Children’s Books

A New Coat for Anna by Harriet Ziefert. (Dragonfly Books, 1988) When Anna needs a new coat, her mother decides to trade in her valuables for wool. Beautiful illustrations depict the process of spinning and weaving wool for Anna’s new coat. Ages 4-8. Paperback. $6.99


Ox-Cart Man by Donald Hall. (Puffin Books, 1983) This beautifully illustrated Caldecott Award winner describes the day-to-day life of an early 19th century New England farm family. Ages 4-8. Paperback. $6.99

The Bobbin Girl by Emily Arnold McCully. (Dial Books for Young Readers, 1996) Rebecca is only ten, but she works all day in a hot and noisy cotton mill. The work is hard, and when workers talk about walking out of the mills, Rebecca has to decide whether or not to join the protest. Ages 5-10. Hardcover. $16.99

Mr. Francis Saves the City by Jane Sciacca (Eastern National, 2007) Children’s illustrated story about Lowell’s engineer James B. Francis and how he saved the city of Lowell in 1852. Ages 5-10. $3.95
**Young Adult Books**


*Beyond the Western Sea* by Avi. *Book 2, Lord Kirkle’s Money.* (Avon Books, 1996) Young Irish peasants Maura and Patrick O’Connell make common cause with Sir Laurence Kirkle, son of an English Lord, as all three seek to flee from Ireland. *Lord Kirkle’s Money* tells the story of their journey to America and their arrival in Lowell in 1851. Ages 9 and up. Paperback. $5.95

*Bread and Roses, Too* by Katherine Paterson. (Clarion Books, 2008) Two children become enmeshed in the complex events leading up to and following the famous Bread and Roses strike of 1912 at the mills in Lawrence, MA. Paterson tells the story of Rosa and Jake through the facts of the strike as well as the sympathetic response of the town of Barre, VT. Ages 9-12. Paperback. $16.00


*Children at Work,* edited by JoAnne Weisman Deitch. Researching American History Series. (Discovery Enterprises, Ltd., 2000) This brief history of working conditions for U.S. youth focuses on the late 19th and 20th centuries, using primary source documents annotated with summaries, word lists, and guiding questions. Includes document analysis worksheet and several Lowell-specific documents. Ages 10-17. $8.95

*If You Lived 100 Years Ago* by Ann McGovern. (Scholastic Paperbacks, 1999) Set in New York City but transferable to any large metropolis, McGovern exposes the vast differences between life in the upper class and lower class at the turn of the century. Ages 9-12. Paperback. $6.99

*Immigrant Kids* by Russell Freedman. (Puffin Books, 1985) This book tells the story of what life was like for the children who came with their families to American in the early 1900s: they often had to work selling newspapers, delivering goods, and laboring in sweatshops. Includes large-scale photographs from the period. Ages 9-12. Paperback. $8.99

*Life and Writings of Betsey Chamberlain: Native American Mill Girl* by Judith Ranta. (Northeastern University Press, 2003) While working in the Lowell Mills, Betsey Chamberlain composed stories and sketches for the *Lowell Offering* and *The New England Offering*. Her writings, which are credited as some of the earliest known Native American fiction, challenged the persecution of Native people. Ages 10 and up. Paperback. $19.95

*Lyddie* by Katherine Paterson. (Puffin Books, 1991) Lyddie Worthen comes to the textile mills of Lowell in the 1840s in order to try to save the family farm. The hardships and social injustices she experiences change Lyddie from an inexperienced young girl to a thoughtful young woman. Ages 12 and up. Paperback. $6.99

*Mill* by David Macaulay. (Houghton Mifflin, 1983) With extensive illustrations by this Caldecott Honor recipient, *Mill* explains how mills were constructed and how water power works. Ages 10-14. Paperback. $9.95

*Picture the Past: Life in a New England Mill Town* by Sally Senzell Isaacs. (Heinemann, 2002) This concise pictorial history covers all aspects of nineteenth-century living in mill towns including housing, food, clothing, education, and social life. Ages 8 and up. Paperback. $6.95

*Rebel Girl* by Elizabeth Flynn. (International Publishers, 1973) In her stirring autobiography, Elizabeth Flynn offers a firsthand account of women and labor in the 20th century from her perspective as a Communist leader and labor defender. Ages 12 and up. Paperback. $9.95

*Talkin’ Union: The American Labor Movement* edited by Juliet Haines Mofford. Perspectives on History Series. (Discovery Enterprises, Ltd., 1997) In this concise historic commentary, interspersed with primary source documents, Mofford presents the story of workers from the late 1700s to the present. Ages 9-12. Paperback. $7.95

**We the People: The Mill Girls of Lowell** by Alice K. Flanagan. (Compass Point, 2006) With a keen focus on girls and women, Flanagan depicts the history of the textile industry in Lowell in regards to employment and labor. Ages 9-12. Paperback. $23.95

**A Good Poor Man's Wife** by Claudia Bushman. (University Press of New England, 1982) The adult accompaniment to *The Bobbin Girl*, Bushman recounts the life of strong-willed Harriet Hanson Robinson, a textile worker who later published landmark political writing about the conditions and inequities in industrial America. Paperback. $19.95

**A Week on the Concord and Merrimack Rivers** by Henry David Thoreau. (Parnassus Imprints, Inc., 1987) This is the classic story of a two-week hiking and boating journey Thoreau took with his older brother John into New Hampshire's White Mountains in 1839. Paperback. $3.00


**Bread and Roses** by Bruce Watson. (Penguin, 2006) With an even hand, Watson explores the events leading up to and following the dramatic strike in Lawrence, MA, that would become the anthem for a generation of agitated mill workers. Paperback. $24.95

**Enterprising Elite: The Boston Associates and the World They Made** by Robert F. Dalzell, Jr. (W.W. Norton & Company, 1993.) The "Boston Associates" were a group of wealthy Boston businessmen who were instrumental during the early days of the industrial revolution in Massachusetts. This book offers a comprehensive history of these influential entrepreneurs. Paperback. $12.95

**Farm to Factory: Women's Letters, 1830-1860**, edited by Thomas Dublin. (Columbia University Press, 1993) Now a classic, *Farm to Factory* is an engrossing collection of personal letters from the first generation of American women employed for wages outside their own homes. The letters provide a picture of the women's close family ties as well as offering insights into the hardships and the benefits of early industrial capitalism. Paperback. $29.00

**How the Other Half Lives: Studies Among the Tenements of New York** by Jacob A. Riis, with 100 photographs from the Jacob A. Riis collection. (Dover Publications, 1971) An immigrant from Denmark who knew first hand the precariousness of an immigrant's life on New York's Lower East Side, Riis, through his photographs, exposes the shameful conditions existing in the slums of New York at the turn of the century. Paperback. $15.95

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**Living on the Boot: Historical Archaeology at the Boot Mills Boardinghouses, Lowell, Massachusetts by Stephen A. Mrozowski et al. (UMass Press 1996) Frequently-asked questions about boardinghouse life are addressed in this work that draws conclusions from items unearthed during archaeological digs in Lowell. Paperback. $16.95

**Loom and Spindle** by Harriet H. Robinson (Eastern National, 2008) Harriet Robinson was one of the young female operatives who organized protests to wage cuts in the 1800s. Her memoir recounts her experiences in Lowell during the strike of 1836. Paperback. $3.95

**Mill and Mansion: A Study of Architecture and Society in Lowell, Massachusetts, 1820-1865** by John Coolidge. (University of Massachusetts, 1993) This is considered the seminal work on the classic New England mill town. Includes black and white photographs and maps. Paperback. $24.95

**How the Other Half Lives: Studies Among the Tenements of New York** by Jacob A. Riis, with 100 photographs from the Jacob A. Riis collection. (Dover Publications, 1971) An immigrant from Denmark who knew first hand the precariousness of an immigrant's life on New York's Lower East Side, Riis, through his photographs, exposes the shameful conditions existing in the slums of New York at the turn of the century. Paperback. $15.95
Nature Incorporated: Industrialization and the Waters of New England by Theodore Steinberg. (University of Massachusetts Press, 1994) In this clear, eminently readable account of the industrialization of the Merrimack River Valley, Steinberg tells a tale of environmental degradation and engineering triumph; it is also the story of how water came to be defined as private property. Paperback. $24.95

The Continuing Revolution: A History of Lowell, Massachusetts edited by Robert Weible. (Lowell Historical Society, 1991) Articles by Lowell historians explore the city from its pre-industrial beginnings through the revitalization of the 1980s. Paperback. $28.50

The Course of Industrial Decline: The Boott Cotton Mills of Lowell, MA by Laurence F. Gross. (John Hopkins University Press, 2000) Though much has been written about the rise of the textile industry in Lowell, Gross instead focuses on the issues surrounding its decline and subsequent movement south. Paperback. $20.95


The Paddy Camps by Brian C. Mitchell. (University of Illinois Press, 2006) Mitchell explores the exploitation by mill owners of the cheap labor of Irish immigrants, and the dramatic means through which the Irish overcame adversity and hardship in industrial Lowell. Paperback. $25.00

Women at Work by Thomas Dublin. (Columbia University Press, 1981) The Industrial Revolution changed the way women worked and lived. Dublin details the first generation of women to come to Lowell to work in the mills. Paperback. $32.50

Cobblestone “Mill Girls” Issue The “Mill Girls: From Farm to Factory” issue is an entertaining and informative look at the life and work of Lowell’s early workforce. It includes background pieces on early Lowell, several short works of historical fiction, maps, mill girl letters, and images of factory and city life, various activity pages, and an industrial history resource list. Ages 9-12. $6.95

Teaching with Historic Photographs: Lowell and the Industrial Revolution (Eastern National and Tsongas Industrial History Center) Eight photograph/line-art study prints illustrate themes related to Lowell’s history: water power, the textile industry, mill work and workers, housing, and immigration. $9.95

Lowell: The River City by the Lowell Historical Society. (Acadia, 2006) Postcards depict the changing and evolving landscape of Lowell from 1890 to 1940. The accompanying text provides context for the beautifully captured moments from the past. Paperback. $21.99

Mill Times by David Macaulay. (PBS Home Video, 2001) Based on the book Mill, this video combines animation and live-action footage— including scenes of Lowell’s Boott Mills weave room and boardinghouse—to present the story of the technological and social changes that accompanied the growth of the textile industry. Video, DVD, $24.95.

Modern Marvels: Cotton (The History Channel, 2006) Tracing the history of technological advances, this DVD chronicles the history of cotton and the impact cotton has had on our modern-day lives. DVD. $24.95
**The Workers Remember: Going to Work, Life in the Mills, Survival and Conflict: Unions and Bosses, and The Closing of the Mills** (Lowell National Historical Park) Thirteen weavers, spinners, carders, loom fixers, efficiency men, and managers tell the stories of their mills, a way of life that has almost vanished from New England. Their memories paint a gritty yet engaging picture of Lowell in the mill era. Video, DVD, $9.95.

**Working and Union Songs**, narrated and sung by Keith and Rusty McNeil. (WEM Records) This compilation of songs sung during the U.S. Industrial Revolution tells the story of the labor movement from the 1860s to the 1930s. Double CD. $22.95

**The Lowell Mill Girls** (Eastern National and Tsongas Industrial History Center) This portfolio contains concise information about the mill girls, reproductions of original documents, and suggestions for using the material in the classroom. Grades 3-8. $7.95

**Cotton, Cloth, and Conflict: The Meaning of Slavery in a Northern Textile City** (Tsongas Industrial History Center) Using this collection of primary source materials and related activities, students investigate the relationships between the industrial North and plantation South before the Civil War. Designed for grades 8-12. $12.95

**The Ten-Hour Movement: Women and the Early Labor Movement** (Eastern National and Tsongas Industrial History Center) Students become immersed in the struggles and strategies of an important early labor movement through this primary-source-based curriculum packet, which includes a historical background essay and timeline, eight activities, and thirteen documents. Grades 7-12. $12.95

New Curriculum Packet

Lowell & the American Industrial Revolution
Curriculum Packet (Eastern National and Tsongas Industrial History Center) Students explore the American Industrial Revolution using Lowell as a case study. This primary source-based curriculum packet features maps, timetables, regulations, hospital records, letters, photos and more. Teacher's guide and student activities are included. Grades 5-12. $12.95

Artifacts and Reproductions

Boott Mill Reproduction Towels. Made in the operating weave room exhibit in the Boott Cotton Mills Museum, these towels reproduce the fabric, weave, and design of towels made by the Boott Mills Company from the 1920s until the mills closed in 1954. $3.95

A New England Cotton Mill. (Eastern National) A poster with a cutaway color illustration of a textile mill with succinct information on the people and processes involved in making cloth. Follow mill girl Eliza through the steps of the process. $4.95

Peg Loom (Harrisville Designs) Using this loom, children discover the basic techniques of weaving. Included are a 7 1/2" x 10" loom, yarn for two projects, and simple step-by-step instructions. Ages 5 and older. $25.00

Cotton Boll Show your students what cotton looks like straight off of the plant. Cotton bolls are the fibrous white fruit of the cotton plant. Cotton grown in the southern United States was shipped to large mill complexes in Lowell where it was made into cotton cloth. $2.95

The Little Hand Weaver (Mostrom & Chase Handweavers) This rigid heddle loom is designed for weaving projects such as belts, sashes, bookmarks, and headbands. The package contains all necessary components as well as complete instructions. Ages 6 and older. $16.95

Shuttle This reproduction of an important "mill girl" artifact is a substantial wooden device that held the bobbin and carried the weft thread back and forth between the warp threads of the loom. $22.95
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