

# NOTABLE SOCIAL STUDIES TRADE BOOKS



## BOOK CONTENT GUIDELINES

Deadline for Book Submissions: May 13, 2026

### ABOUT THE LIST

Fifteen social studies educators comprise the book selection committee. Three reviewers evaluate each title submitted. A sample of the selections is displayed at the NCSS Annual Conference in November. The annotated bibliography appears in the May/June issue of the NCSS journal *Social Education*. Copies of this issue are also sent to subscribers of the NCSS journal *Social Studies and the Young Learner*.

### ELIGIBILITY

- Books must be published in the calendar year 2026.
- Books must be intended for grades K-12. Both fiction and nonfiction are eligible.
- All books must originate with a children's trade publishing company or division.
- Books must be published (not simply distributed) by a publisher incorporated in the United States.
- Books originally published abroad are eligible only if they have a 2026 U.S. publication date; reprints or licensed editions of books initially published in the U.S. before December 2025 are not eligible.
- Original paperbacks are eligible; paperback reprints are not. If a book is published simultaneously in hardcover and paperback, either edition may be submitted. If both editions are submitted, they constitute separate entries.
- Revised editions of books originally published in the U.S. before 2026 are eligible only if the book has been newly illustrated or if substantial text, constituting at least 25% of the book, has been changed or added.
- Textbooks and workbooks are not eligible.
- Citations are encouraged when appropriate and are essential in nonfiction titles.
- Spanish-language editions of titles published in English before 2026 are not acceptable. Spanish-language editions published in the U.S. simultaneously with English-language editions in 2026 are eligible.
- Books published in November–December 2025 may be eligible. [Contact Brooke](#) for details.

### GUIDELINES

The selection panel looks for books that emphasize human relationships, represent a diversity of groups, avoids stereotypes, are sensitive to a broad range of cultural experiences, present an original theme or a fresh slant on a traditional topic (address a current void in children's literature), are of high literary quality, have a pleasing format, and, where appropriate, include illustrations that enrich the text.

Additional book content guidelines:

- Books are written for children in grades K-12.
- Accurately depict human relationships and objectively reflect real-world situations.
- Represent a diversity of groups and are sensitive to a broad range of cultural experiences
- Present an original theme or a fresh slant on a traditional topic

- Books are easily readable and of high literary quality.
- Have a pleasing format and, when appropriate, illustrations that enrich the text.
- Include citations, a bibliography, or a resource list where appropriate.

See [previous winners](#) for additional insights into what the committee looks for.

## HOW TO SUBMIT

There are two ways to obtain the required 2027 Title Spreadsheet that needs to be completed:

- If you prefer to work in Excel, [click here for a downloadable spreadsheet](#) that can only be edited once it is opened in Excel (please see instructions on the spreadsheet). Once you have completed the sheet, please email it to [Brooke](#).
- If you prefer to work in Google Sheets, [use this template link](#), then click the blue USE TEMPLATE button in the upper-right corner. Once you have filled out the GSheet, please send it to Sommer by hitting the SHARE button in the upper right-hand corner, adjusting permissions to Edit, and entering this email address: [brooke.pisarsky@cbcbooks.org](mailto:brooke.pisarsky@cbcbooks.org).

NOTE: The spreadsheet contains two tabs: one tab for publisher info and another tab for your title submissions.

You will be sent a confirmation email after we receive your submission spreadsheet.

**The deadline for submissions is Wednesday, May 13th.**

## SHIPPING YOUR BOOKS

- Do not ship any books until we email you shipping instructions in July.
- You will be asked to send each title to five reviewers (**5 copies in total**)

## FEES

- CBC Regular Members: No fee
- CBC Associate Members: ~~\$75~~ \$60 per title
- Non-Member Publishers: ~~\$300~~ \$250 per title

An invoice and payment instructions will be emailed to you after you submit your titles.