



Novels about Colonial America and the Revolutionary War: A bibliography of Multnomah County Library resources

Colonial America

Atkins, Jeannine. [Anne Hutchinson's way](#). New York: Farrar Straus Giroux, 2007. [j ATKINS]
A fictionalized episode from the life of Anne Hutchinson, who arrived with her family in Massachusetts in 1634, but was soon banished for holding religious meetings and teaching ideas with which Puritan ministers disagreed.

Carbone, Elisa Lynn. [Blood on the river: James Town 1607](#). New York: Viking, 2006.
[y CARBONE] Lexile 820*
Traveling to the New World in 1606 as the page to Captain John Smith, twelve-year-old orphan Samuel Collier settles in the new colony of James Town, where he must quickly learn to distinguish between friend and foe.

Cooper, James Fenimore. [The last of the Mohicans](#). New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 1986. [j] RL 10.3*
This classic portrays a man of moral courage who severs all connections with a society whose values he can no longer accept.

Draper, Sharon M. [Copper sun](#). New York: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2006.
[y DRAPER] RL 5.2*
Two fifteen-year-old girls – one a slave and the other an indentured servant – escape their Carolina plantation and try to make their way to Fort Moses, Florida, a Spanish colony that gives sanctuary to slaves.

Fraustino, Lisa Rowe. [I walk in dread: The diary of Deliverance Trembley, witness to the Salem witch trials](#). New York: Scholastic, 2004. [j FRAUSTINO] Lexile 910*
Twelve-year-old Deliverance Trembley writes in her diary about the fears and doubts that arise during the 1692 witch hunt and trials in Salem Village, Massachusetts, especially when her pious friend, Goody Corey, is condemned as a witch.

Hemphill, Stephanie. [Wicked girls](#). New York, NY: Balzer + Bray, c2010. [y HEMPHILL 2010]
A fictionalized account, told in verse, of the Salem witch trials, told from the perspective of three young women living in Salem in 1692--Mercy Lewis, Margaret Walcott, and Ann Putnam, Jr.

- Kimmel, Eric. [Blackbeard's last fight](#). New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2006. [jKIMMEL]
In 1718, off the coast of North Carolina, a young cabin boy assists in the final capture and execution of Blackbeard the pirate.
- Kudlinski, Kathleen V. [My Lady, Pocahontas](#). Tarrytown, NY: Marshall Cavendish, 2006. [y KUDLINSKI] RL 4.8*
Nuttawgon, daughter of a minor Pamunkey chief, is still a girl when Pocahontas's vision of peace between their people and the newly arrived English colonists bonds the two in a lifelong friendship as they work together to make the vision a reality.
- McDonald, Megan. [Shadows in the glasshouse](#). Middleton, WI: Pleasant Company Publications, 2000. [jMCDONALD] RL 5.3*
While working as an indentured servant for a Jamestown glassmaker in 1621, twelve-year-old Merry uncovers a case of sabotage.
- O'Dell, Scott. [The serpent never sleeps: A novel of Jamestown and Pocahontas](#). Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1987. [j] Lexile 880*
In the early seventeenth century, Serena Lynn, determined to be with the man she has loved since childhood, travels to the New World and comes to know the hardships of colonial life and the extraordinary Princess Pocahontas.
- Osborne, Mary Pope. [Standing in the light: The captive diary of Catharine Carey Logan](#). New York: Scholastic, 1998. [j] RL 5.1*
A Quaker girl's diary reflects her experiences growing up in the Delaware River Valley of Pennsylvania and her capture by Lenape Indians in 1763.
- Rees, Celia. [Sorceress](#). Cambridge, MA: Candlewick Press, 2001. [y] RL 5.6*
Eighteen-year-old Agnes, a Mohawk Indian who is descended from a line of shamanic healers, uses her own newly-discovered powers to uncover the story of her ancestor, a seventeenth-century New England English healer who fled charges of witchcraft to make her life with the local Indians.
- Rees, Celia. [Witch child](#). Cambridge, MA: Candlewick Press, 2001. [y] RL 6.0*
In 1659, fourteen-year-old Mary Newbury keeps a journal of her voyage from England to the New World and her experiences living as a witch in a community of Puritans near Salem, Massachusetts.
- Speare, Elizabeth George. [The witch of Blackbird Pond](#). Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 2001. [j] RL 5.7*
In 1687 in Connecticut, Kit Tyler, feeling out of place in the Puritan household of her aunt, befriends an old woman considered a witch by the community and suddenly finds herself standing trial for witchcraft.

Schwabach, Karen. [A pickpocket's tale](#). New York: Random House, 2006. [j SCHWABACH] RL 5.1*

When Molly, a ten-year-old orphan, is arrested for picking pockets in London in 1731, she is banished to America and serves as an indentured servant for a New York City family that expects her to follow their Jewish traditions.

Revolutionary War

Anderson, Laurie Halse. [Chains](#). New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2008. [j ANDERSON 2008] RL 5.2*

After being sold to a cruel couple in New York City, a slave named Isabel spies for the rebels during the Revolutionary War.

Anderson, M.T. [The astonishing life of Octavian Nothing, traitor to the nation. Volume one: The pox party](#). Cambridge, Mass.: Candlewick Press, 2006. [y ANDERSON] Lexile 1090* Various diaries, letters, and other manuscripts chronicle the experiences of Octavian, a young African American, from birth to age sixteen, as he is brought up as part of a science experiment in the years leading up to and during the Revolutionary War. [Volume two: The kingdom on the waves](#) concludes Octavian's story.

Carlson, Drew. [Attack of the Turtle](#). Grand Rapids, Mich.: Wm. B. Eerdmans Pub., 2007. [j CARLSON] RL 4.2*

During the Revolutionary War, fourteen-year-old Nathan joins forces with his older cousin, the inventor David Bushnell, to secretly build the first submarine used in naval warfare.

Collier, James Lincoln. [My brother Sam is dead](#). New York: Four Winds Press, 1974. [j] RL 4.9*

Recounts the tragedy that strikes the Meeker family during the Revolution when one son joins the rebel forces while the rest of the family tries to stay neutral in a Tory town.

Denenberg, Barry. [The journal of William Thomas Emerson, a Revolutionary War patriot](#). New York: Scholastic, 1998. [j] RL 5.6*

William, a twelve-year-old orphan, writes of his experiences in pre-Revolutionary War Boston where he joins the cause of the patriots who are opposed to the British rule.

Elliott, Laura. [Give me liberty](#). New York: Katherine Tegen Books, 2006. [j ELLIOTT] Lexile 810*

Follows the life of thirteen-year-old Nathaniel Dunn, from May 1774 to December 1775, as he serves his indentureship with a music teacher in Williamsburg, Virginia, and witnesses the growing rift between patriots and loyalists, culminating in the American Revolution.

- Figley, Marty Rhodes. [The prison-ship adventure of James Forten, Revolutionary War captive](#). Minneapolis, MN: Graphic Universe, 2011. [jgnFIGLEY 2011] RL 3.1*
In 1781, fifteen-year-old James Forten, a free African American from Philadelphia, is proud to be fighting for the American colonies, but when the British capture the ship on which he serves he fears for both his life and his freedom.
- Forbes, Esther. [Johnny Tremain](#). Boston: Houghton Mifflin Co, 1998. [j] RL 5.9*
After injuring his hand, a silversmith's apprentice in Boston becomes a messenger for the Sons of Liberty in the days before the American Revolution.
- Goodman, Joan E. [Hope's crossing](#). Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1998. [j] RL 5.2*
When kidnapped by English Loyalists during the Revolutionary War, thirteen-year-old Hope draws on every ounce of courage within her to respond to the ordeal.
- Gregory, Kristiana. [Cannons at dawn: the second diary of Abigail Jane Stewart](#). New York: Scholastic, 2011. [jGREGORY 2011] RL 4.8*
From the winter of 1779 until 1781, Abigail Stewart and her family follow the path of her father's Continental Army unit after their Valley Forge home burns down, enduring harsh winters and scarce food, and narrowly escaping danger time and again.
- Gregory, Kristiana. [The winter of red snow : the diary of Abigail Jane Stewart](#). New York : Scholastic Inc., [2010], c1996. [jGREGORY 2010] RL 5.5*
Eleven-year-old Abigail presents a diary account of life in Valley Forge from December 1777 to July 1778 as General Washington prepares his troops to fight the British.
- Klass, Sheila Solomon. [Soldier's secret: the story of Deborah Sampson](#). New York: Henry Holt, 2009. [y KLASS 2009] RL 5.6*
During the Revolutionary War, a young woman named Deborah Sampson disguises herself as a man in order to serve in the Continental Army.
- Lavender, William. [Just Jane: A daughter of England caught in the struggle of the American Revolution](#). San Diego: Harcourt, 2002. [y LAVENDER] RL 5.3*
Fourteen-year-old Jane Prentice, orphaned daughter of an English earl, arrives in Charleston, South Carolina, in 1776 to find her family and her loyalties divided over the question of American independence.
- Moss, Marissa. [Emma's journal: the story of a Colonial girl](#). San Diego, CA: Harcourt Brace, c1999. [jMOSS] RL 5.9*
From 1774 to 1776, Emma describes in her journal her stay in Boston, where she witnesses the British blockade and spies for the American militia. Features hand-printed text, drawings, and marginal notes.
- Myers, Anna. [Spy!](#) New York: Walker & Co., 2008. [y MYERS 2008] RL 4.8*
In 1774, 12-year-old Jonah becomes a pupil of Nathan Hale, who inspires him to question his beliefs about the impending revolution; and two years later, Jonah makes a decision that leads to Nathan's execution.

O'Dell, Scott. [Sarah Bishop](#). Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1980. [j] RL 4.9*

Left alone after the deaths of her father and brother who take opposite sides in the War for Independence, and fleeing from the British who seek to arrest her, Sarah Bishop struggles to shape a new life for herself in the wilderness.

Raum, Elizabeth. [The Revolutionary War: An interactive history adventure](#). Mankato, Minn.: Capstone Press, c2010. [j973.3 R246r 2010]

Describes the events of the American Revolutionary War and explains the significance of the war today. The reader's choices reveal the historical details from the perspective of a young girl, a patriot fighter, and a loyalist determined to keep America under British rule.

Rinaldi, Ann. [Or give me death: a novel of Patrick Henry's family](#). Orlando: Harcourt, 2004. [y RINALDI] Lexile 530*

With their father away most of the time advocating independence for the American colonies, the children of Patrick Henry try to raise themselves, manage the family plantation, and care for their mentally ill mother.

*These figures come from the [Lexile website](http://www.lexile.com/) (<http://www.lexile.com/>) and the [Renaissance Learning website](http://www.renlearn.com/store/quiz_advanced.asp) (http://www.renlearn.com/store/quiz_advanced.asp).

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