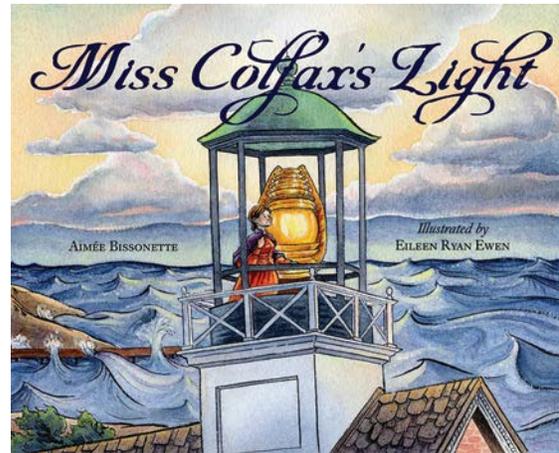


Bookstorm™

Miss Colfax's Light, written by Aimée Bissonette, illustrated by Eileen Ryan Ewen, Sleeping Bear Press, 2016.

In 1861, at the age of 37, Harriet Colfax took on the job of lighthouse keeper for the Michigan City lighthouse in Indiana, off Lake Michigan. It was a bold and determined endeavor, especially since there were very few female lighthouse keepers in the country at that time. For 43 years, until the age of 80, Harriet kept her light burning, through storms, harsh winters, and changes in technology.



This true story focuses on Harriet's commitment and determination to fulfilling her charge and living life on her own terms. Excerpts from her actual log are included so this book works well as a mentor text for using primary sources.

There are many books for children set in lighthouses. The romantic appeal of the isolated location, the bravery of the lighthouse keepers, their families, and their pets are all featured in beloved stories. We've also provided nonfiction books that will help with STEM lesson planning.

COMPLEMENTARY BOOKS

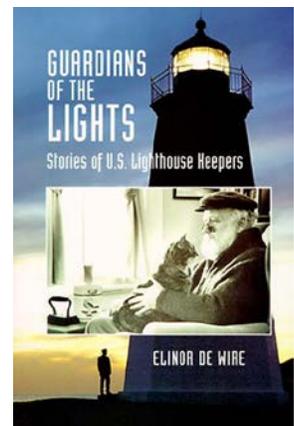
ABOUT LIGHTHOUSES: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

American Lighthouses: a Comprehensive Guide to Exploring Our National Coastal Treasures, written by Ray Jones, Bruce Roberts, and Cheryl Shelton-Roberts, Globe Pequot Press, 2012.

This is a handbook that offers details of the history and architecture of 450 lighthouses throughout America. It includes endangered lights and “ghost lights,” those which are no longer standing.

Guardians of the Lights: Stories of U.S. Lighthouse Keepers, written by Elinor De Wire, Pineapple Press, 1996.

In a charming blend of history and human interest, this book paints a colorful portrait of the lives of lighthouse keepers—from the year 1716, when the first lighthouse was established in America, to the early 1980s when automation replaced the last human “guardian of the light.” Letters, diaries, and newspaper accounts provide stories about lighthouse keeping in this country: daily work; fog, storms, catastrophes; legends and ghosts; women’s and families’ roles; lighthouse children and pets.



Lighthouses of North America: Beacons from Coast to Coast, written by Sylke Jackson, Firefly Books, 2013.

These are the stories of 70 lighthouses from Alaska to South Carolina, categorized by the shape and type of lighthouse. It's a beautiful book with essays about illumination, lost lighthouses, and what might happen to lighthouses in the future.

Short Bright Flash: Augustin Fresnel and the Birth of the Modern Lighthouse, Theresa Levitt, W.W. Norton & Company, 2013.

A biography of Augustin Fresnel (1788-1827) who invented a light that would shine brighter, more efficiently, and farther than any light before. It took a while to convince various countries around the world to use the Fresnel lens but eventually they were employed world-round. His invention changed world commerce.

United States Lighthouses: Illustrated Map & Guide, written by Bella Stander, illustrated by Gerald C. Hill and Jean Andrew, Bella Terra Publishing, 2013.

An essential guide to more than 770 lighthouses in the United States, including data about each of the lighthouses. This book is illustrated by watercolors.

Women Who Kept the Lights: an Illustrated History of Female Lighthouse Keepers, written by Mary Louise Clifford, Cypress Communications, 2006.

This book relates the stories of 30 women lighthouse keepers, most working in the 1800s. Clifford details their efforts to keep their lights shining brightly to warn sailors and the tales of daring rescues and salvage operations.

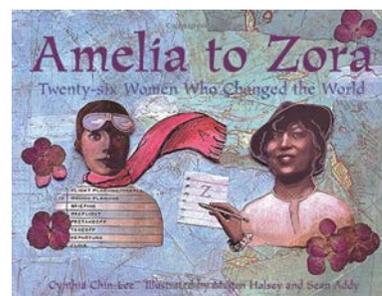
BRAVE and EXTRAORDINARY WOMEN

Ada Byron Lovelace and the Thinking Machine, written by Laurie Wallmark, illustrated by April Chu, Creston Books, 2015.

Ada Lovelace and Charles Babbage collaborated to create what is now considered to be the world's first computer program. Babbage created the rudimentary computer and Lovelace did the programming. This is a fascinating, well-illustrated book about this remarkable woman.

Amelia to Zora: Twenty-Six Women Who Changed the World, written by Cynthia Chin-Lee, illustrated by Megan Halsey and Sean Addy, Charlesbridge, 2008.

Short biographies of woman such as Amelia Earhart, Zora Neal Hurston, along with detailed collages drawn from the events of their lives, make this a good launching point from which readers can be inspired to read more about each woman.



Fearless Girls, Wise Women & Beloved Sisters: Heroines in Folktales from around the World, edited by Kathleen Ragan, with a foreword by Jane Yolen, W.W. Norton & Company, 2000.

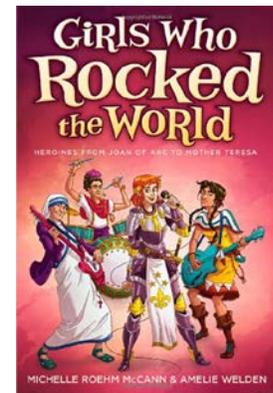
100 folktales celebrating strong female heroines from around the world. The author reviewed 30,000 tales to select these 100 for their ability to inspire and reassure and raise confidence among female readers.

Girls Think of Everything: Stories of Ingenious Inventions by Women, written by Catherine Thimmesch, illustrated by Melissa Sweet, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2002.

A collective biography of women and girls who have changed the world with their inventions. Short, chock-full-of-facts biographies open our eyes and hearts to women like Bette Nesmith Graham who invented Liquid Paper (a way of correcting typewritten documents) and Becky Schroeder who, at age 10, was the youngest person to receive a patent in the US for her invention of Glo-Sheet paper which enables people to write in the dark. Melissa Sweet's collage illustrations make this a fascinating book to read and digest.

Girls Who Rocked the World: Heroines from Joan of Arc to Mother Teresa, written by Michelle Roehm McCann, Amelie Welden, illustrated by David Hahn, Beyond Words, 2012.

Each of the short descriptions of inspiring girls included in this book is about women who first made an impression on the world while they were a teenager or younger. Maya Lin, Coco Chanel, and S.E. Hinton are three of the 46 women profiled. Information presented is highly readable.



I Am Malala: How One Girl Stood Up for Education and Was Shot by the Taliban, written by Malala Yousafzai and Patricia McCormick, Little, Brown, 2014. (Young Readers' Edition)

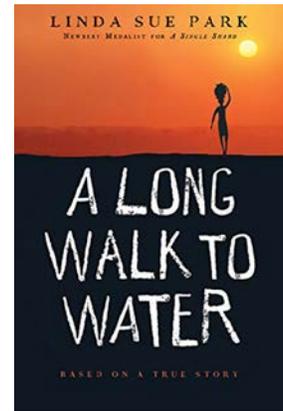
Raised in a once-peaceful area of Pakistan transformed by terrorism, Malala was taught to stand up for what she believes. So she fought for her right to be educated. And on October 9, 2012, she nearly lost her life for the cause: She was shot point-blank while riding the bus on her way home from school. No one expected her to survive. Now Malala is an international symbol of peaceful protest and the youngest ever Nobel Peace Prize winner.

Life in the Ocean: The Story of Oceanographer Sylvia Earle, written and illustrated by Claire A. Nivola, Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2012.

The true story of Sylvia Earle, an oceanographer who grew up near and swam in The Gulf of Mexico. As an adult, she has designed submersible vehicles, explored many deep blue reaches of the ocean, and worked with whales. The illustrations in this book are captivating.

Long Walk to Water, Based on a True Story, written by Linda Sue Park, HMH Books for Young Readers, 2010.

Although this book is fictional (and therefore a good book for discussing the difference between fiction and nonfiction), it is based on a true story. The author knows Salva Dut, one of the Lost Boys of the Sudan, so the character Salva in 1985 is based on his story. Nya, the girl in 2008, is based on many young girls who carry water for many hours each day from water sources far from where they live. It's a story so well told that it has stirred hundreds of classrooms to activism over water.



Marvelous Mattie: How Margaret E. Knight Became an Inventor, written and illustrated by Emily Arnold McCully, Farrar, Straus & Giroux, 2006.

Mattie Knight is an inventor who is most well-known for designing the brown-paper-bag-making machine. When her invention was stolen, Knight takes her case to court where the thief tells the judge, "Miss Knight could not possibly understand the mechanical complexities of the machine." Not only is this a good read-aloud picture book about a female inventor but also about a woman who stood up for herself and pursued her convictions.

Me ... Jane, written and illustrated by Patrick McDonnell, Little, Brown, 2011.

This biography focuses on Jane Goodall's early childhood, her toy chimpanzee, Jubilee, and the observations of the natural world that a child would make. It's an inspiring, joyful book that will intrigue readers about the woman this small girl would become. The illustrations are charming and informative.

Rad American Women A-Z: Rebels, Trailblazers, and Visionaries Who Shaped Our History ... and Our Future, written by Kate Schatz, illustrated by Miriam Klein Stahl, City Lights / Sister Spit, 2015.

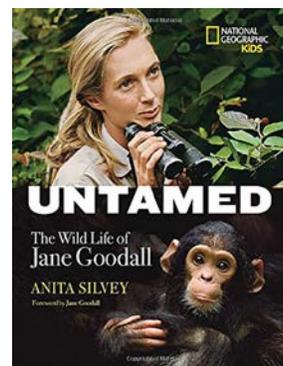
A is for Angela Davis, political activist. B is for Billie Jean King, an early female in sports. C is for Carol Burnett, who broke through the barrier for women as comedians. D is for Dolores Huerta, who organized farm workers. Each essay is one page in length, accompanying a lively graphic, all within an energetically designed book. Good for readers 10 and up.

Tree Lady: the True Story of How One Tree-Loving Woman Changed a City Forever, written by H. Joseph Hopkins, illustrated by Jill McElmurry, Beach Lane Books, 2013.

Katherine Olivia Sessions grew up in Northern California loving trees. In the 1880s, she graduated from the University of California with a degree in science, something remarkably unusual for a female at that time. She moved to San Diego, which was considered to be a desert town and determined to make it into a lush greenery. She wrote to gardeners around the world for seeds and began her planting. In 1915, she was given the charge to create landscaping for the Panama-California Exposition, held in Balboa Park. She rose to the challenge admirably.

Untamed, written by Anita Silvey, National Geographic, 2015.

A down-to-earth biography of Jane Goodall, beginning with her childhood fascination with animals and her ferocious work for chimpanzees and other animals to the present day. It's well written, inspiring, and exciting ... and the book's design make it a complete pleasure to read.



Wangari's Trees of Peace, written and illustrated by Jeanette Winter, HMH Books for Young Readers, 2008.

"The earth was naked. For me the mission was to try to cover it with green." - Wangari Maathai. A woman in Kenya is disturbed by the barren landscape of her homeland. She begins to plant trees on World Environment Day in 1977 and encourages other women to do the same. Thus, she founded the Green Belt Movement. In 30 years, more than 30,000,000 trees have been planted in Africa.

HOW LIGHTHOUSES WORK

Explain That Stuff! How do lighthouses work? written by Chris Woodford.

A website page that has good photos of Fresnel lenses, and explains how they work.
<http://www.explainthatstuff.com/fresnel-lenses.html>

"Fresnel Lenses," Chance Brothers, Lighthouse Engineers, Preserving the Heritage.
<http://www.chancebrothers.com/fresnel-lenses.html>



This is the website of the Chance Brothers Lighthouse Engineers, who began working with lighthouse lighting in 1851 in Birmingham, England. This site shows how a Fresnel Lens (pronounced fray-nel) works. The revived firm, now based in Australia, is one of four Fresnel Lens manufacturers remaining in the world.

Inventing the Future: a Photobiography of Thomas Alva Edison, written by Marfe Ferguson Delano, National Geographic Children's Books, 2006.

Focusing on Edison's development of the research laboratory as a place to experiment and work on ideas until they come to fruition—or are abandoned—this is a fascinating book that gives a background for the inventor of the light bulb, the phonograph, and the microphone.

Lighthouses: The Race to Illuminate the World, Toby Chance and Peter Williams

Toby Chance, descendant of the Chance Brothers Lighthouse Engineers, is not only a Member of Parliament for the Democratic Alliance (South Africa) but the author of this book which traces lighthouse construction and water commerce from 1851 to 1914 when the Panama Canal opened. http://www.toby-chance.com/book_lighthouse.asp

Thomas Edison for Kids: His Life and Ideas, 21 Activities, written by Laurie Carlson, Chicago Review Press, 2006.

Edison was singularly focused on his work and his inventions, virtually abandoning his two families, but this book focuses on what he created and offers 21 of his simplest experiments for students in grades 4 through 7.

World Lighthouse Society.

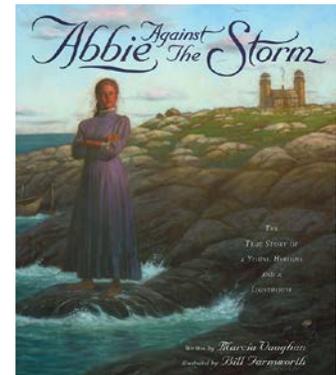
There are many lighthouse society's devoted to state lighthouses or American lighthouses, but this one is the most encompassing of them all.

<http://www.worldlighthouses.org/>

LIGHTHOUSE BOOKS

Abbie Against the Storm: the True Story of a Young Heroine, written by Marcia K. Vaughan, illustrated by Bill Farnsworth, Aladdin / Beyond Words, 1999.

Based on a true story that took place off the coast of Maine in 1856, Abbie Burgess lives in a lighthouse with her keeper father. When he must go to the mainland for groceries and medicine for her ailing mother, he leaves Abbie in charge. Storms plague them for the four weeks that he is gone and Abbie keeps the flames in 28 lanterns lit and scrapes ice from the exterior glass, all the while taking care of her three younger sisters and her mother.



Bravest Woman in America, written by Marissa Moss, illustrated by Andrea U'Ren, Tricycle Press, 2011.

Based on the true story of Ida Lewis, who grew up in the Lime Rock Lighthouse in Newport, Rhode Island, this story tells us of her valor and the extraordinary measures she took to keep boats and sailors safe. She was presented with the Congressional Life Saving Medal and the American Cross of Honor.

Gracie the Lighthouse Cat, written and illustrated by Ruth Brown, Andersen Press, 2010.

At a lighthouse off of England's Farne Islands, Grace Darling is the lighthouse keeper's daughter who valiantly works to rescue people from a shipwreck during a ferocious storm ... but this story is told only in the illustrations. We are drawn by the text into the story of Gracie, the lighthouse cat, who braves the storm to save her curious kitten. Good for primary grades.

The Lighthouse Cat, written by Sue Stainton, illustrated by Anne Mortimer, Katherine Tegen Books, 2004.

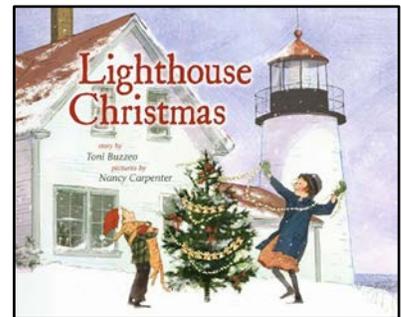
A lonely lighthouse keeper finds a stray cat in his supplies delivery and decides to adopt him. He's responsible for a 24-candle lantern, which needs to have its wicks trimmed every half-hour. When he cannot do his job, and a storm arises, Mackerel the cat calls on 11 other cats to help him light up the night.

Keep the Lights Burning, Abbie, written by Peter Roop and Connie Roop, illustrated by Peter E. Hanson, Carolrhoda Books, 1987.

An easy-to-read version of the story of Abbie Burgess, who must keep the lighthouse lights burning when her father sails to the mainland in desperate need of medicine for her mother. A storm challenges her abilities as she climbs the twin towers several times during the night, wipes ice from the glass, and saves the family's chickens. Good for ages 7 to 9.

Lighthouse Christmas, written by Toni Buzzeo, illustrated by Nancy Sippel Carpenter, Dial Books, 2011.

In a story inspired by Maine's Flying Santa program, Frances is determined to make Christmas jolly for her younger brother, even if it means joining family on the mainland and leaving Papa behind on their isolated lighthouse island. After all, would Santa even know how to find them in this faraway spot? But when Christmas Eve is ushered in on a wild storm and Papa risks his life to rescue a drowning man, the children realize that the most important thing about the holiday is being together.



Lighthouse Dog to the Rescue, written by Angeli Perrow, illustrated by Emily Harris, Down East Books, 2000.

Based on the real experiences of the family who kept the Owls Head Lighthouse in Maine during the 1930s, we learn about Spot, a springer spaniel, who is taught to bark and pull the warning bell as boats pass. During a blinding snowstorm, the warning bell is encrusted in ice, so Spot barks his signals to a passing ship, warning the captain of his boat's proximity to shore.

Lighthouses for Kids: History, Science, and Lore with 21 Activities, written by Katherine L. House, Chicago Review Press, 2008.

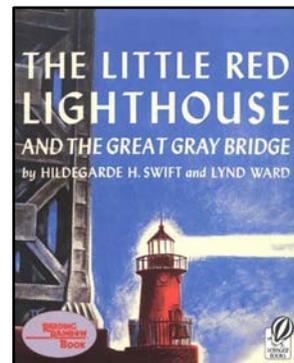
Bringing to life an era when rivers, lakes, and oceans were the nation's highways and lighthouses served as traffic signals and maps, this comprehensive reference provides children with an in-depth history of lighthouses and firsthand stories of the challenges faced by lighthouse keepers. Filled with engaging activities such as learning how to tie a bowline knot and building a model lighthouse, this unique book also includes a field guide to U.S. lighthouses, places to visit, a time line, glossary, websites to explore, and a reading list for further study.

Lighthouse Keeper's Daughter, written by Arielle North Olson, illustrated by Elaine Wentworth, Mystic Seaport (a 2004 reprint of a popular 1987 book).

Miranda must keep the lamps burning in the family's lighthouse on a remote, rocky island in Maine. When her father is away getting supplies, it's up to Miranda to do the work because her mother is afraid of heights.

The Little Red Lighthouse and the Great Gray Bridge, written by Hildegard H. Swift, illustrated by Lynd Ward, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (a 2002 reprint of a cherished 1942 book).

This beloved story helped to spur on the renovation of The Little Red Lighthouse on Jeffrey's Hook, New York City, which guided ships from 1880 to 1917 and then from 1921 to 1931 when The George Washington Bridge opened and made the lighthouse obsolete. In 1986, the lighthouse was renovated and reopened. In 2000, the lighthouse was once again painted red as Lynd Ward had recorded it with his iconic illustrations.



Storm's Coming!, written by Margi Preus, illustrated by David Geister, Minnesota Historical Society Press, 2016.

On the northern shore of Lake Superior, Sophie lives in a lighthouse with her family, learning to read the natural signs such as a spider's web and gulls flying to predict the coming of a storm. Can Sophie reach her father in time to warn him?

PROTECTING OUR WATERWAYS

Finest Hours: the True Story of a Heroic Sea Rescue, written by Michael J. Tougias and Casey Sherman, Christy Ottaviano Books / Henry Holt, 2014.

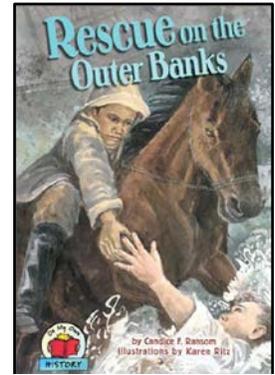
This is the young readers' version of the bestselling book by the same name and the movie *The Perfect Storm*. In 1952, a fierce storm off the Cape Cod coast caused two oil tankers to founder and endanger the lives of 84 men. Against tremendous odds, the U.S. Coast Guard rescued 70 survivors. 14 sailors perished. Good for ages 11 and up.

Mayday! Mayday! A Coast Guard Rescue, written and illustrated by Chris L. Demarest, Margaret K. McElderry Books, 2004.

In an exciting format, the reader observes the US Coast Guard's call for help and how four highly trained rescue specialists fly an H-60 Jayhawk helicopter to the site, battling a fierce storm to reach a disabled boat and rescue her crew. Good for ages 4 to 10.

Rescue on the Outer Banks, written by Candice F. Ransom, illustrated by Karen Ritz, Carolrhoda Books, 2002.

Taken from a true story, on October 11, 1896, ten-year-old Sam Deal and his horse, Ginger, watch as the brave surfmen of Pea Island struggle to save the lives of nine people stranded on a shipwreck. Sam has dreamt of becoming a surfman just like the all-African-American crew, and this is his chance. Can he and Ginger help the crew rescue the victims, or will they be lost forever?



WATER

All the Water in the World, written by George Ella Lyon, illustrated by Katherine Tillotson, Richard Jackson Books / Atheneum, 2011.

Water is the essence of every life on earth. Here the author and illustrator depict the water cycle in all its glory. It's a good book for primary grades on the importance of everyone being a water steward.

Water Can Be ..., written by Laura Purdie Salas, illustrated by Violeta Dabija, Millbrook Press, 2014.

Pre-K and primary grades will be fascinated by all the things water can mean in our lives and the many forms it takes. There's back matter that explains such creative phrases as "valley cloaker" (fog) and "snowman farmer" (snow). The illustrations are radiant, ethereal, and evoke water so well that I'm always thirsty after I read this book.

Water is Water, written by Miranda Paul, illustrated by Jason Chin, Roaring Brook Press, 2015.

A book about all the phases of the water cycle as shown by a group of kids interacting with water indoors and out. I'm a huge fan of Jason Chin's illustrations and this book is utterly charming.

Water Rolls, Water Rises, El Agua Rueda, El Agua Sube, written by Pat Mora, illustrated by Meilo So, Children's Book Press, 2014.

Written as poetry, each spread and every verse takes us to one of fourteen locations around the world where water has stunning beauty and great meaning. Available as a bilingual book. Will work well with children ages 4 to 7.

Water Runs Through This Book, written by Nancy Bo Flood, photographs by Jan Sonnenmair, Fulcrum Publishing, 2015.

A blend of narrative nonfiction and poetry, this book clearly shows how water is vital to everything on Earth, from the tiniest part of the human body to the large and rolling oceans. A good book for grades 5 through adult.