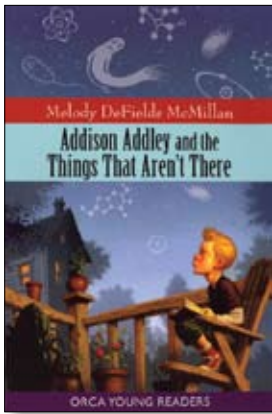


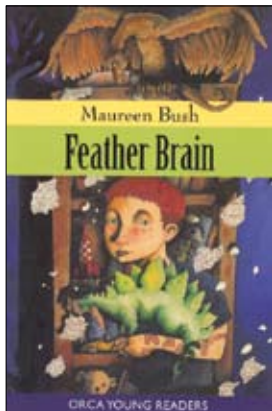
• FICTION •



Addison Addley and the Things That Aren't There

by Melody DeFields McMillan
Orca Book Publishers, 2008
ISBN 978-1-55143-949-5
\$7.95 (paperback) 83 pp, ages 8 – 12
www.orcabook.com

“My name may be smart, but I’m sure not.” Addison Addley is a reluctant grade five student. He hates math (especially fractions), and has an uncanny ability to talk himself out of homework. His best friend is the class brain, and his worst enemy is the class bully. McMillan’s story touches on real aspects of grade five, from speech writing to dealing with math fractions, from bullies to stage fright. As Addison inadvertently thwarts the class bully, through fractions and substitutions, readers will enjoy his antics and I’m sure that many a student will be able to relate to Addison’s take on school life.



Feather Brain

by Maureen Bush
Orca Book Publishers, 2008
ISBN 978-1-55143-877-1
\$7.95 (paperback) 144 pp, ages 8 – 12
www.orcabook.com

Author Maureen Bush grabs the reader from the first page and pulls us quickly into a lively adventure. Dinosaur crazy Lucas has ordered two dinosaur items with his birthday money—a book entitled *Make-a-Saurus: My Life with Raptors and Other Dinosaurs* by Brian Cooley (which, interestingly enough, is a real book with lots of great ideas on how to make dinosaur models) and a dinosaur-making kit from www.howweirdcanyouget.com. The instructions included with the dinosaur-making kit end with these words: “But be warned: what you create is yours for life unless it is stolen from you.” The results of Lucas’ model building sessions are unusual to say the least. A great adventure story, this book deals with the issue of bullies and problem solving realistically.

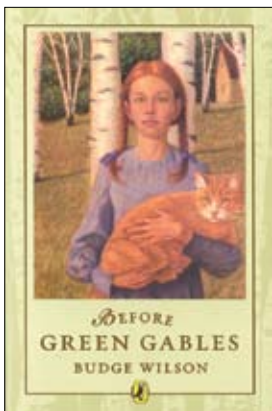


The Girl in the Backseat

by Norma Charles
Ronsdale Press, 2008
ISBN 978-1-55380-056-9
\$10.95 (paperback) 183 pp, ages 12 – 15
www.ronsdalepress.com

Careful handling of a controversial subject makes this story an excellent read. A young girl, Toby, is desperate to flee from her religious community in British Columbia when she learns she’s to be married at fourteen to a much older man—someone she’s never met. Toby makes her escape by hiding in the back seat of a Mini driven by Minerva and Jacob, siblings on a family road trip to take

Minerva to university in Manitoba. Suspenseful and adventurous, this novel deals with contemporary issues—blended families, polygamous religious communities and prejudice—with humour and understanding.

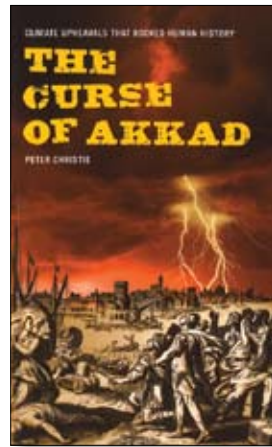


Before Green Gables

by Budge Wilson
Penguin Group (Canada), 2009
ISBN 978-0-14-305536-5
\$12.99, 464 pp, ages 10+
www.penguin.ca

Before Green Gables is a welcome bonus for Anne fans who thought they had read the last in the Anne Shirley series. In this prequel to *Anne of Green Gables*, author Budge Wilson takes us back to Anne’s birth, and we begin to understand why Anne is the feisty, red-headed original that she is. We meet her parents and mourn when they die too young, leaving infant Anne in the care of a family more interested in the furniture and clothing that will come with the adoption than they are in the child. And so Anne is thrust from the loving arms of her doting parents into the rough and tumble household of their housekeeper. Wilson does a *remarkable* job of capturing the tone of L.M. Montgomery’s narratives, and creates a completely believable Anne who will step seamlessly into Matthew and Marilla’s life. If you loved *Anne of Green Gables*, I don’t think you’ll be disappointed with *Before Green Gables*.

• NON-FICTION •

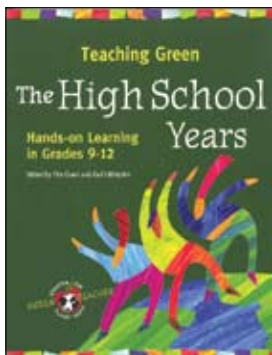


The Curse of Akkad Climate Upheavals That Rocked Human History

Annick Press, 2008
ISBN 978-1-55451-118-1 (pb)
ISBN 978-1-55451-119-8 (hc)
\$11.95 (pb) / \$19.95 (hc), 144 pp, ages 10 – 15
www.annickpress.com

This is a fascinating history of climate and the impact it has had on civilizations throughout history. Christie writes about major weather events: floods, droughts, volcanoes and other occurrences that have had catastrophic effects on the land, people and civilizations impacted. Much of the book details happenings from long ago, such as the fate of the Harappan society, which flourished about the same time as ancient Egypt and all but disappeared from history—probably destroyed by a crop-killing drought. However, Christie also touches on the impact we humans have today on the environment and what this means and will mean to our civilization. A great read, with lots of interesting side bars; this one is sure to captivate readers.

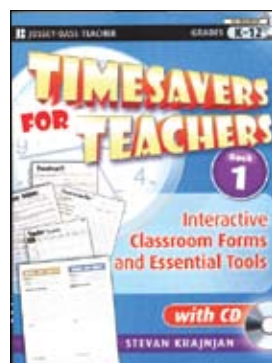
• TEACHERS’ RESOURCES •



Teaching Green: The High School Years

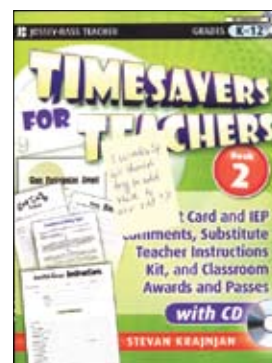
edited by Tim Grant and Gail Littlejohn
New Society Publishers, 2009
ISBN 978-0-86571-648-3
\$29.95, 256 pp, b/w illustrations, index, grades 9 – 12
www.newsociety.com

Teaching Green: The High School Years is a compilation of the best articles previously published in *Green Teacher* magazine, which are focused specifically on working with students at the high school level. The diverse articles, contributed by educators from across North America, have been updated and revised for this resource and reflect the issues and concerns of today’s environmental citizens. They are grounded in several fundamental principles: students should have opportunities to develop a personal connection with nature; education should emphasize our connections with other peoples and other species, and between human activities and planetary systems; education should move from awareness to knowledge to action; learning should extend into the community; learning should be hands-on; education should be future-oriented; education should include media literacy; education should include traditional knowledge; teachers should be facilitators and co-learners; education should integrate subject disciplines. While some articles lay out a framework for projects that can be adapted for local concerns or interests, and others provide step-by-step procedures for specific activities, standard information is provided for each: subject areas, key concepts, skills, location, time, materials. This highly useful, teacher-tested resource will appeal to all high school teachers who want to incorporate green philosophies and practices into their schools.



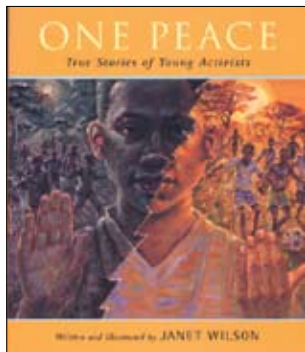
Timesavers for Teachers (Book 1 and Book 2)

by Stevan Krajnc
Jossey-Bass, 2009
ISBN (Book 1) 978-0-470-39532-5
ISBN (Book 2) 978-0-470-39533-2
\$39.95 ea, 280 pp/288 pp, blackline masters
CD, grades K – 12
www.josseybass.com
www.timesaversforteachers.com



These two volumes of timesavers contain a wealth of reproducible pages designed to make a busy teacher’s life easier. Book 1 is a collection of forms to help organize every aspect of your day from timetables, lesson plans, homework, conferencing, keeping records of student progress to “things to do” lists. Book 2 contains report card comments (categorized as Positive, Positive/Negative, Negative and Next Steps) instructions and information for substitute teachers, awards and student passes. Included in the price is a CD that allows you to customize and fill in the forms on your computer, so you have the option of photocopying from the print copy or printing from the CD. Each page is self-explanatory and clearly laid up for immediate use. You will appreciate the thought that has gone into these resources, which were developed by an award-winning Ontario teacher, and you’ll want to keep them within easy reach!

• BOOKS TO INSPIRE •

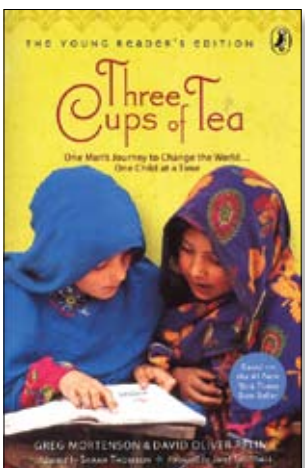


One Peace: True Stories of Young Activists

by Janet Wilson
Orca Book Publishers, 2008
ISBN 978-1-55143-892-4
\$19.95, 48 pp, colour photos and illustrations, ages 9 – 15
www.orcabook.com

This inspirational book is a reminder to all, but especially children, that people of any age can help bring peace to the world. Short profiles of youth from diverse backgrounds who have created change through their actions for peace are set alongside poetry, photographs and illustrations, making *One*

Peace a celebration of the accomplishments of these special activists. Read aloud, this book would serve as a powerful springboard to classroom discussions and further research about conditions existing in many countries today, which bring fear, insecurity and death to the children of the world. The colourful format and short chapters also make it inviting for children to read independently. This is an excellent choice to put into the hands of a child who is showing interest in peacemaking at any level, and a valuable resource for a unit on peace.



Three Cups of Tea (The Young Reader's Edition)

by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin
adapted by Sarah Thomson
Penguin Young Readers Group, 2009
ISBN 9-780-142414-125
\$10.00, 240 pp, b/w and colour photos, glossary
reader's guide, ages 8 – 12
www.penguin.ca

Three Cups of Tea is the inspiring true story of how Greg Mortenson, an American mountain climber, became an international humanitarian who is dedicating his life to building schools in remote regions of Pakistan and Afghanistan. This Young Readers Edition is an adaptation of the award-winning book of the same name. His chosen mission in life began when Mortenson became separated from his porter on a climb of K2,

and was rescued and cared for by the people of Korphe, a small village in northern Pakistan. In gratitude, he promised to return and build them a school, beginning a process with far-reaching effects and a multitude of supporters that resulted in the building of more than sixty schools in Central Asia over the next ten years. Mortenson's belief in education and its essential role in world peace drives his work, and his story will touch the hearts of young readers everywhere. This edition includes an interview with Mortenson's daughter, Amira, who was twelve at the time of writing, and who participates in her father's efforts to promote peace and understanding through education.



Nobel's Women of Peace

by Michelle Benjamin and Maggie Mooney
Second Story Press, 2008
ISBN 978-1-897187-38-8
\$10.95, 146 pp, b/w photos, ages 9 – 15
www.secondstorypress.c

Since the first Nobel Peace Prize was awarded in 1901, the world's most prestigious honour has been bestowed on twelve remarkable women (Bertha von Suttner, Austria; Jane Addams, U.S.; Emily Greene Balch, U.S.; Betty Williams, Ireland; Mairead Corrigan Maguire, Ireland; Mother Teresa, Macedonia/India; Alva Myrdal, Sweden; Aung San Suu Kyi, Burma; Rigoberta Menchu Tum, Guatemala; Jody Williams, U.S.; Shirin Ebadi, Iran; Wangari Maathai, Kenya). This book—one of The Women's Hall of Fame

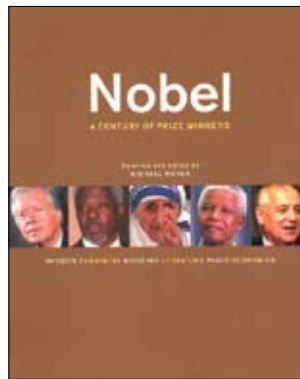
Series—introduces young readers to these inspiring women through short biographies, highlighting their contributions to peace, their courage, and their belief that positive change can happen if people stand up for what is right. For information about the other books in The Women's Hall of Fame Series, visit www.secondstorypress.ca.

Reviewers

Diana Mumford worked as a teacher and teacher-librarian for twenty years before switching to her present career as an editor.

Roxane Holmes is an avid reader and passionate about children's literature. She teaches in a small rural school in Alberta and works with students from kindergarten to grade six.

Interested in reviewing? Contact: dmumford@CanadianTeacherMagazine.com

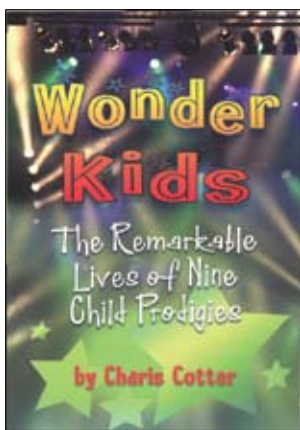


Nobel: A Century of Prize Winners

edited by Michael Worek
Firefly Books, 2008
ISBN 978-1-55407-416-7
\$24.95, 320 pp, b/w photos, index, ages 13+
www.fireflybooks.com

Upon his death in 1896, the enormously rich Alfred Nobel bequeathed a considerable portion of his fortune to be used to establish prizes to be given "to those who, during the preceding year, shall have conferred the greatest benefit on mankind." The five original prizes were awarded for outstanding contributions

to physics, chemistry, medicine/physiology, literature and peace. In 1968, a prize for economics was established. The story of the Nobel prizes and the man who chose to use his fortune in this way is fascinating, and this collection of profiles of prize recipients is equally interesting and inspiring. The book begins with an Introduction outlining the history of the prizes; the remainder is organized by decade—a complete annotated list of all recipients is provided for each ten-year period from 1901 to 2007, accompanied by one-page profiles of a selection of these outstanding people. Providing a perspective of this period of human history and a glimpse into the lives of some extraordinary people, this book can be used as a reference tool or simply to browse out of interest.



Wonder Kids:

The Remarkable Lives of Nine Child Prodigies

by Charis Cotter
Annick Press, 2008
ISBN 978-1-55451-133-4 (pb)
ISBN 978-1-55451-134-1 (hc)
\$14.95 (pb)/\$24.95 (hc), 136 pp
b/w and colour illus. and photos, index, ages 9 – 11
www.annickpress.com

Some people seem to arrive on this planet with amazing talents that are apparent at a very early age. *Wonder Kids* looks at nine of these extraordinary children and what they accomplished. Poet, musician, artist, composer, magician, mathematician,

linguist, polyglot, performer—each of these children, whose lifetimes span the years from 1753 to the present, excelled in a different discipline, making history with their abilities. Photographs, sidebars and illustrations make this an appealing book for the target audience, and suggestions for ways to "Spend More Time" with each of the profiled people are included to encourage further research. Children with an interest in a particular area of expertise or who like to read about real people will enjoy *Wonder Kids*.

Another book about extraordinary young people, also by Charis Cotter and published by Annick is *Kids Who Rule: The Remarkable Lives of Five Child Monarchs*. ISBN 978-1-55451-061-0.

There are many more excellent books that focus on the courage and accomplishments of extraordinary people—too many to review in our limited space. Here are a few recent releases that are well worth your consideration.

Robert Munsch by Frank B. Edwards. Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 2009.
ISBN 978-1-55455-079-5, \$9.95, 71 pp, ages 8 – 14

Men of Courage from our First Nations by Vincent Schilling. Second Story Press, 2008.
ISBN 978-1-897187-43-2, \$10.95, 128 pp, ages 9 – 13

Yeny and the Children for Peace by Michelle Mulder (fiction). Second Story Press, 2008.
ISBN 978-1-897187-45-6, \$14.95, 118 pp, ages 9 – 13

Fantastic Female Filmmakers by Suzanne Simoni. Second Story Press, 2008.
ISBN 978-1-897187-36-4, \$10.95, 128 pp, ages 9 – 13

Dynamic Women Dancers by Anne Bublin. Second Story Press, 2009.
ISBN 978-1-897187-56-2, \$10.95, 128 pp, ages 9 – 13

Making Change: Tips from an Underage Overachiever, by Bilal Rajan. Orca Book Publishers, 2008.
ISBN 978-1-55469-001-5, \$12.95, 176 pp, ages 9+

Working for Freedom: The Story of Josiah Henson, by Rona Arato. Napoleon and Company, 2009.
ISBN 978-1-894917-50-6, \$18.95, 88 pp, ages 9+

When Elephants Fight: The Lives of Children in Conflict in Afghanistan, Bosnia, Sri Lanka, Sudan and Uganda, by Eric Walters and Adrian Bradbury. Orca Book Publishers, 2008.
ISBN 978-1-55143-900-6, \$19.95, 96 pp, ages 10+

Legends In Their Time: Young Heroes and Victims of Canada by George Sherwood. Natural Heritage Books, 2006.
ISBN 978-1-897045-10-7, \$24.95, 272 pp, ages 15+

Never Give Up: Ted Jaleta's Inspiring Story by Deana Driver. JDC Productions, 2006.
ISBN 0-9781341-0-9, \$19.95, 176 pp, ages 15+