

Literature to Support Grade 9 Social Studies Curriculum

Selected Bibliography

NB: Older titles that you may find in your library have been included, and a great many newer titles are provided as a guide for purchasing of new resources. Book types include references, non-fiction, picture books, novels, poetry, alphabet books, folklore and biography. Emphasis has been placed on Canadian titles where possible. Brackets indicate series. Out-of-print (O/P) titles are often included, since they may be in the library even if they are not available to purchase. Books constantly go in and out of print, so it's well worth ordering any title that is shown as O/P. Some O/P titles are not indicated as such.

Title	Book Type	Suggested Activities	Curriculum Outcome
General References			
Online Reference Centre , from Alberta Education, http://www.learnalberta.ca , at least 7 free encyclopedias, hundreds of periodical articles, current events, and much more. Password required. Use particularly World Book Encyclopedia and The Canadian Encyclopedia .	Reference	Use for in depth research, or looking up any quick information.	
Adams, Simon. Role of the United Nations: the Facts Behind the Headlines, 2005 , 1932889434. High quality graphics and photos. Good index, table of contents, and glossary. Use in connection with Current Affairs and also Grade 9 Issues for Canadians.	Non-fiction	Use as background to current events and issues	
Macdonald, Fiona. September 11th Terrorist Attacks . High quality colour photos, includes a lot of information on the climate of fear and cultural collisions that led to Sept. 11.	Non-fiction	Use as background to current events and issues	
Crewe, Sabrina. Terrorist Attacks of September 11, 2001 . High quality colour photos, includes a lot of information and photos of the actual attacks on Sept. 11.	Non-fiction	Use as background to current events and issues	
Alberta Learning. Learning and Teaching Resources Branch. Focus on Inquiry: A Teacher's Guide to Implementing Inquiry-based Learning , 2004, 0778526666, available in pdf from http://www.education.gov.ab.ca/K_12/curriculum/bysubject/focusoninquiry.pdf or in print from Learning Resources Centre, http://www.lrc.learning.gov.ab.ca	Teacher Reference	Teacher Reference on research process, an essential resource from Alberta Learning.	
Alberta Education. The Heart of the Matter: Character and Citizenship Education in Alberta Schools , 2005, 0778537919. From LRC or Alberta Ed	Teacher Reference		

download.			
Armstrong, Tricia. Information Transformation: Teaching strategies for authentic research, projects, and activities. 2000, 1-55138-122-2. A great resource for supporting information processing in research and writing projects, this volume is well-organized, and full of practical ideas and graphic organizers.	Teacher Reference	Use to help plan research and inquiry projects. Lots of practical strategies you can use right away.	
Grade Nine: Canada: Opportunities and Challenges			
9.1 Issues for Canadians: Governance and Rights			
Students will demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of how Canada's political processes impact citizenship and identity in an attempt to meet the needs of all Canadians.			
Farmer, Nancy. The House of the Scorpion , 2002, 0-689-85222-3. In this novel of the future, human clones are considered nothing more than beasts. Matt may be a clone, but he is the clone of Al Patrón, the rich lord of Opium, a long strip country just south of the U.S. border. As Matt struggles to understand his existence, and indeed, continue to exist, he must deal with an increasingly sinister cast of characters. An exciting and well-written page turner, with extremely well-drawn characters, and an excellent choice for a novel to accompany any study of government systems.	Novel	Novel study or read aloud. Characterize the governments in the story. Compare and contrast with democratic government.	9.1.1 appreciate the impact of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms on rights and governance in Canada
Usher, M. D. Wise Guy: The Life and Philosophy of Socrates. 2005, 0-374-31249-4. A biography of Socrates, a philosopher and teacher in ancient Greece who held that wisdom comes from questioning ideas and values rather than simply accepting what is passed on by parents and teachers.	Biography	To what extent were democratic ideals of equity and fairness part of the structure of government and society in ancient Athens? What rights that we enjoy in Canada were missing?	
Robinson, Deborah. Cree. 2002, 0822541785. Describes the history, modern and traditional cultural practices and economies, geographic background, and ongoing oppression and struggles of the Cree.	Non-fiction	What policies of the Canadian government have affected the citizenship status of the Cree?	9.1.2 appreciate the various effects of government policies on citizenship and on Canadian society
Loyie, Larry. As Long as the Rivers Flow: A Last Summer Before Residential School. 2002, 0-8899-473-7. A short novel in picture book style about Larry, who at 10 was living with his family near Slave Lake in	Biographical	What policies of the Canadian government have affected the citizenship status of the	

Alberta when he learned that he must go away to school. An epilogue, complete with photos, show the residential school situation as Lawrence lived it from age 10 –14.		Cree?	
Spalding, Andrew. Secret of the Dance . 2006, 1551433966. A young Aboriginal boy witnesses a secret ceremony (potlatch) after being told that dancing is forbidden by law. Evocative illustrations capture the west coast landscape and the sense of secrecy that is central to the story.	Non-fiction	What policies of the Canadian government have affected the citizenship status of Aboriginal people?	
			9.1.3 appreciate how emerging issues impact quality of life, citizenship and identity in Canada
Francis, D. Discovering Canada's Government , 2001, 0195416295. A much-needed resource on Canadian government. Citizens Participating in Decision Making. Includes glossary and many photos, sidebars, maps and diagrams.	Non-fiction		9.1.4 examine the structure of Canada's federal political system by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:
Wells, Don. Canada's System of Government . 2004, 9781553880714. (Canadian Government). Deals with responsible government, representative government, rule of law, federal, provincial and municipal governments, executive and legislative branches, judicial system, checks and balances and more.	Non-fiction	Describe the fundamental principles of democracy. Create a flowchart to show the structure of Canada's federal political system.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How are laws passed in the federal political system? • What is the relationship between the executive, legislative and judicial branches of Canada's federal political system? • What processes are used to determine Members of Parliament (MPs) and Senators? • To whom are Members of Parliament and Senators accountable? • What is the role of political parties within Canada's federal political system? • What is the role of the media in relation to political issues? • How do lobby groups impact government decision making? • To what extent do political and legislative processes meet the needs of all Canadians?
Homan, Rick. Citizenship and Government . (Canadian Heritage Collection) 2004, 9780921156772. Contains a number of primary documents, original writings and images that follow the history and development of citizenship and government in Canada. Very thorough.	Non-fiction	What are some of the issues Canadians face as a legacy of the 20 th Century?	
Cronin, Doreen. Vote for Duck , 2004, 0-689-86041-2. Duck doesn't like doing chores and he doesn't like picking grass out of his feathers. He wonders why farmer Brown is in charge anyway. So Duck calls an election... and wins. He decides to go on to bigger and better things. Follow duck on the campaign trail all the way to the top in this witty and funny sequel to Click, Clack, Moo, Cows that Type!	Picture Book	Read for enjoyment. Identify election strategies. Compare the electoral process in the United States with that of Canada.	
Kielburger, Marc and Craig. Take Action! A Guide to Active Citizenship . 2002, 0-7715-8031-2, Gage. From the kid who made it happen, how to get involved in an important issue and make a difference.	Non-fiction	Use to get ideas for take action projects and how to go about getting them going.	
Kielburger, Marc and Craig. Take More Action . 2004,	Non	Use to get ideas for take	

0771580355. Lots of help with social action and social advocacy. Reviews lots of global issues.	fiction	action projects and how to go about getting them going.	
Quinlan, D. Government: Participating in Canada , 1999, 9780195412796. Very thorough, authoritative, richly illustrated, appealing format. A key resource for grade 9.	Non-fiction	Use for research, report writing, reference.	
			<p>9.1.5 analyze the role that citizens and organizations play in Canada's justice system by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do citizens and organizations participate in Canada's justice system (i.e., jury duty, knowing the law, advocacy, John Howard Society, Elizabeth Fry Society)? • What are citizens' legal roles and their responsibilities? • What is the intention of the Youth Criminal Justice Act?
Wells, Don. Canadian Citizenship . 2005, 1553880978. (Canadian Government). This title in the series highlights human rights and the responsibilities of the Canadian government to its citizens under the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. Subtitles include violated rights, minority rights during war; women and discrimination; Aboriginal peoples and discrimination.	Non-fiction	What is the role of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms in protecting individual and collective rights and freedoms?	<p>9.1.6 critically assess the impact of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms on the legislative process in Canada by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In what ways has the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms fostered recognition of individual rights in Canada? How does the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms support individuals in exercising their rights? • In what ways has the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms affected conditions in the work place (i.e., issues of gender, age, race, religion)? • What is the relationship between the rights guaranteed in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the responsibilities of Canadian citizens?
Stanbridge, Joanne. Who Runs This Country Anyway? A Guide to Canadian Government . 2005, 0439957303. Deals with representative government, BNA Act, Confederation, Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, elections and voting, how government works.	Non-fiction	What is democracy? Describe the fundamental principles of democracy.	
Wells, Don. Canadian Unity . 2004, 1553880722. (Canadian Government). Explores the groups and events that have challenged Canadian unity.	Non-fiction	How can individuals, groups and associations within a community participate in the decision-making process regarding current events or issues?	<p>9.1.7 critically assess how the increased demand for recognition of collective rights has impacted the legislative process in Canada by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In what ways has the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms fostered recognition of collective rights in Canada? • In what ways does the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms meet the needs of Francophones in minority settings? • To what extent does the Canadians Charter of Rights and

			<p>Freedoms meet the needs of Francophones in Québec?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To what extent should federal and provincial governments support and promote the rights of official language minorities in Canada? • How does the <i>Indian Act</i> recognize the status and identity of Aboriginal peoples? • How does legislation such as Treaty 6, Treaty 7 and Treaty 8 recognize status and identity of Aboriginal peoples? • How do governments recognize Métis cultures and rights through legislation (i.e., treaties, governance, land claims, Métis Settlements in Alberta)?
Skrypuch, Marsha. Silver Threads . 1996, 155041903X. Anna and Ivan, two young newlyweds, escape poverty and hardship in Ukraine to start a new life on the Canadian frontier. As they struggle to establish themselves, World War I breaks out, and Ivan is taken prisoner as an enemy.		In what way does this story show conflict between immigration policies in Canada and the rights now guaranteed in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms?	<p>9.1.8 critically assess how legislative processes attempt to address emerging issues of immigration by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What factors influence immigration policies in Canada (i.e., economic, political, health, security)? • How are changes to Canadian policies on immigration and refugees a reflection of world issues? • What impact does increasing immigration have on Aboriginal peoples and communities? • How are provincial governments able to influence and implement immigration policies? • How is the implementation of immigration policies in Québec an attempt to strengthen the French language in North America? • What is the relationship between immigration policies in Canada and the rights guaranteed in the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms? • To what extent does Canada benefit from immigration?
Trottier, Maxine. Mr. Hiroshi's Garden . 2006, 978-1550051520. Set on the West Coast during the Second World War, this sad and beautiful book tells of the friendship between Mary, a prairie girl visiting her grandmother for the summer, and Mr. Hiroshi, the next-door neighbour, who shares his garden with her until he is interned with the other Japanese Canadians in the area. Also published under the name “Flags.”	Picture Book	Use for developing understanding different perspectives in Canadian history.	
9.2 Issues for Canadians: Economic Systems in Canada and the United States			
Students will demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of how economic decision making in Canada and the United States impacts quality of life, citizenship and identity.			
			9.2.1 appreciate the values underlying economic decision making in Canada and the United States
Meserve, Adria. No Room for Napoleon . 2006, 0099451530. When he arrives on a paradise island, Napoleon the dog orders its friendly inhabitants to help him construct a big house that gradually takes over all of the available space.	Picture Book	Should we build bigger and bigger? What are the costs? How should we best decide issues about land use?	9.2.2 appreciate the relationship between consumerism and quality of life

Skrypuch, Marsha Forchuk. Enough , 2000, 1550415093. This Ukrainian story is set during the famine of the 1930s. Marusia's ingenuity gives her the opportunity to go on a magical journey to find more food for her village. Generosity triumphs over greed. Excellent picture of conditions that can occur in a non-democratic country.	Picture Book	What do you see happening in this story that would not happen in Canada? Compare life in a democracy with life under communism. What is happening to "supply and demand" in this story?	
Holeman, Linda. Search of the Moon King's Daughter . 0-88776-592-0. A girl takes a job as a maid in London so that she can search for her brother who has been sold as a chimney sweep. Deals with social conditions at the time of the Industrial Revolution.	Fiction	What legislation prevents this from happening today in Canada?	9.2.3 appreciate the impact of government decision making on quality of life
Thomas, Keltie. The Kids Guide to Money Cent\$. 2004, 1-55337-391-X. Graphic novel format and lots of really good information about money, making money, saving, budgeting, shopping, banks, stock market, credit cards, etc.	Non-fiction	What are the basic characteristics of our economy?	9.2.4 compare and contrast the principles and practices of market and mixed economies by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the principles of a market economy? • Why do governments intervene in a market economy? • Why is Canada viewed as having a mixed economy? • What is the role of the consumer in market and mixed economies? • To what extent do consumer actions reflect individual and collective identity? • How has the emergence of labour unions impacted market and mixed economies? • What are some similarities and respective differences in the way governments in Canada and the United States intervene in the market economies? • How do the economic systems of Canada and the United States differ in answering the basic economic question of scarcity?
Drobot, Eve. Money Money Money, Where It Comes From, How To Save It, Spend It and Make It . 2004. 1-897066-10-4. Here's an incredible amount of information about money, its origins and what we do with it.	Non-fiction	What are the basic characteristics of our economy?	
Linecker, Adelia Cellini. What Color Is Your Piggy Bank? Entrepreneurial Ideas For Self-Starting Kids . Ideas for becoming an entrepreneur, including finding what's right, starting a business and managing and saving money. Book includes several quizzes, tips and online connections.	Non-fiction	What are the basic characteristics of our economy?	
Weitzman, David. Model T: How Henry Ford Built a Legend , 2002. 0-375-81107-9. Here's great appeal for boys with period-style illustrations and features of the development of the assembly line method of production. Show construction of the Model T and pictures of other early vehicles. O/P	Non-fiction	What impact did Henry Ford have on the economic development of Canada and the USA?	
Weitzman, David. John Bull: A British Locomotive Comes to America . Describes how the John Bull, a steam locomotive, was built in England, brought to the	Non-fiction	What impact does efficient transportation have on modern	

United States in 1831, assembled, put to work, and modified over time, leading the way for modern rail transportation and the economic effects of efficient transportation.		economies?
Cronin, Doreen. Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type. 2000, 978-0689832130. This is a barnyard farce about animals that go on strike to demand better working conditions. There are ultimatums and emergency meetings. It's a delightful example of individual and worker rights in action. Very easy reading and very funny.	Picture Book	What features of democracy are illustrated in this story? What legal entity is the story spoofing?
Tomljanovic, Tatiana. Manufacturing. (Linking Canadian Communities), 2007, 9781553883814. Includes manufacturing community and industry, manufacturing in Canada, careers, and how manufacturing links communities.	Non-fiction	What are some of the principles of a market economy?
Tomljanovic, Tatiana. Fishing. (Linking Canadian Communities), 2007, 9781553883791. Includes the fishing industry, careers, the environment, community links. Excellent photos, interesting format. Other titles in this series: Mining, Energy, Farming, Forestry.	Non-fiction	What are some of the principles of a market economy?
Thomas Wright & Linda Martin. Economy: From Farms to Cyberworld (Canadian Heritage Collection). 2004, 9780921156833. Very thorough.	Non-fiction	How has the Canadian economy changed and developed?
Auch, Mary Jane. Ashes of Roses , 2002, 080506686. A vivid portrayal of the struggles of a young Irish Immigrant in 1911. The author utilizes her thorough research into the Triangle Shirtwaist fire to recreate the lives of the young women who worked in New York's sweatshops, trying to make lives for themselves in the land of opportunities, while employers ignored the demands of the budding labour Unions.	Novel	How has the emergence of labour unions impacted market and mixed economies?
Greenwood, Barbara. Factory Girl. 2007, 1-55337-649-8. Life in a dingy, overcrowded garment factory is documented from the point-of-view of young Emily who works 11 hour days snipping the threads from newly-sewn blouses in order to help her family put food on the table. Based on the real-life plight of working children in North American cities in the early 1900's.	Novel	How has the emergence of labour unions impacted labour conditions?
Levin, Ted. Market! 1996, 0688121616. All over the	Picture	Explain the basics of a

world, people come to sell what they grow, catch, or make and to buy what other people grow, catch, or make.	book	market economy.	
Lewin, Ted. How Much: Visiting Markets Around the World . 2006, 0-688-17552-X. A beautifully-illustrated book about markets around the world.	Picture book	What determines the price of an item?	
Smith, David J. If The World Were A Village , 2002, 1550747797. An eye-opening exploration of the "global village." What would happen if we imagined the whole population of the world as a village of just 100 people? In this book we discover the nationalities, languages, ages, religions, food, and educational and living conditions of these villagers. Striking illustrations, notes for teachers and explanations of sources make this book an invaluable classroom resource for global education.	Picture book	What are the indicators of quality of life?	<p>9.2.5 critically assess the relationship between consumerism and quality of life in Canada and the United States by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the indicators of quality of life? • How does individual consumer behaviour impact quality of life (e.g., environmental issues)? • How does marketing impact consumerism? • How does consumerism provide opportunities for and limitations on impacting quality of life? • How is consumerism used as a power of a collective (e.g., boycotts)? • To what extent do perspectives regarding consumerism, economic growth and quality of life differ regionally in North America? • What societal values underlie Canadian social programs in Canada and in the United States?
Life Like Mine: How Children Live Around the World , 2002, 0-7894-8859-0, Dorling Kindersley in association with UNICEF. This is a large format book with many large, bright photographs on every page to illustrate the lives of children and young people from 17 different countries around the world. The photographs show them in a variety of community activities, and the text further explores the cultural diversity. The contents of the book are organized under four broad areas that pertain to children's needs - Survival, Development, Protection, Participation. It focuses on the rights of the child as outlined by the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of the Child. You must have this book!	Non fiction	What are the indicators of quality of life?	
Cherry, Lynne. River Ran Wild, A . 2002, 0-15-216372-7. An environmental history of the Nashua River, from its discovery by Indians through the polluting years of the Industrial revolution to the ambitious cleanup that revitalized it.	Picture book	How do government decisions on environmental issues impact quality of life (i.e., preservation, exploitation and trade of natural resources)?	<p>9.2.6 critically assess the interrelationship between political decisions and economic systems by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions and issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do the economic platforms of political parties differ from one another (i.e., democrat vs. republican; liberal vs. conservative)? • How is a political party's philosophy reflected in its platform (i.e., social programs, specific taxes, taxation model)? • How does the underground economy impact the federal and provincial tax base and social programs (i.e., tax evasion, black market)?
Marsden, John. Rabbits . 2003. 0-9688768-8-9. This simple but powerful allegory describes the results of most of the colonizations in the history of our planet. The spare text and stylized illustrations tell the chilling story of invasion, environmental destruction and cultural	Picture book	How do government decisions on environmental issues impact quality of life (i.e., preservation, exploitation	

subjugation in simple terms. This is an excellent opener for discussion at many levels. This is a "must-have."		and trade of natural resources)?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do government decisions on environmental issues impact quality of life (i.e., preservation, exploitation and trade of natural resources)?
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Using Literature in Teaching Social Studies

Advantages:

- Widespread availability
- Easily integrated into thematic curricula
- Generally more up to date
- More focused and provide an in-depth look at social studies concepts
- More interesting and less confusing for students than textbooks
- Story lines help students remember concepts better
- Contain colourful pictures and graphics
- Present a more human side of social studies than do textbooks
- Evoke both efferent (factual) and aesthetic response (emotional)
- Can be very funny
- Support Deliberative Inquiry and Research

What Do We Look For In Non-Fiction?

Using literature in teaching social studies is in accord with a constructivist view that holds that learners actively construct their own meaning when new information is linked to prior knowledge (Duschl, 1990).

Criteria:

- Large, clear, high quality colour illustrations, including both photos and drawings
- Drawings include graphs, diagrams, tables and other structures that plot information and show relationships
- Illustrations match and support the text
- Captions support the material
- Index
- Table of Contents
- Glossary
- Authority and currency evident in sources used in content development (e.g., sources and authorities listed)
- Text appropriate as to size, font type, placement, amount per page
- Headings and sub-headings used frequently throughout the text
- Content suitable for age of student (maturity level)
- Content appropriate for the intended unit of study
- Content organized in “chunks” of related material
- Print broken up by illustrations, boxes, sidebars, etc., so as to avoid long, intimidating sections of text
- Appealing format

- Canadian or Alberta content where appropriate