Show Me a Sign
by Ann Clare LeZotte
The story of a girl whose proud lineage as part of the thriving 19th Century Deaf community on Martha's Vineyard is threatened by land disputes with the Wampanoag and a ruthlessly ambitious scientist.

Indian No More
by Charlene Willing McManis
When Regina's Umpqua tribe is legally terminated in the 1950's, her family must relocate from Oregon to Los Angeles. This sends her on a quest to understand her identity as an Indian despite being so far from home.

A Single Shard
by Linda Sue Park
Tree-ear, a thirteen-year-old orphan in medieval Korea, lives under a bridge in a potters' village and longs to learn how to create the delicate celadon ceramics himself.

A Long Way from Chicago
by Richard Peck
Joey recounts his annual summer trips to rural Illinois with his sister during the Great Depression. Each visit with their larger-than-life Grandma Dowdel is funnier and more unexpected than the last.

Heart of a Samurai
by Margi Preus
14-year-old Manjiro, who dreams of becoming a samurai, is rescued in 1841 by an American whaler after a terrible shipwreck leaves him and his four companions stranded on a remote island. He journeys to America and becomes the first Japanese person to set foot in the United States.

Echo
by Pam Muñoz Ryan
Tied together by the music of the same harmonica, three children from different decades and different parts of the world confront daunting challenges in the darkest days of the twentieth century.

The Witch of Blackbird Pond
by Elizabeth George Speare
Orphaned, Kit Tyler leaves Barbados to live with her Puritan relatives in 1687 Connecticut. Feeling out of place, she befriends an old woman who is considered a witch and trouble ensues.

One Crazy Summer
by Rita Williams-Garcia
In 1968, Delphine and her two sisters depart Brooklyn to spend a month in California with the mother they barely know. Upon arrival, they discover that their mother, a dedicated poet, wants them to attend a Black Panther summer camp.

Dragonwings
by Laurence Yep
In the early twentieth century, a young Chinese boy joins his father in San Francisco and helps him realize his dream of making a flying machine.

Adventure to the Past: Middle Grade Reads
Fever, 1793
by Laurie Halse Anderson
In 1793 Philadelphia, sixteen-year-old Matilda Cook, learns about perseverance and self-reliance when she is forced to cope with the horrors of a yellow fever epidemic.

Orange for the Sunsets
by Tina Athaide
Best friends Asha (who is Indian) and Yesofu (who is African) have never worried about their differences. But their world is torn apart when president Idi Amin decides to expel Indians from 1972 Uganda.

Lucky Broken Girl
by Ruth Behar
In 1960s New York, fifth-grader Ruthie, a Cuban-Jewish immigrant, must rely on books, art, her family, and friends in her multicultural neighborhood when a devastating accident puts her in a body cast.

Jefferson’s Sons: a Founding Father’s Secret Children
by Kimberly Brubaker Bradley
The story of the end of Thomas Jefferson’s life at Monticello, told through the eyes of three of his slaves, two of whom were also his sons.

Chasing Secrets: A Deadly Surprise in the City of Lies
by Gennifer Choldenko
Lizzie and her secret friend Noah, who she has hidden in her house, plan to rescue Noah’s father from quarantined Chinatown and save everyone they love from contracting the plague that is spreading in 1900 San Francisco.

The Watsons Go to Birmingham--1963
by Christopher Paul Curtis
Tells the story of the Watsons, an African American family living in Flint, Michigan, who are drastically changed after they go to visit Grandma in Alabama in the summer of 1963.

Dead End in Norvelt
by Jack Gantos
In the historic town of Norvelt, 12-year-old Jack spends the summer of 1962 grounded for various offenses until he is assigned to help an elderly neighbor with a most unusual chore.

Nory Ryan's Song
by Patricia Reilly Giff
When a terrible blight attacks Ireland’s potato crop in 1845, twelve-year-old Nory Ryan’s courage and ingenuity help her family and neighbors survive.

The Magic in Changing Your Stars
by Leah Henderson
When Ailey’s tryout for the school play goes horribly wrong, he considers giving up on his dreams. Then he steps into his grandfather’s old tap-dancing shoes and is transported back to his grandfather’s childhood in 1930s Harlem.

Out of the Dust
by Karen Hesse
In this novel in verse, Billie Jo relates the hardships of living on her family’s wheat farm in Oklahoma during the dust bowl years of the Depression.

A Place to Belong
by Cynthia Kadohata
After being released from the mistreatment of the Japanese American Internment camps of World War II, a Japanese-American family chooses to move back to Hiroshima, unaware of the devastation from the atomic bomb.

We Dream of Space
by Erin Entrada Kelly
Joining their fellow seventh graders to watch the 1986 Challenger launch, three siblings struggle with respective difficulties including falling grades, an out-of-control temper, and depressed NASA ambitions.

The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate
by Jacqueline Kelly
Curious about the grasshoppers in her backyard in rural 1899 Texas, Calpurnia turns to her grandfather, an avid naturalist, for information, and ends up with a newfound interest and respect for the natural world.

Out of Left Field
by Ellen Klages
In 1957, inspired by what she is learning about civil rights, and armed with knowledge of female ball players, ten-year-old Katy Gordon fights to be allowed to play Little League baseball.

A Ceiling Made of Eggshells
by Gail Carson Levine
Excitedly joining her stern grandfather on a journey across 15th-century Spain, a clever young Jewish girl meets royalty and discovers how dangerous the world is for people of Jewish heritage.