

Historical Fiction Creative Assignment

Historical Fiction is a great way for students to immerse themselves in the experiences of characters during a specific time period. For this assignment, students will choose one of the books from the list below. The student will read the book and then produce a creative piece based on the experience of one of the characters. The creative piece should demonstrate a sense of empathy as well as a sense of understanding of the time period covered (based on concepts discussed in class). Creative pieces could consist of (but are certainly not limited to) art, poetry, music, collage, etc. Students will present their piece during the last class on May 2.

Students are encouraged to read from the below list throughout the school year, but will only pick one book for this assignment.

Unit 1: Prehistory - Early 1600's		
Book	Author	Grade Level
Roanoke: A Novel of the Lost Colony	Sonia Levitin	8-10
Blue Birds	Caroline Starr Rose	5-8
Indio	Sherry Garland	7-9

Unit 2: Colonial America, 1607-1780s		
Book	Author	Grade Level
I Walk in Dread: The Diary of Deliverance Trembley, Witness to the Salem Witch Trials	Lisa Fraustino	4-6
A Break with Charity: A Story about the Salem Witch Trials	Ann Rinaldi	6-10
The Witch of Blackbird Pond	Elizabeth George Speare	5-8
A Journey to the New World: The Diary of Remember Patience Whipple, Mayflower, 1620	Kathryn Lansky	4-7
The Journal of Jasper Jonathan Pierce, A Pilgrim Boy	Ann Rinaldi	4-8
The Arrow Over the Door	Joseph Bruchac	4-6
The Winter People	Joseph Bruchac	5-9
Enemy in the Fort	Sarah Buckey	4-7
The Primrose Way	Jackie Collier	8
The Light in the Forest	Conrad Richter	4-8
Weetamoo	Patricia Clark Smith	4-7
The Sign of the Beaver	Elizabeth Speare	4-7

Unit 3: American Revolution and the Early Republic, 1776-1791		
Book	Author	Grade Level
The Journal of William Thomas Emerson	Barry Dennenberg	4-8
Johnny Tremain	Esther Forbes	4-6
Hope's Crossing	Joan Goodman	5-8
Love Thy Neighbor: The Tory Diary of Prudence Emerson	Ann Turner	4-7
The Winter of Red Snow	Kristina Gregory	5-8
The 5 th of March	Ann Rinaldi	6-9

Unit 4: American Expansion, 1801-1861		
Book	Author	Grade Level
Across the Wide and Lonesome Prairie	Kristina Gregory	
My Travels with Captains Lewis & Clark	George Shannon	
Seaman: The Dog who Explored the West with Lewis and Clark	Gail Langer Karwoski	
Fever 1793	Laurie Halse Anderson	6-10

Unit 5: Civil War and Reconstruction, 1850s-1870s		
Book	Author	Grade Level
Across Five Aprils	Irene Hunt	4-7
Red Badge of Courage	Stephen Crane	5-8
Rifles for Watie	Harold Keith	5-8
Annie Between the States	L.M. Elliot	9
The River Between Us	Richard Peck	9
The Girls of Gettysburg	Bobbi Miller	5-8

Unit 6: Reshaping the Nation, 1850-1917		
Book	Author	Grade Level
Sweetgrass Basket	Marlene Carvell	5-8
City of Orphans	Greg Ruth Avi	6-8
Fair Weather	Richard Peck	5-8

Unit 7: World Wars and Modern America, 1900s-1930s		
Book	Author	Grade Level
Moon Over Manifest	Clare Vanderpool	4-8
Out of the Dust	Karen Hesse	5-9
Roll of Thunder, Hear my Cry	Mildred Taylor	5-9
Dave at Night	Gail Carson Levine	5-9

Unit 8: World War II, 1930s-1945		
Book	Author	Grade Level
Homefront	Doris Gwaltney	6-8
Under the Blood Red Sun	Graham Salisbury	5-8
Aleutian Sparrow	Karen Hesse	6+

Unit 9: Post-World War II Era, 1945-1980		
Book	Author	Grade Level
Countdown	Deborah Wiles	5-8
One Crazy Summer	Rita Williams-Garcia	
I Pledge Allegiance	Chris Lynch	7+
The Rock and the River	Kekla Magoon	7+

Unit 10: American History...and Current-ish Events		
Book	Author	Grade Level
Badd	Tim Tharp	8+
Sunrise over Fallujah	Walter Dean Myers	8+
The Book of Samuel	Erik Raschke	7+