

Teaching Content- Based ESOL Using Authentic Materials

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List of Suggested Websites for Beginning ESOL students:

U.S. Geography:

- Famous American Landforms (<http://library.thinkquest.org/J001716/>)
- Enchanted Learning's Landform glossary (<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/geography/landforms/glossaryprintable.shtml>)
- Fossweb landforms module: <http://www.fossweb.com/modules3-6/Landforms/index.html>

American Civics and History

Native Americans

- The First Americans (<http://web.archive.org/web/20050305092130/www.germantown.k12.il.us/indians/intro.html>)
- Native American Website for Children <http://www.nhusd.k12.ca.us/ALVE/NativeAmerhome.html/nativeamhome.html>
- Learn About Native Americans (<http://www.ahsd25.k12.il.us/Curriculum%20Info/NativeAmericans/index.html>)

Colonial America:

- Thanksgiving <http://www.gpschools.org/ci/ce/elem/holidays/thanks.htm>
- Colonial Kids <http://library.thinkquest.org/J002611F/introduction.htm> -
- Virtual Jamestown Fort
- http://www.virtualjamestown.org/quicktime/jamestown_fort.html
- interactive Jamestown game: <http://www.historyglobe.com/jamestown/> -
- Everything ESL Pilgrims lesson plan w/ downloads http://www.everythingsl.net/lessons/plymouth_colony.php
- Everything ESL Colonial America lesson plan ideas. <http://www.everythingsl.net/lessons/13colonies.php>

Revolution/ Founding Fathers

- Sam the Minuteman group activity (http://www.ltl.appstate.edu/litcircleunits/litcircleunits_Fall00/colonial/gradetwo/SM6.html)

Constitution/ Government:

- Ben's Guide to Government: <http://bensguide.gpo.gov/>
- White House Kids Site: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/kids/>
- Downtown Birds-Eye Tour (<http://birdseye.octo.dc.gov/>)

Expansion:

- Interactive Lewis and Clark game (<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/west/>)
- Links to good Lewis and Clark websites (but has a lot of ads) (<http://www.surfnetkids.com/lewisclark.htm>)

- Enchanted Learning's Lewis and Clark & Louisiana Purchase pages.
(<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/history/us/1800/louisianapurchase/index.shtml>)
(<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/explorers/page/l/lewisandclark.shtml>)
- Pioneer Life: <http://library.thinkquest.org/J001587/>
- Pioneers: <http://library.thinkquest.org/J002819/pio.html>

Civil War:

- Civil War for Kids <http://www2.lhric.org/pocantico/civilwar/cwar.htm>

World History

Human Migration: <http://dsc.discovery.com>

Evolution: www.pbs.org/wgbh/aso/tryit/evolution

Cave Art: www.culture.gouv.fr/culture/arenat/chauvet/en

Ancient Egypt:

- Maps: www.nga.gov/exhibitions/2002/egypt
- The wonders of Egypt: <http://library.thinkquest.org/J002037F/introduction.htm>
- The Amazing Ancient Egypt: <http://library.thinkquest.org/6042/index.htm>

CyberMuseum Mesopotamia: <http://members.tripod.com/jaydambrosio/mesopotamia.html>

Time Travel back to Ancient Greece: <http://library.thinkquest.org/J0112190/>

Rome: Elementary Ancient Rome <http://library.thinkquest.org/5166/>

World Religions:

- Feztve: <http://library.thinkquest.org/11719/index.html>
- A World of Religions: <http://library.thinkquest.org/25033/index1.htm>

List of Suggested Videos: World History:

- Return of the Iceman (BBC)
- Egypt: Secrets of the Pharaohs (NG)
- Quest for Immortality (Lost Civilization Series)
- Pyramids (PBS)
- Secrets of the Mummy (PBS)
- Tut the Boy King (PBS)
- Mesopotamia- Return to Eden (Lost Civilization Series)
- China- Dynasties of Power (Lost Civilization Series)
- Forbidden City (Lost Civilization Series)
- Lost Treasures of the Ancient World (Lost Civilization Series)
- Ancient China-A Journey Back in Time (Lost Civilization Series)
- Greece- A Moment of Excellence (Lost Civilization Series)
- Aegean- The Legend of Atlantis (Lost Civilization Series)
- Greek and Roman Legends (Lost Civilization Series)

AMERICAN HISTORY MOVIE LIST (1500-1865)

UNIT: American Indians
TITLE OF MOVIE: Indians of California
AGE: Elementary – High School
LANGUAGE LEVEL: Beginner
RATING: Not Rated
GENRE: Documentary- Live Action

OVERVIEW: A Yokut grandmother tells her grandchildren about their customs and we see what they took to preserve the delicate balance between man and nature. "Learn its secrets well and this land will give you everything you need," she says. "This is the way we have always done it, the way the old people taught us."

The Yokuts were the largest tribe to inhabit the land we now call California. Known for their practical and resourceful ways, they had a great respect for their bountiful food supply and the land that it came from. Text copied from the back of the video.

REVIEW / OPINION: Good for ESL. Live action. Words are explained by actions. Allows students to see how some American Indians lived before contact with Europeans.

UNIT: American Indians
TITLE OF MOVIE: Windwalker
AGE: Family
LANGUAGE LEVEL: Beginner
RATING: PG
GENRE: Action / Adventure

OVERVIEW: A splendid adventure for family viewing, Windwalker has the distinction of being named the #1 anthropological film of all time in an early 1990s poll of the American Anthropological Association. It's not particularly distinguished in terms of its filmmaking, but this authentic Native American tale is told with exciting vitality and careful attention to details of culture, language, costuming, and age-old traditions. The title character (convincingly played by British actor Trevor Howard) is an aged and dying Cheyenne warrior who, as a young husband and father (played by James Remar in flashbacks), watched helplessly as his wife was killed and one twin son kidnapped by Crow invaders. On his deathbed, he is spiritually revived to solve the mystery of his missing son, and in doing so sets his "windwalker" path to a peaceful afterlife. Featuring

an abundance of natural beauty in the mountains of Utah and utilizing sparse, subtitled dialogue spoken in authentic Cheyenne and Crow languages, the film may be too intense for very young viewers (with scenes of PG-rated violence involving enemy warriors, wolves and a bear), but it's essential viewing for anyone interested in Native American cultural history. Independently distributed in 1980 by the Christian family-film company Pacific International Enterprises (whose wholesome founder, Arthur R. Dubs, is profiled in a vintage promo reel included on this DVD), Windwalker was a decade ahead of Dances with Wolves in bringing real, vibrant Indian folklore to a mainstream audience, earning a respectable \$18 million at the box office. --Jeff Shannon - Amazon.com

REVIEW: Works very well in the ESL classroom. The teacher needs to help students with the plot but most scenes are explained by action not words. Some people are bothered by British actor Trevor Howard playing an American Indian, but the acting is otherwise really good and convincing. Except for the narrator the movie is spoken in Native languages. Transports you to Native America with horses sometime after contact.

UNIT: Columbus & Explorers
TITLE OF MOVIE: 1492: Conquest of Paradise
AGE: Young Adult - Adult
LANGUAGE LEVEL: Beginner
RATING: PG-13
GENRE: Historical Drama

OVERVIEW: Big budget account of Christopher Columbus' discovery of the Americas. Released in 1992 to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the discovery. Shows the disastrous effects the Europeans had on the original inhabitants, and Columbus' struggle to civilize the New World. From Amazon.com.

REVIEW: This movie is visually spectacular. Particularly the scenes of the ships leaving Spain, sighting land, the first contact with American Indians, and building of the first colonies are very powerful. Works very well in the ESL classroom.

UNIT: Columbus & Explorers
TITLE OF MOVIE: Black Robe
AGE: Adult
LANGUAGE LEVEL: Beginner
RATING: R
GENRE: Historical Drama

OVERVIEW: In 1634 a young French Jesuit missionary is assigned to trek 1,500 miles through the New France wilderness to a mission settled in Huron Indian country. Black Robe chronicles the journey of Father Laforgue (Lothaire Bluthau) as he leaves his Jesuit brothers and, with the aid of a

young translator and guide, Daniel (Aden Young), and eight canoes of Algonquin Indians, moves into the uncompromising Canadian northern territory on a die-hard mission to convert the natives. Mixing elements of Michael Mann's The Last of the Mohicans and Roland Joffé's The Mission, Beresford offers a restless tale of Laforgue's conflicted faith juxtaposed against the sublime spiritual harmony with the land that the Huron and Algonquin already hold. Black Robe dances to its own drummer and is tuned into the precarious balance between nature's mystery and spirit and the strident, unyielding religious ethic. The cinematography by Peter James is relentlessly cruel and bleak, but it absolutely conveys the obstacles that face the idealistic and blind young priest, who by the end, has faced his own awakening. The film also features one of the late, great composer Georges Delerue's most noble scores. --Paula Nechak. From amazon.com

REVIEW: This movie works very well for showing French trappers and priests in the beginning of French colonization. It is only necessary to show the first scene of the movie to accomplish this. There is therefore no need to worry about the nudity and violence which comes later in the movie.

UNIT: Columbus & Explorers and English Colonies

TITLE OF MOVIE: Squanto: A Warrior's Tale

AGE: Family

LANGUAGE LEVEL: Beginner

RATING: G

GENRE: Historical Drama

OVERVIEW: *When a party of Englishmen visit an Indian village to engage in trade, they receive a gracious welcome. But the British have more on their mind than business: they want to take some of the "natives" back to England and put them on display. Among the group of captives is Squanto, a young warrior who finds himself torn away from his homeland, his people and his new wife. Once ashore in England, he courageously escapes from his captors and takes refuge with a reclusive community of monks. In time, Squanto and the monks overcome their linguistic differences, and learn that they share similar spiritual and humanitarian beliefs. But neither the monks' friendship nor the security of his new home make Squanto forget what he has lost... and he must do whatever possible, even at the risk of his life, to return to his tribe. From ifilm.com.*

REVIEW: At several points the movie drifts away from the facts, but I narrate the images and am selective in which scenes I show. There is a very good trade scene at the beginning of the movie of Squanto's village and kidnapping. There is also a decent scene of the Pilgrims landing and settling on the abandoned village of Squanto's tribe toward the end. Works well in the ESL classroom.

UNIT: English Colonies / Civil War

TITLE OF MOVIE: Roots: Parts 1 and 2

AGE: Young Adult - Adult

LANGUAGE LEVEL: Beginner

RATING: Not Rated, (Some nudity in the slave hunter scene)
GENRE: Historical Drama

OVERVIEW: *From the moment the young Kunta Kinte (LeVar Burton) is stolen from his life and ancestral home in 18th-century Africa and brought under inhumane conditions to be auctioned as a slave in America, a line is begun that leads from this most shameful chapter in U.S. history to the 20th-century author Alex Haley, a Kinte descendant. The late Haley's acclaimed book [Roots](#) was adapted into this six-volume television miniseries, which was a widely watched phenomenon in 1977. The programs cover several generations in the antebellum South and end with the story of "Chicken" George, a freed slave played by Ben Vereen whose family feels the agony of entrenched racism and learns to fight it. Between the lives of Kunta and George, we meet a number of memorable characters, black and white, and learn much about the emotional and physical torments of slavery, from beatings and rapes to the forced separation of spouses and families. Nothing like this had ever confronted so many mainstream Americans when the series was originally broadcast, and the extent to which the country was nudged a degree or two toward enlightenment was instantly obvious. Roots still has that ability to open one's eyes, and engage an audience in a sweeping, memorable drama at the same time. --Tom Keogh. From amazon.com*

REVIEW: This series is an excellent resource for making the slave trade and slavery—particularly in the Virginia colony—tangible for students. I show several scenes starting at the lead characters village in Africa. Later I show his capture and the middle passage. I then show the slave auction in Virginia and his arrival on a Virginia tobacco plantation in colonial America.

UNIT: American Revolution
TITLE OF MOVIE: Johnny Tremain
SUBMITTED BY: Jody Gilmore
AGE: Family
LANGUAGE LEVEL: Beginner
RATING: G
GENRE: Historical Drama

OVERVIEW: *Based on [Esther Forbes's book](#) of the same name, Johnny Tremain takes place in Boston from July 1773 through April 1775, and tells the story of a young apprentice silversmith drawn into a fight for human rights. When an accident cripples Johnny Tremain's hand and ends his hopes of becoming a great silversmith, Tremain finds himself without work and accused of a crime he did not commit. Sons of Liberty members Paul Revere and Josiah Quincy are outraged by the circumstantial case against Tremain, agree to represent him free of charge, and win his acquittal in court. Through association with his new friends, Tremain begins*

to better understand the current political climate, and eventually joins them in the battle for freedom. Tremain's involvement in the emptying of British tea into Boston Harbor, the arrival of the Redcoats in Boston, and the beginnings of the American Revolution at Concord is powerful and moving. The costuming is splendid, the music patriotic, and the dialogue well crafted. The film stars Hal Stalmaster as Johnny Tremain, costars Luana Patten and Jeff York, and runs 80 minutes. This classic Disney film is wonderful entertainment and a fairly faithful representation of a crucial period in American history. (Ages 8 and older) --Tami Horiuchi. From amazon.com

REVIEW: A little light for adults but it works well for showing the Boston Tea Party and the first battle of the American Revolution, Battle of Lexington.

UNIT: Washington and Government
TITLE OF MOVIE: George Washington: The Forging of a Nation
SUBMITTED BY: Jody Gilmore
AGE: Young Adult - Adult
LANGUAGE LEVEL: Low
RATING: NR
GENRE: Historical Drama

OVERVIEW: *Sequel to the eight-hour mini-series about the life of George Washington from ages 11 through 51, that ran in April 1984. This 4-hour dramatization begins in 1788 and takes us through his years as first president of the United States. From rottentomatoes.com*

REVIEW: *This movie is movie is an excellent resource for humanizing George Washington and bringing texture to early United States history. I show the first 30 minutes or so. We see George Washington at Mount Vernon, we see him riding to New York to become president. We see his cabinet with Jefferson and Hamilton.*

More to come...

List of Books we are using with our students

Geography and American History:

America's Story (Steck Vaughn)
America's Symbols (Newbridge Educational Publishing)
Citizenship: Passing the Test (New Reader's Press)
Coast to Coast (Rand McNally)
Esl: Teachers Holiday Activities Kit (Prentice Hall)
Forest, Grassland, Desert (Rand McNally)
Geography from A-Z (Harper/ Trophy)
George Washington: Our First President (Scholastic)
Here I Am (Newbridge)
I Read Symbols (Greenwillow)
If you lived in Colonial Times (Scholastic)
Landforms (Newbridge)
Let's Read About Abraham Lincoln (Scholastic)
Let's Read About Christopher Columbus (Scholastic)
Let's Get Ready for Thanksgiving (Children's Press)
Lewis and Clark Poster Set (Monticello Foundation)
Life at Ellis Island (Heinemann)
Life in a Colonial Town (Heinemann)
Life in American's First Cities (Heinemann)
Looking at Maps (Rigby)
Maps and Globes (Children's Press)
Maps, Globes, Graphs Books 1 & 2 (Steck-Vaughn)
Minipage Book of States (Universal Press Syndicate)
Monuments and Symbols (Curriculum Associates, Inc.)
Mount Rushmore (Heinemann)
My First Thanksgiving (Scholastic)
North, South, East, West (Children's Press)
Our Book of Maps (Rigby)
Our Capital (Newbridge)
Our Government (Rand McNally)
Our Nation Minibook (Scholastic)
Oxford Picture Dictionary (Oxford University Press)
Oxford Picture Dictionary of the Content Areas (Oxford University Press)
Places I like (Little Red Reader)
Places to Visit (National Geographic)
See the USA (National Geographic)
Seven Continents (National Geographic)
Thanksgiving is (Scholastic)
The American Flag (Heinemann)
The Bald Eagle (Heinemann)
The Earth (National Geographic)
The First Americans (Rand McNally)
The Fourth of July (National Geographic)
The Lincoln Memorial (Heinemann)
The Pledge of Allegiance (Heinemann)

The Statue of Liberty (Heinemann)
The US Capitol (Heinemann)
The Washington Monument (Heinemann)
The White House (Heinemann)
Using Nature's Gifts (Rand McNally)
Washington, DC, our nation's capital (Curriculum Associates, Inc.)
Where Do You Live? (Curriculum Assoc.)
World around us (Little Red Reader)
Young Harriet Tubman (Troll)

Reproducible Book:

Uncle Sam Activity Book (Contemporary Books)

World History:

The Ancient Egyptians (Rees) NG
The Ancient Greeks (Rees) NG
The Ancient Romans (Rees) NG
The Ancient Romans (Shuter)NG
The Ancient Egyptians (Shuter) NG
The Ancient Chinese (Shuter)NG
The Ancient Greeks (Taylor)NG
The Sumerians (Shuter) Heineman
Early Humans NG
Greek Civilization NG
Chinese Civilization NG
The Great Pyramid NG
Civilizations Past to Present Egypt NG
Civilizations Past to Present China NG
Ancient Rome NG
Civilizations Past to Present India NG
Ancient Rome NG
The Ancient Romans (Rees) (H)
The Ancient Egyptians (Rees) (H)
The Ancient Greeks (Rees) (H)
The Ancient Romans (Shuter) (H)
The Ancient Egyptians (Shuter) (H)
The Ancient Chinese (Shuter) (H)
Nystrom World Atlas

- H= Heineman
- NG = National Geographic

Reproducible Books

Prehistoric Man (Milliken)
Ancient Civilizations: Greece (T.S. Dennison)
Ancient Civilizations: Rome (T.S. Dennison)
World Map Skills (T.S. Dennison)

Periodicals we use with our students:

Scholastic News, Edition 1

(for use in literacy-level ESOL classes)

Weekly Reader, Grade 2 or Grade 3

(for use in beginning ESOL classes)

Weekly Reader, Science Spin

(available in three editions, K-1, 2-3, 4-6. Purchased in conjunction with WR K-Senior editions. It is not available alone or with Spanish/English editions.)

News for You

Easy English News

(for use in high beginning ESOL classes)

National Geographic Explorer!

(for use in Concepts Science or Social Studies classes)

Other Suggested Materials:

- Digital camera
- Postcards
- Smithsonian Folkways recordings:
<http://www.folkways.si.edu/index.html>