

Book	Overview	DRA Level	F&P Level	Lexile Level	Social Studies Standards
Overland to California in 1859: A Guide for Wagon Train Travelers by Louis M Bloch	A breezy redaction of guides published at the time of the California Gold Rush. You capture the feeling of venturing west, subject to all the pitfalls you might encounter along the way. The discussion covers the selection of wagonmasters, provisions, friendly and unfriendly Indians to be found along the way, encounters and business dealing with Mormons.	N/A	N/A	N/A	4-G4.0.1 Use a case study or story about migration within or to the United States to identify push and pull factors (why they left, why they came) that influenced the migration. 4-G4.0.2 Describe the impact of immigration to the United States on the cultural development of different places or regions of the United States.
There's an Owl in the Shower by Jean Craighead George	In this middle-grade novel, author Jean Craighead George tells the story of how one unusual spotted owl makes his way into the home—and hearts—of a family of loggers.	40	Q	760L	4-P3.1.1 Identify public issues in the United States that influence the daily lives of its citizens. 4-P3.1.2 Use graphic data and other sources to analyze information about a public issue in the United States and evaluate alternative resolutions 4-P3.1.3 Give examples of how conflicts over core values lead people to differ on resolutions to a public policy issue in the United States 4-G5.0.1 Assess the causes and positive and negative consequences of human activities in different parts of the country.
Bound for Oregon by Jean VanLeeuwen	Nine-year-old Mary Ellen Todd, filled with the pioneer spirit, treks cross country in 1852 with her family in search of a better life. The Todds survive Indians and swollen rivers, but what will happen when mother has a new baby and winter arrives?	44	T/S	830L	4-G2.0.1 Describe ways in which the United States can be divided into different regions. 4-G2.0.2 Compare human and physical characteristics of a region to which Michigan belongs with those of another region in the United States.
Dragon's Gate Laurence Yep	In 1865, 14-year-old Otter sails to the California coast after killing a Manchu soldier in rural China. When he arrives in the Sierra Nevada mountains, he finds his adoptive father and uncle in a crew of laborers who are building the transcontinental railroad. Otter endures the horrific work conditions	60	W	730L	4-G4.0.1 Use a case study or story about migration within or to the United States to identify push and pull factors (why they left, why they came) that influenced the migration.

	— poverty, cold, hunger, disease, death — and racial prejudice. He dreams of returning to China to defeat the Manchu and rid the country of European influences — particularly the opium trade. But it is in America that Otter must come to terms with his identity and the demands of a new society.				4-G4.0.2 Describe the impact of immigration to the United States on the cultural development of different places or regions of the United States.
Black-Eyed Susan by Jennifer Armstrong	Ten-year-old Susie and her father love living on the South Dakota prairie with its vast, uninterrupted views of land and sky; but Susie's mother greatly misses their old life in Ohio.	40	Q	920L	4-G2.0.2 Compare human and physical characteristics of a region to which Michigan belongs with those of another region in the United States.
Steal Away Home by Lois Ruby	When twelve-year-old Dana Shannon starts to strip away wallpaper in her family's old house, she's unprepared for the surprise that awaits her. A hidden room -- containing a human skeleton! How did such a thing get there? And why was the tiny room sealed up? With the help of a diary found in the room, Dana learns her house was once a station on the Underground Railroad. The young woman whose remains Dana discovered was Lizbet Charles, a conductor and former slave. As the scene shifts between Dana's world and 1856, the story of the families that lived in the house unfolds. But as pieces of the puzzle begin to fall into place, one haunting question remains -- <i>why</i> did Lizbet Charles die?	50	V	890L	4-H3.0.1 Use historical inquiry questions to investigate the development of Michigan's major economic activities (agriculture, mining, manufacturing, lumbering, tourism, technology, and research from statehood to present. 4 – H3.0.3 Use case studies or stories to describe the ideas and actions of individuals involved in the underground railroad in Michigan and the United States.
Old Home Day by Donald Hall	In this book, the author takes us through time from the end of the ice age to the present. Part of the history of a pond in New Hampshire is described in detail, including people and their customs.	38	p	ADD990L	4-G4-0.3 Describe some of the movements of resources, goods, people, jobs and information to, from, or within the United States, and explain the reasons for the movements.

<p>On Winter's Wind by Patricia Hermes</p>	<p>Eleven-year-old Gen and her younger sister, Leila, are struggling to pull each other through a harsh Massachusetts winter--their father, a sea captain, has been gone for three years, and his protracted absence is driving their mother toward a breakdown. With the household funds running dangerously low, Gen wonders just how far she might go to help the family. Would she turn in a runaway slave for a \$100 bounty?</p>				<p>4 – H3.0.3 Use case studies or stories to describe the ideas and actions of individuals involved in the underground railroad in Michigan and the United States.</p>
<p>A MULTI-Cultural portrait of immigration by Petra Press</p>	<p>A broad look at the groups that have immigrated to the U.S. from the 1600s to the present. The text is easy to read, and the inclusion of individual immigrants' stories lends a personal perspective. The author also shows connections between immigration of the past and the present day. Facts about various ethnic and cultural groups are explored along with their many contributions to American society.</p>	N/A	N/A	N/A	<p>4-G4.0.1 Use a case study or story about migration within or to the United States to identify push and pull factors (why they left, why they came) that influenced the migration.</p> <p>4-G4.0.3 Describe some of the movements of resources, goods, people, jobs and information to, from, or within the United States, and explain the reasons for the movements.</p> <p>4-G4.0.2 Describe the impact of immigration to the United States on the cultural development of different places or regions of the United States.</p>
<p>Mail by the Pail By Colin Bergel</p>	<p>A young girl learns how the birthday card she makes for her father will get to him as he works on a freighter carrying coal on Lake Michigan.</p>	N/A	N/A	N/A	<p>4 - G1.0.1 Identify questions geographers ask in examining the United States.</p> <p>4 – G2.0.1 Describe ways in which the United States can be divided into different regions.</p> <p>4 – G4.0.3 Describe some of the movements of resources, goods, people, jobs and information to, from, or within the United States, and explain the reasons for the movements.</p>

<p>Gila Monsters Meet you at the Airport By Marjorie Weinman Sharmat</p>	<p>In this humorous book, exaggerated impressions about “Out West” and the “East” are used to describe physical and human characteristics of both desert areas and urban areas.</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>J</p>	<p>AD560L</p>	<p>4 – G2.0.1 Describe ways in which the United States can be divided into different regions 4 – G2.0.2 Compare human and physical characteristics of a region to which Michigan belongs with those of another region in the United States.</p>
<p>The Little Man in the Map By E. Andrew Martonyi</p>	<p>A blank map of the U. S. A. plus your imagination are all you need to learn the states – all fifty in our nation.</p>				<p>4 – G2.0.1 Describe ways in which the United States can be divided into different regions</p>
<p>Friends By Gloria Whelan</p>	<p>Two ten-year-old girls become friends in this story based on a real-life incident in Marshal, Michigan, along the Underground Railroad in 1838.</p>				<p>4 – H3.0.7 Use case studies or stories to describe the ideas and actions of individuals involved in the Underground Railroad in Michigan and the Great Lakes region.</p>
<p>The Day the Great Lakes Drained Away By Charles Ferguson Barker</p>	<p>What would happen if the Great Lakes drained away? This unique book shows the bizarre landscape that would be revealed if all the water of the Great Lakes were to suddenly disappear.</p>				<p>4 – G5.0.1 Assess the positive and negative effects of human activities on the physical environment of the United States 4 – P3.1.2 Identify public issues in the United States that influence the daily lives of its citizens.</p>