



Richard Peck: A Multnomah County Library Teacher Resource Guide

<http://www.multcolib.org/kids/lecture/peckguide.pdf>

Richard Peck Bibliography: Materials Available at the Multnomah County Library

Note: All titles are by Richard Peck unless otherwise noted. Links will take you to the record for each item in the online library catalog.

Juvenile and Young Adult Novels

[Amanda, Miranda](#). New York: Puffin Books, 2001. [y PECK]

In 1911 in England, eighteen-year-old Mary Cooke is hired as personal maid to the willful and arrogant Amanda Whitwell and is astonished to find that her new employer is her near-double, a coincidence that has lasting consequences for Mary, especially when she accompanies Amanda on the Titanic's fateful voyage.

[Are you in the house alone?](#). New York: Puffin Books, 2000. [y PECK]

A sixteen-year-old girl with a steady boyfriend suddenly begins receiving threatening phone calls while she is babysitting and anonymous notes in her high school locker.

[Bel-Air Bambi and the Mall Rats](#). New York: Bantam Doubleday Dell Books for Young Readers, 1995. [j] and [y PECK]

Bambi, Buffie, and Brick, three totally cool siblings from Los Angeles, move with their parents to Hickory Fork, a small town terrorized by a high school gang.

[Blossom Culp and the sleep of death](#). New York: Delacorte Press, 1986. [j]

Blossom, high-school freshman and possessor of "second sight," helps an Egyptian princess, dead for 3500 years, to regain her tomb, and in addition saves a suffragette school teacher from losing her job in 1914.

[Don't look and it won't hurt](#). New York: Holt, 1999. [y PECK]

A teenage girl struggles to understand her place within her family and within the world.

[The dreadful future of Blossom Culp](#). New York: Delacorte Press, 1983. [j] and [y PECK]

Blossom, not the most popular member of her freshman class in 1914, travels ahead seventy years, and returns in time to make Halloween a memorable night for her classmates and teachers.

[Dreamland lake](#). New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1973. [j] and [y PECK]

Best friends since grade school, thirteen-year-old Flip and Brian find that their friendship and their lives are forever changed after they discover a dead man near Dreamland Lake.

[Fair weather](#). New York: Dial Books, 2001. [j]

In 1893, thirteen-year-old Rosie and members of her family travel from their Illinois farm to Chicago to visit Aunt Euterpe and attend the World's Columbian Exposition which, along with an encounter with Buffalo Bill and Lillian Russell, turns out to be a life-changing experience for everyone.

[Father figure](#). New York: Viking Press, 1978. [j] and [y PECK]

After being a father figure for years, Jim and his younger brother are reunited with their divorced father and Jim is forced to find a new role for himself.

[The ghost belonged to me](#). New York: Viking Press, 1975. [j] and [y PECK]

In 1913 in the Midwest a quartet of characters share adventures from exploding steamboats to "exorcizing" a ghost.

[Ghosts I have been](#). New York: Viking Press, 1977. [j] and [y PECK]

Spunky and slightly devious Blossom Culp rides to fame on her ability to see ghosts, the future, and other places and soon discovers that she can become ghosts in other times.

[The great interactive dream machine](#). New York: Dial Books for Young Readers, 1996. [j] and [y PECK]

Josh Lewis is unwillingly drawn into the computer experiments of Aaron, his friend and fellow classmate at an exclusive New York private school, and the two find themselves uncontrollably transported through space and time.

[The last safe place on earth](#). New York: Bantam Doubleday Dell Books for Young Readers, 1995. [y PECK]

Fifteen-year-old Todd sees his perfect suburban world start to unravel when his little sister has her mind poisoned by a member of a fundamentalist sect and he begins to notice signs of censorship in his community.

[A long way from Chicago](#). New York: Dial Books for Young Readers, 1998. [j PECK]

A boy recounts his annual summer trips to rural Illinois with his sister during the Great Depression to visit their larger-than-life grandmother.

[Lost in cyberspace](#). New York: Dial Books for Young Readers, 1995. [j] and [y PECK]

While dealing with changes at home, sixth-grader Josh and his friend Aaron use the computer at their New York prep school to travel through time, learning some secrets from the school's past and improving Josh's home situation.

[Remembering the good times](#). New York: Delacorte Press, 1985. [j]

Trav, Kate, and Buck make up a trio during their freshman year in high school, but their special friendship may not be enough to save Trav as he pressures himself relentlessly to succeed, in his own eyes as well as in the eyes of his parents and the world.

[Representing Super Doll](#). New York: Puffin Books, 1997. [y PECK]

After being involved in the brittle, superficial world of a beauty contest, a country girl appreciates even more the solid values of her Indiana farm life.

[The river between us](#). New York: Dial Books, 2003. [y PECK]

During the early days of the Civil War, the Pruitt family takes in two mysterious young ladies who have fled New Orleans to come north to Illinois.

[Strays like us](#). New York: Dial Books, 1998. [y PECK]

When her drug-addict mother can no longer care for her, twelve-year-old Molly comes to stay with her great-aunt and slowly begins to realize that others in the small town also feel as if they don't belong.

[Through a brief darkness](#). New York: Penguin Books, 1973. [y PECK]

Forced to ask herself whether her father was indeed a criminal, Karen comes to rely on her own instincts and judgment as her situation becomes increasingly terrifying.

[Unfinished portrait of Jessica](#). New York: Delacorte Press, 1991. [y]

A trip to Mexico to visit the divorced vagabond father whom she idolizes cures fourteen-year-old Jessica of certain illusions and helps her reconstruct her relationship with her mother.

[A year down yonder](#). New York: Dial Books for Young Readers, 2000. [j PECK]

During the recession of 1937, fifteen-year-old Mary Alice is sent to live with her feisty, larger-than-life grandmother in rural Illinois and comes to a better understanding of this fearsome woman.

Picture Books

[Monster night at Grandma's house](#). Dial Books, 2003. [jE PECK]

Daytime at Grandma's house is fine, but bedtime is terrifying when a monster seems to be about.

Poetry

[Mindscapes: Poems for the real world](#). New York: Delacorte Press, 1971. [j821.08 P36m]

[Sounds and silences](#). [j821.08 P36s]

Short Stories

“The Electric Summer,” in [Time capsule: Short stories about teenagers throughout the twentieth century](#). New York: Delacorte Press, 1999. [y]

“Girl at the Window,” in [Night terrors: Stories of shadow and substance](#). New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 1996. [y]

“The Kiss in the Carry-on Bag,” in [Destination unexpected: Short stories](#). Cambridge, Mass.: Candlewick Press, 2003. [y DESTINATI]

[Past perfect, present tense: new and collected stories](#). Dial Books, Apr/04. (Currently on order)

“Priscilla and the Wimps,” in [Little Sioux girl and other selections by Newbery authors](#). Milwaukee, WI: Gareth Stevens Pub., 2001. [j]

“Shadows,” in [The wise soldier of Sellebak and other selections by Newbery authors](#). Milwaukee, WI: Gareth Stevens Pub., 2001. [j]

“Shotgun Cheatham’s Last Night above Ground,” in [Twelve shots: Outstanding short stories about guns](#). New York : Delacorte Press, 1997. [y]

“The Three-Century Woman,” in [Second sight: Stories for a new millennium](#). New York: Philomel Books, 1999. [j]

Autobiography and Nonfiction

[Anonymously yours](#). Englewood Cliffs, N.J: J. Messner, 1991. [yB-P367a]

[Invitations to the world: Teaching and writing for the young](#). New York: Dial Books, 2002. [y808.068 P367i 2002]

[Love and death at the mall: Teaching and writing for the literate young](#). New York: Delacorte Press, 1994. [y808.068 P367L]

Novels for Adults

[London holiday](#). New York: Viking, 1998. [FICTION]

[This family of women](#). New York: Delacorte Press, 1983. [FICTION]

Large-Type

[Fair weather](#). Waterville, Maine: Thorndike Press, 2002. [LGE-TYPE j]

[London holiday](#). Thorndike, Me: Thorndike Press, 1998. [LGE-TYPE FICTION] (for adults)

[A long way from Chicago](#). Thorndike, ME: Thorndike Press, 2001. [LGE-TYPE j]

[A year down yonder](#). Thorndike, ME: Thorndike Press, 2001. [LGE-TYPE j]

Audio

[Fair weather](#). Listening Library, 2002. (Currently on order)

[A long way from Chicago](#). Old Greenwich, Conn: Listening Library, p1999.
[CASSETTE Children PECK]

[A year down yonder](#). New York: Random House Audio, p2000. [CASSETTE Children PECK]

Video

[Gas food lodging](#). Burbank, Calif.: Columbia TriStar Home Video, 1992. [VIDEO Drama GAS]
(Based on Peck's book [Don't Look and It Won't Hurt](#))

[A talk with Richard Peck](#). Scarborough, NY: Tim Podell Productions, 2001.
[VIDEO j813.5 TALK]

Richard Peck Webliography (General Sites)

Author Richard Peck Makes Illinois Past Come Alive

<http://www.geocities.com/juliadurango/btbpeck.html>

A column that originally appeared in the Ottawa, Illinois, newspaper

Author Spotlight: Richard Peck

<http://www.randomhouse.com/author/results.pperl?authorid=23514>

This site from Random House has a very short biography and a partial list of Peck's books.

EPA's Top 100 Authors: Peck, Richard

<http://www.edupaperback.org/showauth.cfm?authid=68>

The Educational Paperback Association shares an autobiographical essay by Peck.

Featured Author: Richard Peck

<http://www.carolhurst.com/authors/rpeck.html>

Carol Hurst's Children's Literature Site has produced this brief biography of Peck and an annotated list of his works.

Lessons learned: Former teacher Richard Peck educates and entertains with 'River'

http://www.bookpage.com/0310bp/richard_peck.html

This interview with Peck highlights his book *The River Between Us*.

Margaret A. Edwards Award: Richard Peck

<http://www.carr.lib.md.us/mae/peck/peck.htm>

This site has a brief biography, a list of Peck's books, and links to websites.

Passing the Newbery Torch

http://www.bordersstores.com/ib/200201/ib_features_peck.jsp

A brief interview with Peck from Borders Books

Richard Peck

<http://richardpeck.smartwriters.com/index.2ts>

Richard Peck's home page features a bibliography of his books, stories and articles; a list of awards he's won; quotes from authors who've been inspired by him; and much more.

Richard Peck

http://www.cbcbooks.org/html/richard_peck.html

Peck discusses his larger-than-life character, Grandma Dowdel.

Richard Peck

<http://www.penguinputnam.com/Author/AuthorFrame?0000020017>

Peck talks about his life and what inspired him to write several of his books.

Richard Peck Book Discussion Guides

***Fair Weather* by Richard Peck**

<http://www.multcolib.org/talk/guides-fair.html>

This discussion guide from the Multnomah County Library Talk It Up! program has a book summary, discussion questions, links to related websites, and more.

***A Long Way from Chicago* by Richard Peck**

<http://www.multcolib.org/talk/yrca/guides-longway.html>

This discussion guide from the Multnomah County Library Talk It Up! program has a book summary, discussion questions, links to related websites, and more.

***No Safe Place on Earth* by Richard Peck**

<http://www.multcolib.org/talk/guides-nosafe.html>

This discussion guide from the Multnomah County Library Talk It Up! program has a book summary, discussion questions, links to related websites, and more.

A Reading Guide: *A Year Down Yonder* and *A Long Way from Chicago*

http://www.penguinputnam.com/static/rguides/us/richard_peck.html

This site provides book discussion questions and an interview with Peck where he shares his inspiration for Grandma Dowdel.

TeacherViews: *A Long Way from Chicago* by Richard Peck

http://www.eduplace.com/tview/pages/1/A_Long_Way_From_Chicago_Richard_Peck.html

This site has an overview of the book, followed by questions that could be used for book discussions or for assignments.

***A Year Down Yonder* by Richard Peck**

<http://www.multcolib.org/talk/guides-year.html>

This discussion guide from the Multnomah County Library Talk It Up! program has a book summary, discussion questions, links to related websites, and more.

Richard Peck Lesson Plans

A Year Down Yonder

A Year Down Yonder

<http://home.cogeco.ca/~rayser3/peck.txt>

Activities for students to keep reading journals as they read the story.

A Year Down Yonder

<http://www2.scholastic.com/teachers/authorsandbooks/teachingwithbooks/producthome.jhtml?productID=12884&collateralID=10001&displayName=Teaching+Plan>

This site provides a warm-up activity for students, discussion questions and teaching plans.

Activities Based on A Year Down Yonder

<http://www.rebeccacaudill.org/2003/Peck/activities.htm>

Several activities and puzzles based on the book.

A Long Way from Chicago

Boom or Bust: Summers with Grandma

http://www.chalkwaves.org/ntti_lessons/boom_or_bust_lesson.pdf

Learn about the Great Depression through the book, *A Long Way from Chicago*.

Developing Historical Context

<http://www.whitevioletpictures.com/education/chicago.html>

Students create a book of clippings that Grandma may have collected to better understand the 1930s and its place in history.

Parental Decisions: A Webquest on *A Long Way from Chicago*

<http://www.geocities.com/myraannbonner/LongWayfromChicago.html>

Originally created for sixth grade students, this site presents classroom activities to learn more about life in Chicago in the 1930s and the Great Depression.

Wayback: Summer Vacation

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/kids/summer/features.html>

Students can explore how others have spent their summer vacations at this site from PBS' *American Experience* series.

What A Character!

<http://artsedge.kennedy-center.org/content/2357/>

In this lesson, students analyze how a character's personality traits, actions and motives influence the plot of a story.

What Was so Great about the Great Depression?

http://www.chalkwaves.org/ntti_lessons/great_depression.pdf

Students may read any of several young adult novels set in the Great Depression to help them understand this time in history.

Fair Weather

Exploring the Columbian Exposition

<http://images.library.uiuc.edu/projects/tdc/LessonPlans/ColumbianExposition.html>

This lesson plan will connect students with the history of Chicago at the turn of the century.

The Ghost Belonged to Me

The Ghost Belonged to Me

<http://www.carolhurst.com/titles/ghostbelongedtome.html>

This site provides activities that relate to the book.

The Ghost Belonged to Me

<http://www.ncsu.edu/globalbookclub/ghost.html>

This site suggests three activities to use with the book.

The Last Safe Place on Earth

The Last Safe Place on Earth

<http://www.randomhouse.com/teachers/catalog/display.pperl?isbn=0440220076&view=tg>

This lesson enables young readers to examine the hypocrisy in our society.

Priscilla and the Wimps (Short Story)

Sharing Stories

http://atlantis.crlt.indiana.edu/centers/sharing_stories.doc

Using this story, students look at the perspectives of different characters, write autobiographical and biographical passages, practice giving feedback to classmates.

How to Find Articles about Ricard Peck in Multnomah County Library Databases

To find articles in the MasterFILE Premier database:

- Go to the Multnomah County Library Homework Center (www.multcolib.org/homework/index.html).
- Click on the Library Databases link near the top of the page.
- Scroll down to the -M- section and click on the purple library card icon next to the words MasterFILE Premier.
- Type in your entire Multnomah County Library card number when prompted.

- At the search screen, click on the Subjects button near the top.
- Type **Peck, Richard** in the Browse For box.
- Click on the Browse button.
- Click on either Periodical References (to view articles about Peck) or Review References (to view book reviews).
- Look for the words HTML full text or PDF full text at the end of each citation. Click on either of these to read the article on your screen.

Sample articles:

Romano, Katherine. "Richard Peck: Listen & Learn." Teaching PreK-8, Aug/Sep2002, Vol. 33 Issue 1, p76.

Abstract: Profiles Richard Peck, a Newbery Medal-winning author of children's books. Interest of Peck on his students' creative writing; Main characters of Peck; Favorite author as a child. INSET: Tips for Author Studies.

Brown, Jennifer M. "A Long Way from Decatur." Publishers Weekly, 7/21/2003, Vol. 250 Issue 29, p169.

Abstract: Features author Richard Peck. Career background of Peck; Awards received by Peck as an author; Writing attitude of the author; Information on the author's book 'Don't Look and It Won't Hurt.'

To find information in the Literature Resource Center database:

- Go to the Multnomah County Library Homework Center (www.multcolib.org/homework/index.html).
- Click on the Library Databases link near the top of the page.
- Scroll down to the -H-L- section and click on the purple library card icon next to the words Literature Resource Center.
- Type in your entire Multnomah County Library card number when prompted.
- In the Author Search box, type **Peck, Richard**.
- Click on the Search button.
- Click on Peck, Richard (Wayne) (1934-).
- At the next screen, choose one of the tabs to view the type of article you need (biography, literary criticism, bibliography, etc).

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