

Early Colonial America, Unit Trade Books

Picture Books:

Arenstam, Peter. Mayflower 1620: A New Look at a Pilgrim Voyage. Des Moines, IA: National Geographic, 2007. Photographs were taken during a cruise of the Mayflower II in 2001. The text does not tell the whole story, nor does it contain any new information, but the photographs are very enriching. Grades 4-6.

Bruchac, Joseph. Squanto's Journey: The Story of the First Thanksgiving. London: Voyager Books, 2007. A young native who first helped the Pilgrims through the long winter at Plymouth is kidnapped at the age of 24 and sold in Europe as a slave. This is the story of his ordeal. Grades 1-5.

Costabel, Eva Deutsch. The Jews of New Amsterdam. London: Atheneum, 1988. This book tells about the life of Jews in the New York colony in the 1650s. Grades 2 and above.

Forest, Heather. The Baker's Dozen. London: Voyager Books, 1992. A colonial baker refuses to give a customer 13 Christmas cookies for the price of one dozen and it almost costs him his business. Grades 1 and above.

Lobel, Arnold. On the Day Peter Stuyvesant Sailed into Town. New York: Harper, 1971. When the new governor comes into the colony of New York in 1647 he finds things are a mess. It's not long before he cleans them up. Grades 1 and above.

McGovern, Ann. If You Sailed on the Mayflower in 1620. New York: Scholastic, 1991. An easy to read account of life on the Mayflower voyage. Grades 2 and above. AR Level 4.2, 1.0 points.

Sewell, Marcia. Pilgrims of Plimouth. New York: Aladdin, 1996. Written in a first person narrative style, this book tells much about the settlement at Plymouth. The rich oil paintings add greatly to the information portrayed in this beautiful book. Grades 1-4.

Sewall, Marcia. People of the Breaking Day. New York: Aladdin, 1997. A companion book to Pilgrims of Plimouth, this book tells about the life of the Wampanoags living near the Plymouth colony at the time of the Pilgrims. Grades 2-5. AR level 5.3, 1.0 points.

Sewall, Marcia. Thunder From the Clear Sky. New York: Aladdin, 1997. A look at the deteriorating differences between the Pilgrims and the Wampanoags at Plymouth, this story is told in the voices of a native and a Pilgrim. Grades 1-5. AR Level 6.0, 1 point. AR Level 6.0, 1.0 points.

Shepherd, Aaron. The Baker's Dozen, A Saint Nicholas Tale. New York: Aladdin, 1999. This is another version of the traditional folk tale about the origins of the phrase "a baker's dozen." Grades 1 and above. AR Level 4.0, .5 points.

Waters, Kate. Sarah Morton's Day: A Day in the Life of a Pilgrim Girl. New York: Scholastic, 1993. Text and photographs tell the story of a typical day for a girl in Plymouth colony, Massachusetts. Grades 1-5. AR Level 3.4, 0.5 points.

Waters, Kate. Samuel Eaton's Day: A Day in the Life of a Pilgrim Boy. New York: Scholastic, 1996. Samuel spends his first day as a man, helping his father in the fields. Grades 1-6. AR Level 4.0, 0.5 points.

Picture Books Teaching about Clothing Manufacture:

Taback, Simms. Joseph Had a Little Overcoat. New York: Viking Juvenile, 1999. Joseph turns his wornout overcoat into a jacket. When the jacket wears out, he turns it into a vest. The story shows how things can be used over and over for many purposes. Grades K-5. AR Level 1.5, 0.5 points.

Ziefert, Harriet. A New Coat for Anna. Albuquerque: Dragonfly, 1988. Although this story takes place after WWII, it shows the process used to turn wool into clothing. Anna's mother trades services in order to get a new coat for her daughter. Grades 1-5. AR Level 3.5, 0.5 points.

Fiction:

Avi. Night Journeys. New York: HarperCollins, 2000. Orphaned Peter has been adopted by Quakers but he doesn't like their stringent rules. He hopes to earn his freedom by catching runaway indentured servants, but learns things aren't as bad as they could be. AR Level 4.9, 4.0 points.

Bulla, Clyde Robert. Charlie's House. New York: Knopf, 1993. Charlie Brig watches closely when a house is built in his village in England. He desires to build a house of his own, but his mother discourages him. He runs away to America as an indentured servant, runs away from a cruel owner, and finally builds a house in a town of runaway slaves. Grade 3 and above.

Bulla, Clyde Robert. A Lion to Guard Us. New York: HarperCollins, 1981. Three children are left alone in England when their mother dies. They travel to Virginia, where their father is a colonial settler. AR Level 2.9, 2.0 points.

Clapp, Patricia. Constance: A Story of Early Plymouth. New York: Dell, 1968. Constance Hopkins keeps a journal of her voyage to Plymouth and the first five years of her life there.

Dalgliesh, Alice. The Courage of Sarah Noble. New York: Aladdin, 1954. Sarah goes with her father from Massachusetts to Connecticut to help him as he builds a home for the family. She is left behind with a native family when he returns with the rest of the family. AR Level 3.9, 1.0 points.

Edmonds, Walter. The Matchlock Gun. New York: Putnam Juvenile, 1998. The Indians and the French were a constant threat to Edward's family at his home in the New York colony in 1756. Will he be able to handle the huge family gun if danger comes while his father is away? This book won the Newbery Award in 1942 and is based on a true story. AR Level 5.1, 1.0 points.

Field, Rachel. Calico Bush. New York: Aladdin, 1998. Won the Newbery Honor Award in 1932. A French girl is left all alone in the New World after her uncle and grandmother die. She joins up with an English family moving to Maine to start a farm. AR Level 6.2, 9.0 points.

Fleischman, Paul. Saturnalia. New York: HarperTeen, 1992. William, a Narragansett Indian, is the only survivor when his village is attacked. Apprenticed to a kindly printer in Boston, he longs for home. On the pagan holiday of Saturnalia, when owners trade places with their slaves, strange things happen in the town of Boston. AR Level 6.4, 4.0.

Lasky, Kathryn. A Journey to the New World: The Diary of Remember Patience Whipple. New York: Scholastic, 2001. Mem, one of the 34 children aboard the Mayflower tells of her journey to America. Based on diaries of the Mayflower voyage. AR Level 6.0, 4.0 points.

Lensky, Lois. Indian Captive: The Story of Mary Jemison. New York: HarperCollins, 1995. The true-life story of Mary Jemison, kidnapped from her farm in Pennsylvania at the age of 15 (12 in the book) by Seneca Indians, this book won the Newbery Honor Award in 1942. AR Level 5.4, 10.0 points.

Petry, Ann. Tituba of Salem Village. New York: HarperCollins, 1991. Tituba is a slave in the family of a reverend in Salem. Her mistress is weak and the care of the children falls on Tituba. She is aware of the power of the children over her. Being a slave, she is not able to defend herself and is soon on trial for being a witch. AR Level 5.4, 10.0 points.

Rinaldi, Ann. A Break with Charity. San Diego: Harcourt Brace, 1992. Susannah English is frightened and appalled at what her friends are concocting against Tituba, the slave of a

religious family in Salem. She knows from the very beginning that her friends are lying, but doesn't know what to do about it. AR Level 4.7, 8.0 points.

Speare, Elizabeth George. The Witch of Blackbird Pond. New York: Dell, 1973. Kit Tyler leaves sunny Barbados to move in with her puritan relatives in New England. Daily routines of life are displayed as Kit struggles to adjust to her new life. She becomes friends with a Quaker named Hannah, who is accused of witchcraft. Will she be able to help? AR Level 5.7, 9.0 points.

Yates, Elizabeth. Amos Fortune, Free Man. New York: Puffin, 1989. Amos, an African prince is kidnapped from his home and brought to the New World in 1725. He becomes the slave of two owners, one of them a tanner, but is able to earn his freedom. He spends his life helping other slaves to become free. Based on a true story. AR Level 6.5, 5.0 points.