



Language Arts



Science



Social Studies





Math

Printmaking





Winslow Homer
Snap the Whip



Little Country Schoolhouse: The Good Old Days
Ken and Janice Tate, grades 4–6

  This book about academic life in the 1800s abounds with tales of worn leather book straps, shiny tin lunch pails, the scratch of chalk on slates, and wooden desktops with ink wells. The school house set in the background of Homer's engraving could have been the setting for many of these stories.

When the Moon Is Full
Pernney Pollock, grades 2–5

  Hand-painted woodcut prints provide evocative, haunting nature scenes for Pollock's eloquent poems in honor of each month's full moon. Each new spread reveals a spectacular nighttime vista. The prints in this book provide a myriad of opportunities for comparison with Homer's wood engraving.




Children of the Wild West
Russell Freedman, grades 4–6

  Accompanied by evocative photographs, Newberry Medalist Freedman offers a stirring look at life on the Western frontier in lengthy, informative accounts that, like Homer's children of the Wild West, help history come alive.





Albrecht Dürer
St. Eustace



Sir Cumference and the Dragon of Pi
Cindy Neuschwander, grades 2–6

   When Sir Cumference drinks a potion that turns him into a dragon, his son Radius searches for the magic number, known as pi, that will restore him to his former shape. This whimsical story, along with Dürer's engraving of Saint Eustace, could inspire students to create their own narratives filled with characters named after mathematical concepts and dwelling in places found in Durer's engraving.

Crispin: The Cross of Lead
 Avi, grades 4–6

  Winner of the 2003 Newberry Medal, this action-packed adventure transports the reader to the 14th century, where a young serf, on the run from his miserable past, comes to discover not only his true identity, but a sense of self-worth. This story could have easily taken place in the landscape surrounding St. Eustace.


The Knight at Dawn (Magic Tree House Series)
Mary Pope Osborne, grades 2–5

  Eight-year-old Jack and his younger sister, Annie, use the magic tree house to travel back in time, where they explore a castle and are helped by a mysterious knight. Imagine the castle in this story perched atop the hill in Dürer's engraving.





Jasper Johns
Savarin

Coffee Can Science
Steven M. Tomeceek, grades 4–6

 This book uses simple coffee cans to make barometers, acoustic amplifiers, or even lungs. Simple hands-on activities, using easy-to-find objects, help bring science alive. Just as Johns used a coffee can to create his self-portrait, children can use coffee cans to create scientific experiments.

General

History of Printmaking
Scholastic, grades 3–6



  Here is a concise, easy-to-read history of the different printmaking processes and several artists that utilized them. This includes more detailed information to be used in conjunction with the comparison chart on page 15 in the LTA teacher's guide.

Deep in the Heart of Texas





Frederic Remington
Aiding a Comrade



Best Alphabet Book in the Wild West
Gary Bennett, grades 1–4

  This whimsical alphabet book takes a look at the Old West through objects that typify life on the frontier. Students looking at *Aiding a Comrade* will be able to more accurately identify western artifacts if they read this book first.



Armadillo Rodeo
Jan Brett, grades 1–4

  Bo, an adventurous, near-sighted armadillo, leaves his mother and brothers to follow a girl heading to a rodeo wearing new red boots which Bo mistakes for another armadillo. Using this book as a prototype for students' Texas history writing projects reinforces the skill of writing from a different point of view.

Why Cowboys Sleep With Their Boots On
Jan Brett, grades 1–4

  A hardworking cowboy, who wears his clothes to bed, sleeps so soundly that he isn't aware how he is losing an item of clothing each night. He soon learns that desert animals are snatching them away. Just such a story could have happened to the cowboys in Remington's painting.

Sarah, Plain and Tall
Patricia MacLachlan, grades 4–6

  When their father invites a mail-order bride to come live with them in their prairie home, Caleb and Anna are captivated by their new mother and hope that she will stay. Typical life on the frontier, as was experienced by many of the subjects Remington painted, is explained in this award-winning tale.

Deep in the Heart of Texas



Meade Brothers
Samuel Houston

A Child's History of Texas

Sarah Jackson, grades 2–4

This book offers a concise history of Texas recounted through colorful illustrations and easy-to-read text. This serves as a great resource for more information about events that shaped Sam Houston's Republic of Texas.

Make Way for Sam Houston

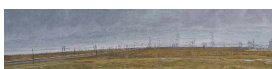
Jean Fritz, grades 4–6

In this tightly woven, well-researched biography of the Texas hero, Jean Fritz has demystified Sam Houston by presenting the facts of his life and providing interpretations, turning this larger-than-life character into a very real person. This helps students bring the photograph of Sam Houston to life by learning information about him that they can relate to.

Snowflake

Mary Azarian, grades 2–4

This is a biography set in 1865 of a self-taught scientist who photographed thousands of individual snowflakes in order to study their unique formations. The processes that Bentley used to create his photographs were similar to the ones that the Meade Brothers used.



Rackstraw Downes

P. H. Robinson Generating Station, Dickinson, Texas, Eight Ibis Feeding with an Egret

The Ibis and the Egret

Roy Owen, grades 1–4

An ibis and an egret muse about the cycle of seasons as it affects the inhabitants and the environs of their marsh home. Although they declare each season their favorite, the ibis questions why they stay on when they have seen them all. This conversation could have taken place in Downes's painting.

General

The Sign of Beaver

Elizabeth George Speare, grades 4–6

Left alone to guard the family's wilderness home, a boy is hard pressed to survive until local Indians teach him their skills. This provides more information for students to utilize in writing the essays described on LTA page 20.

Still Life



Severin Roesen
Victorian Bouquet

The Reason for a Flower

Ruth Heller, grades 1–4

Brief text and lavish illustrations explain plant reproduction and the purpose of a flower. Because the flowers in *Victorian Bouquet* bloom at different times of year, Roesen's composition could not have been arranged in reality; this book's explanation on plant reproduction helps students understand this.

Flower Alphabet Book

Jerry Pallotta, grades 4–6

This alphabet book describes a variety of flowers from A-Z, beginning with the amaryllis and concluding with the zinnia. This helps in the identification of some of the flowers in *Victorian Bouquet*.



Willem Claesz Heda
Still Life

The Boy Who Held Back the Sea

Thomas Locker, grades 1–4

This classic folktale about the Dutch boy who saved his country from flooding by plugging a leak in a dike is illustrated with Locker's characteristically sprawling landscapes. The Dutch way of life is also reflected in Heda's breakfast scene.

Melanie Martin Goes Dutch: The Private Diary Of My Almost Bummer Summer With Cecily, Matt The Brat, And Vincent Van Go Go Go

Carol Weston, grades 4–6

Fourth-grader Melanie describes her travels to the Netherlands in her diary and engages in typical Dutch pastimes such as bicycling and visiting a cheese market. Her views of Dutch culture, particularly the food, provide a way for students to relate to the scene Heda depicts in his *Still Life*.

General

Arithmetickle

J. Patrick Lewis, grades 2–5

Eighteen zany, rhyming math puzzles, involving addition, subtraction, and simple multiplication, are full of amusing names and situations, such as calculating the time for a quick trip to Kalamazoo or the weight of a poodle named Poo-poo-pee-doo. Encourage students to use creativity and imagination, as evidenced in this book, when writing their story problems for the still-life paintings (see math lesson, page 29).

Do You See What I See?

Angela Wenzel, grades 4–6

This book explores how still-life paintings can look three-dimensional, how open doors can lead nowhere, and other optical illusions in paintings by artists ranging from Raphael to Escher. Examples of illusions include hidden pictures (like the windows' reflections in Heda's *Still Life*), coded messages, and tricks with perspectives or color. The text invites readers to study the pictures carefully to appreciate these optical effects. It also provides brief anecdotal information on the artists.



Bobo or Bwa people
Helmet Mask with Buffalo Horns



The Orphan Boy

Tolowa M. Mollel & Paul Morin, grades 2–4

In this lyrical story, illustrated with richly luminous paintings, an old man encounters a mysterious boy. As he comes to love the boy as a son, he agrees to let him keep the one thing he owns: a secret. The magnificent oil paintings of Africa in this book reflect the environment in which the *Helmet Mask with Buffalo Horns* was created.



The Village of Round and Square Houses

Ann Grifalconi, grades 1–4

  In an actual African village, women dwell in round thatch-roofed huts and men live in square ones. This book tells the story of how the houses were so designated, weaving the customs of the village into the story. The *Helmet Mask with Buffalo Horns* could have been used in ceremonies initiating young men into the Do society, and this book helps illustrate the different roles men and women play in such societies.

Zomo the Rabbit: A Trickster from West Africa

Gerald McDermott, grades 1–4



  Zomo the rabbit, a trickster from West Africa, wants wisdom. But he must accomplish three apparently impossible tasks before Sky God will give him what he wants. The *Helmet Mask with Buffalo Horns* was used in ceremonies that included rituals designed to appease the spirits of the ancestors and gods, like the Sky God.



Eskimo (Inuit) people
Mask of a Wolf Spirit




The Inuit

Suzanne M. Williams, grades 4–6

  The Inuit people have lived in the challenging terrain of the Arctic for generations. Traditionally, they moved with the seasons, spending their winters by the water hunting seals and fishing. In the summer months, they went inland to hunt the caribou. This nonfiction account provides accurate information for research (see the LTA social studies lesson on page 35) on the lifestyle of the people who created the *Mask of a Wolf Spirit*.



Julie of the Wolves

Jean Craighead George, grades 4–6

   While running away from home and an unwanted marriage, a 13-year-old Eskimo girl becomes lost on the North Slope of Alaska and is befriended by a wolf pack. Here is a glimpse into life on the terrain that inspired the *Mask of a Wolf Spirit*.




Earth Under Sky Bear's Feet

Joseph Buchac, grades 1–4

  Twelve unforgettable stories of the living earth unfold, as “Sky Bear” (also known as the Big Dipper) circles the Earth each night; these 12 poems tell of what she sees and hears from the Native American people of the Southwest to the Eskimo Inuit people of Alaska. This resource can be used to draw parallels and distinctions between *Snake Dance* and the *Mask of a Wolf Spirit*.

Look to the North: A Wolf Pup Diary

Jean Craighead George, grades 2–4



   Newbery Medalist Jean Craighead George lovingly tells the story of three wolf pups—from the moment they open their eyes to the time they lead the hunt. A look at the growth and life of wolves helps give further insight into why the wolf was chosen as the subject for this mask by the Eskimo people.



Oqwa-Pi (Abel Sanchez)
Snake Dance




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It Rained on the Desert Today

Lisa Campbell, Grades 1–3

   Using free verse and evocative watercolor paintings, this book describes the sights and sounds of the desert, as seen by a young girl, when rain finally arrives. This book helps envision what would happen when rain, symbolized by snakes and lightning in *Snake Dance*, finally arrived in New Mexico, where it was painted.



Rattlesnake Dance: True Tales, Mysteries, and Rattlesnake Ceremonies

Jennifer Dewey, grades 4–6

  The author recounts her experiences as a 10-year-old when she observed Indian snake dances, where Indians held rattlers in their mouths while performing a rain dance, just like in *Snake Dance*. Throughout the book are “fact boxes,” featuring information about rattlers and their habitat and behavior, as well as old beliefs and legends.

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General

Look at Annette

Marion Walter, grades 1–4

 Annette uses a mirror to discover how her face changes, but remains symmetrical. The masks in this unit also employ the same symmetrical balance.



Language Arts



Science



Social Studies



Math

Predicting the Future





Roman

Sarcophagus Front: The Return of the Body of Meleager to Kalydon



You Wouldn't Want to Be a Roman Gladiator: Gory Things You'd Rather Not Know

John Malam, grades 4–6

  This book's approach is very popular with late elementary school-aged children due to its ability to make Roman history come alive through lively text and cartoon drawings. Since this book covers the process of embalming the deceased, it would be a good companion when discussing the purpose of the sarcophagus.



D'Aulaires' Book of Greek Myths

Ingri D'Aulaire and Edgar Parin D'Aulaire, grades 4–6

  This definitive volume of Greek mythology introduces readers to all the major and lesser gods and goddesses, as well as the mortal descendants of Zeus. Stories from Greek mythology were commonly depicted on Roman sarcophagi and in paintings like the one by Kauffman.


Gods and Goddesses of Greek Myths

Aliki, grades 2–5

  Meet extraordinary Greek characters and hear their legends brought to life by Aliki in this panoramic look at the amazing stories and characters of Greek legend. They are also brought to life through the artists' depictions of them in *Sarcophagus Front: The Return of the Body of Meleager to Kalydon* and *Ariadne Abandoned by Theseus on Naxos*.

Gods and Goddesses from Greek Myths

Retold by Pat Posner, grades 4–6

 From Aphrodite to Zeus, the gods, goddesses, heroes, and creatures of Greek mythology come to life in this collection of action-packed adventures that not only entertain but also supplement curriculum-based learning on ancient Greek culture, as in this LTA unit.





Angelica Kauffman

Ariadne Abandoned by Theseus on Naxos



Greece! Rome! Monsters!

John Harris, grades 4–6

  Twenty monsters from Greek and Roman, from centaurs and minotaurs to sirens and unicorns, tell their tales in a quirky and colorful style. Harris makes plenty of references to the myths in which each monster is featured, as well as to relevant literature and art. These monsters play roles in the myth that inspired Kauffman's art and the Roman sarcophagus.



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Frederic Remington

Aiding a Comrade



Frederic Remington

Elizabeth Van Steenwyk, grades 4–6

  This biography of Remington reveals how he captured and defined the American West through his art. This book gives vital information needed for students' research of the artist's life, as described in the LTA lesson on page 47.



Westward Ho!

Laurie Carlson, grades 1–6

  From historical details of the settlement of the West to descriptions of frontier life with accompanying activities, this book helps students understand the challenges and joys of life in the Old West that Remington's art portrays.



B is for Buckaroo

Gleaves Whitney, grades 1–5

  The letters of the alphabet are represented here by words, set in short rhymes with additional information relating to cowboys and ranch life. The vocabulary introduced here will help students in writing their narratives, as described in the LTA language arts lesson.

Sarah, Plain and Tall



Patricia MacLachlan, grades 4–6

  When their father invites a mail-order bride to come live with them in their prairie home, Caleb and Anna are captivated by their new mother and hope that she will stay. Typical life on the frontier, as was experienced by many of the subjects Remington painted, is explored in this award-winning tale.

General



Family Tree Detective

Ann Douglas, grades 3–6

  This book reveals ways to uncover intriguing pieces of family lore and includes helpful tips from experienced genealogists. The LTA lessons in this unit focus on genealogy, and this book provides helpful suggestions for that research process.

Do People Grow on Family Trees?

Debra Friedman, Grades 2–6

  This interactive genealogical guide shows students how to trace their past, track down important documents, create an oral history of their family, and compile a family tree. Researching genealogy can be a daunting task, but this book helps organize students' thought processes in order to complete LTA's pictorial family tree (see page 47).



John Biggers
Jubilee-Ghana Harvest Festival



Tales from West Africa

Martin Bennett, grades 4–6

  This lively collection comes from West Africa, a place “where stories grow on trees.” Some of the tales included focus on how Ananse got his thin waist, how Crocodile learned his lesson, and how Monkey managed not to get eaten by Shark. Tales such as these were probably the topic of lively discussion among the people in Biggers's art work.



Her Stories: African American Folktales, Fairy Tales, and True Tales

Virginia Hamilton, grades 4–6

  This is a collection of 25 compelling stories focusing on the varied roles of African American women (both real and fictional) and their particular strengths, joys, and sorrows. These characteristics are also evident on the faces of the women in Biggers's work.



Kofi and His Magic

Maya Angelou, grades 1–5

  A young Ashanti boy describes some of the wonders of life in and around the West African village of Bonwire. The voice of the child in this book could have come from one of the children in the right middle ground of Biggers's painting.



The Leopard's Drum: An Asante Tale from West Africa

Jessica Souhami, grades 1–5

  This traditional tale from West Africa tells how a leopard has a magnificent drum, but he wouldn't let anyone else have it. So the Sky-God offers a big reward to the animal who will bring him the drum. Drums were also so important to Biggers' work (found in the background, to the right) that he once commented: “drummers enchant the crowd with a pulsating rhythm that excites performers and spectators.”



Kings and Queens of West Africa

Sylviane Anna Diouf, grades 4–6

  For many centuries, there have been organized states and powerful empires in West Africa. This book focuses on those regimes, including King Osei Tutu of 17th century Ghana. In the background of *Jubilee-Ghana Harvest Festival*, just such a king is shown.

Harvest Festivals Around the World

Judith Corwin, grades 2–5


  This book provides a brief look at ancient and contemporary celebrations and presents a simple activity for each of them. It not only tells about how harvests are honored today, but also how they were celebrated in traditional societies. The Ghanaian Yam Festival is included, which correlates with Biggers's mural.



Luis Cruz Azaceta
A Question of Color



Martin's Big Words: The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Doreen Rappaport, grades 1–5

 Rappaport's spare, gripping text and Collier's distinctive collage-and-watercolor illustrations depict King's life journey with reverence and dignity—beginning with his childhood experience of seeing “Whites Only” signs throughout his hometown, presenting his efforts as a civil rights crusader, and ending abruptly with his assassination. Racial turmoil is also a central theme in *A Question of Color*.

White Socks Only

Evelyn Coleman, grades 3–5



  During the Civil Rights era, a young black girl dresses up in her white Sunday best and, for the first time, she ventures into town and spots a drinking fountain that bears the sign “Whites Only.” She takes off her black shoes, and now, dressed only in white, begins to drink. When a white man begins to whip the young girl, her innocence inspires those around her to remove their shoes and drink from the fountain as well. This powerful story is a reflection of the struggle Luis Cruz depicts in his painting.



Edward Hicks
The Peaceable Kingdom



Hostage on the Nighthawk

Dave Jackson, grades 4–6

  Using a nice blend of fact and fiction, this tells the story of 13-year-old Theo who was held hostage on a pirate ship in 1700, escapes, and enlists the help of William Penn to rescue his mother. Governor William Penn’s “Holy Experiment” of equal opportunity, as well as his policies and religious convictions, are woven into a tale of adventure, just as they are woven into *The Peaceable Kingdom*.



Let Freedom Ring!

Bernadette Baczynski, grades 4–6

  Here is a biography of the religious leader and founder of the Pennsylvania Colony, whose Quaker beliefs helped him form peaceful relationships with the American Indians and lay the foundation of religious freedom in America. Edward Hicks’s painting was intended to be a visual message of Penn’s harmony and the Quaker vision of peace.

How Artists See Animals

Colleen Carroll, grades 4–6



  This book examines how different kinds of animals are depicted in works of art from different time periods and places. Carroll sparks critical thinking skills by asking questions that engage students in not only in each individual piece of artwork, but also the ideas it represents. They will be able to compare a bowl of goldfish by Henri Matisse with one by Roy Lichtenstein. Just as these artists used artistic tools to portray animals as they appear to them, Edward Hicks portrays carnivorous wild animals as serene due to his Quaker vision of a peaceful society.



Neil Welliver
Beaver Pond



All Eyes on the Pond

Michael J. Rosen, grades 1–5

  This introduction to the behavior, interdependence, and habitat of various pond creatures is combined with luminous acrylic illustrations. Insets in each double-page spread, beginning with one picturing a person’s eyes, depict the creature whose world we enter. This is the world that Neil Welliver also captured in *Beaver Pond*.

Jack: the Story of a Beaver

Shirley Woods, grades 4–6



  This account of a young beaver’s life uses a skillful blend of fact and fiction to give readers a sense of the idylls and dangers of the animal’s world. The story covers Jack’s first two years, from birth until he finds a pond and a mate. This combines fact and fiction to illustrate probable life in the ecosystem of Welliver’s painting.



Thomas Hart Benton
Haystack

Back Home

Gloria Jean Pinkney, grades 2–5



  Gloria remembers a childhood summer when she spent time on a hill farm in North Carolina, which is similar to the setting for *Haystack*. Jerry Pinkney’s full-page watercolors complement the text in rich hues and detailed patterns that could be used as a comparison to Benton’s painting.



Bian Shoumin
Geese Descending on a Sandbank



Weaving of a Dream: Chinese Folktales

Merilee Heyer, grades 3–6

  Here is a retelling of a traditional Chinese tale complemented with exquisite paintings. When the beautiful tapestry woven by a poor woman is stolen by fairies, her three sons set out on a magical journey to retrieve it. Small red woodcut-like squares featuring animals and birds from the paintings are reminiscent of the birds in *Geese Descending on a Sandbank*.

The Fledgling



Jane Langton, grades 4–6

  A shy, solitary eight-year-old girl believes she can fly but ends up in a heap at the bottom of the stairs after trying, unsuccessfully, to float down. As it turns out, a giant goose takes her under his wing, literally and figuratively. Under the Goose Prince’s tutelage, she gradually learns to soar in the skies above the pond, with disastrous consequences. In Chinese art, as in this book, geese often evoke a season of change.

General

Math for All Seasons

Greg Tang, grades 2–5

  This book proves that posing number problems through verse and vivid pictures is a powerful path to math learning. Each poem poses a “how many” question about the accompanying picture of seasonal items, from acorns and hatching chicks to dandelions and icicles. Since each art work in this LTA unit evokes a certain season, students could be inspired to write a math poem that correlates with a specific work of art.

Shedding Light on Photography



Henri Carter-Bresson
Sawyer-Flood House,
Galveston, Texas

Architects Make Zigzags

Diane Maddex & Roxie Munro, grades 1–6



Architects make zigzags, and they also design brackets, columns, dormers, eaves, facades, gables, ironwork, and other architectural delights to be found inside this book. See how many of these architectural concepts can be found in *Sawyer-Flood House, Galveston, Texas*.



Robert Cumming
Eight Year-Old Girl,
Six-Month-Old Weed

Chocolate Moose for Dinner and The King Who Rained

Fred Gwynne, grades 1–6



A little girl pictures the things her parents talk about, literally, such as chocolate moose, gorilla war, and bear feet. Older kids and adults will find Gwynne's deadpan humor hilarious. Robert Cumming uses this same idiomatic humorous convention by literally interpreting the phrase, "growing like a weed" through the lens of his camera.

Lewis Hine
The Riveters

Empire Dreams

Wendy Wax, grades 3–6



Like many New Yorkers in 1930, Julie Singer, 11, is fascinated by the construction of the Empire State Building. Her interest grows from keeping a scrapbook of newspaper articles to secret trips to watch the Mohawk "Skywalkers." Lewis Hine actually climbed with the "Skywalkers" to document their work in photographs such as *The Riveters* (once he even swung out from the 100th floor in a box to get some shots of the tower).

General

Math Curse

John Scieszka, grades 2–6



Does tunafish plus tunafish equal fourfish? A girl finds herself trapped in a math curse when her teacher tells the class they can think of almost anything as a math problem. Soon she sees math everywhere. Math is everywhere in this unit if you pose math problems like the following: how much money do the riveters make if they work 8 hours a day at \$1.13/hour?

Picture This

Debra Friedman, grades 2–6



This book uses technical terms, photography projects, related craft ideas, and a glossary in order to show how to combine lighting with angles and composition when photographing objects. The use of creative angles to create out-of-the-ordinary photographs is detailed here, and is very useful when completing the LTA lesson on page 73, "Exploring Point of View."

The City ABC Book

Zoran Milich, grades 1–6



The City ABC Book features dramatic black-and-white photographs of urban landscapes with hidden letters boldly highlighted in red. Students will be inspired to take a second look at the world around them as their powers of observation are enhanced. Children can use their imagination to find letters in their neighborhood and in the photographs in this unit.

Photography

Andrew Haslam, grades 4–6



This practical book uses activities to explore photography from simple pinhole cameras to cameras that use film, explaining how different parts of a camera work and showing how to process and develop your own photographs. The information in this book complements LTA's "Experimenting with Light" lesson on page 69.



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African Art




Ekpeye people
Pangolin Headdress

Why the Sky is Far Away: A Nigerian Folktale
Mary-Joan Gerson, grades 1–6

 Vibrant illustrations enrich this 500-year-old folktale about why the sky is far away. At the beginning of creation the sky cared for the earth's inhabitants by allowing those that were hungry to reach up and take a piece. However, in time, the people became wasteful and greedy and caused the sky to move away, out of their reach. During the Nigerian dry season, when the sun is constant and high in the sky, the Ekpeye people hold a major celebration that involves wearing headdresses like the *Pangolin Headdress*.


What on Earth Is a Pangolin?
Edward Ricciuti, grades 2–6

 Here is a nonfiction account of the habitat, characteristics, and survival patterns of the pangolin. *The Pangolin Headdress* always sparks students' desire to learn more about this unusual animal.



Bobo or Bwa people
Helmet Mask with Buffalo Horns


Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears
Verna Aardema, grades 1–6

 Mosquito tells iguana such a preposterous tall tale that iguana puts sticks in his ears so he won't have to hear her nonsense. This causes a chain of events that upsets all the animals. To this day, mosquitoes whine in people's ears to ask if everyone is still angry. This African tale comes from the region of the Bobo people, who created the *Helmet Mask with Buffalo Horns*.




Edo (Bin) people
Plaque with Court Retainer

Kings and Queens of West Africa
Sylviane Anna Diouf, grades 4–6


 For many centuries there have been organized states and powerful empires in West Africa. This book focuses on those regimes, and the royalty that ruled them. The bronze *Plaque with Court Retainer* shows a high-ranking member of the court of Oba, the Benin king.

General


Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters: An African Tale
John Steptoe, grades 1–6

 This African tale evokes the Cinderella story in its portrayal of Mufaro's daughters, Manyara and Nyasha, who are summoned before a king looking for a suitable wife. The scheming Manyara plots to appear first at the palace, while her considerate sister takes time on the journey to care for hungry people. These colorful and richly textured illustrations reflect the society in which the African art works of this unit were created.

Nelson Mandela's Favorite African Folktales
Nelson Mandela, grades 3–6

 Mandela, a winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, compiles this collection of Africa's most cherished folktales. He selected these 32 tales with the hope that Africa's oldest stories, as well as a few new ones, would be perpetuated by future generations and be appreciated by children throughout the world. This provides rich cultural material for the research involved in the LTA social studies lesson of this unit.

The African Sniffari
Katherine Pebley, grades 2–6

 This adventure stars three adventurers that embark upon an African "sniffari." It gives them many opportunities to smell animals in their natural habitats and view some of nature's most impressive animals up close. This is a fun way to investigate the traits of African animals, which can be used when creating this unit's masks, sculptures, and poems.

Reliving the Renaissance




Bernardino Fungai
Mythological Narrative

D'Aulaires' Book of Greek Myths


Ingri D'Aulaire and Edgar Parin D'Aulaire, grades 4–6

This definitive volume of Greek mythology introduces readers to all the major and lesser gods and goddesses, as well as the mortal descendants of Zeus. In the *Mythological Narrative*, Neptune (in the center of the painting) and the figures of Venus and Cupid (at the far left) allude to a classical source used as inspiration for this *cassone* panel.

A Boy Named Giotto
Palo Guarnieri, grades 2–6

Eight-year-old Giotto, the shepherd boy, confesses  his dream of becoming an artist to the painter Cimabue. He then teaches the young boy how to make pigments from minerals, flowers, and eggs. In both the *Meeting of Solomon and the Queen of Sheba* and the *Mythological Narrative*, the artists mixed ground pigments from plants and animals with egg yolk, just as Giotto does in this narrative.

The Renaissance: The Invention of Perspective
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This book offers quick insight into some of the methods the Renaissance artists used and how each  artist brought new insight to his work. These ideas are threaded through an entertaining story about a boy fascinated with art and solving an art riddle put before him by his father. The use of atmospheric and one-point perspective are exemplified, respectively, in the *Mythological Narrative* and the *Meeting of Solomon and the Queen of Sheba*.



Ferrarese School
Meeting of Solomon and the Queen of Sheba

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Lillo Canto, grades 5–6



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Albrecht Dürer
Saint Eustace

Crispin: The Cross of Lead

Avi, grades 4–6



Winner of the 2003 Newberry Medal, this action-packed adventure transports the reader to the 14th century, where a young serf on the run from his miserable past comes to discover not only his true identity, but a sense of self-worth. This story could have easily taken place in the landscape surrounding St. Eustace.

Sir Cumference and the Dragon of Pi

Cindy Neuschwander, grades 2–6



When Sir Cumference drinks a potion that turns him into a dragon, his son Radius searches for the magic number, known as pi, which will restore him to his former shape. This whimsical story, along with Dürer's engraving of Saint Eustace, could inspire students to create their own narratives filled with characters named after mathematical concepts and dwelling in places found in Dürer's engraving.

The Knight at Dawn (Magic Tree House Series)

Mary Pope Osborne, grades 2–6



Eight-year-old Jack and his younger sister, Annie, use the magic tree house to travel back in time, where they explore a castle and are helped by a mysterious knight. Imagine the castle in this story perched atop the hill in Dürer's engraving.

The Last Battle (The Chronicles of Narnia Series)

C. S. Lewis, grade 6



This is the final book in the Narnia series, which chronicles the adventures of four children and the mysterious lion Aslan, everlasting ruler of all Narnia. In this last book, a false Aslan roams the land and Narnia's only hope is that Eustace and Jill will be able to find the true Aslan and restore peace to Narnia. Not only does the name "Eustace" draw a parallel to Dürer's print, but the religious allegory in the books does as well.

General

Kristina, the Girl King (Royal Diaries Series)

Carolyn Meyer, grades 4–6



Upon discovering that their newborn infant is, in fact, female (not male as first thought), King Gustavus Adolphus orders that the infant girl be raised as a prince. Unfortunately, at age six, upon the death of her father, the child Kristina is proclaimed the King. In this book, she is almost 12 years old and is struggling with her identity. This story explores Renaissance life through the eyes of a sixth-grade girl.

A Renaissance Painter's Studio

James Barter, grades 5–6



Barter describes the arduous training and difficult day-to-day working lives of painters in Florence during the Renaissance and discusses how their changing approach to the art they created elevated their standing and influence in society. It was in a studio like this that the artists of this LTA unit created their Renaissance masterpieces.

Renaissance

Alison Cole, grades 5–6



Here is a beautiful, thought-provoking, and highly informative guide to understanding the Renaissance. Color reproductions of paintings, sculptures, and sketches are combined with text from an established art historian to offer insight into the Renaissance era. This nonfiction book helps bring history alive and is easy to use as a research tool for LTA's "Renaissance time-line" lesson, described on page 85.



Vincent van Gogh
The Rocks

Painting the Wind: A Story of Vincent van Gogh

Michelle Dionetti, grades 2–4



In the city of Arles, France, lives a painter named Vincent van Gogh. Vincent's neighbors are all a little afraid of him—all but a little girl named Claudine. When the people of Arles, fearful of the painter's strange ways, petition the magistrate to ban Vincent from the town, Claudine must decide whether she, like Vincent, has the courage to stand up for what she believes. This gives students a glimpse at Van Gogh's life through the eyes of a child like themselves.

The First Starry Night

Joan Shaddox Isom, grades 2–6



Jacques, an orphan who befriends Van Gogh, lives within full-page, swirling settings reminiscent of the artist's paintings. The ever-practical Jacques is sweetly protective of Vincent's physical and financial health, and the infinitely patient artist in turn counsels the child not to worry about money. This author emphasizes Van Gogh's kindness to children and animals, which are not often highlighted in books about his personality.

Art Fraud Detective: Spot the Difference, Solve the Crime

Anna Nilsen, grades 4–6



This is a spot-the-difference game, mystery story, and art book in which readers try to tell which paintings are genuine and which are forgeries. *Art Fraud Detective* includes historical information on each painting, tips on the techniques of the Old Masters, and a glossary of art terms. Van Gogh is featured as one of the masters.

Vincent van Gogh: Sunflowers and Swirly Stars

Joan Holub, grades 2–6



This clever biography—disguised as a book report—creatively conveys the essence of Van Gogh's life and work in terms that elementary school children can understand. Interesting facets of his life are revealed, for example, he couldn't hold down a job, he stuck candles in his hat so he could paint outside at night, and he cut off a piece of his ear as a present for a woman.

Exploring Trees



Odilon Redon
The Trees





Edward Steichen
Trees, Long Island

General



The Great Kapok Tree

Lynne Cherry, grades 5–6

  A man walks into a lush rain forest and starts chopping down a huge kapok tree. Lulled by the heat, he sits down and soon falls asleep. The forest dwellers approach the tree, each pleading in his ear, a reason to keep the tree standing. This environmental tale could spark students' imaginations when brainstorming ideas for their own short stories, as described in the LTA lesson on page 92.



Sky Tree: Seeing Science through Art

Thomas Locker, grades 1–6

  A tree stands on a hill by a river. As the sky changes, so does the tree, its branches filling with clouds, stars, snow, birds, mists, and the golden spring sun. In a section at the back of this book, the artist shares thought-provoking observations about color, composition, trees, sky, mood, and light. Each art work in this LTA unit also evokes a wide array of different moods and lighting as reflected in trees.


Have You Seen Trees?

Joanne Oppenheim, grades 1–6

  Vibrant watercolors impart new luster to this poem: "Have you seen summer trees? / Shade-me-from-the-light trees. / Whisper-in-the-night trees". This book, along with its expressive art work, captures the read-aloud audience. At the end, the author and illustrators identify 16 trees, which provide useful, easy-to-read information for completing the LTA science lesson in this unit.

Mathematicles

Betsy Franco, grades 1–6

 Here is a whimsical collection of poems written in the form of mathematical problems and grouped according to seasonal themes. This innovative volume of poetry seeks to fuse math and language. The poems are necessarily short but make the reader think of things in new and unusual ways. For example: "maple leaves + puddle = crimson ships." Using Franco's leaf motif as a springboard, students can create their own "mathematicles" illustrating the leaves in these art works. a border for each page.


Vessels of Culture



Greek
Hydria: Women Sorting Wool


Greek News

Anton Powell, grades 4–6

 With a tabloid-style format, this book presents ancient Greek history as news, putting it into a shape and jargon familiar to kids today. Aside from the hard news stories of the day ("Sparta Attacks!"; "Alexander Wins!"), *The Greek News* offers such stories as a piece on cheating at the Olympic Games and answers to farmers' questions about suitable crops to grow (olives and grapes). Timelines, copious illustrations, and maps complete this book. It is a great tool for researching Greek culture for the LTA social studies lesson.

How Would You Survive as an Ancient Greek?

Fiona MacDonald, grade 6


 The reader travels back in time, with a new identity, by being given detailed information on the aspects of life during a particular historical period. The reader can then take a quiz to rate how he or she would have survived. An illustrated time spiral, map, glossary, and index can aid students with the "Mapping World Pottery" LTA activity on page 101.



Mimbres culture
Jar (Olla)

Old Grandfather Teaches a Lesson

Carilyn Alarid, grades 4–6



 Four Mimbres Indian cousins learn to stop squabbling after their grandfather teaches them to use the talking stick. The Mimbres people lived in the southwestern corner of present-day New Mexico, producing folktales like this and pottery like the Mimbres *Jar (Olla)*.



Acoma Pueblo
Jar (Olla)


Earth Daughter: Alicia of Acoma Pueblo

George Ancona, grades 2–4

  Alicia Hestia, a typical young girl from the Acoma Pueblo in New Mexico, tells about her life and aspirations in this photo-essay. She would like to grow up to be a lawyer and an artist. In her quest to become an artist, she discusses the physical changes in clay (see LTA, page 107) by observing the creation of pots and figures from the digging of the clay to its firing.



On the Cliffs of Acoma

John Dressman, grades 2–6

 Two Indian children living in Acoma, a cliff-dwelling village, look for the ways the Spaniards climbed up to conquer their ancestors hundreds of years earlier, around the time when the *Jar (Olla)* was created.

Enchanted Runner


Kimberley Little, grades 5–6

  Twelve-year-old Kendall, half Anglo and half Acoma, discovers his heritage and his destiny as a runner when he visits his great-grandfather's pueblo and finds a culture he used to hear about from his deceased mother. The Acoma pueblo has been inhabited for more than 1,000 years and many stories, such as this one, are part of the rich heritage that produced earthenware like the water jar.

General



Anno's Mysterious Multiplying Jar

Masaichiro Anno, grade 6

 This book's text and pictures combine to present a comprehensive lesson on factorials. The visual components help students comprehend factorials by following a jar's travels. Detailed explanations of how to solve the factorials are included at the end. Any of the jars in this unit could be used as the inspiration for the jar that travels throughout this book.

The Pottery Place

Gail Gibbons, grades 1–6

  By following a potter through a day of work, the history and process of pottery making unfolds. The process outlined in this book closely corresponds the pot coiling procedure taught in this unit's art lesson.

Grades 4-6

General Art Themes

Seymour Bleu

Catherine Deeter, grades 1-6

After searching for inspiration for his next painting in a world filled with color, a famous cat artist finally finds it among his friends.

Art Dog

Thacher Hurd, grades 1-6

When Woofa is stolen from the Dogopolis Museum of Art, a mysterious character who calls himself Art Dog tracks down and captures the thieves.

The Class Artist

G. Brian Karas, grades 1-6

Fred has big plans for his art project and a whole week to paint and draw and cut and glue until everything is just right. But as the week goes by, Fred's big plans turn into a disaster. Sometimes, as Fred discovers, seeing something in your mind and putting it down on paper are not the same. All those who have ever been bewildered by creativity—and rescued by inspiration—will recognize themselves in Fred.

Mathterpieces: The Art of Problem Solving

Greg Tang, grades 2-6

From Impressionism to Pop Art, Tang combines classic pieces of fine art with arithmetic to teach kids that grouping objects together means adding faster and easier.

I Spy Two Eyes: Numbers in Art

Lucy Mickelwait, grades 1-6

Here is a clever introduction to the world of fine art. Using the traditional "I spy with my little eye" rhyme, the book asks readers to find numbered details in 20 works of art. From one fly in *Portrait of a Woman of the Hofer Family* to twenty angels in Botticelli's *Mystic Nativity*, children can study a wide variety of styles, periods, and techniques.

Do You See What I See?

Angela Wenzel, grades 4-6

This book explores how still-life paintings can look three-dimensional, how open doors can lead nowhere, and other optical illusions in paintings by artists ranging from Raphael to Escher. Examples include hidden pictures, coded messages, and tricks with perspectives or color. The text invites readers to study the pictures carefully to appreciate these optical effects. It also provides brief anecdotal information on the artists.

A Short Walk Around the Pyramids and Through the World of Art

Philip Isaacson, grades 2-6

This serves as a captivating introduction to art in all its forms: painting, sculpture, folk art, and crafts. The author has selected photographs and reproductions to illustrate his points. Artists, styles, and techniques are all explained in simple and lively text. This is an excellent choice for those who want a broad introduction to art.

The Shape Game

Anthony Browne, grades 1-6

Though the young narrator, his brother, and his constantly wisecracking father reluctantly agree to accompany the boy's mother to the museum, it turns out to be "a day that changed my life forever." As Mom poses questions that encourage the others to analyze the works of art, the family is drawn into the paintings—quite literally.

Art Fraud Detective: Spot the Difference, Solve the Crime

Anna Nilsen, grades 4-6

This is a spot-the-difference game, mystery story, and art book in which readers try to tell which paintings are genuine and which are forgeries. *Art Fraud Detective* includes historical information on each painting, tips on the techniques of the Old Masters, and a glossary of art terms.

When Pigasso Met Mootisse

Nina Laden, grades 1-6

Pigasso (Picasso), a talented pig, and Mootisse (Matisse), an artistic bull, live across the road from one another, but when conflicts arise they build fences that ultimately become modern art masterpieces. This book also includes biographies of the real-life artists: Henri Matisse and Pablo Picasso.

Art Lesson

Tomie dePaola, grades 1-6

Tommy loves to draw with his crayons. He starts school and can't wait for the day when the art teacher comes. But there are a couple of hitches: the paints at school are cracked and powdery, and the art teacher only lets the children have one piece of paper, on which to "copy" her drawings. Tommy, who has been told by his aunts that real artists never copy, has a crisis. But his teachers show themselves to be far more understanding than expected.

Can You Find It? and Can You Find It, Too?

Judith Cressy, grades 1-6

Nineteen paintings from New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art were chosen for careful scrutiny. Next to each striking, full-color reproduction is a list of items to search for: e.g., "2 cats, 6 lotus blossoms, 3 eye amulets," etc., for a painting from ancient Egypt. The works of art are from around the globe and range from illuminated manuscripts to 20th-century canvases.

Museum ABC

Metropolitan Museum of Art, grades 1-6

Museum ABC is a unique and colorful picture book that uses the alphabet to introduce children to more than one hundred works of art. A full spread is devoted to each letter of the alphabet and four pictures of the object represented.

The Great Art Scandal; Solve the Crime, Save the Show!

Anna Nilsen, grades 3-6

The split pages make this book a fun, interactive experience, rich with fascinating facts about the paintings and the painters and their techniques—all the ingredients needed to inspire a lifelong interest in modern art. Also included is a glossary of art terms.

Series Books about Artists

Getting to Know the World's Artists

Mike Venezia, grades 2-4

These books provide an excellent introduction to celebrated artists and their work. Full-color reproductions of paintings are enhanced by Venezia's clever illustrations and story line. Young readers will look at the different paintings and see how the artists' styles changed over the years, and enjoy a light, yet realistic overview of the life of each artist.

Great Artists

grade 6

The Great Artists series introduce artists with analysis, reproductions of their masterpieces, and timelines of important events. However, these books are not biographies; they devote only a page at the beginning to a brief sketch of the artist's life, and offer incidental information throughout the rest of the texts. Additional facts appear in the top and side margins. Select these volumes if additional information on the artwork is needed.

How Artists See

Colleen Carroll, grades 4-6

This award-winning series of interactive, inquiry-based books are designed to teach children about the world by looking at art, and about art by looking at the world. Each volume in this innovative best-selling series is devoted to a subject that every child already knows from personal experience.

Art for Young People

Peter Harrison, grades 1-6

This series looks at the lives and work of various artists. Accounts are brief and straightforward. The artists' biographies are examined in the context of the time in which they lived, and their work is compared to that of their contemporaries. Full-color illustrations and reproductions of paintings are clear and well chosen. Black-and-white photographs and reproductions of sketches are included. Captions point out the things that make each work special, such as line, color, and brushstrokes.