slave Dancer**

Dell. ISBN: 0-440-40402-9 (pbk.)

Snatched from the docks of New Orleans, thirteen-year-old Jessie is thrown aboard a slave ship where he must play his fife so that captured slaves will "dance" to keep their muscles strong and their bodies profitable.

Gatez, Dayle Campbell. **The Golden Rose**

Pacific Edge, c1996. ISBN: 1-895766-21-4 (pbk.)

A boat trip across the Atlantic in the 1860s is just the first in a series of adventures that takes Katherine Harris and her family from their comfortable home in England to a new life on a plot of land near Hope, B.C.

Gaetz, Dayle Campbell. **Living Freight**

Foussan: Montreal, c1998. ISBN: 1-896184-32-4

Orphaned, Emma trades the textile mills and grimy streets of late 19th century London for the hold of a "brideship" bound for colonial Victoria. But no amount of poverty has prepared her to face her new life.

Hesse, Karen. **Letters From Rifka**

Puffin. ISBN: 0-14-036391-2 (pbk.)

When Rifka and her family flee Russia's brutal treatment of the Jews for a new life of freedom in America, difficulties along the way make the dream impossible to realize.

Holeman, Linda. **Promise Song**

Tundra, c1997. ISBN: 0-88776-387-1 (pbk.)

The year is 1900, and like many thousands of children before them, fourteen-year-old Rosetta and her small sister Flor are sent across the sea from an English orphanage to new homes in Canada.

Horne, Constance. **The Accidental Orphan**

Beach Holme, c1998. ISBN: 0-88878-385-X (pbk.)

Eleven-year-old Ellen finds herself wrongly accused of stealing while selling flowers on the docks of Liverpool and in an attempt to escape becomes a stow-away aboard a steamship bound for Canada carrying a band of orphans destined for new families.

Hughes, Monica. **The Keeper Of the Isis Light**

Chaucer Press, c1980. ISBN: 0-416-21030-9 (pbk.)

A settlement ship from Earth arrives on the planet Isis and is welcomed by sixteen-year-old Olwen and the Guardian, who have lived on the planet alone for years keeping the lines of communication open with Earth.

Lawson, Julie. **White Jade Tiger**

Beach Holme, c1993. ISBN: 0-88878-332-9 (pbk.)

Passing through a doorway in Fan Tan Alley in downtown Victoria, Jasmine finds herself mysteriously in the Chinatown of the 1880s and begins an adventurous journey to the Fraser Canyon during the building of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Little, Jean. **The Belonging Place**

Puffin, c1997. ISBN: 0-14-038663-7 (pbk.)

When her Uncle Will responds to the call of free farm land in Canada, Elspet and Mary leave all behind and cross the Atlantic to begin a new life in a strange land.

Little, Jean. **From Anna**

Fitzhenry & Whiteside, c1972. ISBN: 0-88902-336-6 (pbk.)

Young Anna and her family flee Germany in 1933 when Jewish citizens begin to be denied basic freedoms, and head to Toronto in the hopes of a new life.

Lottridge, Celia Barker. **Ticket To Curlew**

Douglas & McIntyre, c1998. ISBN: 0-88899-221-1 (pbk.)

Sam and his pa get the train to Curlew, Alberta from Iowa, U.S.A. to make a claim for inexpensive land to build a new house, farm and begin a new life.

Lowry, Lois. **Number the Stars**

Dell. ISBN: 0-440-40327-8

When the Jews in Denmark are being relocated by the Nazi's in 1943, ten-year-old Annemarie and her family help Annemarie's best friend Ellen escape to freedom by fishing boat to England.

Lupini, Valeri. **There Goes the Neighbourhood**

Red Deer College, c1995. ISBN: 0-88995-128-4 (pbk.)

Hostile feelings erupt in Ivy's Vancouver neighbourhood when monster houses, built by Chinese immigrant families, begin replacing beautiful old character homes.

Schwartz, Ellen. **Jessie's Star**

Orca, c2000. ISBN: 1-55143-143-2 (pbk.)

As Jesse searches for clues as to why his ancestors came to Canada, he is suddenly transported back to the small Russian village of Braslav in 1890, and joins his ancestors as they flee persecution by escaping to London and then Canada.

Smucker, Barbara. **Days Of Terror**

Puffin, c1981. ISBN: 0-14-031-306-0 (pbk.)

Set in 1917 in the Russian Ukraine, ten-year-old Peter Neufeld flees the horrors of anarchy, famine and the Russian revolution by joining the mass exodus of Mennonites to North America.

Walsh, Jill Paton. **The Green Book**

Sunburst, c1982. ISBN: 0-374-42806-2

Patty and her family, as well as several other poor families, board an old space transport ship, to leave a dying earth in hopes of settling on a planet that will support them.

Yep, Laurence. **Dragon's Gate**

HarperCollins, c1993. ISBN: 0-06-022972-1

When he accidentally kills a Manchu, a Chinese boy is sent to America to join his father, uncle, and other Chinese working to build a tunnel for the transcontinental railroad through the Sierra Nevada mountains of 1867.

Yep, Laurence. **Dragonwings**

Harper & Row, c1975. ISBN: 0-06-440085-9 (pbk.)

Moon Shadow leaves his mother in China and sails to America to join his father, Windrider, who lives in San Francisco's Chinatown and works in a laundry.

## **Immigration: Non-Fiction**

Bowers, Vivien. **Exploring Canada: Learning from the Past, Looking to the Future**

Douglas & McIntyre: Vancouver, c1985. ISBN: 0-88894-871-9

A social studies text book that explores immigration to Canada.

Freedman, Russell. **Immigrant Kids**

Penguin: New York, 1995. ISBN: 0-525-32538-7

Text and period photographs chronicle the life of immigrant children at home, school, work, and play during the late 1800s and early 1900s.

Kaplan, William. **One More Border: The True Story Of One Family's Escape From War-Torn Europe**

Groundwood, c1998. ISBN: 0-88899-332-3

The story of the Kaplan family's brave and difficult escape from Nazi Germany across Russia to Japan, and finally to North America.

Hopkinson, Deborah. **Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt**

Alfred A. Knopf, c1993. ISBN: 0-679-92311-X

Clara sews a freedom quilt that provides runaway slaves with a map to find the Underground Railroad and freedom.

Kite, Lorien. **The Chinese** (*We Came to North America*)

Crabtree: New York, 2000. ISBN: 0-7787-0202-2 (pbk.)

Examines the history, traditions and contributions of Chinese immigrants who have come to live and work in the United States and Canada.

Kurelek, William. **They Sought A New World: The Story of European Immigration to North America**

Tundra: New York, c1985. ISBN: 0-88776-172-0 (pbk.)

Since 1820 some 50 million Europeans have immigrated to the United States and Canada. This means nearly every European has a relative somewhere in North America. This book was created at the request of European publishers who felt William Kurelek's paintings told the immigration story in human terms, graphically and unforgettably.

Stein, R. Conrad. **The Story of the Underground Railroad**

Childrens Press: Chicago, c1981. ISBN: 0-516-04643-8

Discusses the network of groups and individuals throughout Ohio and the New England states who aided slaves escaping from their captivity during the nineteenth century.

Strom, Yale. **Quilted Landscape: Conversations with Young Immigrants**

Simon & Schuster: New York, c1996. ISBN: 0-689-80074-6

Twenty-six young people of different ages and nationalities describe their experience of leaving their countries and immigrating to the United States.

UNICEF. **One Day We Had to Run!**

Evans Brothers: London, c1994. ISBN: 0-237-51489-3

Tells the story of three children who were forced to become refugees when they fled Somalia, Sudan and Ethiopia, leaving their families and homes and facing many dangers before they reached the safety of the refugee camps in Kenya.

# Pioneers

## Picture Books (Pioneers)

Bunting, Eve. **Dandelions**

Harcourt Brace: New York, c1995. ISBN: 0-15-200050-X

Zoe and her family find strength in each other as they make a new home in Nebraska territory.

## Fiction Novels (Pioneers)

Gipson, Fred. **Old Yeller**

The story of a young boy, Travis, who learns to become a man in the late 1860s when his father must leave on a cow drive to get some much needed money, and the story of Old Yeller, a faithful dog who provides companionship and protection.

Lottridge, Celia Barker. **The Wind Wagon**

Groundwood, c1995. ISBN: 0-88899-234-3 (pbk.)

In 1859, the only way to get out west to the Rocky Mountains is by oxcart. Sam Peppard builds a wind wagon to try and make the journey more quickly.

MacLachlan, Patricia. **Sarah, Plain and Tall**

HarperCollins. ISBN: 0-06-440205-3 (pbk.)

Young Anna and her brother Caleb's lives are changed when their father sends for a mail order bride to help him raise his children on his prairie farm.

MacLachlan, Patricia. **Skylark**

Harper Trophy, c1997. ISBN: 0-06-440622-9 (pbk.)

When drought turns the prairie land dry and dangerous, Sarah takes Anna and Caleb to stay with her in Maine.

Van Leeuwen, Jean. **Bound For Oregon**

Dial. 0-8037-1527-7

In 1852 nine-year-old Mary Ellen Todd sets off with her family on a journey of over two thousand miles to find a better life in Oregon territory.

## Non-Fiction (Pioneers)

Gutsole, Marlene. **Discovering Canadian Pioneers**

Oxford University Press: Don Mills, Ont., c1998. ISBN: 0-19-541325-3

Provides young readers with a detailed account of the hard but exciting lives led by pioneer settlers in 19th-century Upper Canada.

Kalman, Bobbie. **Women of the West** (Life in the Old West)

Crabtree: New York, c2000. ISBN: 0-7787-0080-1

Describes the lives and experiences of women in the nineteenth-century North American west, including immigrants, African Americans, and Native Americans.

Paul, Ann Whitford. **Eight Hands Round: A Patchwork Alphabet**

HarperCollins: New York, c1991. 0-06-024704-5

Introduces the letters of the alphabet with names of early American patchwork quilt patterns and explains the origins of the designs by describing the activity or occupation they derive from.

# Family & Family Tree

## Family & Family Tree - Picture Books

Bradby, Marie. **Momma, Where Are You From?**

Orchard: New York, c2000. ISBN: 0-531-33105-9

Momma describes the special people and surroundings of her childhood, in a place where the edge of town met the countryside, in a time when all the children at the school were brown.

Bunting, Eve. **The Memory String**

Clarion: New York, c2000. ISBN: 0-395-86146-2

While still grieving for her mother and unable to accept her stepmother, a girl clings to the memories represented by forty-three buttons on a string.

## Family & Family Tree - Non-Fiction

Douglas, Ann. **The Family Tree Detective**

Owl: Toronto, 1999. ISBN: 1-895688-88-4 1-895688-89-2 (pbk.)

Fascinating information, practical tips, and lighthearted fun blend to help students find out where their family came from and why they ended up where they are.

Hartley, William G. **The Everything Family Tree Book: Finding, Charting, and Preserving Your Family History**

Adams Media: Holbrook, MA, c1998. ISBN: 1-55850-763-9 (pbk.)

Provides extensive coverage of activities to help students and adults explore and record their own unique family histories.

Multiculturalism Directorate. **The Canadian Family Tree**

Corpus Information Services Ltd: Canada, c1979. ISBN: 0-919217-14-1 (pbk.)

This is an older title written at an adult reading level. It does provide a one to seven page summary of dozens of ethnic groups and the dates and reasons for their coming to Canada. (Interlibrary loan from Highland as a teacher reference.)

Showers, Paul. **Me and My Family Tree** (Let's Read-and-Find-Out Science Books)

Thomas Y. Crowell: New York, c1978. ISBN: 0-690-03887-9

This is an older, rather dated book, but it does present a simple and informative explanation of the family tree for primary students. Useful as an interlibrary loan.

# Quilts & Quilting

## Picture Books (Quilts)

Flournoy, Valerie. **The Patchwork Quilt**

Dial: New York, c1985. ISBN: 0-8037-0098-9

Using scraps cut from the family's old clothing, Tanya helps her grandmother make a beautiful quilt that tells the story of her family's life.

Hopkinson, Deborah. **Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt**

Alfred A. Knopf, c1993. ISBN: 0-679-92311-X

Clara sews a freedom quilt that provides runaway slaves with a map to find the Underground Railroad and freedom.

Johnson, Tony. **The Quilt Story**

G.P. Putnam's Sons: New York, c1985. ISBN: 0-399-21009-1 0-399-21008-3 (pbk.)

A pioneer mother lovingly stitches a beautiful quilt which warms and comforts her daughter Abigail; many years later another mother mends and patches it for her little girl.

Polacco, Patricia. **The Keeping Quilt**

Simon and Schuster: New York, c1988. ISBN: 0-671-64963-9

A homemade quilt ties together the lives of four generations of an immigrant Jewish family, remaining a symbol of their enduring love and faith.

Smucker, Barbara. **Selina and the Bear Paw Quilt**

Lester: Toronto, c1995. ISBN: 1-89555-70-1

When Selina and her Mennonite family just flee Pennsylvania in the 1860s due to the upcoming civil war, she is comforted by the Bear Paw quilt she made with her grandmother, that helps her maintain her memories.

## Quilts & Quilting - Non-fiction

Cobb, Mary. **The Quilt-Block History of Pioneer Days: With Projects Kids Can Make**  
Millbrook Press: Brookfield, Conn., c1995. ISBN: 1-56294-692-7 (pbk.)

This brightly illustrated book shows how traditional American quilt-block designs tell the stories of Pioneer days, when designs were created to reflect daily life and special events. Simple craft projects, using paper and other easily obtained materials, are included.

Paul, Ann Whitford. **Eight Hands Round: A Patchwork Alphabet**

HarperCollins: New York, c1991. 0-06-024704-5

Introduces the letters of the alphabet with names of early American patchwork quilt patterns and explains the origins of the designs by describing the activity or occupation they derive from.

# **Books For Exploring Culture**

## **Picture Books - Culture**

Fleishman, Paul. **Weslandia**

Candlewick: Cambridge, Mass., c1999. ISBN: 0-7636-0006-7

Wesley's garden produces a crop of huge, strange plants which provide him with clothing, shelter, food, and drink, thus helping him create his own civilization and changing his life forever.

Fox, Mem. **Feathers and Fools**

Harcourt Brace: San Diego, c1996. ISBN: 0-15-200473-4

A modern fable about some peacocks and swans who allow the fear of their differences to become so great that they end up destroying each other.

Fox, Mem. **Whoever You Are**

Harcourt Brace: San Diego, c1997. ISBN: 0-15-200787-3

Despite the difference between people around the world, there are such similarities that join us together, such as pain, joy and love.

Wells, Rosemary. **Yoko**

Hyperion: New York, c1998. ISBN: 0-7868-2345-3

When Yoko brings sushi to school for lunch, her classmates make fun of what she eats - until one of them tries it for himself.

Wisniewski, David. **The Wave Of the Sea-Wolf**

Clarion: New York, c1994. ISBN: 0-395-66478-0

Kchokeen, a Tlingit princess, is rescued from drowning by a guardian spirit that later enables Kchokeen to summon a great wave and save her people from hostilestrangers.