

GENERAL CHURCH OFFICE OF EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER

LANGUAGE ARTS UNIT BOXES

Please note that many of the unit boxes listed below are integrated with other disciplines and may be listed in those unit box charts as well.

Title	Grade	Contents	Description
Alphabet Letter Bags, A-J	K	One bag for each letter provides stories, poems, puppets and activities and manipulatives.	Introduces children to each letter of the alphabet through fun guided activities.
Alphabet Letter Bags, K-R	K	One bag for each letter provides stories, poems, puppets and activities and manipulatives.	Introduces children to each letter of the alphabet through fun guided activities.
Alphabet Letter Bags, S-Z	K	One bag for each letter provides stories, poems, puppets and activities and manipulatives.	Introduces children to each letter of the alphabet through fun guided activities.
Animal Cages	K	Box containing directions, plastic animals, and lettered “cages” (berry baskets).	Children familiar with animal names and initial letter sounds will enjoy matching animals with cages that bear the initial letter of their names.
New Life from the Lord <i>(science unit integrated with literature)</i> <i>2 copies</i>	K	Unit plan, teaching ideas, N.C. background, and many books.	Wonderful literature and activities relating to the theme of New Life from the Lord. <i>Please see the description under science units for a complete list of books.</i>
Phonics: Initial Letter Sounds <i>2 copies</i>	K	Envelopes containing directions and games for distinguishing the letter sounds COG, RPB, LITV, QAS, WXXZ, DEF, YUJ, MNH.	Hands-on activities for increasing awareness of initial letter sounds.
The Sun and Solar System <i>(science unit integrated with literature)</i> <i>2 copies</i>	K	Unit plan, N.C. background, and many books.	Wonderful literature and activities relating to the theme of the sun and its impact on our lives. <i>Please see The Sun and Solar System under science unit boxes for a complete list of enclosed books.</i>
Learning About Disabilities <i>(social studies unit integrated with literature)</i>	K-2	Unit plan, N.C. background, and books such as <i>See the Ocean</i> , <i>Lucy’s Picture</i> , <i>The Balancing Girl</i> , <i>My Buddy</i> , and <i>Through Grandpa’s Eyes</i> .	Wonderful books and many creative activities (relating to the literature) to help introduce children to various disabilities.
Morning Circles <i>3 copies</i>	K-2	Video demonstration of morning circles and a collection of poems and songs.	Morning circles combine movement with learning and can be integrated with religion, math, social studies, and science. For example, several of the enclosed poems and songs relate to the seasons, planting, or trees.

GENERAL CHURCH OFFICE OF EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER

LANGUAGE ARTS UNIT BOXES

<p>Reading and Writing Remediation</p>	<p>K-5</p>	<p>Books such as: <i>Keep on Tracking</i>, <i>My Printing Book</i>, <i>Pre-Cursive Exercise</i>, <i>Cursive Handwriting</i>, <i>Critical Thinking: What's Wrong With This Picture?</i> Also, includes materials assorted pencils and grips, plastic place keepers, samples of various kinds of lined paper, mirror.</p>	<p>Assembled by Lori Nelson, special needs teacher, this collection of materials and activities assists teachers with children needing reading and writing remediation.</p>
<p>China (social studies unit integrated with literature) 5 copies</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>Lesson plans, N.C. background, many books, great activities, etc.</p>	<p>Please see China under social studies unit boxes for full list of books enclosed.</p>
<p>The Earth as a Home (science unit integrated with literature) 3 copies</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>Books include: <i>A House Is a House for Me</i>, <i>Over in the Meadow</i>, <i>All in the Woodland Early</i>, <i>Animals at Home</i>, and <i>Wonders of the Forest</i>.</p>	<p>A resource unit to introduce the earth as home for people and animals.</p>
<p>Family (religion and social studies, integrated with literature) 4 copies</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>Teaching ideas and many wonderful books, such as: <i>If You Were My Mother</i>, <i>My Dad</i>, <i>Nana Upstairs and Nana Downstairs</i>, <i>The Relatives Came</i>, and <i>The Rainbabies</i>.</p>	<p>Includes the religion and social studies units on family and several project ideas including a book written and illustrated by each student.</p>
<p>Four Seasons: Autumn (science unit integrated with literature) 4 copies, enclosed books may vary</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>Lesson plans, N.C. background, many books, great activities, etc.</p>	<p>Please see Four Seasons: Autumn under the science unit boxes for full list of books enclosed.</p>
<p>Four Seasons: Spring (science unit integrated with literature) 4 copies, enclosed books may vary</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>Lesson plans, N.C. background, many books, great activities, etc.</p>	<p>Please see Four Seasons: Spring under the science unit boxes for full list of books enclosed.</p>
<p>Four Seasons: Summer (science unit integrated with literature) 4 copies, enclosed books may vary</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>Lesson plans, N.C. background, many books, great activities, etc.</p>	<p>Please see Four Seasons: Summer under the science unit boxes for full list of books enclosed.</p>
<p>Four Seasons: Winter (science unit integrated with literature) 4 copies, enclosed books may vary</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>Lesson plans, N.C. background, many books, great activities, etc.</p>	<p>Please see Four Seasons: Winter under the science unit boxes for full list of books enclosed.</p>

GENERAL CHURCH OFFICE OF EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER

LANGUAGE ARTS UNIT BOXES

<p><i>The Frog Prince</i> (a two week unit)</p> <p>3 copies</p>	1	Story, N.C. rationale, lesson plans, and a sample of the book students make to use as an early reader.	Fairy Tale—Students listen to this fairy tale, make their own storybooks to use as readers, and dramatize the story. (One option is to put on a marionette show for the children as a finale.)
<p>The Inuit (a social studies unit integrated with literature)</p> <p>5 copies</p>	1	Lesson plans, N.C. background, many books, great activities, etc.	Please see <i>Inuit</i> under social studies unit boxes for full list of books enclosed.
<p>Rainbows (a science unit integrated with literature)</p> <p>3 copies</p>	1	Teaching ideas, N.C. background, song tape, and 3 books.	Please see <i>Rainbows</i> science unit.
<p>Exploring Your World (nonfiction for young readers)</p>	1-2	Over 20 nonfiction books suitable for younger readers, including: <i>Leaves, The Tree and Its World, Water, Ducks and Swans, Song Birds, The Stream, Baby Animals, Castles, Dinosaurs, Bridges, Day and Night, What Does Your Garden Need?</i> , and <i>Animal Messengers</i> .	Note: This unit box now includes some of the Ladybird Readers and many newer nonfiction titles.
<p>Friendships with the Elderly (integrated with social studies)</p>	1-2	Teaching ideas and books such as: <i>The Mitten Tree; Can You Do This, Old Badger?; The Patchwork Quilt; Loop the Loop; Blow Me a Kiss, Miss Lily;</i> and <i>Song and Dance Man</i> .	Explores relationships between children and elderly people in their lives.
<p>Frog and Toad Together (science and literature)</p> <p>2 copies</p>	1-2	Includes lesson plans, activities, stories, and these books: <i>Pond Year, The Caterpillar and the Polliwog, The Frog Prince,</i> and <i>Frog and Toad Together</i> .	This literature unit with additional books on the frog theme could support the study of spring in 1 st grade or the study of water in 2 nd grade. Suggestions include observing frogs and learning how they cope with the four seasons. . (Note: More detailed study of frogs and their life cycle is part of the 3 rd grade curriculum.)
<p>The Give and Take of Friendship</p>	1-2	Teaching ideas and books including: <i>A Toad for Tuesday, Chester’s Way, Frog and Toad Are Friends, George and Martha, Little Blue and Little Yellow,</i> and <i>Ira Says Goodbye</i> .	A variety of books to explore the give and take of friendship and activities suggested by Carol Hurst and Rebecca Otis in their book on <i>Friends and Relations: Using Literature with Social Themes K-2</i> .
<p>Ladybird Fairy Tales (8 sets for various reading levels)</p>	1-2	Books at various reading levels, worksheets, and audiotapes.	Fairy tale series contains a selection of well-known stories such as <i>Goldilocks & the Three Bears, Hansel & Gretel, Sleeping Beauty, Rapunzel,</i> etc.

GENERAL CHURCH OFFICE OF EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER

LANGUAGE ARTS UNIT BOXES

<p>Leveled Literature Books: Sets A, B, C</p> <p><i>3 copies</i></p>	1-2	<p>Fiction and non-fiction books at various reading levels (A-M) for first and second grade students. Please note that each set has a different array of books so teachers may want to borrow each set over the school year.</p>	<p>Provides a wealth of books for student reading at various reading levels. Includes resources to help teachers assess student reading levels and organize classroom books into levels.</p>
<p>Life in Africa <i>(social studies unit integrated with literature)</i></p> <p><i>3 copies, enclosed books may vary</i></p>	1-2	<p>Teaching ideas, N.C. background, folktales, and many artifacts. Books include: <i>Anansi the Spider, A Story A Story, Why the Sun and the Moon Live in the Sky, Jambo Means Hello, Ashanti to Zulu, Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears</i>, and other folktales. Artifacts include: Thumb piano, Zulu doll, African drum, wooden giraffe, disappearing doll on a stick, and beautiful beadwork.</p>	<p>Children enjoy African folktales, which illustrate a different culture while also teaching a moral. While primarily a literature unit, games and other activities are included to help teach the children about Ghana (where there are New Church centers). This unit also supports the focus in first grade on family and cultures influenced by the Most Ancient Church.</p>
<p>Puddle Lane Reading Program</p> <p><i>5 copies enclosed books may vary</i></p>	1-2	<p>Multiple copies of different storybooks, lesson plans & activities.</p>	<p>A beginning reading program for first grade using a literature approach. Produced by Ladybird Books, Inc.</p>
<p><i>Snow-White and Rose-Red</i></p>	1-2	<p>Story, N.C. rationale, lesson plans, carved wooden story characters to use for a puppet show (with a how-to video for the teacher), a sample of a child's book, and photographs.</p>	<p>Fairy Tale—A two-week unit recommended for early in the year. Students listen to this fairy tale about two kind girls, a bear, and a dwarf. This experience is enriched with a puppet show by the teacher, student dramatization of the story, and making books, which also serve as early readers.</p>
<p>Basal Readers</p>	1-3	<p>Collection of readers for grades 1-3 at graded levels: <i>Sun Up, Sun and Shadow, Happy Morning, Magic Afternoon, Weather Vanes, Windmills, Ring Around the World, Together We Go, Widening Circles, With a Crash and a Bang</i>. Some teacher manuals and other materials available.</p>	<p>Various numbers of copies at each level. We will put together a box for you at the level you need.</p>
<p>Cooperation</p>	1-3	<p>Teaching ideas, N.C. background, many books, and activities.</p>	<p>Please see Cooperation under the social studies unit boxes for full list of books enclosed.</p>
<p>Dealing with Bullies</p>	1-3	<p>Teaching ideas, N.C. background, many books, and activities.</p>	<p>Please see Dealing with Bullies under the social studies unit boxes for full list of books enclosed.</p>

GENERAL CHURCH OFFICE OF EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER

LANGUAGE ARTS UNIT BOXES

<p>Ancient Egypt (social studies unit integrated with literature) 4 copies</p>	2	Lesson plans, N.C. background, many books, great activities, etc.	Please see <i>Ancient Egypt</i> under social studies unit boxes for full list of books enclosed.
<p>Fish (a science unit integrated with literature) 2 copies</p>	2	Includes teaching ideas, N.C. background, and books such as: <i>Fish Is Fish</i> , <i>Swimmy</i> , <i>The Rainbow Fish</i> , and <i>Big Al</i> .	Literature books about fish (and ocean life) support exploration of the seasons. Some teachers use this unit at the beginning or end of the school year.
<p>Hebrew Patriarchs (social studies and religion) 4 copies, enclosed books may vary</p>	2	Teaching ideas, N.C. and other background material, and books such as: <i>Ali: Child of the Desert</i> , <i>Nadia the Willful</i> , <i>Sahara</i> , <i>Abdul of Arabia</i> , <i>The Shepherd Psalm</i> , and <i>All the Plants of the Bible</i> .	Please see <i>Hebrew Patriarchs</i> under social studies unit boxes for full list of books enclosed.
<p>The Animal Kingdom: Sheep and Other Domesticated Animals (integrated with religion and science) 3 copies</p>	2	Teaching ideas, N.C. background, sheep's wool, and many wonderful books. <i>For a list of books, please see the full description under the listing in the science unit boxes.</i>	This unit is well integrated with the religion curriculum, Hebrew patriarchs, and other second grade units. Resources and activities help students learn more about sheep and other domesticated animals, including: horses, camels, cattle/calves, goats, and pigs.
<p>Native Americans (a social studies unit integrated with literature) 3 copies</p>	2	Lesson plans, N.C. background, many books, great activities, etc.	Please see <i>Native Americans</i> under social studies unit boxes for full list of books enclosed.
<p>Water (a science unit integrated with literature) 3 copies</p>	2	Teaching ideas, N.C. background, experiments, activities, and books.	Please see <i>Water</i> under science unit boxes for full list of books enclosed. Note: A key activity of this unit is writing a story about a drop of water to illustrate the water cycle.
<p>Helping in a Community</p>	2-3	Teaching ideas, N.C. background, and books.	Please see Helping in a Community under social studies unit boxes for a list of books enclosed.
<p>The Hundred Penny Box by Sharon Bell Mathis</p>	2-3	Includes a teacher's manual with extensive lesson plans for a multi-grade (or multi-level) classroom.	Realistic Fiction—This story tells about a boy and his Great-Great Aunt, who has a box with a penny in it for every year of her life. It is a story that can be used in connection with the Hundredth Day of School.

GENERAL CHURCH OFFICE OF EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER

LANGUAGE ARTS UNIT BOXES

<p><i>The Adventures of Major Tom</i></p>	<p>2-4</p>	<p>2 copies each of 6 different stories, 3 audiotapes, vocabulary lists, activity sheets & colored illustrations.</p>	<p>6 science fiction adventures for young readers, including: <i>The Missing Ambassador</i>, <i>The Space Pirates</i>, <i>Space Invasion Skyhawk</i>, and <i>The Planet of the Elves</i>.</p>
<p>Fairy Tale Magic</p>	<p>2-4</p>	<p>Commercial unit with teaching ideas, activity cards, and skill checklist.</p>	<p>This independent reading unit is designed to be used with teacher/student selected fairy tales.</p>
<p>Mouse Tales</p>	<p>2-4</p>	<p>Commercial unit to use with stories about mice, includes notebook of masters and 39 activity cards that focus on creativity, comprehension, and word use.</p>	<p>This unit could be used for individual, small group or whole class reading programs. It includes a list of picture books and fiction about mice as well as various suggestions for teachers.</p>
<p>American Pioneers <i>(a social studies unit integrated with literature)</i></p> <p><i>2 copies, enclosed books may vary</i></p>	<p>3</p>	<p>Lesson plans, N.C. background, great activities, etc. Books include: <i>Next Spring an Oriole</i>, <i>Singing Wheels</i>, <i>Ox-Cart Man</i>, <i>Little House in the Big Woods</i>, <i>My Prairie Year</i>, and <i>Pioneer Crafts</i>.</p>	<p>This unit supports the social studies theme of looking at the self-sufficiency of early pioneers in using natural resources provided by the Lord. <i>Next Spring an Oriole</i> tells of one family's move to the Midwest and how native Americans helped them through their first winter.</p> <p><i>See also:</i> <i>Little House in the Big Woods</i> and <i>Singing Wheels</i>.</p>
<p><i>The Courage of Sarah Noble</i> by Alice Dagliesh</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>6 copies of the novel, questions for the 11 chapters, and many activities.</p>	<p>Historical fiction—Sarah stays with an Indian family while her father brings the rest of the family to the new home-site in Connecticut in the 1700s, and tries to obey her mother's words, "Keep up your courage, Sarah Noble."</p> <p>Theme: courage.</p>
<p>Greek Mythology <i>(social studies and literature)</i></p> <p><i>3 copies</i></p>	<p>3</p>	<p>Lesson plans with N.C. background for recommended myths. Books of myths to read aloud and booklets of 6 myths for students to read (5 copies of each) with audiotapes. Also, the Lord's Prayer in Greek, "I am the Alpha and the Omega" calligraphy, and books about life in ancient Greece. Books include: <i>Stories of the Flood</i>, <i>Myths and Enchantment Tales</i>, <i>Ancient Greece</i>, and <i>Growing Up in Ancient Greece</i>.</p>	<p>Mythology—This unit integrates social studies and reading in looking at Greek mythology and culture. The widespread influence of the Ancient Church is emphasized with comparison of the Greek and Genesis flood stories to those of several other cultures. The Greek heroes, Perseus and Hercules, are compared with Moses and to the greatest Hero who ever lived on earth, the Lord.</p>
<p>Heroes <i>(social studies integrated with literature)</i></p> <p><i>3 copies</i></p>	<p>3</p>	<p>Many books, plays, and teaching ideas covering many heroes.</p>	<p>Wonderful literature with the theme of heroes.</p> <p><i>Please see social studies unit on Heroes for listing of books.</i></p>

GENERAL CHURCH OFFICE OF EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER

LANGUAGE ARTS UNIT BOXES

<p><i>Little House in the Big Woods</i> by Laura Ingalls Wilder</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>7 copies of the novel, pictures, notebook of chapter questions and activities. 1 copy each of the books that complete this series.</p>	<p>Historical fiction—The story tells about one year in the life of the author as a child in 19th century Wisconsin. It focuses on survival of the family of five—providing food, shelter, safety, and emotional support to each other.</p> <p><i>Note: Also see the social studies American Pioneers unit.</i></p>
<p><i>Singing Wheels</i></p>	<p>3</p>	<p>5 copies of a reader about pioneers with reading questions from a New Church teacher.</p>	<p>Historical Fiction—These old-fashioned readers describe the life of a pioneer family in a charming, detailed manner. Each chapter tells a story such as "The Bee Tree" and "The Screech Owl."</p> <p><i>Note: Also see the social studies American Pioneers unit.</i></p>
<p><i>Charlotte's Web</i> by Elwyn Brooks White</p>	<p>3-4</p>	<p>Teacher's manual and 5 copies of the novel.</p>	<p>Fantasy—Farmer Arable agrees to let his daughter Fern keep the runt of the pig litter as a pet. When Wilbur is sold to the Zuckermans, he is lonely, and is befriended by Charlotte, a spider. To spare Wilbur from being butchered, Charlotte spins words in praise of the pig into her web. In turn, Wilbur saves Charlotte's babies, bringing them home from the fair.</p>
<p>Dealing with Challenges (Disabilities) <i>(social studies integrated with language arts)</i></p>	<p>3-4</p>	<p>Teacher's manual, video (sign language story of Village Stew, Also includes lesson plans for Davidson's book on Louis Braille and the Graffs' book on Helen Keller. Additional books include: <i>Through Grandpa's Eyes, Dad and Me in the Morning, How It Feels to Live with a Physical Disability, and Letters from the Heart.</i></p>	<p>This unit box—which focuses primarily on physical disabilities—may be integrated with the third grade science unit on the five senses or the social studies unit on heroes.</p> <p>The lesson plans on Helen Keller and Louis Braille are designed to help students gain an appreciation of Helen Keller and Louis Braille, increase their understanding of what it is like to be physically challenged, and explore conflict and conflict resolution in discussing the story lines of these books.</p>
<p><i>Harry Kitten and Tucker Mouse</i> by George Selden <i>2 copies</i></p>	<p>3-4</p>	<p>The unit plan focuses on vocabulary, reading comprehension, and story line. Includes 5 copies of <i>Harry Kitten and Tucker Mouse</i> and 1 copy each of <i>Chester Cricket's Pigeon Ride</i> and <i>Chester Cricket's New Home</i>. This is a 2-3 week unit.</p>	<p>Fantasy—In this prequel to <i>A Cricket in Times Square</i> Harry Kitten and Tucker Mouse become fast friends.</p> <p><i>Note: With multi-grade classrooms, one might have third graders reading this book while fourth graders read The Cricket in Times Square.</i></p>

GENERAL CHURCH OFFICE OF EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER

LANGUAGE ARTS UNIT BOXES

Leveled Literature Sets A, B	3-4	Fiction and non-fiction books at various reading levels (M-U) for third and fourth grade students. <i>Please note that each set has a different array of books so teachers may want to borrow each set over the school year.</i>	Provides a wealth of books for student reading at various reading levels. Includes resources to help teachers assess student reading levels and organize classroom books into levels.
<i>My Father's Dragon</i> by Ruth Gannett	3-4	5 copies of the novel and 2 sets of activities.	Fantasy—A small boy rescues an overworked dragon from a jungle island bristling with wild beasts.
<i>Poppy</i> by Avi	3-4	Teaching ideas and 5 copies of the novel.	Fantasy-A story about the adventures of Poppy, a young deer mouse who helps her family find a new home and overcomes the feared great horned owl.
<i>The Cricket in Times Square</i> by George Selden <i>2 copies</i>	3-5	6 copies of the novel, 3 sets of lesson plans, N.C. background, and activities.	Fantasy—A tale about the adventures of a mouse, a cat and a cricket that live in the subway station under Times Square. The animals exhibit very human voices, emotions & reactions at night when dealing with each other. During the day, the humans deal with the results of the animal adventures. Theme: friendship.
<i>Race Against Death</i> by Seymour Reit <i>4 copies</i>	3-5	3 copies of the novel, <i>Kiana's Iditarod</i> , <i>The True Story of Balto</i> , and various artifacts. Offers a 2-3 week unit plan focusing on various reading skills. Suggested responses include writing a persuasive editorial and a factual report for the front page of a newspaper.	Adventure—This story portrays the story behind the Iditarod. Leads to discussion of giving of oneself for the sake of others and the role of Providence in our lives. <i>Note: This book is a good literature choice while studying polar regions.</i>
<i>Elfsong</i> by Ann Warren Turner <i>2 copies</i>	3-6	1 novel and assessment sheet, which includes factual, inference, and opinion questions.	Fantasy—While visiting her grandfather, Maddie happens on a community of elves living in the forest and helps them evade the owls that seek to destroy them. Recommended for reading aloud. Raises thought-provoking questions.
<i>The Princess and the Goblin</i> by George MacDonald <i>2 copies</i>	3-6	Lesson plans developed by a New Church teacher and 4 copies of the book. Includes excellent discussion ideas and activities. <i>(Read aloud to third or fourth graders or let students in the older grades read it for themselves.)</i>	Fantasy—A classic tale about the efforts of a young miner named Curdie and Princess Irene to defeat the goblins in their evil plan to make Irene marry the horrid goblin prince. Irene and Curdie are “good, brave, obedient and ready, after some doubts, to believe in things beyond the senses.” Themes: goodness, faith, and love

GENERAL CHURCH OFFICE OF EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER

LANGUAGE ARTS UNIT BOXES

<p><i>The Sheep Pig</i> (also known as <i>Babe: The Gallant Pig</i>) by Dick King-Smith</p>	<p>3-6</p>	<p>2 novels and commercial activities for each chapter.</p>	<p>Fantasy—A piglet named Babe is won by a sheep farmer and befriended by the farmer's sheep dog. Fly, the dog, takes the piglet as her foster child and teaches him to be a "sheep pig." Babe has amazing abilities and in the end, he also has a lesson to teach Fly. Themes: friendship, manners.</p>
<p>“What can you do about bullying?” <i>(social studies integrated with literature)</i> New!</p>	<p>3-6</p>	<p>The teacher’s manual provides teacher background material about standing up to bullies, a bibliography of books that can be used with students, and a variety of activities. Books include: <i>The Night the Bells Rang, The Hundred Dresses, The Recess Queen, The Secret Bully, Surviving Brick Johnson, Jake the Bully Buster, The Crow Boy, Mrs. Katz and Tush, and Thank You, Mr. Falker.</i></p>	<p>Excellent literature and activities to help students become more aware of the kinds of behaviors that hurt other people. Also includes books illustrating the value of diversity, because students often bully those who are different from themselves. You may want to choose one of the books to read aloud (like <i>The Night the Bells Rang</i>) and let students choose another book to read on their own. This unit box extends concepts learned in primary grades unit “Dealing with Bullies.”</p>
<p><i>The Big Wave</i> by Pearl Buck</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 novels, unit overview, N.C. background, and suggested activities. These include a class letter to Kino describing New Church beliefs about life after death, dramatizing the motion of the wave, and making pictures of the ocean reflecting the many colors as described in the novel.</p>	<p>Realistic fiction—The story of two boys and their families in Japan. Kino, son of a fisherman, is safe on a mountain farm with his friend, Jiya, when "the big wave" comes and washes away his family. Kino is welcomed into Jiya's family, deals with his grief, and eventually marries and builds a home on the ocean shore. This book leads to useful discussion about the spiritual world and dealing with fear in a way that doesn't disrupt one's life. This novel works well with the study of oceans. Themes: courage, friendship, and obedience.</p>
<p><i>The Chocolate Touch</i> by Patrick Skene Catling <i>2 copies</i></p>	<p>4</p>	<p>Teaching ideas, response sheets, and 10 copies of the book.</p>	<p>Fantasy—Reminiscent of King Midas story, this pleasant tale has a moral as well. The premise is that everything John touches turns to chocolate!</p>
<p><i>Fantastic Mr. Fox</i> by Roald Dahl <i>2 copies</i></p>	<p>4</p>	<p>Teaching ideas, a play, a commercial study-guide, response sheets, a bulletin board display, and 6 copies of the book.</p>	<p>Fantasy—Mr. Fox outsmarts three farmers in his efforts to find food for his wife and four children.</p>

GENERAL CHURCH OFFICE OF EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER

LANGUAGE ARTS UNIT BOXES

<p><i>In the King's Service</i> by Gertrude Diem</p> <p>2 copies</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>The book is written by a New Church author & consists of 10 separate short stories. The box includes 14 novels plus five of the stories bound individually (multiple copies available) and 2 different sets of activities.</p>	<p>Fantasy—Each story begins with a moral problem for Jack. He goes through a magic mirror into a kingdom where the “king” gives him an opportunity to work on the current problem. Fits with study of medieval times.</p> <p>Themes: moral concepts.</p>
<p>Medieval Life <i>(an integrated social studies unit box)</i></p> <p>4 copies</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>Unit plan, N.C. background, many activities, 2 games, and castle video. The many books include: <i>Sir Gawain and the Loathly Lady, A Good Knight for Dragons, Adam of the Road, The Battle for the Castle, The Castle in the Attic, and In the King's Service.</i></p>	<p>These books could be used for literature circles or independent reading during a study of medieval life.</p> <p><i>Note: Please see Medieval Life among the social studies unit boxes for a full description of this unit.</i></p>
<p><i>Stone Fox</i> by John R. Gardiner</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>22 novels, unit overview, N.C. background, and suggested activities: posters advertising the race, simulated interviews, and much discussion of the ending.</p>	<p>Adventure—Young Will tries to save his grandfather's farm by entering a dogsled race against many other contenders, including an Indian known as Stone Fox. This moving story can be tied into the study of polar regions.</p> <p>Themes: courage, love, and loyalty.</p>
<p><i>The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe</i> by C.S. Lewis</p>	<p>4-6</p>	<p>6 novels, teaching ideas, response sheets, and audiotapes.</p>	<p>Fantasy—Adventures in enchanted land of Narnia necessitate many moral choices. Suggested activities include dramatization, a mural, a feelings web, and a Venn diagram comparing Aslan with a regular lion</p>
<p><i>Miranda the Great</i> by Eleanor Estes</p>	<p>4-6</p>	<p>5 novels, teaching ideas, and activities.</p>	<p>Fantasy—When barbarians invade Rome, Miranda the cat and her daughter must find a safe place to hide from the chaos. They make their way through the burning city, collecting motherless kittens as they go. At last they reach the Coliseum—but danger lurks! The cats become the ancestors of the cats of modern Rome. <i>(Note: makes a nice companion to the study of Rome.)</i></p>
<p><i>Prison Window, Jerusalem Blue</i> by Bruce Clements</p>	<p>4-6</p>	<p>4 novels, teaching ideas, and 5 activity sheets (each assignment 3-4 chapters).</p>	<p>Historical fiction—Set in the 9th century, this is the story of an English brother and sister who are kidnapped during a Viking raid and taken as slaves to Denmark. As they cope with their new life, the siblings treasure a framed piece of “Jerusalem blue glass.”</p> <p><i>Note: The vocabulary may be challenging for 5th graders.</i></p>

GENERAL CHURCH OFFICE OF EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER

LANGUAGE ARTS UNIT BOXES

<i>Rabbit Hill</i> by Robert Lawson	4-6	Teaching ideas, response sheets, a bulletin board display, and 1 copy of the book.	Fantasy—A charming story about a community of rabbits. Integrates well with the study of animals. Themes: courage, family, interdependence
<i>Trumpet of the Swan</i> by E.B. White	4-6	5 novels, 1 motivational story & various activities.	Fantasy—The story of a trumpeter swan that was born without a voice. Themes: families, friendship, personal sacrifice, & the difficulties faced by the disabled.
<i>The Whipping Boy</i> by Sid Fleischman <i>2 copies</i>	4-6	1 novel, teaching ideas, and response sheets.	Newberry Medal winner—Jemmy (the whipping boy) and Prince Brat reverse roles and experience many adventures together. These experiences teach them good lessons about friendship. A humorous book with short, cliffhanger chapters.
<i>American Tall Tales</i> by Adrian Stoutenburg	5	2 copies of Adrian Stoutenburg's <i>American Tall Tales</i> (Puffin Books), unit overview, and suggested activities.	Folktales—Small groups of students learn a tall tale to share with the class. The heroes of these legends include Paul Bunyan, Pecos Bill, Stormalong, Mike Fink, Davy Crockett, John Henry, Johnny Appleseed, and Joe Magarac.
Dog Stories	5	A unit plan (which includes N.C. background) for using these books for literature circles. Includes suggested activities for these books: <i>The Comeback Dog</i> (2), <i>Shiloh</i> (2), and <i>Foxy</i> (8).	Fiction—Three dog stories about a sick or injured dog that needs care, a boy who takes care of the dog, and how their friendship endures. The books are of varying degrees of reading difficulty. Themes: loyalty, love of animals, responsibility.
<i>The House Without a Christmas Tree</i> by Gail Rock <i>2 copies</i>	5	At least 6 novels and an overview of the unit with N.C. background and suggestions for discussion and literature activities such as book-in-hand theater, listing character traits, and writing an essay on the various relationships portrayed in the book.	Fiction—Addie's efforts to have a Christmas tree lead to a better relationship with her father. Her various relationships help students explore how we show love and the qualities needed to be a good friend. Themes: love, friendship.
<i>Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes</i> by Eleanor Coerr <i>2 copies</i>	5	6 novels, synopsis of the story, N.C. background & activities. A major activity is to write a story about Sadako in heaven when the book ends with her death.	Realistic fiction—A thought-provoking story of an 11-year-old Japanese girl and her struggle to fight leukemia, the result of exposure to radiation from the atom bomb. Themes: death, courage, love of family, heaven, the Lord's protection and love.

GENERAL CHURCH OFFICE OF EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER

LANGUAGE ARTS UNIT BOXES

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Snow Treasure</i> by Marie McSwigan</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>2 copies</i></p>	5	<p>4 novels, unit overview, N.C. background, and suggested activities. These include an action story line, verb charts to record action words, and a diorama.</p>	<p>Fiction—An adventure story about Norwegian children helping to smuggle gold out of their country during WWII to keep it from the Germans.</p> <p>Themes: patriotism, courage, and obedience.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Detectives in Togas</i> by Henry Winterfeld</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>2 copies</i></p>	5-6	<p>7 copies of the novel, story synopsis, and some teaching ideas. May be integrated with the social studies unit on Ancient Rome.</p>	<p>Historical Fiction—7 boys in Ancient Rome are involved in a series of mysteries that test the powers of friendship and their loyalty to the laws of Rome. The boys must use logic and reason to free their friend from suspicion and solve the mysteries. Fascinating novel that will interest students while teaching them about Ancient Rome.</p> <p>Themes: friendship, loyalty, and perseverance.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>The Indian in the Cupboard</i> by Lynne Reid Banks</p>	5-6	<p>Teacher’s manual and 5 copies of the novel.</p>	<p>Fantasy—Omri is given a cupboard that can be opened with a special key, bringing historical people forward in time within the bodies of plastic toys. There is trouble when Little Bear, an Indian, and Boone, a cowboy, need medical help after a fight, when the key to the cupboard is lost. A pet rat escapes, but the key is found just in time, before the rat eats the figures.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>My Side of the Mountain</i> by Jean Craighead George</p>	5-6	<p>11 copies of the novel, unit overview, N.C. background, and suggested activities. It is a good companion book for a science unit on ecology as it considers the ecological balance of the mountain.</p>	<p>Fiction—Sam seeks adventure and independence as he lives off the land in the Catskill Mountains of New York. Despite the beauty of nature and the animals he befriends, Sam discovers that he needs the friendship of people as well.</p> <p>Themes: appreciation of Creation and our obligation to take care of the world the Lord has given us, ecology and outdoor life.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Number the Stars</i> by Lois Lowry</p>	5-6	<p>5 copies of the novel and a teacher’s manual with a synopsis of the story and teaching ideas from several sources.</p>	<p>Historical fiction—This novel about the Holocaust, focuses on 10-year-old Annemarie Johansen in Denmark in 1943 and the events surrounding the rescue of the Danish Jews. She and her family risk their lives to help Annemarie’s best friend, Ellen Rosen, by pretending that she is Annemarie’s older sister who died earlier in the war as part of the Resistance.</p>

GENERAL CHURCH OFFICE OF EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER

LANGUAGE ARTS UNIT BOXES

<p><i>A Single Shard</i> by Linda Sue Park</p>	<p>5-6</p>	<p>Novel, teacher’s manual with many teaching ideas, and 2 commercial publications suggesting a variety of activities.</p>	<p>Fiction—A homeless boy growing up in 12th century Korea is apprenticed to a pottery maker and hopes to learn the craft himself. He is faced with many challenges and acts with courage and integrity.</p> <p>Themes: courage</p>
<p><i>Tuck Everlasting</i> by Natalie Babbitt</p>	<p>5-6</p>	<p>5 novels and teaching suggestions from several sources.</p>	<p>Fantasy—Winnie meets the Tuck family who know about a magical spring that gives unending life on earth. Winnie has to make difficult decisions about protecting the Tucks’ secret and whether to drink the spring water.</p>
<p><i>The Sign of the Beaver</i> by Elizabeth Speare</p> <p>2 copies</p>	<p>5-7</p>	<p>Teaching ideas, response sheets, and 1 copy of the book.</p>	<p>Historical Fiction—While his father for the rest of the family, Matt is to spend the summer guarding their new cabin in Maine. After his gun is stolen and his supplies are destroyed, Matt needs to learn how to live off the land. He is befriended by a boy of the Beaver clan and comes to respect his way of life.</p> <p>Themes: responsibility, courage, friendship.</p>
<p><i>The Temple of Wisdom</i> by Karin Alfelt Childs</p> <p>3 copies</p>	<p>5-7</p>	<p>Teacher’s manual with N.C. background and many creative activities. Each copy of the unit box includes 1 copy of the book.</p>	<p>New Church Fiction—Cousins Brandun and Kempe are sent to search out a scepter that is in the Temple of Wisdom. One of them will find the scepter, and become King in the kingdom of Heafen. This is a story of their journey, and the physical, mental, and spiritual growth they experience along the way.</p> <p>Themes: Fighting evil spirits (temptation), courage, and trust in God.</p>
<p><i>The Wise Child</i> by Monica Furlong</p>	<p>5-7</p>	<p>Response sheets, 5 copies of <i>Wise Child</i>, and 1 copy of the prequel <i>Juniper</i>. The response sheets bring in some New Church ideas.</p>	<p>Fantasy—Teachers report that girls enjoy this story set in Scotland. Wise Girl is cared for by Juniper who is the village healer, midwife, and good witch. Juniper teaches her how to help others as they face challenges that test their courage and honor.</p>
<p><i>The Cay</i> by Theodore Taylor (an audiotape)</p>	<p>5-8</p>	<p>1 novel and 2 sets of an abridged audiotape narrated by Lavar Burton. Suggested activities.</p> <p><i>Note: The dialect can be difficult to read, but the audiotape is very well done.</i></p>	<p>Fiction—When Philip is marooned on a deserted island during WW II with old Timothy, he learns to value a person for his qualities rather than the color of his skin. Use with <i>Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry</i> unit box or with another unit examining friendship and love of the neighbor.</p>

GENERAL CHURCH OFFICE OF EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER

LANGUAGE ARTS UNIT BOXES

<p><i>Tangled in Time</i> by Lynne Fairbridge</p>	<p>5-8</p>	<p>4 copies of the novel, vocabulary sheets, and other response sheets.</p>	<p>Fantasy—While visiting her grandmother in Calgary, Janna finds herself transported back to the days of the Depression. Her experiences give Janna greater insight into the challenges that people may face in life and also help her cope with challenges that she is facing “back home.”</p>
<p><i>A Wrinkle in Time</i> by Madeleine L’Engle</p>	<p>5-8</p>	<p>10 copies of the novel, literature circle guide, activities, chapter questions, and student workbook.</p>	<p>Science Fiction—When Meg and her brother try to find their father with the help of a friend, Meg ends up having to confront her own faults and fears to save her brother from the evil IT.</p> <p>Themes: courage, love</p>
<p><i>Lost Prince Almon</i> by Louis Pendleton</p> <p><i>(Note: Includes a version with modernized language making it easier for students to read.)</i></p> <p>2 copies</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>6 novels and teacher’s manual with story synopsis, unit plan, N.C. background, and suggested activities.</p> <p><i>Note: Audiotapes of the book are also included since the archaic language challenges some readers.</i></p>	<p>Historical fiction—Describes the adventures of a young prince whose throne was usurped by a wicked queen who searches for the lost prince, Almon. After living as a shepherd, Almon faces hardships, which prepare him for his future role as the rightful King. Compliments the religion and history curricula.</p> <p>Theme: trust in the Lord.</p>
<p><i>Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH</i> by R.C. O'Brien</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>5 novels, 1 notebook with chapter questions, activities & projects.</p>	<p>Fantasy—Mrs. Frisby is a widowed mouse with 4 children who faces a terrible problem. She must move her family immediately even though her youngest son has pneumonia. The rats of NIMH rescue her with a brilliant solution to her dilemma, and in return Mrs. Frisby renders them a great service.</p> <p>Theme: cooperation.</p>
<p>Native American and Greek Mythology</p> <p>3 copies, enclosed books may vary</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>Unit plan, N.C. background, stories, and activities. Books include: <i>The Magic of Spider Woman</i> by Lois Duncan, <i>Crow Chief</i> by Paul Goble, <i>The Legend of Scarface</i> by Robert San Souci, <i>A Children’s Treasury of Mythology</i>, and <i>Favorite North American Indian Legends</i>.</p>	<p>Compare Greek and Native American myths with similar themes: Arachne and Athena are compared to Spider Woman, Perseus is compared to Owl-Man Giant, and Persephone is compared to Blue Corn Maiden. These stories confirm the influence of the Ancient Church on world cultures. Also read Native American creation myths, flood myths, and coming-of-age stories.</p>
<p><i>Where the Red Fern Grows</i> by Wilson Rawls</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>5 copies of the novel and response sheets.</p>	<p>Historical Fiction—In this dramatic Depression era story, a boy in the Ozark mountains raises 2 coonhounds, exploring his dreams and values. Along the way, he encounters tragedy. Follow by showing the movie?</p>

GENERAL CHURCH OFFICE OF EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER

LANGUAGE ARTS UNIT BOXES

<p><i>The Book of Three</i> by Lloyd Alexander</p>	6-8	4 novels, 1 map, question and vocabulary sheets.	Fantasy—Tells of enchantment, good and evil, and an assistant pig-keeper who wants to become a hero. Young Taran sets out with a few strangely assorted companions on a hazardous mission to save his beloved land, Prydain, from the forces of evil.
<p><i>The Bronze Bow</i> by Elisabeth George Speare</p>	6-8	6 novels and teacher manual.	Historical Fiction—a vivid picture of life in Israel during the Lord’s ministry. Works well with religion curriculum for grades 7-8. Can also be integrated with history in grade 6.
<p><i>Deep Dream of the Rain Forest</i> by Malcolm Bosse</p>	6-8	1 novel and a response sheet to be filled in after reading the book aloud to the students. The questions explore character development, facts, inferences, opinions, and how they may relate to the story.	Harry is kidnapped by Bayang when he arrives in Borneo to join his uncle. Bayang takes Harry on his quest to follow his dream, for his people believe it is vital to follow such a vision. Themes: friendship, respect
<p><i>In Assyrian Tents</i> by Louis Pendleton</p>	6-8	2 novels and teacher's manual that includes story synopsis, response activities, N.C. background, and other background material on the Israelites and the Assyrians.	Historical fiction—This story uses major characters and events from the Word to tell an exciting story. Uriel tries to assassinate the Assyrian king, Sennacherib, who wants to rule Judah. The angel of the Lord defeats the Assyrians after the king of Judah asks the Lord for help, and Uriel learns much about himself in his quest to help. Themes: responsibility, honesty.
<p><i>Life and Adventures of Santa Claus</i> by Frank Baum</p>	6-8	1 novel and teaching ideas. Works well as a read aloud before students write Christmas stories for primary students.	Fantasy—In this fairy tale the forces of evil try to destroy Claus, but good forces (the fairies) prevail.
Literature Circles	6-8	3 variations on literature circle response assignments/sheets.	Variety of response activities to be used with a small group of students reading the same novel.
<p><i>The Phantom Tollbooth</i> by Norton Juster</p>	6-8	Teaching ideas, response sheet, and 1 copy of the book.	Fantasy—Milo drives through the lands of order, logic, and science. This fantasy is filled with humor, wordplays, and brain teasers.
Poetry	6-8	Comprehensive notebook outlines a 3 week poetry unit.	Includes appreciation of the Psalms, analysis of poems, poetic devices, writing poetry, and poetry recitation.

GENERAL CHURCH OFFICE OF EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER

LANGUAGE ARTS UNIT BOXES

<p><i>The Wind in the Willows</i> by Kenneth Grahame</p>	<p>6-8</p>	<p>Teacher’s manual with lesson plans, language and vocabulary activities, projects, and 4 copies of the novel.</p>	<p>Fiction—Kenneth Grahame’s classic story uses rich descriptive language to introduce the lives and relationships of four animal friends. Imaginative well-developed characters make tough choices and model age-appropriate social skills.</p>
<p><i>The Wizard of Earthsea</i> by Ursula K. Le Guin</p>	<p>6-8</p>	<p>4 novels and a notebook of teaching ideas.</p>	<p>Fantasy—A coming of age story about a boy who discovers that he has a special gift. He becomes an apprentice to a master wizard and begins a series of adventures, confronting dragons and evil along the way.</p>
<p><i>The American Revolution</i> by Bruce Bliven, Jr.</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 novels, question sheets for each chapter, answer sheets, and additional ideas for teaching about this period in U.S. History.</p>	<p>Part of the Landmark series, this book covers the major events of the American Revolution. It is simply written and includes black and white photos of prominent historic sites.</p>
<p><i>Johnny Tremain</i> by Esther Forbes</p> <p><i>2 copies</i></p>	<p>7</p>	<p>Newly revised teacher’s manual with a wealth of teaching ideas, N.C. background, a CD-ROM (and print-out) with activities that develop language arts skills, and 6 copies of the book.</p>	<p>Historical fiction—Johnny Tremain works as an apprentice to a Boston silversmith until his hand is severely injured. He learns to be useful in other ways and becomes involved with Otis, Hancock, John & Samuel Adams in the events leading to the Boston Tea Party. Integrates well with American History. Themes: patriotism, courage, friendship, and honesty.</p>
<p><i>The Witch of Blackbird Pond</i> by Elizabeth George Speare (Winner of the Newbery Award)</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>7 novels, unit overview, lesson plans, N.C. background, and suggested activities (from three teachers). <i>Note: 2 copies of Calico Captive are enclosed for students who want to read more books by Speare.</i></p>	<p>Historical fiction—Kit Tyler comes to live with relatives in colonial Connecticut, unprepared for the Puritan life there. Her friendship with a Quaker widow labels Kit as a witch, but the charges are dropped with the help of another friend. Illustrates life in colonial America in the 1600s.</p>
<p><i>Dacey’s Song</i> by Cynthia Voigt (Winner of the Newbery Award)</p>	<p>7-8</p>	<p>7 novels, teaching ideas, and response activities. Activities include book in hand theater, TV script for one chapter, and character collage. Because the focus of this unit is on character development, students choose a New Church person to interview and then write about that person. (Two examples of these interviews are included.)</p>	<p>A coming-of-age story to use with girls. Dacey and her younger siblings face many challenges when they come to live with their grandmother. Illustrates the power of love, courage, and perseverance in overcoming obstacles and holding the family together. <i>Please note: Boys could choose to read Where the Red Fern Grows by Wilson Rawls or another coming-of-age novel.</i></p>

GENERAL CHURCH OFFICE OF EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER

LANGUAGE ARTS UNIT BOXES

<p><i>The Giver</i> by Lois Lowry (Winner of the Newbery Award)</p>	<p>7-8</p>	<p>6 novels and 1 notebook with N.C. background, student pages and projects.</p>	<p>Science Fiction—A Newbery Award winner, <i>The Giver</i> is set in a tightly controlled future society where all controversy, pain and choice have been removed. Instead, everyone lives in Sameness where decisions are made by a Committee. Jonas, the main character, has to struggle with the question of whether it is better to live a contented life of no choice in Sameness or to be free to make choices which might involve sorrow and pain.</p> <p>Themes: freedom and responsibility.</p>
<p>Journaling</p>	<p>7-8</p>	<p>This large teacher’s manual (from a N.C. teacher) outlines a 2-year program with many ideas for weekly journaling activities that are integrated with the curricula for these grades.</p>	<p>Drawing on ideas from many sources, students are led to explore a wide variety of journaling activities including letter writing, making comparisons, reflections, predictions, tolerance and more.</p>
<p><i>The Miracle Worker</i> by William Gibson</p>	<p>7-8</p>	<p>9 copies of the play, teaching ideas and response sheets, “The Miracle Worker” video (starring Anne Bancroft and Patty Duke), and a fascinating documentary on Helen Keller. Includes books <i>Helen Keller</i> by M. Davidson, and <i>My Religion</i> by Helen Keller.</p>	<p>Play—This literature unit is a fine introduction to putting on a dramatic production, and students also learn about Helen Keller and her religion. Includes quotations showing how much she valued the ideas of the New Church. Teaching ideas include the follow-up activity of writing an essay on some aspect of Swedenborg’s life.</p>
<p><i>Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry</i> by Mildred Taylor (Winner of the Newbery Award)</p>	<p>7-8</p>	<p>This unit includes N.C. background material on friendship and justice, a unit plan, suggested activities, worksheets, 6 copies of the novel, and a video. For further reading on this subject, the unit box includes 2 copies of <i>Words by Heart</i> by Ouida Sebestyn and these other books by Mildred Taylor: <i>The Friendship</i> (2), <i>The Gold Cadillac</i> (2), <i>Mississippi Bridge</i> (2), and <i>Let the Circle Be Unbroken</i> (1).</p>	<p>Historical fiction—The Logan family faces economic difficulties and prejudice in Mississippi during the Great Depression. A gripping story showing the Logans' commitment to live according to high moral standards, their strong family unit, and their perseverance against all odds. After reading this book together, students may choose to read a related book, research a famous African American, or make a poetry anthology.</p> <p>Themes: friendship, justice, and self-respect.</p>

GENERAL CHURCH OFFICE OF EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER

LANGUAGE ARTS UNIT BOXES

<p><i>Tom Sawyer</i> by Mark Twain</p>	<p>7-8</p>	<p>Newly revised teacher’s manual with many activities, N.C. background, 1 play, and 12 copies of the book.</p>	<p>Historical Fiction—The story of young Tom Sawyer growing up along the banks of the Mississippi River in the early 1800s. He’s forever getting in and out of trouble, along with his friend Huck Finn. Memorable antics include whitewashing the fence, attending his own funeral, and finding buried treasure. Useful to read in conjunction with studying early American history.</p>
<p><i>No Promises in the Wind</i> by Irene Hunt</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>5 copies of the book, unit overview, and many teaching ideas. Activities include following the boys’ journey on a map and writing a letter some years after the book ends from Josh to another main character describing his relationship to other people in the book.</p> <p><i>Note: See also, social studies resource unit on the Depression.</i></p>	<p>Historical fiction / coming-of-age story —Josh runs away from home after conflicts with his father who is upset about his inability to support his family during the Depression years. Josh’s young brother follows him, they join a carnival, one gets lost, Josh is ill, and they finally go home. Sparks excellent discussions such as what makes life bittersweet? And why is it that hard times bring out the worst in some people but the best in many others?</p> <p>Themes: friendship, courage.</p>