

Resources for K-12 Learners

TEXTS FOR K-12 READERS

Atkins, Laura, Yogi, Stan and Yutaka Houlette (2017) *Fred Korematsu Speaks Up*. Berkeley: Heydey Books.
This book is aimed at younger readers, but packs a punch for any age. Through colorful illustrations and design, the book tells the story of Fred Korematsu, who resisted the incarceration orders and would later bring a landmark case against the U.S. government.

Chander, A., Sunder, M., & Loi, A. (2011). *Fred Korematsu: All American Hero*. Davis, CA: Carolina Academic Press.
This story follows Korematsu from his all-American childhood in Oakland, California, to his role as a young man in challenging the Internment, to his reopening, as a man in his sixties, the very case he had lost before the Supreme Court of the United States in 1944. Great for teachers doing a lesson on Fred Korematsu.

Conkling, W. (2011). *Sylvia & Aki*. New York: Yearling.
Based on true events, this book tells a story of Sylvia Mendez and Aki Munemitsu, two girls whose worlds just happened to intersect. Aki Munemitsu is a Japanese American who lives on a farm in California. When the Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor, she and her family are sent to Poston internment camp in Arizona where she befriends Sylvia.

Gordon, L. and Okihiro, G. Y. (2006) *Selections from Impounded: Dorothea Lange and the censored images of Japanese American internment*. New York-London: W.W. Norton & Co.
Dorothea Lange's indelible images are an extraordinary photographic record of the Japanese American incarceration.

Grady, Cynthia. (2018). *Write to Me: Letters from Japanese American Children to the Librarian They Left Behind*. Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge Publishing, Inc.
This beautifully illustrated picture book tells the story of children's librarian, Clara Breed, who corresponds with her young Japanese American patrons while they are incarcerated. Excerpts from the children's letters, which are now held at the Japanese American National Museum, are included, sharing stories of their experiences, struggles and hopes.

Inada, Lawson Fusao, ed. (2000) *Only what we could carry: The Japanese American internment experience*. Berkeley: Heyday Books.
Inada's edited volume is a cogent and well-organized blend of historical artifacts, literary texts, art, and memoir, and a key resource for any teacher of this chapter of American history.

Kashiwagi, Hiroshi (2005) *Swimming in the American: A Memoir and Selected Writings*. San Jose: Asian American Curriculum Project.
Kashiwagi is the narrator of Resistance at Tule Lake and was one of the Tule Lake prisoners who renounced his citizenship. This book is a collection of his experiences at Tule Lake and his broader life story in fiction, poetry, and plays.

Kadohata, C. (2009). *Weedflower*. New York: Atheneum Books for young readers.
The story is set in the United States during World War II and told from the perspective of twelve-year-old Japanese-American Sumiko.

National JAAC Power of Words II Committee (2013) *Power of Words Handbook: A Guide to Language about Japanese American in World War II*. National JAAC Power of Words II Committee
This is an essential guide for teachers wishing to know more about the importance of terminology in teaching this history.

Ryan, P. (2015). *Echo*. New York: Scholastic Press

This novel for young readers is set in Germany and America, primarily in the years leading up to World War II. It details how a mysterious harmonica and the music it makes ties together the lives of three children. One of the stories follows a young Mexican-American girl, Ivy, whose family's fortune changes after a Japanese American family is sent to an incarceration camp.

Wakatsuki Houston, Jeanne and James D. Houston. *Farewell to Manzanar*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1973.

Aimed at younger audiences, this memoir of Wakatsuki Houston's experiences as a young girl during WWII. Curriculum for this book is available from Facing History and Ourselves - <https://www.facinghistory.org/books-borrowing/teaching-farewell-manzanar>

FILMS + FILM CLIPS FOR K-12 LEARNERS

Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum (2017). *Executive Order 9066 - Japanese American Internment*. [Video file- 3mins 22secs] YouTube name: FDRLibrary Retrieved from:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O-iVxs2xuYc&feature=youtu.be>

With beautiful and poignant illustrations, this short video introduces President Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066 and provides an overview of Japanese American incarceration.

Ginzberg, A., Schneider, K. (2017). *And Then They Came for Us*. G [Video file – 40mins].

Featuring George Takei and many others who were incarcerated, as well as newly rediscovered photographs of Dorothea Lange, And Then They Came for Us brings history into the present, retelling this difficult story and following Japanese American activists as they speak out against the Muslim registry and travel ban. This documentary is available for FREE with a free membership to Facing History and Ourselves -

<https://www.facinghistory.org/resource-library/video/and-then-they-came-us>

Japanese American National Museum. (2016). *Making Waves I Toyo Miyatake*. [Video file- 3mins 14secs] YouTube name: janmdotorg. Retrieved from: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HgG_aJ6rJEo

This short video tells the story of Japanese American photographer, Toyo Miyatake. Miyatake's photographs of the Manzanar incarceration camp are on display in the EXCLUSION special exhibition hallway, within the exhibition element – A Critical Eye.

Rao, Sameer. (2016). *Muslim Youth read Japanese American Internees' heartbreaking 'Letters from camp'*. [Video file – 2mins 31secs]. Retrieved from <https://www.colorlines.com/articles/watch-muslim-youth-read-japanese-american-internees-heartbreaking-letters-camp>

YouTube name: Not in our Town. (2017). *Fred Korematsu: A Civil Rights Hero* [Video file- 6mins 22secs] Retrieved from: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2tCDvCwOSCg>