

Collection Development Bibliography: Military Interests

Highly Recommended Books

Abdo, Kenny. ***US Armed Forces***. Minneapolis: Abdo Zoom, 2019. ISBN: 9781532125508.

Summary: Uncover the history, tactics, and missions of forces like the Navy SEALs, Army, and Coast Guard. This series provides the history behind each military branch. There is minimal text on each page, and realistic photographs. Each book in this series contains a table of contents, glossary, online resources, and index.

Curricular use: This book is ideal for students interested in the branches of military.

Other titles in Series: *US Air Force, US Coast Guard, US Navy, US Marine Corps, US Army, US Navy Seals.*

Audience: grades 3-6.

Biesty, Stephen. ***Cross-Sections Man-Of-War***. New York: Penguin Random House, 2019.
ISBN:9781465484710.

Summary [Kirkus]: Look inside an 18th-century warship as it sails into battle on the high seas.

Packed with extraordinary illustrations, this history book for children covers everything from warship design to navigation. Biesty's incredible drawings slice through a man-of-war to explore every corner, from the crow's nest to the stinking hold. Packed with fascinating facts and gory details, the pages teem with sailors going about their duties. Find out how gun crews fired a cannon, examine a surgeon's toolkit, and learn the best way to wriggle the maggots out of the ship's biscuits. Look out, too, for the stowaway on every page. He's the one with spiky hair, and there's a reward for his capture! This absorbing book will have children—and adults—poring over every page. Celebrating its 25th anniversary, *Stephen Biesty's Cross-Sections Man-of-War* remains as entertaining as ever.

Curricular use: This is the perfect choice for visual learners who love to read details about a complex vessel.

Audience:2-6

Brody, Walt. ***Lightning Bolt Books: How Do These Things Work?***. Minneapolis: Lerner Publications, 2020. ISBN: 9781541557406.

Summary: This series provides modern color photographs on each page. Military specific vocabulary describes the vehicles' parts, history, and the machines in action. Each book contains a table of contents, vehicle diagram, facts, glossary, resources for further reading, and index.

Curricular use: This series targets readers who are interested in military machines and vehicles.

Other Titles in Series: *How Submarines Work, How Drones Work, How Tanks Work, How Aircraft Carriers Work.*

Audience: grades K-3.

Conkling, Winifred. *Heroism Begins With Her*. New York: HarperCollins, 2019. ISBN: 9780062847416.

Summary [Kirkus]: Throughout the history of the United States, brave women have chosen to serve in the armed forces, at first in secret but more recently achieving very visible success and responsibility. Conkling provides brief, accurate biographies of 72 women who have served, divided chronologically with an emphasis on the periods of America's wars. At first, there are, of course, few women to focus on; those that served in early wars were often disguised as men, and few are well documented. When available, each biography includes a photograph or Kuo's neat drawing of the woman, information about her childhood and education, highlights of her service, a list of medals awarded to her, and a notation of her cause and date of death.

Curricular use: This book can be used as a daily read aloud by teachers, a resource for student research projects in the areas of military, American history, war, female heroes.

Audience: grades 4-6.

Heiligman, Deborah. *Torpedoed: the True Story of the World War II Sinking of "The Children's Ship"*. Godwin Books, Henry Holt and Company, 2019. ISBN: 9781627795548.

Summary [Horn Book]: Heiligman tells a riveting wartime survival story. As World War II brings intense bombing to England, some parents choose to send their children across the ocean, ostensibly to greater safety, but *all* ships crossing the Atlantic are at risk of attack by German submarines. On September 17, 1940, the unthinkable happens. The SS *City of Benares*—carrying two hundred passengers, half of them children—is torpedoed in the North Atlantic and begins to sink, leaving the pajama-clad passengers little time to scramble onto lifeboats in the dead of night. Heiligman navigates the chaos of those crucial minutes by skillfully juggling various points of view, heightening the narrative tension. As word of the disaster reaches the nearest ship, those in the water—in lifeboats, on rafts, clinging to debris—struggle to survive; many perish in the night from exposure to the cold temperature and stormy weather. Help eventually arrives, but in a gut-punch of a surprise twist, one lifeboat is left behind, extending the rescue drama by eight days and several more chapters. Heiligman builds and maintains suspense while remaining scrupulously faithful to the historical record. Black-and-white photographs and illustrations are incorporated throughout

Curricular Use: This is perfect enrichment for students studying WWII, children through during wartime, untold stories and casualties of war,.

Audience: grades 5 & 6

Yomtov, Nel. *Graphic Library WWII*. North Mankato: Capstone, 2020. ISBN: 9781543573138.

Summary [Capstone]: In World War II, courage wasn't limited to troops fighting on the front lines. From deceiving enemy forces to creating secret codes, these true stories share the bravery of several little-known heroes of World War II. Through action-packed, full-color graphic novels, readers will learn about a brave U.S. pilot who survived a Japanese POW camp, a Soviet all-female air force regiment, creative American G.I.s who tricked the enemy with carefully crafted illusions.

Curricular use: This graphic novel series is a great companion for students learning about WWII, unsung heroes, American history, and bravery.

Titles in series: *Navajo Code Talkers, Night Witches at War, U.S. Ghost Army, The Unbreakable Zamperini*

Audience: grades 3-6