

PSLA TITLES FOR 2008

REFERENCE/PROFESSIONAL

***Africa and the Americas: Culture, Politics, and History*, Richard M. Juang, ed. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2008.**

3 vols. 978-1-85109-441-7. \$270.00. Gr. 10+.

Emphasizing that one in five people in the Western Hemisphere are of African descent, this 3-volume, A to Z reference set spans from the 15th century to the present. It reminds readers that *powerful social, economic and ecological forces crisscross the Atlantic, Africa and the Americas*. It describes how Africa and African peoples have shaped the Americas and how life and issues in the Americas influence life and issues in Africa. Volume 1 offers a detailed chronology as well as introductory essays on: Culture and Religion, Economics and Trade; Arts, Literature, and Sports; Demography, Diaspora, and International Relations. Articles range widely in focus from Women in Hip Hop, to the Tuskegee Airmen, to Rice in the African Diaspora, to Hutu, to African American Islam. This set will be useful for programs with a focus on African and African-American history and globalization. **Recommended. Joyce Valenza**

***Atlas of World Faiths*. Mankato, MN: Smart Apple Media, 2008. 978-1-59920-0583-3. 6 vols. \$138.00. Gr. 7+.**

This slim six volume series examines the origins, growth and development of several world religions. Students looking for detailed information on religious beliefs and practices of Judaism, Buddhism, Sikhism, Islam, Hinduism and Christianity will need to look elsewhere, as these volumes offer only a cursory overview of each religion. The theme of the titles is using maps in relation to the religion. Colorful maps show where the faith took root and historical maps show the movement of the religion over time and geography. The text briefly discusses various turning points in the growth of the religion and also how the religion influenced history. A timeline, glossary, Table of Contents, Index and biographies are included. This is a serviceable starting point for middle school students who are researching world religions and is useful for linking religion with geography. **Reference**

Rosanne Zajko Ancillae Assumpta Academy

Anderson, Cynthia and Kathi Knop. *Write Grants, Get Money*. 2nd ed. Columbus, OH: Linworth, 978-1-5868-3303-9. 128 p. \$44.95. Professional.

Anderson and Knop have produced a practical step by step guide to applying for grants. They take the reader through identifying a need, using the evaluation of students' learning needs and student outcomes, careful reading of grant stipulations, making a plan, and writing and rewriting. There is a CD included that shows sample grants, resumes and more. A worthwhile resource for all considering applying for a grant.

Sandra Krieg

Becher, Anne and Joseph Richey. *American Environmental Leaders*. Millerton, NY: Grey House Publishing, 2008. 1-59237-119-1. \$210.60. Young Adult.

This two-volume reference set gives biographies of many people, some you might not expect. For instance, Barbara Kingsolver is covered as an author and gardener. Each entry has a short paragraph describing what the subject did in regards to the environment before it launches into standard biography information.

Toni Vahlsing

Becher, Anne and Joseph Richey. *American Environmental Leaders*. Millerton, NY: Grey House Publishing, 2008. 1-59237-119-1. \$210.60. Young Adult.

Reaching back to colonial times, this two-volume set identifies activists, scientists, writers, and other individuals who have contributed to forging *lasting positive environmental impacts on their immediate surroundings, the nation, or the planet at large*. This second edition adds more than 400 articles, as well as 100 pages of carefully selected documents and a helpful timeline dating back to 1626. Environmental issues are of great interest to students in our high school. Some of the people profiled in this set are frequently researched (for instance, Frederick Olmsted, John Muir, and Rachel Carson). Those lesser-known names covered will serve as discoveries likely to intrigue our young environmentalists. Recommended for most high schools, especially those with environmental studies curricula.

Joyce Valenza

Boyce-Davies, Carole E., ed. *Encyclopedia of the African Diaspora: Origins, Experiences, and Culture*. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2008. 3 vols. 978-1-85109-700-5. 1110p. \$295.00. Gr. 10+.

This 3-volume A to Z encyclopedia includes the work of more than 300 scholars and presents more than 500 articles covering the historical, political, economic, and cultural connections between people of African descent and the rest of the world. Entries cover such diverse topics as: Afro-Fusion Dance, Art in the African Diaspora, Black Churches, the African experience in a variety of countries, Hip Hop Culture in the African Diaspora, Billie Holiday, the Nation of Islam, and Spellman College. Articles are scholarly but easily readable and range between one to 17 pages in length. (I wished some of the shorter articles were much longer.) The set fills a serious cultural void. For instance, I don't believe any other reference in our library attacks the concept of *signifying* or *hair* in the African experience. **Recommended for schools with larger reference collections.**

Joyce Valenza

***Britannica Illustrated Science Library*. Chicago: Encyclopedia Britannica, 2008. 978-1-59339-382-3. 16 vols. \$399.00. Gr. 5-9.**

Designed to supplement the science curriculum for grades 5-9, this mostly illustrated set covers earth, life and the physical sciences. Volumes Include: Volcanoes and Earthquakes; Invertebrates; Universe; Rocks and Minerals; Weather and Climate; Evolution and Genetics; Plants, Algae, and Fungi; Fish and Amphibians; Reptiles and Dinosaurs; Birds; Mammals; Human Body I; Human Body II; Energy and Movement; Technology; Space Exploration. These books will appeal to students who enjoy browsing *Eyewitness* titles. Each volume contains a glossary and an index.

Michelle Stone

Britannica's Student Atlas. Chicago: Britannica, 2009. 978-1-59339-841-5. 132p. \$29.95. Reference. Gr. 4-8.

The maps, data, and pictures in this atlas offer a wealth of current information to middle school researchers. A tab bar at the top of each page gives readers easy access to an overview of the world in many categories, such as climate, population, and land use. North America gets a far greater treatment than the other continents with the greatest detail by far going to the United States. An alphabetical listing of countries includes flags and basic information. Highly accessible and attractive information make this a recommended title.

Ro Becker

Cheatham, Mark R., ed. *Jacksonian and Antebellum Age: People and Perspectives.* Santa Barbara, CA:

ABC-CLIO, 2008. 978-1-59884-017-9. 234p. \$85.00. Gr. 10+.

Goloboy, Jennifer L., ed. *Industrial Revolution: People and Perspectives.* Santa Barbara, CA:

ABC-CLIO, Inc. 2008. 978-1-59884-065-0. 315p. \$85.00. Gr. 10+.

Frank, Andrew K., ed. *Early Republic: People and Perspectives.* Santa Barbara, CA:

ABC-CLIO, Inc. 2009. 978-1-59884-019-3. 300p. \$85.00. Gr. 10+.

Grigg, John A., ed. *British Colonial America: People and Perspectives.* Santa Barbara, CA:

ABC-CLIO, Inc. 2008. 978-1-59884-025-4. 276p. \$85.00. Gr. 10+.

These volumes are part of a 16-volume set dealing with American social history. Each volume includes a detailed timeline, several chapter essays, a glossary of lengthy definitions, a variety of categorized primary sources, and a rich bibliography. The volumes attempt to describe how ordinary people confronted the issues and events of the American experience. Serious effort was made to match the coverage of these volumes to high school curriculum standards. This set is perfect historical analysis beyond the textbook. Each volume is carefully researched and documented. The thoughtful essays, presenting content unavailable in other sources, are ripe for analysis by upper level students. Our AP US History teacher was thrilled to see them! Books contain black and white illustrations. Brief biographies are scattered through the text. **Highly recommended.**

Joyce Valenza.

Compton's by Britannica. Chicago: Encyclopedia Britannica, 2008. 978-1-59339-384-7. 26 vols. \$711.55 Gr. 5+.

The first place most students begin when doing research is the general encyclopedia, if only to get an overview and background information on their topic. The expectation of students and teachers is that they will find articles that are accurate and inclusive, if not comprehensive. Yet students researching the Civil War using this encyclopedia series will not find any paragraphs or other detailed information on the Battle of Gettysburg, one of the turning points in the war, in the "Civil War" entry, despite the illustration of the battle at the beginning of the article. Rather than rating a paragraph, the Battle of Gettysburg is a "see also" reference that is found in the "Battle of Chattanooga" paragraph, which can be confusing to readers. The "see also" reference on Gettysburg is accurate, but as noted, it is not included in the Civil War entry where researchers would first expect to find it. Such an important battle should rate a paragraph heading and several paragraphs in the Civil War article. Other errors are in evidence as well. Readers will notice that some rules of punctuation are not followed. For example, in the paragraph on Valley Forge in the "Revolution" entry, the title of Revolutionary War General Friedrich von Steuben, also known as Baron von Steuben, is published with a small "b" as opposed to the required capital "B" (p.212). Poor editing is visible elsewhere, as shown in the article on Pennsylvania which includes a color photo of Veteran's Stadium, with the caption that it is the home field for the Philadelphia Phillies. The last game played in the Vet occurred in 2003 and the stadium was demolished in 2004. Of the 11 color photos in the Pennsylvania article, seven are from the major Philadelphia metropolitan area. Pittsburg, one of Pennsylvania's major cities, ranks only two small photos, neither of which shows the city. A more balanced approach would be beneficial, as well as necessary, for state research. As for article credentials, articles are not attributed to authors and there are no outlines at the end of longer articles. Although there are color photos, the preponderance of black and white photos gives the series a dated look. In comparison with other encyclopedia series, the articles in Compton's are pages shorter. On the plus side, the color diagrams, maps and charts supplement the articles and add visual interest. A nice feature that is not found in most encyclopedias is the inclusion of primary source material. Washington's "Farewell Address" and "Rules of Civility" are full-text, as is Lincoln's "Gettysburg Address." The Fact Index is large, but is not likely that students will gravitate to this volume unless directed by the librarian. The small font in the volume is off-putting, which may also make students reluctant to use it. Better editing and a more comprehensive updating of photos and information would make this an important resource. As it stands now, Compton's is a serviceable starting point for research, provided students supplement their research with information from other sources, but it should not be the sole encyclopedia series in a school library.

Rosanne Zajko – Ancillae Assumpta Academy

Conover, Patricia Ross. *Technology Projects for Library Media Specialists and Teachers, Volume II: Books, Boxes, and All Things Fun to Make.* Columbus, OH: Linworth, 2008. 1-58683-223-9. 128p. 39.95. Professional.

The fifty hands-on projects included in this book use Microsoft PowerPoint and can be adapted to a variety of curricular areas. Activities will engage students in organizing information and publishing their work in creative formats, such as pop-up books and 3-D geometric shapes and boxes. Lesson plans are complete with standards, lesson objective, curricular connections, and a step-by-step presentation with figures. Rubrics and helpful tips on differentiating instruction are included. My students eagerly turned a Diamante poem into a diamond shape.

Patty Nolan, Springfield Township Middle School

Derks, Scott. *Working Americans: 1880—2007. Volume VIII: Immigrants.* Millerton, NY: Grey House,

2008. 978-1592373710. 508p. \$145.00. Gr. 9+.

Derks, Scott and Tony Smith. *Working Americans: 1770—1869. Volume IX: From the Revolutionary War to the Civil War.* Millerton, NY: Grey House, 2008. 978-1-59237-371-0. 483p. \$145.00. Gr. 9+.

What were people really doing? How were they living? The answers to these questions are not always provided in texts on American history. This important and highly popular series answers those questions. *Book VIII* examines the social and economic lives of working Americans who are immigrants. Following the same solid format as the prior volumes, Volume VIII profiles the story of an 1884 29-year-old Chinese immigrant, a 1901 15-year-old Greek immigrant, a 23-year-old Puerto Rican who arrived in 1956, a 1958 Hungarian émigré, a 1998 student from India, and many others.

Book IX profiles such early working Americans as: a 12-year old girl from Nova Scotia in 1772, a British Merchant in 1778, a slave from West Virginia in 1780, a Connecticut school teacher in 1826, a sixteen-year-old textile worker in 1846, a Union Army soldier in 1863. Each time period includes Historical Snapshots, Selected Prices, timelines, primary sources, and black and white images. For my collection, this is an essential purchase and the new volumes fill a major gap. AP US History cannot function without this set.

Highly recommended.

Joyce Valenza.

Ehrlich, M. Avrum. Ed. *Encyclopedia of the Jewish Diaspora.* 3 vols. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO. 2008. 978-1-8510-9873-6. \$318.60. Gr. 10+. (Also available as an e-book).

This three volume set on the Jewish Diaspora is scholarly and comprehensive. The first volume reviews various themes and phenomena related to the whole topic, while the next two volumes delve into the particular regions, countries and communities where the Jews lived. Each chapter is authored by a different expert and the Jewish experience is explored with an in-depth chronology. This set would serve as an important addition to world history, AP classes or global studies curriculum. **Jewish history, Diaspora**

Susan Mowery

Ehrlich, M. Avrum. Ed. *Encyclopedia of the Jewish Diaspora: Origins, Experience, and Culture.* M. Avrum Ehrlich, ed. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2009. 3 vols. 978-1-85109-837-6. \$295.00. Gr. 9+.

Volume 1 covers Themes and Phenomena, Volumes 2 and 3 cover Countries, Regions, and Communities. Many of the country and regional entries are preceded by statistical boxes and timelines and contain tables and black and white illustrations. The thematic articles include such topics as: History of the Diaspora; Persecution of Diaspora Jews; Religious Fusion and Interaction in the Diaspora; Music and Culture of the Diaspora; Women in the Diaspora; Genetics, Medicine, and Genealogy; Sephardi, Oriental, and Ashkenazi Ethnicities and Culture. Articles like Jews in Azerbaijan (for instance), from the volumes covering regions, are not available in any other reference sources. This comprehensive reference set fills a void for high school collections and will be especially useful for schools with Jewish populations or with a Jewish studies focus. **Recommended.**

Joyce Valenza

***Encyclopedia of American Industries, Fifth edition.* Millerton, NY: Grey House Publishing, 2008. 2 vols. 978-1-59237-244-7. \$650.00. Gr. 10+.**

Volume I, Manufacturing Industries, covers a wide range of topics such as food and kindred products, textile mill products, printing, publishing & allied industries, and electronic & other electrical equipment & components. Volume II, Service and Non-Manufacturing Industries, contains information on agriculture, forestry and fishing, retail trade, finance, insurance & real estate, service industries, and public administration as well as other topics. Each topic contains many subtopics and is presented in great detail. The set may be especially helpful in vocational high schools and schools with business and career-focused curricula.

Joyce Valenza

***Encyclopedia of the Arab-Israeli Conflict,* Spencer C. Tucker, ed. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2008. 4 vols. 978-1-85109-841-5. \$395.00. Gr. 10+.**

This four-volume set covers the conflict from the political, social and military points of view. Teachers will appreciate the comprehensive overview essay that opens the work as well as the wealth of readable articles that provide students with much-needed background. The books offer a generous number of photographs, maps, and charts. Volume Four contains 168 carefully selected documents with contextual introductions. Appendices include military ranks, country profiles, a selected bibliography, glossary, and a categorical index, as well as a traditional index. The chronologies cover the history of the region and specific issues and conflicts. Unfortunately, the volumes were published prior to the emerging conflicts of the past two years. Nevertheless, this set is a very valuable addition to the reference collection of all academic high schools. **Highly recommended.**

Joyce Valenza

***Encyclopedia of the Arab-Israeli Conflict: A Political, Social, and Military History.* Santa Barbara, California: ABC-CLIO, 2008. 978-1-85109-841-5. 4 vols. 1553 pages. \$426.60. Gr. 8+.**

Each volume of this specialized encyclopedia has alphabetical entries that are comprehensive with extensive see-also lists. Each article has an author as well as references. The fourth volume contains documents relating to the conflict. This will be a great resource for our Middle East class.

Toni Vahlsing

Endrizzi, Charlene Klasse. *Becoming Teammates: Teachers and Families as Literacy Partners.* Urbana, IL: National Council of Teachers of English, 2008. 978-0-8141-0273-2. 211p. \$37.95. Gr. 10+.

Charlene Klassen Endrizzi provides a fantastic step by step plan to engage parents in their children's learning. Her three phase plan provides a solid foundation to build and maintain parent teacher partnerships that benefit student achievement.

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The partnership not only builds stronger readers, but it also helps parents become strong literacy advocates for their children. The level of understanding that comes from a true partnership where all members are learning from each other, valuing each other's strengths and supporting their shortcomings is sure to help bridge achievement gaps that exist in our schools. This text will be of particular interest to educators of all grades who are looking to build a stronger relationship with parents to benefit student achievement.

Jill Dougherty, Reading Specialist Springfield High School (Delco

***Gale Encyclopedia of U.S. History: Government and Politics.* Farmington Hills, MI: Gale Cengage, 2008. 2 vols. 141443118X. \$231.00. Gr. 8+.**

The 400 entries in this 2-volume reference tool offer a different look at U.S. history, through the lenses of politics and government. Volume 1 covers the periods: pre-colonial, colonial, Revolution, expansion to the Mississippi, Civil War, and Gilded Age. Volume 2 covers: the Progressive Era, the Depression and World War II, the post war era, the Watergate era, and the Internet age. Each section provides an introduction to the period and explores: How They Were Governed; Important Figures, Political Parties, Platforms, and Key Issues; Current Events and Social Movements; Legislation, Court Cases, and Trials. This set provides unique context and will be welcomed by students and teachers of history and government. It will be especially useful for AP History. The books contain a chronology, glossary, black and white illustrations, index, and extensive suggestions for further reading. An excellent addition to the high school collection.

Joyce Valenza

***Gale Encyclopedia of U.S. History: War.* Farmington Hills, MI: Gale Cengage, 2008. 2 vols. 978-1-4144-3114-7. \$231.00. Gr. 8+.**

Covering U.S. history through 2007, this 2-volume set with its 400 entries, examines how our conflicts have shaped our national story. It is arranged by periods. Volume 1 covers: Conflicts with the Northeastern Tribes; the American Revolution; Conflicts with Tribes to the West and South; War of 1812; Mexican-American War; Civil War; Conflicts with the Western Tribes; Spanish American War; and World War I. Volume 2 covers: World War II; Korean War; Cold War, Vietnam; Gulf War; War on Terrorism; and a variety of essays on U.S. relations in the various regions in the world. Each section offers: an introduction to the conflict, causes, major figures, major battles, the home front, international context, and aftermath (for most). The set offers a chronology, glossary, black and white illustrations, index, and extensive suggestions for further reading. This reference tool has already been welcomed by our history teachers and is a worthy purchase for most high school collections.

Joyce Valenza

***Gale Encyclopedia of Science (4th Ed.).* Detroit: Thomson Gale, 2008. 978-1-41442-877-2. 6 vol. \$719.00. Gr. 6+.**

This update of the 3rd edition (2004) provides short to more extensive articles on over 2500 scientific topics, listed alphabetically in the first 5 volumes, with an extensive set of indices in the 6th. Easier to read and access than the more scholarly McGraw-Hill Encyclopedia of Science and Technology, complemented with color photos and illustrations, this volume provides well-researched and documented articles for readers, from 6th grade through adult. Perfect for general knowledge and school assignments.

Pat Naismith

***Gale Encyclopedia of U.S. History: War.* Farmington Hills, MI: Gale Cengage Publishers. 2008. 2 vols. 978-1-4144-3114-7. \$230.96. Gr. 8-12. (also available as an e-book).**

This edition follows all of the major battles, skirmishes, and wars involving the United States from the conflicts with tribes in the Northeast to the War in Iraq. Also included are sections on U.S. relations and operations in Asia, Europe and the Middle East. These two volumes are comprehensive and suitable to most high school curricula and standards. There is a detailed chronology, black and white maps and charts as well as boxed supportive material scattered throughout the two volumes. There is a section on further reading and an index.

Susan Mowery

Greenberg, Brian, Watts, Linda S. *Social History of the United States.* 10V. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2009. 978-1-59884-127-5, \$995.00. Gr. 8+.

This ten-volume set includes an excellent introduction to the topic for students, inviting them to appreciate the study of social history. Each volume is authored by a social historian with an expertise on a specific decade, and provides an introduction, with an overview of that decade, putting into context the key societal issues, and events of that time. Rich with images and data... Additionally, and of great value for high school students, each subject-focused chapter includes its own topical overview, timeline, description and analysis of important events, and is rich with images and data. Chapters include brief biographies of individuals instrumental in understanding the issues, effecting change, and playing critical roles in key events and movements of their time. Each chapter concludes with a list of references and further recommended readings.

Additionally, each volume in the set includes a topical listing of the major social issues (e.g., Society and the State, Economy, Environment, Business, Demography, Work and the Workplace, Labor, Immigration/Migration, Popular Culture, Class, Rural/Agricultural, Urban/Suburban, Region, Race, Religion, Leisure, Crime and Justice, Social Movements, Children, Youth Culture, War and Society, Violence and Protest, Radicalism and Reform, Conservatism, Health, Housing, and Transportation) discussed in each decade as well as a cumulative index to the entire set.

Erika Thickman Miller

Gross, Ernie and Roland H. Worth, Jr. *This Day in American History (3rd Ed.).* Jefferson, NC : McFarland & Co., 2008. 978-0-7864-3192-2. 510p. \$75.00. All ages.

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A concise and easily accessible listing of important events and people in U.S. history, from the 16th century through the 21st. Updates the 2001 edition with 950 new entries, and covers the period up to and including 2006. An extensive index supplements the volume. Great for browsing and research for all ages.

Pat Naismith

Hacht, Anne Marie, Ed. *Gale Encyclopedia of World History*. 2 vols. Detroit: Gale Publishers, 2008. 978141443152. (set) \$230.96. Gr. 9-12 (also available as an e-book).

This revised edition of "World History" provides the scope and depth appropriate to most high school curricula. Volume I deals with "War," and volume II covers the many world "Governments." Broken down by time periods, the set begins with prehistory and concludes with a section of events from 1980 to present. The beginning of each volume includes a detailed chronology. Both volumes include material previously missing from former encyclopedias such as the historical significance and contributions of Asia, Africa, South and Central America and Island nations. Also included are the many evolving governments that have seen rapid change as well as extremist groups that have dominated the news. The material is comprehensive, contains maps and black and white photos that give some support to the material. Sections on further reading are included as well as an index.

Susan Mowery

Hacht, Anne Marie, Ed. *Gale Encyclopedia of World History: War*. Detroit: Thomson Gale, 2008. 978-1-4144-3148-2. 2vol. \$231.00. Gr. 4-9.

Everything you wanted to know about the place of war in world history, from 853 BCE to the current global War on Terrorism. Listed chronologically, each major war is covered in a separate section, which includes an introduction to each war, the major figures, major battles, key elements that give the war historical significance and the impact of the war on world history. Each section contains black and white photos, text boxes containing interesting facts, and a useful bibliography. An extensive bibliography and index complete the two-volume set. Perfect for middle and high school assignments, and for those students who want to delve deeper into the great wars of the world.

Pat Naismith

Hahn, Daniel & Leonie Flynn (eds.). *The Ultimate Teen Book Guide*. New York: Walker & Co., 2008. 978-0-8027-9730-8. 432p. \$26.95. Gr. 6+. (for patron and professional use).

A compendium of over 700 titles with reviews from librarians, authors and teens themselves. But this book is not just book reviews. Each review is accompanied with a "NEXT?" box which varies with each title, but will include sequels, other titles in the series, and suggestions for other titles and authors to read in the same genre.

"Exciting extras" include text boxes within the reviews that highlight special titles or genres. "Genre Top Tens" are a great way to quickly find the best of each genre. "How to Read the Recommendations" and "How to get the most out of..." sections round out the prefatory information. Brief bios of all the reviewers, including the teens, are located at the back of the book, along with an extensive index. All in all, one of the best books of its kind, and an extremely valuable resource for reader's guidance.

Pat Naismith

Harada, Violet H., Carolyn H. Kirio, and Sandra H. Yamamoto. *Collaborating for Project-Based Learning in Grades 9-12*. Columbus, OH: Linworth, 2008. 978-1-5868-3291-9. 225p. \$44.95. Professional.

This practical, research-based volume is packed with project-based ideas for the high school teacher-librarian and partnering classroom teachers. Based on the solid experience of its authors, the curricular ideas include thoughtful questions, connections with standards, timelines, assessment checkpoints, rubrics, resources, and descriptions of effective student work. A welcome addition to the professional collection for any high school. **Highly recommended. Professional.**

Joyce Valenza.

Livingston, Steven G.. *U.S. Social Security*. Denver, CO: ABC-CLIO, 2008. 978-1-59884-119-0. 275p. \$55.00. Gr. 9+

This book is an overview of the success of the Social Security program and its problems. It covers the origins and development of the program starting in 1935 to today, when the funds to run the program may run out and possible solutions to this major problem. Biographical sketches, as well as speeches by important players in this program are included, as is a listing of the many organizations that have a role in monitoring and wanting to keep this program on-going. Books, articles, a glossary and an index are included. This title will be very useful for report writing.

Sandra Krieg

Marley, David F. *Wars of the Americas*. 2 vols. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-Clio, 2008. 978-1-59884-100-8. 1112p. \$195.00. Gr. 8+.

Interesting chronology of events about a wide range of conflicts in all of the Americas. This collection includes maps, images and sidebars that add interest to Marley's chronological summary of a wide variety of events. Though there's neither a great deal of analysis nor overview, the information provides intriguing hints of events worth further exploration and readers may be inspired to look at some of the resources for further reading which are located at the end of each volume.

Erika Thickman Miller

***Milestone Documents in American History*. Paul Finkleman, ed. Dallas: Schlager, 2008. 4 vols. 978-0-9797-7580-2. \$385.00. Gr. 9+.**

This has my vote for this year's best reference. The four volumes are illustrated, attractively designed and cover the years 1763 through 2003. Documents are accompanied by timelines, overviews, context, explanation and analysis, audience, impact, and lists of

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related documents (including a bibliography of print and Web sources). Sidebars and boxes highlight essential quotes and present glossaries and questions for further study. A companion to *Annals of America* and *Historic Documents* (which both include more documents but far less context), this should be in every high school's print reference collection, especially if AP US History is part of the curriculum. **Highly recommended.**

Joyce Valenza.

***Nations and Nationalism, A Global Historical View.* Guntram H. Herb, ed. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO, 2008. 4 vols. 978-1-85109-907-8. \$395.00. Grades 9+.**

This unusual four volume series covers the time periods from 1770 to the present, with each volume spanning a particular period. (Volume 1 covers 1770–1880; Volume 2, 1880–1945; Volume 3, 1945–1989; and Volume 4, 1989–present.) Thematic essays related to nationalism are presented, as well as essays on various nations arranged by region within each volume. Among the thematic essays: Nationalism and Conflict, Nationalism and Music, National Symbols, Technology and Nationalism. Articles about nations contain such information as: a chronology, Situating the Nation, Instituting the Nation, Defining the Nation, Narrating the Nation, Mobilizing and Building the Nation. The chronologies are especially useful. This is a unique tool that would be welcome in world history and global studies programs. The most current of the volumes, 1989 to Present, would be helpful in understanding complicated, current international events. No other reference set covers this ground. **Highly recommended.**

Joyce Valenza

***The New Encyclopedia Britannica.* Chicago: Encyclopedia Britannica, Inc., 2007. 978-1-5933-9292-5. 32 vol. \$1,395.00. Gr 8+.**

Britannica's latest edition contains over 65,000 articles and provides a comprehensive and comprehensible introduction to the range of human knowledge. The introductory volume (Propaedia) presents the context for the arrangement of the set's information. The signed articles in the Macropaedia provide an in-depth treatment of broad topics, with an introduction, an outline of the article, the article itself (which includes specific terms which may be further explored in the Micropaedia), and a bibliography. The Micropaedia contains short articles, useful for quick reference. Maps, photos, and illustrations enhance the work throughout. **Excellent, authoritative resource.**

Erika Thickman Miller

***One Million Things: A Visual Encyclopedia.* New York: Dorling Kindersley, 2008. 978-0-7566-3843-6. 305 p. \$24.99. Gr. 6-12.**

A visually appealing, oversized encyclopedia divided into 8 chapters (nature, human body, science and technology, space, earth, people and places, history, and art and culture). Each chapter has subheadings with 2 page spreads artistically displaying relevant items with definitions and/or descriptions. A reference section follows with additional facts on each chapter topic. An index is included. The cover and content will attract many browsers, but the size may prohibit them from checking it out.

Michelle Stone

Phillips, Susan P. *Great Displays for Your Library Step by Step.* Jefferson, NC: McFarland, 2008. 978-0-7864-3164-9. 234p. \$49.95. Professional.

The author has put her vast public library experience into an inspiring guide to creating interesting displays that can be adapted to high school libraries. The chapters include detailed information on 46 displays, including step by step instructions and a black and white photo. An additional 77 display ideas are described in the "Month by Month Display Ideas" appendix. Construction techniques, an extensive bibliography, and an index are included.

Michelle Stone

***Research and Discovery: Landmarks and Pioneers in American Science.* Russell Lawson, ed. Armonk, NY: Sharpe, 2008. 3 vols. 978-0-7656-8073-0. \$299. Gr. 8+.**

The 14 sections in these three volumes each cover a branch of science: natural history, geography, botany, biology, and medicine and health, geosciences, social sciences, behavioral sciences, astronomy, physics, chemistry, mathematics and computer science, applied science and the history and philosophy of science. Each of these sections offers introductory essays and A-Z entries relating to individuals, organizations, and events, as well as relevant primary sources. A Topic Finder index as well as a comprehensive word index offer guidance to the researcher. The essays and documents will be appreciated by science teachers. This presents an American-focused companion to Gale's *Science and its Time* and is a nice addition to the high school science reference collection.

Joyce Valenza

Serchay, David. *The Librarian's Guide to Graphic Novels for Children and Tweens.* New York : Neal-Schuman, 2008. 978-1-55570-626-5. 272p . \$55.00. Professional.

Everything you ever wanted to know about comics and graphic novels – history, how to build a collection, issues, display and promotion, and one of the best book lists of contemporary graphic novels, complete with appropriate age levels. Additional appendices include further reading and online resources. Multiple indices also give outstanding access to the material contained in this volume. Good reading, and a great resource.

Pat Naismith

Simpson, Carol. *Copyright for Administrators.* Columbus, OH: Linworth Books, 2008. 978-1-58683-323-7. 133p. \$39.95.

PSLA TITLES FOR 2008

Carol Simpson's expertise in education and law is evident in this comprehensive and clearly written guide to educational copyright issues. Following opening chapters on the law, public domain, and fair use, succeeding chapters give full coverage to applying copyright to print and non-print material use in schools. Many practical examples clarify what is and is not acceptable use of materials. A sample copyright policy, copyright warning notices, and guidelines for student are some of the useful documents included. This book is must for every librarian, principal, and curriculum leader. **Professional** **Ro Becker**

UXL Encyclopedia of U.S. History. Lawrence W. Baker and Sarah Hermsen, eds. Detroit: Gale Cengage, 2009. 978-1-4144-3044-7. 8 vols. \$458.00. Gr. 7+. Also available as an e-book.

This eight volume series covers diverse topics one would not expect to find in an overview of American history. Topics such as blacklisting and the Voting Techniques Controversy of 2000 can be found along with standard articles such as the Alien and Sedition Acts and Jackie Robinson. The nearly 700 articles cover America's history from the pre-Colonial period to the war in Iraq. Articles are arranged alphabetically and include biographies, topic overviews and literary references. Bolded cross references direct students to related information. Black and white photographs and other images, as well as sidebars, supplement the text. The articles vary in length depending upon the topic. For example, the entry for George W. Bush runs for eight pages; an article on The Coercion Acts is one and half pages. No matter the length of the articles, the information provided is a solid starting point for reference and research. Each volume contains the complete Table of Contents and an index, as well as sources for further information. The series is as current as is possible, given lead time for publishing. For example, the article on Barack Obama is current up to March 2008. A broad appeal beyond Social Studies. My students used this series for research on social justice; the variety of topics makes this a useful series for all curricular areas. The series may cover some of the same topics in the UXL catalog but it does not duplicate UXL's Social Studies set. Highly recommended for all middle school libraries. **Reference** **Rosanne Zajko – Ancillae Assumpta Academy**

UXL Encyclopedia of U.S. History. Ed. by Lawrence W. Baker and Sarah Hermsen. Detroit: Gale Cengage, 2009. 8 vols. 978-1-4144-3044-7. \$500.00 Gr. 4-12.

The multivolume set offers more than 700 entries and 400 images and maps in A to Z format, designed around the NCSS curricular standards for Middle School. Articles range in length from one to around eight pages and include topics you wouldn't expect in a standard history set, for instance, the Columbine High School Shooting, Hip Hop and Rap, and Stem Cell Research. The set offers a lengthy *Where to Learn More* list and a detailed index. High school students might use the set as a starting point but will need the depth provided by other US history sources. This is an appropriate choice for many middle school reference collections.

Joyce Valenza

UXL Encyclopedia of Weather and Natural Disasters. Detroit: Thomson-Gale Publishers. 2008. 5 vols. 978-1-4144-1879-7. \$ 304.96 Gr. 7-12. Also available as an e-book.

This handy 5-volume new edition on weather and disasters will provide a wealth of current material on the much researched topics such as tsunamis, earthquakes, tornados, La Nina and much more. As seen in weekly newscasts, weather constantly brings much change and upheaval to many parts of the world. Students will pick up this set to find material for report writing and to find answers to their many questions regarding weather changes they see at home or in distant lands. The editors provide aids to help students such as timelines, "Words to Know," "Who's Who" sections, "Experiments to Try," boxed supplement material throughout, "Where to Learn More," and an extensive index.

Susan Mowery

Walker, Denise. Core Chemistry. Mankato, MN: Smart Apple Media, 2008. 978-1-58340-819-3. 6 vols. \$144.00 Gr. 7+.

The *Core Chemistry* series includes volumes covering the standard chemistry topics, such as acids and alkalis to the unexpected, such as geological change. The scientific principles are thoroughly explained, yet the text is easy to understand for middle school readers who may be looking for introductory material. The layout is eye-appealing, with color photos, diagrams and large sidebars that provide historical information. Of special interest are sidebar boxes on which readers can test their knowledge or predictions and "investigate" boxes that provide quick and easy science demonstrations. Answers to both are provided at the back of the book. Includes a Table of Contents, an Index and a glossary. Titles in the series are: *Acids and Alkalis, Chemical Reactions, Fuel and the Environment, Geological Change, Materials, and Metals and Nonmetals.*

Reference

Rosanne Zajko Ancillae Assumpta Academy

Wallace, Faith H. and Jill Shivertaker. Teaching Mathematics through Reading. Columbus, OH: Linworth, 2009. 978-158683-324-4. 103p. \$39.95. **Professional**

Extension activities in tested strands are plentiful in this excellent resource. Each section includes a book summaries, objectives, activity sheets, and brain-twisting challenges. Students expand on mastered knowledge and connect to literature, their families, and their world. I see this as an outstanding resource for Pre-Algebra/Algebra classes.

Peggy Vosseler, Springfield Township Middle School

Warlick, David. Redefining Literacy 2.0. 2nd ed. Columbus, OH: Linworth, 2009. 1586833332. 183p. \$34.95. **Professional.**

Warlick presents his three Es: expose meaning, employ information for solving challenges, and constructing information; express ideas compellingly. He shares what all educators and parents, need to know about the new landscapes and suggests doable action

steps for each stakeholder (including librarians) in each his sections. Includes key resources, suggestions for further reading. **Very practical. Highly recommended.**

Joyce Valenza

***Women in the American Civil War.* Lisa Tendrich Frank, ed. Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, 2008. 2 vo1s. 1851096000. 631p. \$195.00. Gr. 9+.**

Books with substantial content relating to women's roles in our history are hard to come by. *Women in the American Civil War* is a most welcome addition. The more than 300 alphabetically arranged entries, contributed by more than 100 experts, cover individual biography, events, issues, organizations, and battles. The work includes 14 contextual essays relating to all aspects of women's life before and after the war. Such essays cover Abolitionists and Northern Reformers, the Confederate Homefront, Female Combatants, Female Spies, Nurses, Religion and Wartime Literature. Among the A-Z entries are articles on Conscription, Destruction of Homes, Plantation Life, Jewish Women, and Refugees. The first volume offers a chronology. The second volume offers 30 pages of primary sources and a lengthy bibliography. The text is extremely friendly to the high school reader and I wish I had this set years ago!

An important addition to any high school collection with a strong history focus.

Joyce Valenza

Woodworth-Ney, Laura E. *Women in the American West.* Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO, 2008. 1598840509. 387p. \$65.00. Gr. 9+.

When faced with a topic choice, my history students always ask, "What were the women doing?" Especially as related to the move west, this information has not always been easy to find. We know the story of the male frontier. This essential addition to the high school collections is written by a scholar in the field—a western woman herself—for upper level students. A volume of the *Cultures in the American West* series, *Women in the American West* examines the role of women in the development and history of the western United States. It includes such very readable essays as: Polygamy, Prostitution, and Women in Mormon and Mining Settlements; Visible in Everything, but Invisible to History (Native American women); Women of the Southern Borderlands; Gender and Manifest Destiny; War, Depression, and Creation of the West; and Gendered Wartime and Postwar West. The volume also includes maps, a chronology, and a glossary. A valuable purchase for the high school, especially for AP US History.

Joyce Valenza

Woodworth, Steven W. *Gale Library of Daily Life; Civil War.* Detroit: Gale Cengage, 2008. 978-1-4144-3011-9. 2 vols. \$222.00 Gr. 8+. Also available as an e-book.

Many reference and non-fiction books on this period in American History focus solely on the battles, the politics and the legacy of the Civil War. This comprehensive study of daily life during the Civil War covers these topics as well, and much more. Researchers will find this two volume set includes detailed information on topics that maybe difficult to find in other sources. Some of these topics include parenting and childrearing, education, class tensions and children's literature. Each facet of daily life for both soldiers and civilians during the Civil War is given attention: a soldier's life, religion, popular culture, health and medicine, propaganda, the economy and reconciliation. The text is rich with information, statistics and references for a serious study of the war. The two column text is factual enough for researchers but also approachable enough for browsing. Photographs, sketches, charts, sidebars and brief primary sources are used to supplement the text. This is a fascinating reference, one which Social Studies teachers will find invaluable. Includes a comprehensive index and an annotated bibliography. Highly recommended for high schools. Middle schools with gifted/talented programs would want to consider this as well. **Reference Rosanne Zajko – Ancillae Assumpta Academy**

York, Sherry. *Booktalking Authentic Multicultural Literature: Fiction, History, and Memoirs for Teens.* Columbus, OH, 2008. 978-1-58683-299-5. 97p. \$39.95. Professional.

101 multicultural booktalks include author background and publication information, genre, level, awards, page numbers for read-aloud excerpts, sample booktalks, and related titles. **A compact and very useful tool. Recommended.**

Ro Becker

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