

RECOMMENDED READING ABOUT THE HOLOCAUST FOR 4TH GRADERS
From the Hodari Family Children's Library & Media Center

NON-FICTION:

Bachrach, Susan D. *TELL THEM WE REMEMBER: THE STORY OF THE HOLOCAUST.* Boston, MA: Little, Brown and Company, 1994. 109 pages. ISBN: 0316692646.

Provides a pictorial history of the Holocaust.

George, Charles. *THE HOLOCAUST.* San Diego, CA : Kidhaven Press, 2003. 48 pages. ISBN: 0737713828.

Discusses Hitler's plan to exterminate the Jews, life in the camps, resistance of the prisoners, and the topics of freedom, justice, and the remembrance of those who died.

Greenfeld, Howard. *THE HIDDEN CHILDREN.* New York : Ticknor & Fields, 1993. 118 pages. ISBN: 0395660742.

Describes the experiences of those Jewish children who were forced to go into hiding during the Holocaust and survived to tell about it.

Levine, Ellen . *DARKNESS OVER DENMARK: THE DANISH RESISTANCE AND THE RESCUE OF THE JEWS.* Holiday House, 2000. 164 pages. ISBN: 0823414477.

Interviews with individuals involved in the Danish resistance, documentary photographs, and a lucid text combine to tell an inspiring true story. (www.ajljewishvalues.org)

BIOGRAPHIES/MEMOIRS:

Adler, David A. *HERO AND THE HOLOCAUST, A: THE STORY OF JANUSZ KORCZAK AND HIS CHILDREN.* Illus. by Farnsworth, Bill. Holiday House, 2002. 32 pages. ISBN: 0823415481.

This short, dramatically illustrated biography of Janusz Korczak, the Polish physician, author, and humanitarian, tells the sad and heroic story of how he cared for Polish-Jewish orphans and eventually accompanied them to the gas chambers. The narrative uses quotes from Korczak's diary and captures the grimness of wartime Warsaw. (www.ajljewishvalues.org)

Drucker, Olga Levy. *KINDERTRANSPORT.* New York : Henry Holt and Company, 1992. 146 pages. ISBN: 0805017119.

The author describes the circumstances in Germany after Hitler came to power that led to the evacuation of many Jewish children to England and her experiences as a young girl in England during World War II.

Gold, Alison Leslie. *MEMORIES OF ANNE FRANK: REFLECTIONS OF A CHILDHOOD FRIEND.* New York: Scholastic Press, 1997. ISBN: 0590907239.

Recounts the story of Hannah Goslar, a close friend of Anne Frank and one of the last to see her alive.

Kaplan, William; Tanaka, Shelley . *ONE MORE BORDER.* Illus. by Taylor, Stephen. Groundwood Books/Douglas and McIntyre, 1998. 60 pages. ISBN: 0888993323.

Fans of fiction and non-fiction alike will enjoy this suspenseful memoir of a family's escape from war-ravaged Europe during World War II. The Japanese diplomat and Righteous Gentile, Chiune Sugihara, issues them exit visas, allowing them to continue on their dangerous journey eastward across Asia and the Pacific until they reach safety in Canada. The format blends documentary photographs, maps, and illustrations. (www.ajljewishvalues.org)

Lee, Carol Ann. ANNE FRANK'S STORY: HER LIFE RETOLD FOR CHILDREN. Troll Communications, 2002. 105 pages. ISBN: 0816774277.

In a chatty and readable style, the author traces Anne Frank's life from a comfortable and happy childhood in Germany and the Netherlands, through almost two years in hiding, to a horrendous death in Bergen-Belsen just two weeks before the camp was liberated. This edition is especially for young readers who are not yet ready to read Anne's original diary. (www.ajljewishvalues.org)

Levine, Karen . HANA'S SUITCASE. Second Story Press, 2002. ISBN: 189676455X.

A biography of a Czech girl who died in the Holocaust, told in alternating chapters with an account of how the curator of a Japanese Holocaust center learned about her life after Hana's suitcase was sent to her.

Mochizuki, Ken . PASSAGE TO FREEDOM: THE SUGIHARA STORY. Illus. by Lee, Dom. Lee and Low, 1999. 32 pages. ISBN: 1880000490.

Strong, sepia-tone illustrations enhance this moving brief biography of the Japanese diplomat who saved thousands of Jews by issuing exit visas to them during the Holocaust. This child's-eye perspective brings to light family relationships, the desperate situation of Lithuanian Jews, the circumstances under which Sugihara disobeyed his government's orders, and the importance of his courageous act. (www.ajljewishvalues.org)

Rubin, Susan Goldman. FIREFLIES IN THE DARK: THE STORY OF FRIEDL DICKER-BRANDEIS AND THE CHILDREN OF TEREZIN. Holiday House, 2000. 47 pages. ISBN: 0823414612.

A Bauhaus-trained Jewish artist from Prague is imprisoned in Terezin. There she teaches traumatized children to express themselves and their fears through art. An inspiring biography with memorable illustrations by Dicker-Brandeis and her students. A Sydney Taylor Honor Book for Older Readers. (www.ajljewishvalues.org)

Senker, Cath . ANNE FRANK - VOICE OF HOPE. Raintree/Steck-Vaughn, 2001. ISBN: 0817257195.

Traces the life of the Jewish girl who chronicled her day-to-day life in a diary as she hid in an attic in Amsterdam during World War II.

ILLUSTRATED/PICTURE BOOKS:

Bunting, Eve. ONE CANDLE. Illus. by K. Wendy Popp. New York: Joanna Cotler Books, 2002. ISBN: 0060281154.

For one family the traditional Hanukkah celebration has a deeper meaning. Amidst the food and the festivities, Grandma and Great-Aunt Rose begin their story-the one they tell each year. They pass on to each generation a tale of perseverance during the darkest hours of the Holocaust, and the strength it took to continue to honor Hanukkah in the only way they could.

Deedy, Carmen Agra. YELLOW STAR, THE: THE LEGEND OF KING CHRISTIAN X OF DENMARK. Illus. by Sorensen, Henry. Peachtree, 2000. 30 pages. ISBN: 1561452084.

A beautifully illustrated tribute to the tolerance of the Danish people and their king, Christian X, who took many risks on behalf of the Jewish population during the German occupation of World War II. (www.ajljewishvalues.org)

Goldman, Alex J. I AM A HOLOCAUST TORAH: THE STORY OF THE SAVING OF 1,564 TORAHS. Gefen, 2000. ISBN: 9652292362.

This is the story of 1,564 Torahs stolen by the Nazis from synagogues in Czechoslovakia, rescued twenty years later, and placed in the hands of people who love them.

Hoestlandt, Jo. *STAR OF FEAR, STAR OF HOPE*. Illus. by Kang, Johanna. Trans. by Polizzotti, Mark. New York : Walker and Company, 1993. ISBN: 0802783732

Nine-year-old Helen is confused by the disappearance of her Jewish friend during the German occupation of Paris.

McCann, Michelle R.; Tryszynska-Frederick, Luba . *LUBA: THE ANGEL OF BERGEN-BELSEN*. Illus. by Marshall, Carol. Tricycle Press, 2003. 46 pages. ISBN: 1582460981.

A biography of the Jewish heroine, Luba Tryszynska, who saved the lives of more than fifty Jewish children in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp during the winter of 1944-1945.

Polacco, Patricia . *THE BUTTERFLY*. Philomel, 2000. 42 pages. ISBN: 0399231706.

During the Nazi occupation of France, a child discovers that her mother is hiding Jews. The "little ghost" who appears in her bedroom at night is one of them. Monique and Sevrine become friends, sharing hope for a brighter future symbolized by the butterfly. (www.ajljewishvalues.org)

Schnur, Steven . *THE TIE MAN'S MIRACLE*. Illus. by Johnson, Stephen T. Morrow Junior Books, 1995. 32 pages. ISBN: 0688134637.

On the last night of Chanukah, after hearing how an old man lost his family in the Holocaust, a young boy makes a wish that is carried to God as the menorah candles burn down.

Smith, Frank Dabba; Grossman, Mendel . *MY SECRET CAMERA: LIFE IN THE LODZ GHETTO*. Harcourt/Gulliver Books, 2000. 37 pages. ISBN: 0152023062.

Mendel Grossman did not survive the Holocaust but the photographs that he took secretly did. They are heartbreaking reminders of everyday life in a community marked for destruction. (www.ajljewishvalues.org)

Stillerman, Marci . *NINE SPOONS: A CHANUKAH STORY*. Illus. by Gerber, Pesach. Hachai, 1998. 30 pages. ISBN: 0922613842.

A grandmother recalls the grim circumstances under which her odd little Hanukkah menorah was made: by women in a concentration camp barracks so that the children among them could observe the holiday.

FICTION:

Brooks, Jerome. *MAKE ME A HERO*. New York: Dutton, 1980. ISBN: 0595094341.

Izzie Gold is Jake Ackerman's boss at the leather goods shop where he found work after his brothers went off to fight in World War II. Despite the many disillusionments Jake finds as he comes of age, his true ascension to manhood is achieved through the things he learns from Izzie: hard work, integrity and not to let things go to waste.

Dahlberg, Maurine F. *PLAY TO THE ANGELS*. Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2000. ISBN: 0374359946.

In Vienna in 1938, twelve year old Greta studies music with her teacher, Herr Hummel, in preparation for an important recital. Herr Hummel is a mysterious figure but kindly and he helps Greta develop self-confidence. When it turns out that he is fleeing the Nazis under an assumed name, Greta risks her life to save him. (www.ajljewishvalues.org)

Denenberg, Barry. *ONE EYE LAUGHING, THE OTHER WEEPING: THE DIARY OF JULIE WEISS, VIENNA, AUSTRIA TO NEW YORK, 1938*. New York: Scholastic, 2000. ISBN: 0439095182.

The diary of 13-year-old Julie Weiss through the pivotal year 1938, when the Nazis invade Austria. Part of the "Dear America" series.

Drucker, Malka & Michael Halperin. *JACOB'S RESCUE*. New York: Yearling Books, 1994. ISBN: 0440409659

In answer to his daughter's questions, a man recalls the terrifying years of his childhood when a brave Polish couple, Alex and Mela Roslan, hid him and other Jewish children from the Nazis. Based on a true story.

French, Jackie . *HITLER'S DAUGHTER*. HarperCollins, 2003. 128 pages. ISBN: 0060086521.

After hearing a fictional tale about Hitler's daughter, Mark, an Australian boy, wonders what it would be like if someone he loved and trusted turned out to be evil.

Harrison, Barbara . *THEO*. Clarion Books, 1999. ISBN: 0899199593.

A twelve-year-old puppeteer performs bravely on and off the stage after joining the Greek resistance movement during World War II.

Isaacs, Ann . *TORN THREAD*. Scholastic, 2000. 188 pages. ISBN: 0590603639.

Based on the experiences of a Holocaust survivor, this is the story of two teenaged sisters who survive a Nazi slave labor camp where they were imprisoned for several years. Through a large cast of characters, the author touches on some central Holocaust issues. (www.ajljewishvalues.org)

Kacer, Kathy. *CLARA'S WAR*. Second Story Press, 2001. 196 pages. ISBN: 1896764428.

Clara makes many friends despite the hardships of life inside the walled town of Terezin, where she and her family were sent by the Nazis, so when her friend Jacob decides to escape, Clara must make a difficult choice.

Kerr, Judith. *WHEN HITLER STOLE PINK RABBIT*. New York: Paper Star, 1997. ISBN: 0698115899.

The story of a young Jewish girl growing up in Berlin during World War II.

Lowry, Lois. *NUMBER THE STARS*. New York: Dell Publishing, 1989. ISBN: 0440227534.

Annemarie Johansen, a young Danish girl growing up during the Nazi occupation, is forced to summon up all her courage to help her best friend, a young Jewish girl.

Maguire, Gregory . *THE GOOD LIAR*. Clarion Books, 1999. ISBN: 0395906970.

Now an old man living in the United States, Marcel recalls his childhood in German-occupied France, especially the summer that he and his older brother Rene befriended a young German soldier.

Mazer, Norma Fox. *GOOD NIGHT, MAMAN*. Harcourt Brace, 1999. ISBN: 0152014683.

After spending years fleeing from the Nazis in war-torn Europe, twelve-year-old Karin Levi and her older brother Marc find a new home in a refugee camp in Oswego, New York.

Propp, Vera . *WHEN THE SOLDIERS WERE GONE*. G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1999. ISBN: 0399233253.

This is a poignant story about a hidden child and his gradual re-integration into his Dutch Jewish birth family after Holland is liberated from German rule. A Sydney Taylor Honor Book for Older Readers. (www.ajljewishvalues.org)

Silton, Faye. *OF HEROES, HOOKS, AND HEIRLOOMS*. Philadelphia: Jewish Publication Society, 1998. ISBN: 0827606494.

Mia doesn't know how to participate in her class's study of family history because her parents lost all their belongings save one photograph in the Holocaust. An understanding neighbor helps her to reclaim the family gift of crochet and make a new heirloom.

Steiner, Connie Colker. *SHOES FOR AMELIE*. Illus. by Rodier, Denis. Lobster Press, 2001. 48 pages. ISBN: 1894222377.

The heroism of the people of the town of le Chambon-sur-Lignon in Vichy-controlled France during World War II is portrayed through a story about one courageous and "ordinary" family who hid a Jewish child from the Germans.

Watts, Irene . *GOOD-BYE, MARIANNE: A STORY OF GROWING UP IN NAZI GERMANY*. Tundra Books, 1999. ISBN: 0613101146.

Tells the story of Marianne Kohn, an eleven-year-old Jewish girl in Berlin in 1938 who experiences the division in her homeland due to the Nazi regime, and who eventually boards a boat to take her to safety in London. The sequels are *Remember Me* and *Finding Sophie*.

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