Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People
2019 Preview

Please note that this is a preview of the 2019 Notable Social Studies Trade Books list. The final list will include annotations for each title, as well as connections to the National Standards for Social Studies. The final list will be published by the NCSS in a 16-page illustrated pullout in the May-June 2019 issue of Social Education.

KINDERGARTEN TO SECOND GRADE

The ABCs of What I Can Be, written and illustrated by Caitlin McDonagh (Holiday House)

Alabama Spitfire: The Story of Harper Lee and To Kill a Mockingbird, by Bethany Hegedus; illustrated by Erin McGuire (HarperCollins / Balzer+Bray)

Alma and How She Got Her Name, written and illustrated by Juana Martinez-Neal (Candlewick Press)

Bloom: A Story of Fashion Designer Elsa Schiaparelli, by Kyo Maclear; illustrated by Julie Morstad (HarperCollins)

Carmela Full Of Wishes, by Matt De La Peña; illustrated by Christian Robinson (Penguin Young Readers / G.P. Putnam’s Sons BFYR)

Counting on Katherine: How Katherine Johnson Saved Apollo 13, by Helaine Becker; illustrated by Dow Phumiruk (Macmillan Children’s Publishing Group / Henry Holt and Co. BYR)

Crescent Moons and Pointed Minarets: A Muslim Book of Shapes, by Hena Khan; illustrated by Mehrdokht Amini (Chronicle Books)

The Dam, by David Almond; illustrated by Levi Pinfold (Candlewick Press)

Diwali, by Hannah Eliot; illustrated by Archana Sreenivasan (Simon & Schuster / Little Simon)

Dreamers / Soñadores, written and illustrated by Yuyi Morales (Holiday House / Neal Porter Books)
First Laugh: Welcome, Baby!, by Rose Ann Tahe and Nancy Bo Flood; illustrated by Jonathan Nelson (Charlesbridge)

The Fishing Lesson, by Heinrich Boll; illustrated by Emile Bravo (Eerdmans Books for Young Readers)

Girl Running, by Annette Bay Pimentel; illustrated by Micha Archer (Penguin Young Readers / Nancy Paulsen Books)

Have You Heard About Lady Bird?: Poems About Our First Ladies, by Marilyn Singer; illustrated by Nancy Carpenter (Disney Publishing Worldwide / Disney Hyperion)

Hidden Figures: The True Story of Four Black Women and the Space Race, by Margot Lee Shetterly; illustrated by Laura Freeman (HarperCollins)

Holi Colors, by Rina Singh (Orca Book Publishers)

Imagine, by Juan Felipe Herrera; illustrated by Lauren Castillo (Candlewick Press)

Joan Procter, Dragon Doctor, by Patricia Valdez; illustrated by Felicita Sala (Random House Children’s Books / Alfred A. Knopf BFYR)

Lights! Camera! Alice!: The Thrilling True Adventures of the First Woman Filmmaker, by Mara Rockliff; illustrated by Simona Ciraolo (Chronicle Books)

Love, by Matt De La Peña; illustrated by Loren Long (Penguin Young Readers / G.P. Putnam’s Sons BFYR)

Love Is Love, by Dr. Michael Genhart; illustrated by Ken Min (Sourcebooks / Little Pickle)

Marvelous Maravilloso: Me and My Beautiful Family, by Carrie Lara, PsyD; illustrated by Christine Battuz (Magination Press)

Marwan’s Journey, by Patricia de Arias; illustrated by Laura Borràs (minedition)

Night Job, by Karen Hesse; illustrated by G. Brian Karas (Candlewick Press)

No Small Potatoes: Junius G. Groves and His Kingdom in Kansas, by Tonya Bolden; illustrated by Don Tate (Random House Children’s Books / Alfred A. Knopf BFYR)

Nothing Stopped Sophie: The Story of Unshakable Mathematician Sophie Germain, by Cheryl Bardoe; illustrated by Barbara McClintock (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers)

Outside My Window, by Linda Ashman; illustrated by Jamey Christoph (Eerdmans Books for Young Readers)

The Patchwork Bike, by Maxine Beneba Clarke; illustrated by Van Thanh Rudd (Candlewick Press)
Perfectly Norman, written and illustrated by Tom Percival (Bloomsbury Children’s Books)

Phone Call with a Fish, by Silvia Vecchini; illustrated by Sualzo (Eerdmans Books for Young Readers)

Saffron Ice Cream, by Rashin Kheiriyeh (Scholastic / Arthur A. Levine Books)

Sewing the Rainbow: A Story About Gilbert Baker, by Gayle E. Pitman, PhD; illustrated by Holly Clifton-Brown (Magination Press)

So Tall Within: Sojourner Truth’s Long Walk Toward Freedom, by Gary D. Schmidt; illustrated by Daniel Minter (Macmillan Children’s Publishing Group / Roaring Brook Press)

Someone New, written and illustrated by Anne Sibley O’Brien (Charlesbridge)

Something Happened in Our Town: A Child’s Story About Racial Injustice, by Marianne Celano, PhD, ABPP, Marietta Collins, PhD, and Ann Hazzard, PhD, ABPP; illustrated by Jennifer Zivoin (Magination Press)

Spring After Spring: How Rachel Carson Inspired the Environmental Movement, written and illustrated by Stephanie Roth Sisson (Macmillan Children’s Publishing Group / Roaring Brook Press)


Through the Window: Views of Marc Chagall’s Life and Art, by Barb Rosenstock; illustrated by Mary GrandPré (Random House Children’s Books / Alfred A. Knopf BFYR)

Turning Pages: My Life Story, by Sonia Sotomayor; illustrated by Lulu Delacre (Penguin Young Readers / Philomel Books)

The United States v. Jackie Robinson, by Sudipta Bardhan-Quallen; illustrated by R. Gregory Christie (HarperCollins / Balzer + Bray)

The Wall In the Middle of The Book, by Jon Agee (Penguin Young Readers / Dial Books)

We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga, by Traci Sorell; illustrated by Frané Lessac (Charlesbridge)

Welcome to Country: A Traditional Aboriginal Ceremony, by Aunty Joy Murphy; illustrated by Lisa Kennedy (Candlewick Press)

Write to Me: Letters from Japanese American Children to the Librarian They Left Behind, by Cynthia Grady; illustrated by Amiko Hirao (Charlesbridge)

Young, Gifted and Black: Meet 52 Black Heroes from Past and Present, by Jamia Wilson; illustrated by Andrea Pippins (The Quarto Group / Wide Eyed Editions)
KINDERGARTEN TO SECOND GRADE / THIRD TO FIFTH GRADE

All That Trash: The Story of the 1987 Garbage Barge and Our Problem with Stuff, written and illustrated by Meghan McCarthy (Simon & Schuster / Paula Wiseman Books)

Between The Lines: How Ernie Barnes Went from the Football Field to the Art Gallery, by Sandra Neil Wallace; illustrated by Bryan Collier (Simon & Schuster / Paula Wiseman Books)

Game Changers: The Story of Venus and Serena Williams, by Lesa Cline-Ransome; illustrated by James E. Ransome (Simon & Schuster / Paula Wiseman Books)

Hey, Wall: A Story of Art and Community, by Susan Verde; illustrated by John Parra (Simon & Schuster / Paula Wiseman Books)

How To Build A Hug: Temple Grandin and Her Amazing Squeeze Machine, by Amy Guglielmo and Jacqueline Tourville; illustrated by Giselle Potter (Simon & Schuster / Atheneum Books For Young Readers)

I Wish It Would Snow!, written and illustrated by Sarah Dillard (Simon & Schuster / Aladdin)

Imagine!, written and illustrated by Raúl Colón (Simon & Schuster / Paula Wiseman Books)

Limitless: 24 Remarkable American Women of Vision, Grit, and Guts, written and illustrated by Leah Tinari (Simon & Schuster / Aladdin)

Mommy’s Khimar, by Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow; illustrated by Ebony Glenn (Simon & Schuster / S&S Books For Young Readers)

Peaceful Fights For Equal Rights, by Rob Sanders; illustrated by Jared Andrew Schorr (Simon & Schuster / S&S Books For Young Readers)

The Remember Balloons, by Jessie Oliveros; illustrated by Dana Wulfekotte (Simon & Schuster / S&S Books For Young Readers)

Thread Of Love, by Kabir Sehgal and Surishtha Sehgal; illustrated by Zara Gonzalez Hoang (Simon & Schuster / Beach Lane Books)

What Do You Do With A Voice Like That?: The Story of Extraordinary Congresswoman Barbara Jordan, by Chris Barton; illustrated by Ekua Holmes (Simon & Schuster / Beach Lane Books)

THIRD TO FIFTH GRADE

Abraham Lincoln’s Dueling Words, by Donna Janell Bowman; illustrated by S.D. Schindler (Peachtree Publishing Company)

Bully on the Bus, by Kathryn Apel (Kane Miller Books)
Captain Superlative, by J.S. Puller (Disney Publishing Worldwide / Disney Hyperion)

The Colors of History: How Colors Shaped the World, by Clive Gifford; illustrated by Marc-Etienne Peintre (The Quarto Group / QED Publishing)

Elizabeth Warren: Nevertheless, She Persisted, by Susan Wood; illustrated by Sarah Green (ABRAMS Books / Abrams Books for Young Readers)

Enough! 20 Protesters Who Changed America, by Emily Easton; illustrated by Ziyue Chen (Random House Children’s Books / Crown BFYR)

The Eye that Never Sleeps: How Detective Pinkerton Saved President Lincoln, Marissa Moss; illustrated by Jeremy Holmes (ABRAMS Books / Abrams Books for Young Readers)

First Generation: 36 Trailblazing Immigrants and Refugees Who Make America Great, by Sandra Neil Wallace and Rich Wallace; illustrated by Agata Nowicka (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers)

Front Desk, by Kelly Yang (Scholastic / Arthur A. Levine Books)

Irving Berlin: the Immigrant Boy Who Made America Sing, by Nancy Churnin; illustrated by James Rey Sanchez (Creston Books)

It’s Up to You, Abe Lincoln, by Leila Hirschfeld and Tom Hirschfeld (Random House Children’s Books / Crown BFYR)

Libba: The Magnificent Musical Life of Elizabeth Cotten, by Laura Veirs; illustrated by Tatyana Fazlalizadeh (Chronicle Books)

Library on Wheels: Mary Lemist Titcomb and America’s First Bookmobile, by Sharlee Glenn (ABRAMS Books / Abrams Books for Young Readers)

Martin Rising: Requiem For a King, by Andrea Davis Pinkney; illustrated by Brian Pinkney (Scholastic / Scholastic Press)

Memphis, Martin, and the Mountaintop: The Sanitation Strike of 1968, by Alice Faye Duncan; illustrated by R. Gregory Christie (Boyds Mills Press / Calkins Creek)

Miss Pinkeltink’s Purse, by Patty Brozo; illustrated by Ana Ochoa (Tilbury House Publishers)

Moth and Wasp, Soil and Ocean: Remembering Chinese Scientist Pu Zhelong’s Work for Sustainable Farming, by Sigrid Schmalzer; illustrated by Melanie Linden Chan (Tilbury House Publishers)

My Grandfather’s War, by Glyn Harper; illustrated by Jenny Cooper (The Quarto Group / Exisle Publishing)

National Parks of the USA, by Kate Siber; illustrated by Chris Turnham (The Quarto Group / Wide Eyed Editions)
The Night Diary, by Veera Hiranandani (Penguin Young Readers / Dial Books)


On Our Street: Our First Talk About Poverty, by Dr. Jillian Roberts & Jaime Casap; illustrated by Jane Heinrichs (Orca Book Publishers)

On the News: Our First Talk About Tragedy, by Dr. Jillian Roberts; illustrated by Jane Heinrichs (Orca Book Publishers)

Otis and Will Discover the Deep: The Record-Setting Dive of the Bathysphere, by Barb Rosenstock; illustrated by Katherine Roy (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers)

The Parker Inheritance, by Varian Johnson (Scholastic / Arthur A. Levine Books)

Pass Go and Collect $200: The Real Story of How Monopoly Was Invented, by Tanya Lee Stone; illustrated by Steven Salerno (Macmillan Children’s Publishing Group / Henry Holt and Co. BYR)

Picturing America: Thomas Cole And The Birth Of American Art, written and illustrated by Hudson Talbott (Penguin Young Readers / Nancy Paulsen Books)

Shaking Things Up: 14 Young Women Who Changed the World, by Susan Hood; illustrated by 13 Extraordinary women (HarperCollins)

Skyward: The Story of Female Pilots in WWII, written and illustrated by Sally Deng (Nobrow / Flying Eye Books)

Someday Is Now: Clara Luper and the 1958 Oklahoma City Sit-ins, by Olugbemisola Rhuday-Perkovich; illustrated by Jade Johnson (The Quarto Group / Walter Foster Jr)

A Story Like the Wind, by Gill Lewis; illustrated by Jo Weaver (Eerdmans Books for Young Readers)

Struttin’ With Some Barbecue: Lil Hardin Armstrong Becomes the First Lady of Jazz, by Patricia Hruby Powell; illustrated by Rachel Himes (Charlesbridge)

The Survivor Tree: Oklahoma City’s Symbol of Hope and Resilience, by Gaye Sanders; illustrated by Pamela Behrend (RoadRunner Press)

Thomas Paine and the Dangerous Word, by Sarah Jane Marsh; illustrated by Edwin Fotheringham (Disney Publishing Worldwide / Disney Hyperion)

The Vast Wonder of the World: Biologist Ernest Everett Just, by Mélina Mangal; illustrated by Luisa Uribe (Lerner Publishing Group / Millbrook Press)

We Rise, We Resist, We Raise Our Voices, Edited by Wade Hudson and Cheryl Willis Hudson (Random House Children’s Books / Crown BFYR)
What Would She Do?: 25 True Stories of Trailblazing Rebel Women, by Kay Woodward; illustrated by Various (Scholastic / Scholastic Press)

THIRD TO FIFTH GRADE / SIXTH TO EIGHTH GRADE

Blended, by Sharon M. Draper (Simon & Schuster / Atheneum Books For Young Readers)

Crossroads, by Alexandra Diaz (Simon & Schuster / Paula Wiseman Books)

Escape From Aleppo, by N. H. Senzai (Simon & Schuster / Paula Wiseman Books)

Lifeboat 12, by Susan Hood (Simon & Schuster / S&S Books For Young Readers)

When Angels Sing: The Story of Rock Legend Carlos Santana, by Michael Mahin; illustrated by Jose Ramirez (Simon & Schuster / Atheneum Books For Young Readers)

SIXTH TO EIGHTH GRADE

After Life: Ways We Think About Death, by Merrie-Ellen Wilcox (Orca Book Publishers)

Amal Unbound, by Aisha Saeed (Penguin Young Readers / Nancy Paulsen Books)

Apollo 8: The Mission That Changed Everything, by Martin W. Sandler (Candlewick Press)

The Beloved World of Sonia Sotomayor, by Sonia Sotomayor (Random House Children’s Books / Delacorte BFYR)

Betty Before X, by Ilyasah Shabazz with Renée Watson (Macmillan Children’s Publishing Group / Farrar, Straus and Giroux Books for Young Readers)

The Big, Bold, Adventurous Life of Lavinia Warren, by Elizabeth Raum (Chicago Review Press)

Blacklisted!: Hollywood, the Cold War, and the First Amendment, by Larry Dane Brimner (Boyds Mills Press / Calkins Creek)

Breakout, by Kate Messner (Bloomsbury Children’s Books)

Capsized!: The Forgotten Story of the SS Eastland Disaster, by Patricia Sutton (Chicago Review Press)

Chasing King’s Killer: The Hunt for Martin Luther King, Jr.’s Assassin, by James L. Swanson (Scholastic / Scholastic Press)

Facing Frederick: The Life of Frederick Douglass, a Monumental American Man, by Tonya Bolden (ABRAMS Books / Abrams Books for Young Readers)
The Faithful Spy, written and illustrated by John Hendrix (ABRAMS Books / Amulet Books)

Finding Langston, by Lesa Cline-Ransome (Holiday House)

Ghost Boys, by Jewell Parker Rhodes (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers)

Illegal, by Eoin Colfer and Andrew Donkin; illustrated by Giovanni Rigano (Sourcebooks / Jabberwocky)

The Island at the End of Everything, by Kiran Millwood Hargrave (Random House Children’s Books / Alfred A. Knopf BFYR)

Martin and Bobby: A Journey Toward Justice, by Claire Rudolf Murphy (Chicago Review Press)

Merci Suárez Changes Gears, by Meg Medina (Candlewick Press)

More Deadly Than War: The Hidden History of the Spanish Flu and the First World War, by Kenneth C. Davis (Macmillan Children’s Publishing Group / Henry Holt and Co. BYR)

My Family Divided: One Girl’s Journey of Home, Loss, and Hope, by Diane Guerrero (Macmillan Children’s Publishing Group / Henry Holt and Co. BYR)

My Life as a Diamond, by Jenny Manzer (Orca Book Publishers)

The Orphan Band of Springdale, by Anne Nesbet (Candlewick Press)

Ramadan: The Holy Month of Fasting, by Ausma Zehanat Khan (Orca Book Publishers)

The Red Ribbon, by Lucy Adlington (Candlewick Press)


The School’s On Fire!: A True Story of Bravery, Tragedy, and Determination, by Rebecca C. Jones (Chicago Review Press)


Spooked!: How a Radio Broadcast and The War of the Worlds Sparked the 1938 Invasion of America, by Gail Jarrow (Boyds Mills Press / Calkins Creek)


Two Roads, by Joseph Bruchac (Penguin Young Readers / Dial Books)

Until Tomorrow, Mr. Marsworth, by Sheila O’Connor (Penguin Young Readers / G.P. Putnam’s Sons BFYR)
Voices from the Second World War: Stories of War as Told to Children of Today, by Candlewick Press (Candlewick Press)

When Paul Met Artie: The Story of Simon & Garfunkel, by G. Neri; illustrated by David Litchfield (Candlewick Press)

You Are Mighty: A Guide to Changing the World, by Caroline Paul; illustrated by Lauren Tamaki (Bloomsbury Children’s Books)


SIXTH TO EIGHTH GRADE / NINTH TO TWELFTH GRADE

Crash: The Great Depression and the Fall and Rise of America, by Marc Favreau (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers)

For Every One, by Jason Reynolds (Simon & Schuster / Atheneum Books For Young Readers)

A Heart In A Body In The World, by Deb Caletti (Simon & Schuster / Simon Pulse)

I Have The Right To: A High School Survivor’s Story of Sexual Assault, Justice, and Hope, by Chessy Prout (Simon & Schuster / Margaret K. Mcelderry Books)

Jazz Owls: A Novel of the Zoot Suit Riots, by Margarita Engle; illustrated by Rudy Gutierrez (Simon & Schuster / Atheneum Books For Young Readers)

NINTH TO TWELFTH GRADE

1968: Today’s Authors Explore a Year of Rebellion, Revolution, and Change, by Marc Aronson and Susan Campbell Bartoletti (Candlewick Press)

Americanized: Rebel Without a Green Card, by Sara Saedi (Random House Children’s Books / Alfred A. Knopf BFYR)

Attucks!: Oscar Robertson and the Basketball Team That Awakened a City, by Phillip Hoose (Macmillan Children’s Publishing Group / Farrar, Straus and Giroux Books for Young Readers)

Blood Water Paint, by Joy McCullough (Penguin Young Readers / Dutton BFYR)

Boots on the Ground: America’s War in Vietnam, by Elizabeth Partridge (Penguin Young Readers / Viking BFYR)

Brazen: Rebel Ladies Who Rocked the World, by Pénélope Bagieu (Macmillan Children’s Publishing Group / First Second)
Buried Beneath the Baobab Tree, by Adaobi Tricia Nwaubani (HarperCollins / Katherine Tegen Books)


Hey, Kiddo, by Jarrett J. Krosoczka (Scholastic / Graphix)

History vs Women: The Defiant Lives that They Don’t Want You to Know, by Anita Sarkeesian & Ebony Adams (Macmillan Children’s Publishing Group / Feiwel & Friends)


Mapping the Bones, by Jane Yolen (Penguin Young Readers / Philomel Books)

Mary’s Monster: Love, Madness, and How Mary Shelley Created Frankenstein, by Lita Judge (Macmillan Children’s Publishing Group / Roaring Brook Press)

Nevertheless, We Persisted: 48 Voices of Defiance, Strength, and Courage, Foreward by Senator Amy Klobuchar (Random House Children’s Books / Alfred A. Knopf BFYR)

Picture Us In the Light, by Kelly Loy Gilbert (Disney Publishing Worldwide / Disney Hyperion)

Puerto Rico Strong: A Comics Anthology Supporting Puerto Rico Disaster Relief and Recovery, Co-edited by Marco Lopez, Desiree Rodriguez, Hazel Newlevant, Derek Ruiz, and Neil Schwartz (Lion Forge / Lion Forge)

A Quiet Kind Of Thunder, by Sara Barnard (Simon & Schuster / Simon Pulse)

A Thousand Beginnings and Endings, by Ellen Oh & Elsie Chapman (HarperCollins / Greenwillow Books)

Undocumented: A Worker’s Fight, written and illustrated by Duncan Tonatiuh (ABRAMS Books / Abrams ComicArts)

Very, Very, Very Dreadful: The Influenza Pandemic of 1918, by Albert Marrin (Random House Children’s Books / Alfred A. Knopf BFYR)

The War Outside, by Monica Hesse (Little, Brown Books for Young Readers)

We Are All That’s Left, by Carrie Arcos 10(Penguin Young Readers / Philomel Books)

We Say #NeverAgain: Reporting by Parkland Student Journalists, Edited by MSD Teachers Melissa Falkowski and Eric Garner (Random House Children’s Books / Crown BFYR)