

TACT RECOMMENDED READING LIST: Grades 4-5

In ascending order of difficulty within each topic

Historical Fiction

101. *Dragon Parade*. Steven A. Chin. The first New Year parade in San Francisco in 1851.
102. *The Journal of Wong Ming-Chung: A Chinese Miner*. Laurence Yep 1852
103. *Ghost Train*. Paul Yee. Workers are lost during railroad building
104. *Ten Mile Day and the Building of the Transcontinental Railroad* – Mary Ann Fraser. Chinese workers race to lay track with Union Pacific workers
105. *Coolies* - Yin and Chris Soentpiet. Challenges in building the Transcontinental Railroad
106. *Brothers* - Yin and Chris Soentpiet. Chinese boy establishes a store with the help of an Irish boy in the 1870s
107. *The Sign Painter*. Allen Say. A boy paints billboards in the desert that no one will see, set perhaps in the 1950s

Immigration/Angel Island

108. *Landed*. Milly Lee. Based on her family's imprisonment at Angel Island
109. *Wings for Lai Ho*. Genny Lim, A girl waits to be interrogated on Angel Island with her mother in order to be free to go to San Francisco. Out of Print classic.
110. *Oranges on Golden Mountain*. Elizabeth Partridge – Chinese boy works in America during the 1850s to support his widowed mother and sister in China
111. *Paper Son: Lee's Journey to America*. Helen Foster James, Virginia Shin-Mui Loh. Immigration conditions that faced many Chinese on Angel Island
112. *Kai's Journey to Gold Mountain: An Angel Island Story*. Katrina Saltonstall Currier. Based on a real person's experience on Angel Island
113. *Tea With Milk*. Allen Say. Japanese American girl moves to Japan, and struggles to adapt, the author's mother's story.

Biography/Autobiography

114. *Always Dream*. ^{Sports} Kristi Yamaguchi autobiography with Greg Brown. Olympic figure skater
115. *Surfer of the Century: The Life of Duke Kahanamoku*. Ellie Crowe. The legendary surfer

Women Trailblazers

116. *Shining Star: The Anna May Wong Story* . Paula Yoo. Biography of 1930s actress who succeeded when few Asians were hired
117. *Vera Wang: Queen of Fashion*. Ai-Ling Louie. Privileged girl chooses tough world of fashion and succeeds
118. *Astronaut Kalpana Chawla: Reaching for the Stars*. Ai-Ling Louie.
119. *Sky High: The True Story of Maggie Gee* . Marissa Moss. WWII fly
120. *Music for Alice* . Allen Say. Story of Alice Etsuko Sumida who founded the largest gladiolus bulb farm
121. *The Last Princess: The Story of Princess Ka'iulani of Hawai'i* – Stanley Fay

The Arts

122. *Yo-Yo and Yeou-Cheng Ma: Finding Their Way* Ai-Ling Louie. Biography of famous brother/sister musician and physician
123. *The East-West House: Noguchi's Childhood in Japan*. Christy Hale. Japanese/American biracial boy deals with isolation, grows up to be famous sculptor and artist, also for older readers
124. *Drawing from Memory*. Allen Say. *Autobiography of author's childhood, his approach to drawing and life*
125. *Inker's Shadow. Sequel to Drawing from Memory of author's later school years*

Japanese Americans , WWII

126. *Home of the Brave*. Allen Say. WWII Internment identification tags turn into birds to fly free
127. *The Journey* – Sheila Hamanaka. Japanese American history, based on her family's experiences painted on a mural
128. *When Justice Failed: The Fred Korematsu Story*. Steven A. Chin. Korematsu challenged WWII internment up to the Supreme Court
129. *Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes*. Eleanor Coerr. Sick girl folds paper cranes for peace
130. *Sadako* . Ed Young . The story of the peace statue in memory of Sadako

Also Recommended

131. *Cool Melons Turn to Frogs: The Life and Poems of Issa* . Matthew Gollub & Kazuko G. Stone. Poet's most famous poems from late 1700s.
132. *Grass Sandals : The Travels of Basho*. Dawnine Spivak & Demi. The travels of Basho, 17th Century haiku. Hardcover is in color.
133. *Redwoods*. Jason Chin. Boy finds picture of Redwoods and enters its habitat
134. *One Grain of Rice : A Mathematical Folktale*. Demi. Girl outwits greedy raja with math