

World History and Civilizations Adoption Guide Extended

For additional information (e.g. pricing, copyright, ISBN) and Idaho completed evaluations, please contact the curricular materials coordinator.

Materials in this guide are contracted from September 2017- December 31, 2023.

GRADES 6-12

Cengage Learning, Inc. /NGL

World History Great Civilizations

- Grades 6-8
 - Strengths: This text was very objective based. Every Idaho standard was met or there was chance given for discussion of that standard. The text was visually stunning with high quality imagery that helped to supplement the text. The amount of text to picture was very appropriate. Even though the text was not purely chronologically based it worked well by splitting the chapters up into areas and then ordering things chronologically. Through the text there are many tools to help with differentiated instruction. There are many different types of assessment that assess different types of learning and learning abilities. Overall, this text is aesthetically pleasing, easy to navigate, comprehensive library that includes maps, charts, personal experiences and much more.
 - Weaknesses: The textbook is a large textbook that may intimidate some students who struggle with reading anxiety. Some objectives are mentioned but not in detail relying on the teacher to cover the full objective through discussion.
 - Other: Overall it is a very well written book. It provides personal experience of anthropologist and archeologist so as to spark the interest of its readers and get them excited. Historical story telling helps make the textbook come alive with interactive assessments and opens up chance for strong discussion and project based learning. Students not only read and learn about the world but we believe they will have a strong desire to be a part of a global community and a force for change in the world.
 - 0 Key Features: Print Student Edition in English and Spanish

Digital resources for students include:

- Interactive Map Tool
- National Geographic videos to showcase Explorers' work and research
- Background-building videos to introduce each unit

- National Geographic resources including custom, authentic maps
- Student handbook with skills, economics and government, and world religion, and glossaries
- Student eEdition (English and Spanish)
- Student Handbook
- Modified Text presenting text at two years below class reading level
- Field Journal

Teacher Editions (printed); one separate printed Teacher Edition for each unit

- Differentiated instruction for ELLs, Gifted and Talented, Striving Readers, Inclusion, and Pre-AP
- Chapter planners
- Strategies and activities
- Formative Assessment ("Labs")
- Summative Assessment (chapter quizzes, tests at two levels)

Additional teacher resources online including

- Assessment
- Online lesson planner
- Classroom practice
- Interactive Whiteboard Activities

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company

HMH Social Studies World Civilizations

- Grades 6-9
 - Strengths: An excellent resource. Very organized and easy to use. Student friendly.
 Information is complete without being redundant or boring. Pictures are visually appealing and modern. Excellent ties to non-print resources and media.
 - Weaknesses: Text is too large and may discourage students from taking it home. Lacks a variety of assessment.
 - Key Features: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt believes in keeping the *story* in history. Storytelling is cultures' most memorable form of communication. The best stories capture imagination, affect emotions, spark further thought, and demand retelling. Stories persist, so our programs embrace the form and its ability to reach learners with diverse backgrounds, interests, and dispositions. HMH delivers these captivating stories through engaging narratives, vibrant visuals, and high-quality multimedia features. Throughout every lesson in *HMH Social Studies: World Civilizations* © 2018, content is presented in ways that gets middle school students' attention and sparks connections. Through HMH's exclusive partnerships with the *HISTORY*[®] Channel and Maps.com, students are presented with a multi-modal presentation of details that are cohesive and correlated to the lesson. The program's text, visual content, and support are delivered in multiple modalities, with audio, video, simulations, multimedia *Close Read Screencast* modeled analytical discussions, and interactive maps and illustrations. With this thoroughly engaging and focused combination of content delivery, students develop an understanding of the significance of topics and events. To promote college and career

readiness, HMH Social Studies: World Civilizations engages students in the rigor of the social studies discipline while building the critical thinking, problem-solving, and participatory skills necessary for students to become engaged citizens. HMH Social Studies: World Civilizations facilitates the integration of content and activities that engage students as active participants of a global society. To maximize students' development as responsible citizens, HMH Social Studies programs place the focus on teaching students how to think instead of what to think. This supports the overall goals of having students learn actively, think critically, and participate responsibly. The program continuously gives students opportunities to make connections, use skills outside of the classroom, and exercise good decision-making in the future. HMH Social Studies: World Civilizations presents an inquiry-driven approach to learning and teaching. This approach uses compelling questions to spark curiosity, deepen investigations, and get students to apply knowledge and develop ideas in real-world settings. Throughout the program, students are involved in thoughtful discourse, writing, research, and more. HMH Social Studies: World Civilizations guides students in their analysis of topics and primary sources, use of evidence, proficiency with academic vocabulary and language, and employment of effective listening and speaking techniques. Teachers can rely on the HMH Social Studies programs to seamlessly integrate English Language Arts and Literacy into social studies. HMH Social Studies: World Civilizations, with its 2018 copyright, provides the most up-to-date social studies content available. Historical information is delivered in ways that connect to students and enhance their understanding. The program's content presents the past along with information that leads students to make contemporary connections. The program asks students to uncover the connections and inspires them to look beneath the surface to identify relationships, note influences, and to introduce ideas that challenge assumptions. HMH Social Studies: World Civilizations also delivers current, appropriate, and relevant content through the HMH Current Events site, Map Connections, and Channel One News. Map Connections is a feature from HMH's partnership with Maps.com, a leading provider of mapping products and solutions. Through the power of Maps.com, Map Connections makes it possible for students to get the most up-to-date geography information. The HMH Current Events site is continuously updated, and it includes an RSS feed with the day's news. The award-winning Channel One News delivers fresh, up-to-the-minute news every day. HMH Social Studies: World Civilizations offers an adaptable curriculum and online and offline digital materials that redefine social studies teaching and learning. The program boasts a flexible design that fits a variety of teaching styles, learning style preferences, and modes of delivery. Differentiated instruction, strategies, and activities are included throughout every lesson in the Teacher's Guide, so teachers can meet the needs of all of their students. The program delivers superior levels of accessibility through its components, delivery options, and content, including its Guided Reading Workbooks in English and in Spanish/English that help students master the content and build vocabulary and reading skills. With HMH Social Studies, all learners have meaningful learning experiences as

they connect to the content in multiple ways. No other publisher offers such dynamic resources that connect students with news that enriches their learning about the past, the present, and the opportunities to become engaged as active members of our global community. *HMH Social Studies: World Civilizations* is a powerful program that will help students and teachers of Idaho's public schools reach their goals. To view the table of contents for the *HMH Social Studies: World Civilizations* program, please go to <u>https://hmhco.box.com/v/HMHSSWorldCivTOC</u>. We also invite you to review the *HMH Social Studies Middle School Overview Brochure* at <u>https://hmhco.box.com/v/HMHSSMSOverview</u>.

HMH Social Studies World History

- Grades 9-12
 - **Strengths:** Very strong resource. Academically challenging yet grade appropriate. Excellent visuals and assessments as you move along. Meets all Idaho Standards.
 - Weaknesses: Students text is very large and cumbersome. Students may be discouraged about taking it home or carrying it around. Access to the online tools are difficult to find. The assessments are heavy on the writing side and doesn't allow for differentiated learning styles.
 - **Other:** Evaluators strongly recommend this resource to be a 6-9 Comprehensive Resource not a 9-12 as stated by publisher.
 - **Key Features**: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt believes in keeping the *story* in history. Storytelling is cultures' most memorable form of communication. The best stories capture imagination, affect emotions, spark further thought, and demand retelling. Stories persist, so our programs embrace the form and its ability to reach learners with diverse backgrounds, interests, and dispositions. HMH delivers these captivating stories through engaging narratives, vibrant visuals, and high-quality multimedia features. Throughout every lesson in HMH Social Studies: World History © 2018, content is presented in ways that gets high school students' attention and sparks connections. Through HMH's exclusive partnerships with the HISTORY® Channel and Maps.com, students are presented with a multi-modal presentation of details that are cohesive and correlated to the lesson. The program's text, visual content, and support are delivered in multiple modalities, with audio, video, simulations, multimedia Close Read Screencast modeled analytical discussions, and interactive maps and illustrations. With this thoroughly engaging and focused combination of content delivery, students develop an understanding of the significance of topics and events. To promote college and career readiness, HMH Social Studies: World History engages students in the rigor of the social studies discipline while building the critical thinking, problem-solving, and participatory skills necessary for students to become engaged citizens. HMH Social Studies: World History facilitates the integration of content and activities that engage students as active participants of a global society. To maximize students' development as responsible citizens, HMH Social Studies programs place the focus on teaching students how to think instead of what to think. This supports the overall goals of having students learn

actively, think critically, and participate responsibly. The program continuously gives students opportunities to make connections, use skills outside of the classroom, and exercise good decision-making in the future. HMH Social Studies: World History presents an inquiry-driven approach to learning and teaching. This approach uses compelling questions to spark curiosity, deepen investigations, and get students to apply knowledge and develop ideas in real-world settings. Throughout the program, students are involved in thoughtful discourse, writing, research, and more. HMH Social Studies: World History guides students in their analysis of topics and primary sources, use of evidence, proficiency with academic vocabulary and language, and employment of effective listening and speaking techniques. Teachers can rely on the HMH Social Studies programs to seamlessly integrate English Language Arts and Literacy into social studies. HMH Social Studies: World History, with its 2018 copyright, provides the most up-todate social studies content available. Historical information is delivered in ways that connect to students and enhance their understanding. The program's content presents the past along with information that leads students to make contemporary connections. The program asks students to uncover the connections and inspires them to look beneath the surface to identify relationships, note influences, and to introduce ideas that challenge assumptions. HMH Social Studies: World History also delivers current, appropriate, and relevant content through the HMH Current Events site, Map Connections, and Channel One News. Map Connections is a feature from HMH's partnership with Maps.com, a leading provider of mapping products and solutions. Through the power of Maps.com, *Map Connections* makes it possible for students to get the most up-to-date geography information. The HMH Current Events site is continuously updated, and it includes an RSS feed with the day's news. The awardwinning Channel One News delivers fresh, up-to-the-minute news every day. HMH Social Studies: World History offers an adaptable curriculum and online and offline digital materials that redefine social studies teaching and learning. The program boasts a flexible design that fits a variety of teaching styles, learning style preferences, and modes of delivery. Differentiated instruction, strategies, and activities are included throughout every lesson in the Teacher's Guide, so teachers can meet the needs of all of their students. The program delivers superior levels of accessibility through its components, delivery options, and content, including its Guided Reading Workbooks in English and in Spanish/English that help students master the content and build vocabulary and reading skills. With HMH Social Studies, all learners have meaningful learning experiences as they connect to the content in multiple ways. No other publisher offers such dynamic resources that connect students with news that enriches their learning about the past, the present, and the opportunities to become engaged as active members of our global community. HMH Social Studies: World History is a powerful program that will help students and teachers of Idaho's public schools reach their goals. To view the table of contents for the HMH Social Studies: World History program, please go to https://hmhco.box.com/v/HMHSSWHTOC. We also invite you to

review the *HMH Social Studies High School Overview Brochure* at <u>https://hmhco.box.com/v/HMHSSHSOv</u>.

McGraw-Hill School Education, LLC

Discovering Our Past: A History of the World

- Grades 6-8
 - Strengths: Most Idaho Standards are met. Visual Aides are strong.
 - Weaknesses: Teacher's edition can be a little difficult to navigate. The categorizations throughout are clear, good teaching tools. i..e. W=writing, R=reading etc. All obvious assessments and review in this book have a lot to do with writing. Reaching all styles of learners during instruction and then not doing the same on assessment seems short sighted. Teachers will be spending a lot of time accommodating for those students who are struggling writers. There is very little doubt that this material fulfills all requirements. That said there are some missing components. Student work is very writing dependent. Not a bad thing overall but struggling writers will need more opportunities for success. Some very worthwhile chances for discussion seem to be skipped through quickly or just passed by entirely. A fine set of materials here to be sure, but not my favorite classroom tool. Some missing components have been noted in evaluation and are marked as -0- in those categories.
 - **Other:** The binding of the Teacher's Edition completely fell apart strait from the box for one of the evaluators.
 - Key Features: McGraw-Hill Networks: A Social Studies Learning System, which 0 encompasses Our Community and Beyond, is a multiple award winning program. It is also a fully integrated print and digital program. Networks programs are built using the principles of Understanding by Design—an approached to backward design developed by Jay McTigh and Grant Wiggins. Each chapter planner in the Teacher Edition sets out the Enduring Understanding that will be achieved with mastery of the chapter content. Teachers are also provided with a comprehensive list of objectives, entitled "Students Will Know" and a list of skills entitled "Students Will Be Able To" for the chapter. To reach the Enduring Understanding, each chapter in the student edition begins with one or more Essential Questions. Each lesson is broken into a series of topics. Each topic includes a Guiding Question. As students master the content and are able to answer the Guiding Questions, their ability to respond and reflect on the Essential Questions increases. As students achieve the ability to answer the Essential Questions, they achieve the Enduring Understanding. The lesson reviews and the chapter assessments are aligned with the above objectives. Each lesson review includes questions that ask students to answer the guiding question. Each chapter assessment includes an activity that explores the essential question and in the Teacher's Edition, teachers are provided with activities to wrap-up the chapter, including a review of the chapter's Enduring Understanding.

World History and Geography

- Grades 9-12
 - Strengths: The immediate strength of this book is how much information that it contains. Every page is filled top to bottom with written information. This book also contains many separate sections in the back that helps students learn of specific content. The world religions notebook gives students an easy tool they can use for a quick overlook of major world religions. The geographic notebook found in the back of the book provides the learner with a wide variety of maps. There is a section devoted on map skills that teach how to use different types of maps and their parts. At the bottom of each assessment there is a remediation tool that helps students that missed certain questions know what part of the text those questions came from so they can review and receive help for questions that they have missed. Visually, the textbook is clean, includes many various primary and secondary sources, and useful timelines under the heading "Place and Time."
 - Weaknesses: This book has been presented as a 9-12 grade book. In the state of Idaho we must use the standards found for 6-9 grade Social Studies. While there is a section devoted for maps there does seem to be a lack of maps in other areas that would help with student comprehension. There is also a lack of pictures among some chapter which would be a useful tool. While the book has a lot of information some tools are not the most reliable. The index refers the reader to page 262 in order to learn about the meaning of "barter," however when turned to page 262 the reader will find information on feudalism in japan and no mention of the word barter. Barter is used in one sentence in the following page but it does not go into detail. Another such mistake was found when searching for the word "Iraq: U.S. invasion of" which refers the reader to pages 714 and 715. When turned to these pages the reader will find information dealing with Latin America, Argentina, and Brazil. It is not until page 789 that there is any mention of Iraq.
 - Key Features: World History and Geography is the first high school world history program to fully integrate print and digital resources into a seamless curriculum for today's technology-ready students. In addition, The McGraw-Hill current events web site—BTW—includes a variety of articles with accompanying questions and activities to help students make connections between historical content and current events. The site is updated with new articles every two weeks. Both the Student Learning Center and the Teacher Lesson Center include extensive Resource Libraries containing hundreds of digital assets. When and where appropriate, McGraw-Hill will add current resources to each site as well as update current resources. The Student Edition art graphics program provides uncluttered easy-to-read designs to enhance student understanding of key social studies content. These graphics, usually accompanied by questions that assess student understanding of the visuals, include photographs, art, maps, graphs, and charts. Stories are brought to life with The Story Matters chapter openers, Step into Place maps and primary sources, and Step into Time timelines.

Students can connect with learning anywhere and anytime with an online student edition enhanced with interactive activities, primary source materials, video, podcasts, maps, images, timelines and audio support. The online student edition gives every student the power of the their textbook in an interactive electronic version with pageby-page audio, interactive charts and graphs, links to online video, resources, Spanish summaries, and printable versions of all student workbooks needed for extra practice and review. Students can highlight the text and print their on-line notes to create an active, engaging learning for your students.

- The print and online Teacher Editions provide step-by-step lesson plans for each chapter of the programs. Lesson Plans include interactive whiteboard activities, slide shows, lecture slides, videos, interactive maps, and other projectable resources to engage students.
- The online Hands-On Projects with Technology Extensions provide students with multiple high-interest pathways to understand and apply what they have learned. The Technology Extensions incorporate the use of avatars, blogs, wikis, Google spreadsheets, and other applications to appeal to students used to working in a digital environment.
- Each chapter in the Student Edition is aligned to high-interest videos that the teacher can project during instruction using lesson plans in the Teacher Edition.
- Connections to Today features in the Student Edition have been created to engage students in the content and make real-world connections.
- The online Student Resource Library provides a variety of materials that are tightly aligned to the content in each program. Interactive skill builders, templates, primary sources, biographies, and links to virtual tours help to reinforce and extend the core content.

Pearson Prentice Hall

myWorld History Survey

- Grades 6-8
 - Strengths: The textbook has great images, charts, primary sources and maps on nearly every page. One strength is the instructions for differentiated instructions, which gives support for those who struggle. I also like that there are activities suggested for higher level students who need more challenge. The Pro guides have some great activities with good discussion questions such as: Why does national I appear so often at the local level such as an eagle on every local mailbox? PG chp 30-33 T10. The MyWorld activities are good, directing students to write and illustrate political cartoons illustrating life in Italy during the 1800's. There are ELL strategies and accommodations pages for quizzes pg. 33, and the hands on visual cards or activity cards can be used in a variety of lesson ideas. The writers workshop section in the student journals is strong pg. 170 and with

the graphic organizer, students could work out the body paragraphs and supporting sentences to write a good historical piece.

- Weaknesses: Each chapter ends with a DBQ or document based questioning section in the assessments, but the questions are basic, with multiple choice as answers. The Proguides give some tips for the teacher to enhance learning by giving a writing assignment on analyzing cause and effect so teacher directed, the information can be enhanced to a higher-level discussion. I like the information in the Pro Guides, but I am not certain the many volumes of teacher editions will be user friendly. While the student workbook has many great resources, I would not want to hand students a worksheet to complete on a continuous basis.
- Key Features: Personalized opportunities for learning transport students beyond the printed page to actively experience the history of their world as students take a virtual trip through history. *myWorld History* provides innovative online resources, project-based activities, and unprecedented customization options. All students will go beyond the printed page and actively experience the history of their world. Student Resources include Student Edition and Student Journal, plus virtually based exploration that delivers content in a format that aligns to the Essential Question and engages them in 21st Century learning modules. myStory videos provide richly illustrated stories on historical figures and eras, and give students with a way to make emotional and enduring connections to the content right from the classroom. Teacher resources include the Teacher's Edition that combines a lightweight unit-by-unit approach with time-saving strategies, comprehensive lesson plans, activity-based curriculum options, and reproducible student resources. Activity kits provide activity-based learning materials. Hundreds of ready-made GIS mapping files are available for application on

Google EarthTM and other mapping systems. Pearson Realize allows students and teachers to travel beyond the page with device agnostic technology that blends easily into any classroom. Time-saving activities, interactive presentations, and classroom management tools allow for seamless integration of 21st century skills and daily lesson planning. These include assessments, lesson plans, digital presentations, grading and reporting, customizable content, and 21st Century learning lessons.

myWorld History Early Ages

- Grades 6-8
 - Strengths: This text book is visually appealing and has many maps, illustrations and primary sources available throughout the text. S.E. examples: pg. 114, Sumerian Ziggurat and pg 115, Cuneiform tablets. The unit on the Sumerian arts is extensive and has many interesting visuals to represent the art; Pg 117). Maps are included with each unit section pg's. 129, 133, 145. In teaching the Early Ages, this text brings relevance to modern day connections, ex. Pg 137, 'Development of the Alphabet and How We Use Letters Today in English.' Each unit also profiles a young teen from the age of the targeted reader. These stories help to bring the Era into a clearer focus for modern

students. One such story is the MyStory: Mary Leakey - "Exploring the Stone Age." Pg. 55-57. The textbook also offers real world problem solving situations in the 21st Century Skills sections, ex. Pg 69, based on human migration, using an interactive map to locate the movement and migration of early people. Each chapter unit ends with a section assessment which includes: Key terms, Key ideas and Think critically skills. An Essential Question is included throughout the text sections and students answer it on the final assessment (pg 137: What are consequences of technology?) The scope of the textbook is vast, covering the early people and prehistory to the early European Explorers. The student workbook or journal has many interesting activities that can be used as a 'stand alone' activity or used with the lesson from the textbook. The student journal encourages notetaking strategies and 'word wise' vocabulary activities as well. Teachers have use of the Pro Guides, which are several teacher editions, with ELL and differentiation suggestions built into the teaching strategies. The textbook comes with online versions and interactive maps, stories and research ideas such as; "Design a Children's Book, Origins of an Ancient Society." Using a collaborative learning model, pg 480 S.E.

- Weaknesses: The text has few weaknesses. It covers the scope of the curriculum and targets the State Standards. Having multiple teaching editions with the Pro Guides might be difficult to navigate, but the information given in the materials is relevant and helpful. The student journal has many fine features, however, using it as just a workbook for students might detract from interactive learning.
- **Other:** The Pearson My World History, Early Ages textbook and materials is recommended for a comprehensive social studies program.
- Key Features: Personalized opportunities for learning transport students beyond the 0 printed page to actively experience the history of their world as students take a virtual trip through history. myWorld History provides innovative online resources, projectbased activities, and unprecedented customization options. All students will go beyond the printed page and actively experience the history of their world. Student Resources include Student Edition and Student Journal, plus virtually based exploration that delivers content in a format that aligns to the Essential Question and engages them in 21st Century learning modules. myStory videos provide richly illustrated stories on historical figures and eras, and give students with a way to make emotional and enduring connections to the content right from the classroom. Teacher resources include the Teacher's Edition that combines a lightweight unit-by-unit approach with time-saving strategies, comprehensive lesson plans, activity-based curriculum options, and reproducible student resources. Activity kits provide activity-based learning materials. Hundreds of ready-made GIS mapping files are available for application on Google EarthTM and other mapping systems. Pearson Realize allows students and teachers to travel beyond the page with device agnostic technology that blends easily into any classroom. Time-saving activities, interactive presentations, and classroom

management tools allow for seamless integration of 21st century skills and daily lesson

planning. These include assessments, lesson plans, digital presentations, grading and reporting, customizable content, and 21st Century learning lessons.

Pearson World History

- Grades 9-12
 - Strengths: Pearson Prentice Hall's World History meets the expectations for providing a well-rounded educational experience for the 21st Century classroom. Key components are technology tied to differentiated learning, resources that help develop critical-thinking skills, a variety of assessment and remediation strategies, and the use of primary sources for inquiry. The use of the Connect, Investigate, Synthesize, and Demonstrate model is an effective strategy for giving students the preparation necessary for producing artifacts that utilize the think like a historian mindset.
 - Weaknesses: Although professional development/training is not required it should be available to navigate through the vast amounts of resources provided by Pearson Prentice Hall's World History study/teaching curriculum. The reading level is best suited for 8th & 9th grade students.
 - Other: The program was submitted by Pearson as a 9-12 World History text. The State of Idaho does not have 9-12 Standards. The text was evaluated according to the State's 6-9 World History Standards. It would be entirely appropriate to use this text in the High School setting but would be extremely challenging for grades 6-8.
 - Key Features: Pearson World History © 2016 provides standards-based instruction that seamlessly integrates print and digital instruction, as well as primary source focused project-based learning. This balanced approach is built using backward design with assessment aligned with instruction.
 - Vast array of video and interactive digital resources to differentiate learning
 - Strong critical-thinking resources.
 - Integrated 21st century skills tutorials and videos.
 - Many levels of assessment and remediation.
 - Core Concept lessons remediate key social studies content for geography, civic and government, history, economics, and personal finance.
 - Strong focus on Inquiry, primary sources, and using evidence to support arguments and conclusions.

Major tools for the student include the:

- Print Student Edition with Digital Courseware
- eText Student Edition
- Reading and Notetaking Study Guide

These student components include chronological Topics and Lessons that take students through a comprehensive and engaging journey through the content. Key features include Topic Inquiries (project-based-learning activities based on primary sources), interactive primary sources, document-based questions, NBC Learn videos, flipped videos for each lesson, interactivities for every lesson (including interactive maps, timelines, image galleries, 3-D Models and more), reading comprehension and critical thinking questions, numerous graphs, charts, maps for visual literacy, biographies, and Core Concepts lessons, Personal Finance lessons, Atlas, Rubrics, Annotated U.S. Constitution, Interactive Supreme Court Cases, Supreme Court Case Glossary.

Major tools for the teacher include the:

- Print Teacher Edition with Digital Courseware
- eText Teacher Edition
- Reading and Notetaking Study Guide Answer Key

The Teacher's Edition (print and etext) includes resource and pacing information for each Topic and Lesson, differentiated instruction suggestions, English Language Learner Instruction suggestions, and lesson plan information for integrating digital resources and project-based learning at point of use.

Tanglewood Publishing, Inc.

Surviving the Angel of Death

- Grades 6-9
 - Strengths: An interesting, engaging, and important treatment of a period of history that challenges the understanding of how humans can horrifically mistreat their fellow humans. It chronicles the events in a personalized manner and ends with a positive, redeeming message—that one's attitude and approach to life can determine how one avoids becoming a "victim" and is instead a victor in life's struggles.
 - Weaknesses: By itself, Surviving the Angel of Death can leave the reader hungering for more details and a deeper understanding of what the twins went through. However, the Educator's Guide gives the support and resources necessary to bring further enrichment to the reading experience.
 - Key Features: Eva Mozes Kor was 10 years old when she arrived in Auschwitz. While her parents and two older sisters were taken to the gas chambers, she and her twin, Miriam, were herded into the care of the man known as the Angel of Death, Dr. Josef Mengele. Mengele's twins were granted the "privileges" of keeping their own clothes and hair, but they were also subjected to sadistic medical experiments and forced to fight daily for their own survival, as most of the twins died as a result of the experiments or from the disease and hunger pervasive in the camp. In a narrative told with emotion and restraint, readers will learn of a child's endurance and survival in the face of truly extraordinary evil.
 - The story gives both a general overview of the Holocaust and Eva's individual story to make it more personal.

- The book includes Eva's life before the camp and the general build-up of anti-Semitism and rise of totalitarian regimes, the Communist takeover of Eastern Europe after WWII, and the mass immigration to Israel.
- Eva's story of survival, forgiveness, and transcendence provides positive life lessons for readers, particularly teens. Eva acknowledges the struggles of growing up in her epilogue, but gives readers strong messages of perseverance and overcoming adversities as well as asks readers to work against hate and prejudice in the world.

For Questions Contact

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