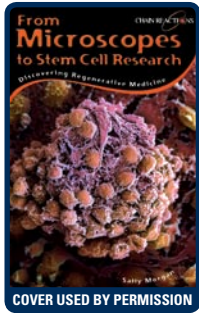


Morgan, Sally. *From Microscopes to Stem Cell Research: Discovering Regenerative Medicine (Chain Reactions Series)*. 64 p. \$34.29. Heinemann/Reed Elsevier, 2006.

ISBN 1-4034-8836-3



**[6-10, SCI]** This timely work introduces students to stem cell research and demonstrates how the invention of the microscope played a role in the discovery of cells. The text follows the history of the microscope from its invention useful for medical research involving cells, to transplants, and now research in regenerative medicine. Colorful photographs, drawings, electron microscope renderings, factoids, and personal observations of those involved in stem cell research add constructively to this discussion of a notably controversial topic. The timeline, biographies, glossary, "further resources," and index all contribute to a well thought out analysis and presentation of a difficult and ethically challenging subject. A bonus is how well Morgan explains the science. **[SS]**

Nau, Thomas. *Walker Evans: Photographer of America*. 63 p. \$19.95. Roaring Brook, 2007.

ISBN-10: 1-59643-225-X

ISBN-13: 978-1-59643-225-3

**[6-10, AE]** A slice of Americana through the images of people and places, this book is a history in text and photographs spanning Walker's career in the 1920's through his death in 1975. Intriguing black-and-white photographs of his early efforts, coupled with the narrative of his life and Walker's quotations, give readers insight into the art of the time, Walker's own artistry, and his desire to highlight the human condition. The story of this engaging photographer who loved books and once offered to work in the New York City Public Library for nothing highlights a segment of history and a captivating personality. An extensive notes section, including quotation sources, is included. **NOTES, BIBLIOGRAPHY, CHRONOLOGY, INDEX. [SS]**

*Overweight America: Why Are We Getting So Fat?* 1 videocassette 20:26 min. with 7 Fact Sheets and 13 Student Activities. \$139.95. HRM, 2006.

800.431.2050

**[6-10, HL]** The fast food industry, advertising, and lack of exercise are the villains in this video. *Overweight America* does a good job of explaining that for obese teens to lose weight, they must alter their lifestyle, rather than relying on fads, and that healthy eating and exercise are the keys. Their information is solid, if not revolutionary and will give students something to think about. **BLACKLINE MASTER ACTIVITIES, FACT SHEET HANDOUTS, BIBLIOGRAPHY.** (NCSLMA Reviewer)

## REVIEW: *Getorix: The Eagle and the Bull*

Geary, Judith. *Getorix: The Eagle and the Bull*. 278 p. \$15.95 pap. Claystone/Ingalls, 2008.

ISBN 978-1-932158-73-1



**[6-12, FIC]** Set in ancient Rome, this novel focuses on Getorix, a young captive Celt, who unexpectedly escapes the execution met by his father Claodicus. Lucius, the young Roman who asks to spare Getorix, thinks he is showing him mercy by bringing him home to live as a slave. Far from grateful, Getorix refuses to serve Lucius and continues to think of ways that he can die honorably and join his father in the Otherworld. While he is kept under lock and key for his defiant behavior, he develops a friendship with Keltus, a trusted slave in the house of Lutatius Catulus, and eventually with the young Lucius as well. Along with Getorix, readers discover some of the details of Roman Life in 101 BCE. The ingenuity of the water supply and sewer systems and the magnificence of the buildings contrast with the practices of animal sacrifice and dining on dormice. The different backgrounds and cultures of the two main characters offer interesting discussions on point-of-view. This novel by a North Carolina writer would make an excellent interdisciplinary unit for middle school. **AUTHOR'S NOTES, BIBLIOGRAPHY, SELECTED MAPS, DIAGRAMS, AND ILLUSTRATIONS, GLOSSARY. [ELA, SS]**

Horton, Sandra K. and Judith Geary. *Getorix's World*. 98 p. \$25. Claystone/Ingalls, 2008.

ISBN 978-1-932158-28-1

**[PROF, SS]** This curriculum is designed to accompany *Getorix: The Eagle and the Bull* to facilitate the novel's study for a class or literature circle. Part one contains synopses and study questions, both short answer and discussion, as well as activities using quotations and character monologues. Section two focuses more on the culture of Rome during that era of history and has activities related to dress, diet, and education. There is also a timeline and ideas for interdisciplinary study. This curriculum is also available in digital format on a CD-ROM, which includes a PowerPoint presentation introducing the novel and featuring color photographs of Roman ruins. This curriculum is an excellent resource for the social studies or English language arts class and is free with the order of a class set of 25 books (includes 1 hardback copy of the book). **[ELA, MATH, SCI]**

Patrick, James A., ed. *Renaissance and Reformation*. 6 volumes. \$469.95. Marshall Cavendish, 2007.

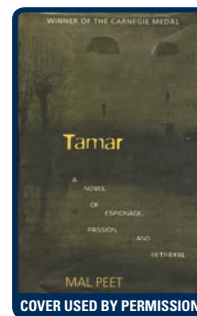
ISBN-10: 0-7614-7650-4 set

ISBN-13: 978-0-7614-7650-4 set

**[8-12, SS]** Who knew that Jethro Tull was a renaissance lawyer-turned-farmer who invented a better method for planting seeds that transformed agriculture? Or that six of the ten largest sapphires in the world are in a crown crafted in 1376 that has been used in the coronation of twenty-two Czech kings? Written in language that high school, and even upper middle school students can understand, 158 signed articles survey European history from 1300-1700 and each article includes further reading. From the paintings that are on the covers and throughout the books, they are lavishly illustrated in color and black-and-white and bring to life renaissance art, architecture, and culture. The books are alphabetically arranged, but have excellent cross-references for time periods and subject areas. These books could be also be used as an exceptional background resource for literature classes. **TIMELINE, GLOSSARY, RESOURCES FOR FURTHER STUDY, MAPS, INDICES. [AE, ELA, SCI]** (NCSLMA Reviewer)

Peet, Mal. *Tamar: A Novel of Espionage, Passion, and Betrayal*. 424 p. \$17.99. Candlewick, 2007.

ISBN 978-0-7636-3488-9



**[7-12, FIC]** One of the most powerful and intriguing historical novels about the Dutch resistance movement, *Tamar* serves as a showcase for the author's research and empathy. When teenager Tamar's grandfather commits suicide, she receives keys to his past life, a life that none of his family knew he lived. Tamar's name is her first clue and is the name her grandfather asked her parents to give her. Interspersing scenes from World War II and present-day times, Peet weaves a story that is historically accurate and engaging, while exploring the dynamics of familial roles and emotions. *Tamar* is an excellent resource to supplement social studies classroom lessons. **MC [SS]** (2008 BBYA)