

Literature to Support Elementary Social Studies for Kindergarten

Selected Bibliography

NB: Older titles that you may find in your library have been included, and 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. (O/P = out of print)

Title	Book Type	Some Suggested Activities	Curriculum Outcome
General References			
Alberta Education. The Heart of the Matter: Character and Citizenship Education in Alberta Schools , 2005, 0778537919. From LRC or Alberta Ed download.	Prof. Reference	Professional resource.	
Brown, Margaret Wise. The Important Book , 1949, 0-06-443227-0. "The important thing about rain is/ that it is wet./ It falls out of the sky,/ and it sounds like rain,/ and makes things shiny,/ and it does not taste like anything,/ and is the colour of air./ But the important thing about rain is that it is wet." Whether or not you'd distill these things in the same way that the author does, Brown makes us think about the essence of things.	Picture Book	Model for reporting .	
Arlon, Penelope. How People Live . From Dorling Kindersley, 2003, 0789498677. Here is a fabulous collection of information on groups of people from all over the world – 300 pages of culture, customs, lifestyles, all in fascinating text and photographic detail. Students will be fascinated – a must have!	Non-fiction	Use for research. Read for enjoyment.	
Kindergarten Being Together			
Kindergarten students will explore who they are in relation to others in their world. They will be given opportunities to become aware of who they are as unique individuals and to express themselves by sharing their personal stories. Students will discover how they are connected to other people and to their communities and will be encouraged to express interest, sensitivity and responsibility in their interactions with others. Through inquiry into their social, physical, cultural and linguistic environments, students will see themselves as part of the larger world.			
K.1 - I Am Unique			
Pattou, Edith. Mrs. Spitzer's Garden , illus. Tricia Tusa, 2001, 0-15-201978-2. With her sure, loving,	Picture Book	Tell how Mrs. Spitzer helps the students in her classroom	K.1.1 value their unique characteristics, interests, gifts and talents

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gardener's touch, Mrs. Spitzer nurtures the students in her classroom each year.		grow and learn.	
Rubel, Nicole. Twice as Nice: What It's Like to be a Twin , 2004, 0-374-31836-0. "Even though we look alike and we were born together we are different and unique." This engaging book explores ways in which real twins are both the same and yet different and unique.	Picture Book	Tell about twins you know. Interview a set of twins.	
Azore, Barbara. Wanda and the Wild Hair . 2005, 0-88776-717-6. Everyone has a bad hair day, even Wanda, and she's not the kind who fusses about her "do." In fact, she likes it wooly and unshorn even though she's constantly being nagged about it.	Picture Book	Read aloud for enjoyment. Identify some of your own unique characteristics.	
Kroll, Virginia. Boy, You're Amazing! 2004, 0807508683. Rhyming text celebrates the many things that boys can achieve.	Poetry Picture Book	Tell what you can do, whether you are a boy or a girl.	
Tyler, Michael. The Skin You Live In . 2005, 0975958003. It doesn't matter who you are or what colour you are, your skin very beautifully holds the "you" that's within.	Picture Book	How is everyone the same? Different?	
Stiles, Norman. On My Very First School Day I Met.... 2005, 0689039247. Very funny illustrations in this entertaining book that affirms the uniqueness of "me."	Picture Book	Read for enjoyment.	
Carle, Eric. The Mixed-Up Chameleon . 1988, 978-0064431620. The chameleon's life was not very exciting until the day it discovered it could change not only its color but its shape and size, too. When it saw the wonderful animals in the zoo, it immediately wanted to be like them -- and ended up like all of them at once -- with hilarious results.	Picture Book	How is everyone the same? Different?	
Parr, Todd. It's Okay to be Different , 2001, 0316666033.	Picture Book	How is everyone the same? Different?	
Boynton, Sandra. Yay, You! Moving Out, Moving Up, Moving On . 2001, 0-689-84283-X. In rhyme, outlines some of the possibilities that life has to offer, from the adventurous to the tranquil.	Picture Book Poetry	What are your talents and what might you do with them?	K.1.2 appreciate the unique characteristics, interests, gifts and talents of others: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • appreciate feelings, ideas, stories and experiences shared by others • value oral traditions of others
Beaumont, Karen. I Like Myself! 2004, 0152020136. In rhyming text, a child expresses her	Picture Book	Talk about what makes each person unique.	

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self-esteem and exults in her unique identity.	Poetry		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • appreciate that French and English are Canada's official languages
Barnwell, Ysaye M. No Mirrors in My Nana's House. 1998, 0152018255. A girl discovers the beauty in herself by looking into her Nana's eyes.	Picture Book	What is unique about you? Why do you like yourself?	
Powell, Jillian. Sam Uses a Wheelchair. 2005, 079108180X. Sam has spina bifida, but she does lots of things just like other kids.	Non fiction	List all the ways Sam is like other kids.	
Clement, Rod. Olga The Brolga. Very funny story about a most unusual bird!	Picture Book	Read for enjoyment. What is unique about Olga?	
Carlson, Nancy. I Like Me! 1990, 978-0140508192. By admiring her finer points and showing that she can take care of herself and have fun even when there's no one else around, a charming pig proves the best friend you can have is yourself.	Picture Book	What is unique about you? Why do you like yourself?	
Hoffman, Mary. Amazing Grace. 1991, 1854303341. Grace loves to act out stories and sets her sights on playing Peter Pan in the school production. Her classmates, however, say that the role cannot be hers because she is black--and a girl. Her grandmother's wisdom helps Grace to realize that she can do anything she puts her mind to.	Picture Book	What is unique about Grace?	
Kraus, Robert. Leo the Late Bloomer. 1994, 978-0064433488. Leo isn't reading, or writing, or drawing, or even speaking, and his father is concerned. But Leo's mother isn't. She knows her son will do all those things, and more, when he's ready. 'Reassuring for other late bloomers, this book is illustrated with beguiling pictures.'	Picture Book	What is unique about Leo?	
Hamanaka, Sheila. All the Colors of the Earth. 1999, 978-0688170622. With beautiful paintings, this book celebrates the earth, children and the diversity of the world's ethnic heritages.	Picture Book	What are some of the differences we see in children from around the world?	
Munsch, Robert. David's Father, 1983, 0920236626. David has some apprehensions about having a school-chum home for lunch: what will the reaction be when it is discovered that Dad is a giant? Misgivings give way to satisfaction, though, when Dad goes for a walk through the	Picture Book	Read aloud for enjoyment. How is David like other kids? How is he different? Is the new kid welcome?	

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neighbourhood with the two kids.		
Beaumont, Karen. Being Friends . 2005, 0803725299. Told in rhyming verse with a repetitive refrain, this text explores the similarities and differences between two friends.	Picture Book	Compare and contrast the two friends. Discuss friendship and individual differences.
Lewis, Jackie. How I Got My Dogsled , 1993, 0-921254-61-X. In short, simple sentences, here is a story about acquiring and raising Husky sled dogs. Although not stated, the characters are Aboriginal as indicated by the illustrations and the focus of the story. Shows modern children living comfortably in today's society but also participating comfortably in their Aboriginal traditions, particularly in acquiring, training and sledding with sled dogs.	Picture Book	Read for enjoyment. Tell about winter activities of different groups. What do you do in the winter?
McDermott, Gerald. Arrow to the Sun: A Pueblo Indian Tale . 1974, 0670133698. This is the Pueblo legend of a boy who is searching for his father and is sent to the heavens by Arrow Maker. To prove he is the child of the Sun, he passes four tests of courage, allowing him to return to earth and bring his father's spirit to earth. This is a classic quest story. McDermott's brilliantly-coloured and stylized illustrations are unique.	Picture Book	Read the story and then analyze the pictures for characteristics that make the boy unique.
McCully, Emily Arnold. Mirette on the High Wire . 1992, 0399221301. Mirette learns tightrope walking from Monsieur Bellini, a guest in her mother's boarding house, not knowing he is a celebrated tightrope artist who has withdrawn from performing because of fear.	Picture Book	Read for enjoyment. What unique characteristics does Mirette show?
Munsch, Robert. The Paper Bag Princess . 1980, 1550373927. Elizabeth, forced to dress in a paper bag when a dragon's fiery breath has demolished her clothes, outwits the beast and rescues her fiancé. When Prince Ronald speaks disparagingly about her appearance, though, she decides the engagement is off. Here is the classic story one girl's fearless resourcefulness and independence. Truly a unique character!	Picture Book	Read for enjoyment. What unique characteristics does Elizabeth show?
Kuitenbrouwer, P. Our Song: The Story of O	Music	Learn "O Canada" in French

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<p>Canada, The Canadian National Anthem, 2004, 1894222679. Includes the history, timelines, the music, and the words in English and French. or Harrison, Ted. O Canada. 2003, 1553375815. Harrison matches lines of the Canadian anthem (in English and French) with pictures and brief text for each of the provinces and territories.</p>		<p>and English.</p>	<p>K.1.3 examine what makes them unique individuals by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions for inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are my gifts, interests, talents and characteristics? • How do my gifts, interests, talents and characteristics make me a unique individual? • How do culture and language contribute to my unique identity? • What is the origin and/or significance of my given names?
<p>Cannon, Janell. Stellaluna. 1993, 0152802177. After she falls headfirst into a bird’s nest, a baby bat is raised as a bird until she is reunited with her mother.</p>	<p>Picture Book</p>	<p>Compare the unique characteristics, interests and talents of the birds with those of Stellaluna.</p>	
<p>Caseley, Judith. Sisters, 2004, 0-06-51046-3. The story of two sisters, one newly adopted and her receiving family tell of the joys and struggles of adding a new family member from both sisters’ perspective.</p>	<p>Picture Book</p>	<p>Tell about a new addition to your family.</p>	
<p>Zelinsky, Paul. Rumpelstiltskin. 1986, 0140558640. Rumpelstiltskin has just the right mixture of magic and mischief. Beautiful paintings. Other versions include Paul Galdone’s, 1985, 0899192661.</p>	<p>Folktale</p>	<p>Read for enjoyment. Discuss the significance of a person’s name.</p>	
<p>Choi ,Yangsook. The Name Jar, 2001. 0440417996. After Unhei moves from Korea to the United States, her new classmates help her decide what her name should be.</p>	<p>Picture Book</p>	<p>Read for enjoyment. Discuss the significance of a person’s name.</p>	
<p>dePaola, Tomie. The Art Lesson, 1989, 0698115724. Tommy loved drawing pictures and knew that he would grow up to be an artist. However, when he goes to school, he is horrified when he finds that “art lessons” consist of copying the teacher’s example onto a piece of paper, using the school-issued eight-pack of crayons.</p>	<p>Picture Book</p>	<p>Read for enjoyment. In what ways is Tommie unique?</p>	
<p>Henkes, Kevin. Chrysanthemum. 1991, 0688096999. Chrysanthemum loves her name until she begins school and the other children make fun of it. Although her parents do what they can to make her feel better, it takes the music teacher, whose name is Delphinium, to set things right.</p>	<p>Picture Book</p>	<p>Talk about differences in people and how we can show respect and acceptance of people as they are. Should we all be the same?</p>	

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Polacco, Patricia. Thank You, Mr. Falker. 1998, 0-399-23166-8. A tribute to the real Mr. Falker, this book is a must-have. Polacco tells her personal story of being unable to read until Grade 5, and how the understanding and perseverance of a special teacher made all the difference.	Picture Book	Talk about differences in people and how we can show respect and acceptance of people as they are. Should we all be the same?	
Munsch, Robert. Something Good. She may be bad sometimes, but her father really thinks she's special – he even pays for her at the checkout!	Picture Book	How do parents feel about their children?	
Lester, Helen, Hooway for Wodney Wat. illus. by: Lynn Munsinger , 1999, 0-395-92392-1. A shy rodent turns his speech impediment into a strength which overcomes the class bully and saves the day.	Picture Book	Talk about differences in people and how we can show respect and acceptance of people as they are. Should we all be the same?	<p>K.1.4 explore how we demonstrate respect for ourselves and others by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions for inquiry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the origins of the people in our school, groups or communities? • How can we show interest and sensitivity toward social, physical, cultural and linguistic diversity in the school, groups and communities? • Why is speaking French and/or English important in our school, groups, or communities? • How can we show respect and acceptance of people as they are?
Mayer, Mercer, A Very Special Critter, 1993, 030712763X. A special student joins Little Critter's class at school. The new student uses a wheelchair, and Little Critter is worried. Will his classmate be very different? Will the class know how to act around him? It's an honest, realistic look at ways kids deal successfully with the unknown.	Picture Book	Talk about similarities and differences in people.	
Yashima, Taro. Crow Boy. 1955, 014050172X. Chibi was always alone, and always ignored by everyone at school, that is, until grade 6, when Mr. Isobe showed an interest in him and discovered amazing things about this silent but clever boy.	Picture Book	What was different about Chibi?	
Fox, Mem. Whoever You Are. 1997, 0152164065. Despite differences between people around the world, there are similarities that join us together, such as pain, joy, and love.	Picture Book	Read for enjoyment. What are some things that are different around the world? What are some things that are the same?	
Lester, Julius. Let's Talk about Race. 2005, 978-0060285968. This picture book introduces race as just one of many chapters in a person's story.	Picture Book	Is race important?	
Smith, Cynthia. Jingle Dancer. 2000, 0-688-16241-X. Jenna dreams about her grandmother's jingle dancing - she would love to do the same. She does have a problem, though - how will her dress sing if it has no jingles? This is the story of a	Picture Book	Read for enjoyment. What is special about Jenna?	

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contemporary Native girl who turns to her family and community to help her dance.		
Munsch, Robert. From Far Away , 1995, 155037396X. Saoussan, a little girl from a war-torn city moves to Canada with her family. At first, school is difficult: she speaks no English, she can't understand her teacher, she can't even ask to use the bathroom. Little by little, Saoussan becomes comfortable in her new school and even decides to change her name to Susan but finds her mother obstinate on that point. The book takes on a difficult theme and communicates it effectively on a child's level. A good choice for discussing the immigrant experience. OR Bourgeois, Paulette. Franklin's New Friend . 1990	Picture Book	How is Saoussan the same as other children? How is she welcomed? What could people have done to make things easier for Saoussan? Characterize Saoussan's perspective when she first arrived.
Fitch, Shere. No Two Snowflakes . 2001, 1-55143-206-4. Araba, a child in a tropical country writes his pen pal Lou in Canada asking "What is snow?" So, in poetic form Lou begins to describe snow using his many sensory experiences. The rich imagery and impressionistic pastel illustrations evoke the true delight of our snowy winters. A valuable book for a poetry or writing lesson.	Picture Book	Read for enjoyment. Tell how all the people in the story are different. How are they the same?
Truss, Jan. Peter's Moccasins , 1987, 0919091245. Peter is embarrassed that he is expected to wear moccasins in school when everyone else is wearing sneakers--even though the moccasins have been lovingly fashioned by his grandmother, and decorated with tufted moose hair. When his classmates recognize how special--and comfortable-- they are, everyone decides to bring their moccasins and slippers from home. O/P	Picture Book	Tell about something unique and special that was made or done for you.
Wheeler, Bernelda. Where Did You Get Your Moccasins? 1992, 1-895411-50-5. Through carefully controlled text and charming pictures, this story depicts the conversation of a primary school child with his peers, while he explains all the steps that went into the creation of his new moccasins.	Picture Book	Tell about something unique and special that was made or done for you.

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Kraus, R. Leo the Late Bloomer , 1994, 006443348X. Illustrations add humour to this reassuring tale about a tiger cub who eventually catches up to his more accomplished friends.	Picture Book	Talk about different growth rates. Should we all be the same?	
Pfister, Marcus, Rainbow Fish , 1992, 1558580093. Sometimes being too proud of outside beauty can blind a fish, or a child (or even, heaven forbid, a parent) to the beauty people hold inside. That's the lesson of this simple tale.	Picture Book	Discuss group pressures and how we can show respect and acceptance of people as they are. Should we all be the same?	
Shannon, David. A Bad Case of the Stripes , 1998, 0439598389. Camilla Cream loves lima beans but doesn't eat them because all the other kids at her school don't like them. Camilla worries about what other people think of her . . . in fact, she is so worried that she's about to break out into a BAD CASE OF STRIPES! A nice commentary on the power of group pressures. (Use near end of year or with more advanced classes.)	Picture Book	Discuss group pressures and how we can show respect and acceptance of people as they are. Should we all be the same?	

K.2 - I Belong

Sendak, Maurice. Where the Wild Things Are , 1988, 0060254920. Where they are, of course, is in Max's imagination--a wonderful place to have a wild rumpus--so long as it's possible to sail back to the cozy haven of home.	Picture Book	Read for enjoyment. Compare with your own family using a Venn diagram.	K.2.1 value how personal stories express what it means to belong
Rylant, Cynthia. The Relatives Came , 1985. Very humorous look at the shenanigans when all the relatives come for a visit.	Picture Book	Read for enjoyment. Compare with your own family using a Venn diagram	
Beaumont, Karen. Being Friends . 2002, 0803725299. Two very different girls find that the joy of being friends enables them to share their various likes and dislikes. Very easy reading level.	Picture Book	Read for enjoyment. Compare this story with you and your friends.	
Jordan, Denise M. We Can Be Friends , 2004, 1403444137. Discussion and inquiry questions form the headings in this book (What is a friend?), and provide good discussion points. Colour photographs and text help young children look at the dynamics of friendship. Written at a Gr. 1 level it includes Table of Contents, Index and picture glossary. Other titles:	Non-fiction	Use the inquiry questions from the headings in this book for discussion points.	

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<p>Let's Do It Together, 2004, 1403444129. Your Fair Share, 2004, 1403444153.</p>			
<p>Eastman, P D. Are You My Mother? 1960, 0394900189. A small bird, fallen from his nest, searches for his mother - posing the crucial question to each animal he encounters, until finally he finds the right one.</p>	<p>Picture Book</p>	<p>Tell how you need your mother.</p>	
<p>Parr, Todd. The Family Book. 2003, 0-316-73896-4. Presents a variety of families, some big and some small, some with only one parent and some with two moms or dads, some quiet and some noisy, but all alike in some ways and special no matter what. Great for any family topic, and also useful in dealing with situations where one child seems to be "different." Great colours and illustrations!</p>	<p>Picture Book</p>	<p>Find a family or several families that are like yours. Tell what is unique and special about your family.</p>	
<p>Steig, William. Sylvester and the Magic Pebble. 1969, 067166154X. Sylvester, a young donkey, delights in the magic pebble he has found. In a crisis situation, he makes a wish that saves his hide but leaves him a mute stone unable to utter the wish that will bring him back to his right self. Steig's lyrical prose is a treat to read aloud. The parent's loss of Sylvester and their joy of the family when reunited makes an unforgettable family story.</p>	<p>Picture Book</p>	<p>Tell how you know your mother, father, guardian, etc. loves you. Provide evidence of love in your family. Compare with your own family. Discuss some family characteristics.</p>	
<p>Munsch, Robert. Love You Forever. A must have – this book, although funny to children, captures the quality of a parent's love for the child.</p>	<p>Picture Book</p>	<p>Tell how you know your mother, father, guardian, etc. loves you. Provide evidence of love in your family.</p>	
<p>Hodge, Deborah. Emma's Story. Emma is a baby girl from China who has been adopted by a Canadian family.</p>	<p>Picture Book</p>	<p>Discuss adoption and adopted kids.</p>	
<p>Carlson, Nancy. My Family Is Forever. "Families are formed in different ways so they don't always look alike." This is the story of a Korean girl adopted by a Caucasian couple. Although she has questions about her birth parents the focus is on the characteristics of a healthy family, regardless of</p>	<p>Picture Book</p>	<p>Discuss adoption and adopted kids. Discuss the family in the book and compare and contrast to your own family, use a Venn diagram.</p>	

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differences.		
Friedrich, Molly. You're Not My REAL Mother! 2004, 0316605530. What makes an adoptive mother your REAL mother?	Picture Book	Discuss adoption and adopted kids. Talk about what makes an adoptive mother the REAL mother.
Joose, Barbara. Mama, Do You Love Me? 1991, 0-87701-759-X. This is a delightful story of a child testing her mother's unconditional love. Her mother is very reassuring and proves that a parent's love is everlasting. It's the Arctic setting that sets the story apart. The book includes a detailed glossary that describes the distinctively different Inuit culture.	Picture Book	How do you know your mother loves you?
Fox, Mem. Koala Lou. 1988, 0152005021. A young koala, longing to hear her mother speak lovingly to her, as she did before other children came along, plans to win her distracted parent's attention.	Picture Book	Did Koala Lou need to do something special to get her Mom to love her?
Browne, Anthony. My Mom. 2005, 9780374350987. A child describes the any wonderful things about "my mom," who can make anything grow, roar like a lion, be as comfy as an armchair, and much more.	Picture Book	Compare with 33 Uses for a Dad.
Lillegard, Dee and Don Carter. Wake Up House!: Rooms Full of Poems. 2000	Poetry	Read for enjoyment. Characterize what's in houses that help us live comfortably.
Fitzgerald, Joanne. This Is Me & Where I Am. 2005, 155041819X. Use to introduce the concepts of community and belonging. Very simple text, charming illustrations introduce the idea of place in the world...cyclical patterned text starts with the child in the world, narrow to the community street, yard, house and bedroom; then expands the vision again from self through neighbourhood and back to his place in the world.	Picture Book	What do you belong to?
Einarson, Earl. Moccasins, The. 2004, 1-894778-14-6. A foster mother gives her young foster child a pair of moccasins which make him feel accepted and loved. By the time he grows out of them, he no	Picture Book	Explore different kinds of families. What helped the boy feel that he was loved and belonged?

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<p>longer needs them but when he has his own child, the wise foster mother knows just what gift to give. The illustrations are simple and tactile. Here is a simple circular tale that reinforces the warmth and love one can receive from a caring person. A positive example of a foster parent and foster child relationship. A cautionary note: it would be important for the teacher to check the students' backgrounds, especially if he/she suspects that a child is in foster care.</p>			
<p>Boyden, Linda. Blue Roses. 2002, 1-58430-037-X. Rosalie is named by her grandfather who loves roses and his garden. He teaches her how to plant and tend a garden which according to him is 'the closest place to heaven on this hard earth.' With the plants, he teaches Rosalie about the cycle of life, and that death is part of that cycle. When he dies, Rosalie cries in the company of her whole family and gradually accepts that he is gone. She has a dream about him in his heavenly garden with the blue roses they could never grow. With that vision she learns a way to keep him in her heart.</p>	<p>Picture Book</p>	<p>Who do you love?</p>	
<p>McDermott, Gerald. Arrow to the Sun: A Pueblo Indian Tale. 1974, 0670133698. This is the Pueblo legend of a boy who is searching for his father and is sent to the heavens by Arrow Maker. To prove he is the child of the Sun, he passes four tests of courage, allowing him to return to earth and bring his father's spirit to earth. This is a classic quest story. McDermott's brilliantly-coloured and stylized illustrations are unique.</p>	<p>Picture Book</p>	<p>Read the story and then analyze the pictures to find ways in which the boy belongs.</p>	

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<p>Auld, Mary. My Aunt And Uncle, 2004, 0836839242. Meet the Family series. Here's an excellent balance of print and picture for the early readers. Very small amounts of print, very large print size. The pictures show a variety of situations and people from a variety of backgrounds. Other titles include My Dad, 0836839250 My Grandparents, 0836839269 My Mom, 0836839277 My Brother, 0836839242 My Sister, 0836839285</p>	<p>Picture Book</p>	<p>Make a family tree to show all the members of your family.</p>	<p>K.2.2 value and respect significant people in their lives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • appreciate the important contributions of individuals at home, at school and in the community
<p>Simon, Norma and Flavin, Teresa. All Families Are Special, 2003, 0807521752. Children in a classroom explore how each of their families is special. This book provides a modern, realistic view of many different family groupings with different cultural influences.</p>	<p>Picture Book</p>	<p>Discuss some family characteristics, such as adoption, divorce, extended families, single-parent families, and step parents. Use Venn diagrams.</p>	
<p>Shavick, Andrea. Truth About Families, 2001, 0192723782. Explains common experiences of family life in a humorous manner and simple language.</p>	<p>Picture Book</p>	<p>Read for enjoyment. Compare to your own family.</p>	
<p>Zweibel, Alan. Our Tree Named Steve. 2005, 0399237224. In a letter to his children, a father recounts memories of the role Steven, the tree in their front yard, has played in their lives.</p>	<p>Picture Book</p>	<p>Steve has always been there and played an important role in the life of the family.</p>	
<p>Wood, Audrey. The Napping House, 1984, 0152567089. Enchanting inventory of snoozers from a snoring granny to a dozing dog.</p>	<p>Picture Book</p>	<p>Read for enjoyment.</p>	
<p>Hoberman, Mary Ann and Marilyn Hafner. 1993. Fathers, Mothers, Sisters, Brothers (A Collection of Family Poems). The emphasis is on diverse situations, and rhymes are jingly and energetic, good fo read aloud.</p>	<p>Poetry</p>	<p>Read for enjoyment Tell about your family.</p>	
<p>Micklos, John, Jr., ed., Grandparent Poems. 2004, 1-56397-900-4. Here is a collection of 22 poems by 17 poets that capture the special relationship that exists between grandparents and children.</p>	<p>Poetry</p>	<p>Read for enjoyment Tell about your grandparents.</p>	
<p>Ziefert, Harriet. With Love from Grandma, 2004,</p>	<p>Picture</p>	<p>Tell something special about</p>	

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1402717032. As a grandmother knits an afghan for her granddaughter, she knits strong ties with the girl, too. A special story of bonding between the generations, based on the author's own life.	Book	your grandparents.
Bahr, Mary. The Memory Box . 1992, 0807550523. When Gramps realizes he has Alzheimer's disease, he starts a memory box with his grandson, Zach, to keep memories of all the good times they have shared.	Picture Book	Tell something special about your grandparents. Why does Gramps start the Memory Box?
Munsch, Robert. 50 Below Zero . 1986, 092023691X. Jason has to rescue his father who sleepwalks. He has gone outside in his sleep, and it's 50 below zero! In a classic Munsch story of kid power, Jason figures out how to keep his father inside, but in the end, succumbs to the sleepwalking bug himself!	Picture Book	Read aloud for enjoyment. Talk about how Jason feels about his Dad.
Bowen, Anne. When You Visit Grandma & Grandpa , 2004, 1575056100. It may be a long trip, but it's sure worth it when you get there!	Picture Book	Read aloud and compare different families' experiences.
McPhail, David. My Little Brother , 2004, 0152049002. Little brothers are BIG trouble. They mess with your stuff, they don't do chores, and they get away with everything – and you get blamed! Here's a story that will ring true for every kid with a little brother (or sister!)	Picture Book	Read aloud and compare brothers and sisters.
Chorao, Kay. Whose House? 2004, 0152163476. Would YOU want to live in a big hollow log, like a frog? It may be OK for a frog, but not for this little boy!	Picture Book	Read aloud for enjoyment. List all the things that show that the boy belongs with his family.
Ziefert, Harriet. 33 Uses for a Dad . 2004, 1-59354-028-0. Dads are terrific, and here are 33 of the reasons why. Humorous text and pictures. Text so brief (often just listings by number) that Grade 1 students could read it. Also: 31 Uses for a Mom , 2003, 0-399-23862-X 41 Uses for a Grandma , 2004, 1593540701 40 Uses for a Grandpa , 2005, 1593540760	Picture Book	Add some of your own ideas about why Dads (or Moms or Grandmas or Grandpas) are terrific! Compare with My Mom . Tell about your Dad (or Mom or Grandma or Grandpa).
Rotner, Shelley. Lots of Grandparents . 2001,	Non	Talk about what grandparents

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0761318968. It's good there are lots of Grandparents! Great colour photos.	fiction	do and how important they are in children's lives.	
Munsch, Robert. Mortimer . 1986, 0-920303-11-0. Mortimer won't go to bed, and when he finally does, he won't go to sleep. He has the whole household, indeed the whole neighbourhood, in an uproar. An all-time favourite with young students.	Picture Book	Read aloud for enjoyment. Students love to repeat Mortimer's "Clang, Clang" song. Who in the family is affected by Mortimer's behaviour? In the neighbourhood?	K.2.3 appreciate how their participation in their communities affects their sense of belonging <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop an awareness of the importance of sharing the responsibility for caring for the environment • appreciate the impact that group members have on each other • demonstrate respect for the diverse ways individuals cooperate, work and play together • assume responsibility for personal actions, words and choices
Eyvindson, Peter. Red Parka Mary . Shows how an Aboriginal boy befriends an elderly Aboriginal woman.	Picture Book	Why are friends important?	
Munsch, Robert. Show and Tell . 1991, 1550371975. Here's the ultimate Show and Tell story – another zany Munsch take on children's lives.	Picture Book	Read aloud for enjoyment – a very funny book! How did people affect each other in the story? Have students identify the differing perspectives of the various characters, and tell why they are different.	
Galdone, Paul. Little Red Hen . 1973, 0899193498. Classic folktale about the red hen that does all the work while the mouse, cat and dog lie around resting and waiting for the finished bread.	Folktale	What do you think are the responsibilities of the mouse, the cat, and the dog? Why should people help each other?	
Ernst, Lisa Campbell. This is the Van that Dad Cleaned . 2005, 0689861907. In the style of the classic cumulative rhyme, the children undo all of Dad's hard work cleaning up the family car.	Picture Book	Read This is the House that Jack Built . Tell how the children share responsibility for the mess.	
Williams, Vera. A Chair For My Mother , 1982, 068800914X. Following a fire that has destroyed their home and belongings, Rose, her mother, and her grandmother are able to reestablish themselves, with the kind assistance of neighbours and friends, in an apartment. They have the basic necessities, but coins are saved in a jar towards the purchase of a wonderful, soft armchair.	Picture Book	Discuss such questions as: - What changes occurred that changed the way the family lived? - Where did they find help? - What else helped them?	
Miller, Philip. We All Sing With the Same Voice . 2001, 0060739002. No matter where children live,	Picture Book	Read aloud and talk about what the book means.	K.2.4 examine the characteristics and interests that bring people together in groups by exploring and reflecting upon

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what they look like, or what they do, they're all the same where it counts – in the heart.		Discuss ways children are all the same.	the following questions for inquiry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What brings people together in a group? • What might we share with people in other groups? • Can we belong to several groups at one time? • How do we know that we belong to groups or communities? • Does everyone belong to a group or a community? • How does living and participating in your community affect your sense of belonging?
dePaola, Tomie. Strega Nona , 1975, 0671666061. The magic porridge pot becomes a magic pasta pot in this Italian variation of the old tale. DePaola's illustrations of a pink-tiled Calabrian village inundated with waves of spaghetti are a delight.	Folktale	Read aloud and talk about why Big Anthony had such a big problem. Discuss why we have rules. Are there similar rules at home, at school, and in the community?	K.2.5 examine ways in which people create a climate of cooperation by exploring and reflecting upon the following questions for inquiry: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the rules at home, at school and in the community? • Are there similar rules at home, at school and in the community? • What are the benefits of working cooperatively with others? • What are challenges that groups face in creating a peaceful atmosphere? • In what ways can people contribute to a group or community? • What actions show care and concern for the environment?
Royston, Angela. Fire Fighter! DK Readers Level 2. Includes Index and Fire safety tips. Good balance of text and images for early readers.	Non-fiction	What are some good rules for fire safety?	
Parr, Todd. The Peace Book , 2004, 0-316-83531-5. How do you explain peace to young children? This simple and brightly-coloured book offers concrete examples of this concept.	Non-fiction	What is peace? Talk about what challenges groups face in creating a peaceful atmosphere	
Hennessy, B.G. Because of You . 2005, 0763619264. Tells how every single person helps make the world a kinder and more peaceful place.	Picture Book	How can each person help keep the peace?	
Hawkes, Kevin. Library Lion . 2006, 0763622621. Miss Merriweather, head librarian, first meets Lion when he saunters past his stone counterparts and into the stacks. The scowling circulation assistant wants the enormous cat ejected, but his boss declares that as long as he breaks no rules, he is welcome. The beast does misbehave though, but it turns out that sometimes there is a good reason to break the rules.	Picture Book	Why are there rules?	
Allard, Harry. 1985. Miss Nelson is Missing , 1977, 0395252962. Miss Nelson is missing--and in her place is the ugliest, meanest substitute teacher who ever lived!	Picture Book	Read aloud for enjoyment. Talk about rules for behaviour at school	

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Munsch, Robert. Thomas' Snowsuit , 1985, 0920303323. Thomas has no love for his new snowsuit and creates havoc as his teacher and the principal try to organize Thomas's and their own winter clothes.	Picture Book	Read aloud for enjoyment. Talk about rules for behaviour at school.
Meyer, Mercer. This is My School . 1992, 0307159639. The first day of school is a little scary, until you find out about all the interesting things that happen.	Picture Book	Read aloud for enjoyment. What are the benefits of going to school?
Lionni, Leo. Color of His Own . 1975, 0679887857. A little chameleon is distressed because he doesn't have his own color like other animals.	Picture Book	Read aloud for enjoyment. How does the little chameleon fit in?
Fox, Mem. Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge . 1984, 0140505865. A small boy with a big name helps his friend.	Picture Book	
Curtis, Jamie Lee. It's Hard to Be Five: Learning How to Work My Control Panel , 2004. 0060080965. A child learns that learning to have self-control is hard, but it can also be fun.	Picture Book Poetry	Read aloud and talk about learning the rules, why there are rules, and how the boy in the story learned to have more self control.
Jordan, Denise M. Now It's Your Turn . 2004, 140344411-0. With photographs, large print, and limited text on each page, this book is perfect for helping students understand the importance of taking turns.	Non-fiction	Read aloud and talk about taking turns and playing cooperatively. What are the benefits of cooperating with others?
Vaage, Carol. Bibi and the Bull , 1995, 189612402X. After Grandpa has given her a tour of the farm, Bibi knows all about farm safety--but she can't resist confronting the bull when he gets out of his pen--challenging him to a sniffing, snorting and bellowing show-down.	Picture Book	Why do we have rules? What are the rules for the farm? Are there similar rules at home, at school and in the community? Why?
Scholes, Katherine. Peace Begins with You . 1989, 0316774405. Explains, in simple terms, the idea of peace, why conflicts occur, how they can be resolved in positive ways, and how to keep the peace.	Non-fiction	Talk about some ways to keep the peace.
Radunsky, Vladimir. What Does Peace Feel Like? 2005, 0689866763 A book about peace written by children for children. The children who wrote this	Non-fiction	Talk about some ways to keep the peace.

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<p>book attend an international school in Rome. The illustrator’s child-like illustrations enhance that text that uses the concreteness of the 5 senses to explain the abstract concept of Peace.</p>			
<p>Patterson, Heather. A Poppy is to Remember. 2004, 0439967864. In simple and moving words, the text explains the significance of the poppy and reinforces that a poppy is for peace.</p>	<p>Non-fiction</p>	<p>Talk about the significance of the poppy, and how we can help to keep the peace.</p>	
<p>Gibbons, Gail. The Quilting Bee. 2004, 0688163971. An introduction to the process of quilt making, including as history of the craft, sample quilt patterns, and directions for creating a quilt.</p>	<p>Non-fiction</p>	<p>Set up a project in which students work cooperatively together, such as making a quilt, or painting a quilt, or some other task where each student has a part of the whole to work on. What are the benefits of working cooperatively with others?</p>	

Using Children’s Literature in Teaching Elementary 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)
- Support Inquiry and Research Processes

What Do We Look For In Non-Fiction?

Using children’s 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 that match and support the text
- Captions that 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
- 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

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- Canadian or Albertan content where appropriate