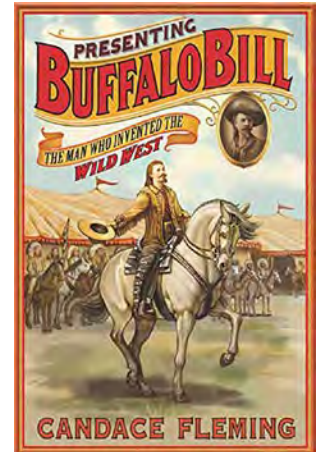


## Bookstorm™

*Presenting Buffalo Bill: the Man Who Invented the Wild West*, written by Candace Fleming, Roaring Brook Press, 2016.

Everyone knows the name Buffalo Bill, but few these days know what he did or, in some cases, didn't do. Was he a Pony Express rider? Did he ride with Wild Bill Hickok? Did he "scalp" countless Native Americans, or did he defend their rights?

This, the first significant biography of Buffalo Bill Cody for younger readers in many years, explains it all. With copious archival illustrations, *Presenting Buffalo Bill* makes the great showman—perhaps our first true global superstar—come alive for new generations.



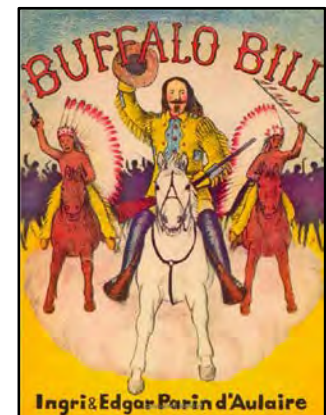
### COMPLEMENTARY BOOKS

#### Buffalo Bill

Books about Buffalo Bill have been published during and after his life:

*Buffalo Bill*, Ingri and Edgar Parin d'Aulaire, Doubleday & Company, 1952; reissued in paperback by Beautiful Feet Books, 1998.

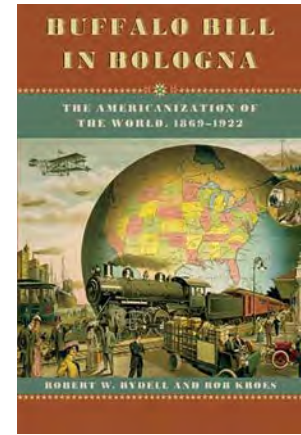
One of the most admired picture book author and illustrating teams, the d'Aulaire's were renowned for their art, their storytelling abilities, and their knowledge of children and how they learned and played. Revealing all of the tall-tale qualities of Cody's own stories, this book will be useful for examining how our view of history changes our understanding of an historical figure's life.



Buffalo Bill Center of the West, a museum in Cody, Wyoming.  
<https://centerofthewest.org/>

There are five museums on this campus: Buffalo Bill Museum, Whitney Western Art Museum, Cody Firearms Museum, Draper Natural History Museum, Plains Indian Museum, as well as the McCracken Research Library. Museum staff are available to Skype with your classroom.

*Buffalo Bill in Bologna: the Americanization of the World, 1869-1922*, Robert W. Rydell and Rob Kroes, University of Chicago Press, 2012.



*Buffalo Bill in Bologna* reveals that the process of globalizing American mass culture began as early as the mid-nineteenth century. In fact, by the end of World War I, the United States already boasted an advanced network of culture industries that served to promote American values. Rydell and Kroes narrate how the circuses, amusement parks, vaudeville, mail-order catalogs, dime novels, and movies developed after the Civil War – tools central to hastening the reconstruction of the country – actually doubled as agents of American cultural diplomacy abroad.

Buffalo Bill Museum and Grave, a museum in Golden, Colorado.  
<http://www.buffalobill.org/>

Both Will Cody and his wife Louisa (Lulu) are buried in Golden, Colorado. Join the 400,000 visitors each year who pay homage at their graves on top of Lookout Mountain. Assets on this site include a listing of all the towns that the Wild West Show visited. Is yours included? There is also a rich photo archive.

*Life and Adventures of "Buffalo Bill,"* Colonel William F. Cody, available in its entirety on PBS as part of the Archives of the West.  
<http://www.pbs.org/weta/thewest/resources/archives/seven/w67bbauto/w67bb0.htm>

From the book's title page: "His Story shows his Devotion to Duty as a Child when Supporting his Widowed Mother, his Valuable Services to the Government while riding in the Famouse 'Pony Express' and Vividly Portrays his Thrilling Experiences as Hunter and Scout while acting as Guide to the Army and Trains of Prairie Schooners – His many Hair-breadth Escapes and Fights with Indians, Desperadoes and while Hunting Buffalo and other Wild Animals, as well as his Later Triumphs in Conducting the Tours of his Great Wild West Exhibition in the United States and Europe."

*Life of Hon. William F. Cody as Buffalo Bill: the Famous Hunter, Scout and Guide*, Buffalo Bill, University of Nebraska Press; originally published in 1879.

Written when Cody was thirty-three years old, this life story captures both the hard reality of frontier life and the sensational image to which a boy of the time might aspire: the Indian fights, buffalo hunting, and Pony Express escapades that popular history contributed to the myth-making of Buffalo Bill. It is this movement between the personal and the mythic, plain facts and tall tales, William F. Cody and Buffalo Bill, that gives this autobiography its fascination and its power.

William F. Cody Archive, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, a joint project with the McCracken Research Library.

<http://codyarchive.org/>

Contains biographies, chronology, books, correspondence, newspaper articles, programs, postcards, scrapbooks, and more.

## Art of the 19th Century

*100 Posters of Buffalo Bill's Wild West*, Jack Rennert, Darien House, 1976.

Search this out at a used bookstore for a large folio-sized book of posters originally printed to advertise the Wild West Show.

Rosa Bonheur, 1822-1899, National Museum of Women in the Arts.

<http://www.nmwa.org/explore/artist-profiles/rosa-bonheur>



As mentioned in *Presenting Buffalo Bill*, Bonheur painted a magnificent portrait of Will Cody. Here you'll find a short biography and several of her most well-known paintings.

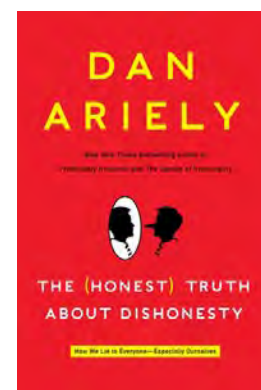
Wild West Show Posters: do a Google image search to view a number of splendid specimens at a size large enough to study their details.

## Exaggeration, Lies, and Storytelling

Perhaps the subject of exaggeration, well, lying is interesting to you. Fleming conjectures in her boxed-in asides, "Panning for the Truth," about the veracity of Will Cody's stories. If you find this aspect of Cody's life interesting, you may enjoy these books:

*Honest Truth about Dishonesty*, Dan Ariely, Harper Perennial, 2013.

"A fun, research-based look at cheating and dishonesty by this well-known behavioral economist. The book touches on everything from why creative people are better liars to why wearing knockoff fashion accessories will make you more dishonest."



“How to Spot a Liar,” Pamela Meyer, TEDGlobal, 2011. Video.

[http://www.ted.com/talks/pamela\\_meyer\\_how\\_to\\_spot\\_a\\_liar](http://www.ted.com/talks/pamela_meyer_how_to_spot_a_liar)

“On any given day we’re lied to from 10 to 200 times, and the clues to detecting those lies can be subtle and counter-intuitive. Here the author of Liespotting shows the manners and ‘hotspots’ used by those trained to recognize deception – and she argues that honesty is a value worth preserving.”

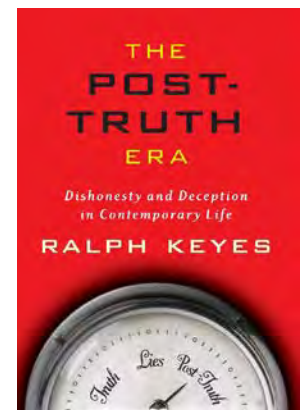
“How to Tell Tall Tales,” Westside Toastmasters. Article.

[http://westsidetoastmasters.com/article\\_reference/how\\_to\\_tell\\_tall\\_tales\\_2006-08.html](http://westsidetoastmasters.com/article_reference/how_to_tell_tall_tales_2006-08.html)

To get a flavor of Buffalo Bill’s storytelling, hold a Tall Tales contest. This article from a California Toastmasters’ group gives a great structure, suggestions, and methods for telling the tallest tales. This will also support a discussion you have about the truth behind Buffalo Bill’s life and his creation of the Wild West.

*The Post-Truth Era*, Ralph Keyes, St. Martin’s Press, 2004.

“Deception has become the modern way of life. Where once the boundary line between truth and lies was clear and distinct, it is no longer so. In the post-truth era, deceiving others has become a challenge, a game, a habit. High-profile dissemblers compete for news coverage, from journalists like Jayson Blair and professors like Joseph Ellis to politicians (of all stripes), executives, and ‘creative’ accountants.”



*Reality Check*, Guy Kawasaki, Portfolio Trade, 2011.

“If you want to know the biggest lies told by entrepreneurs, venture capitalists, lawyers and CEOs, Kawasaki’s your guy.”

*Tangled Webs*, James B. Stewart, Penguin, 2012

“An investigative journalist delves deep into America’s most prominent lies and liars. Stewart focuses on many of the ‘greats,’ including Martha Stewart, Barry Bonds and Bernie Madoff.”

## Mythology vs Authenticity

“Davy Crockett,” The History Channel, excerpt from *The Reader’s Companion to American History*, Eric Foner and John A. Garraty, ed, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 1991.

<http://www.history.com/topics/davy-crockett>

“Famed as a frontiersman, folk hero, congressman and Alamo defender, Davy Crockett was one of the most celebrated and mythologized figures in American history. Crockett’s biographers often say there were actually two Crocketts: David, the frontiersman and congressman martyred at the Alamo, and Davy, the larger-than-life folk hero whose exploits were glorified in several books and a series of almanacs.” Not to mention movies and television.

“Joseph Campbell on the Mythology of Star Trek,” Bill Moyers interviewing Joseph Campbell on *The Hero’s Journey*, 1987, 2:59 minutes.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yIF2B6ueqUc>

Campbell states, “We can’t have a mythology for a long time to come. Things are changing too fast to become mythologized.” Was Campbell right? Original *Star Trek* cast shares their feelings about the mythology of *Star Trek*.

“Myth of the Frontier: Progress or Lost Freedom,” John Mack Faragher, *History Now: the Journal of the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History*,

<https://www.gilderlehrman.org/history-by-era/art-music-and-film/essays/myth-frontier-progress-or-lost-freedom>

Tracing the mythology of the Wild West from Daniel Boone (he died in 1820) to Davy Crockett (he died in 1836) to Buffalo Bill Cody (he was born in 1846 and died in 1917). “Using real historical characters to encourage the suspension of disbelief was a characteristic of the dime-novel Western. The master of the uses of authenticity was William “Buffalo Bill” Cody, the showman who in the late nineteenth century turned the frontier myth into America’s most bankable commercial entertainment.”

“Mythology of Star Wars,” Bill Moyers interviews George Lucas, originally broadcast on PBS, 1999, 56:10 minutes. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YpiEk42\\_O\\_Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YpiEk42_O_Q)

Was George Lucas trying to re-create the myths of old? Was he conscious of Joseph Campbell’s *The Hero’s Journey*? How did he shape our idea of the future?

“Popular Myth in Text and Image,” Joshua Johns, University of Virginia, 1995.

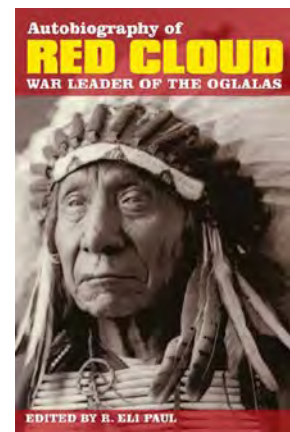
<http://xroads.virginia.edu/~hyper/hns/buffalobill/billmyth.html>

Looks at images, programs, the Wild West Show, and the character of Buffalo Bill as part of the western mythology.

## Native Americans

*Autobiography of Red Cloud: War Leader of the Oglalas*, edited by R. Eli Paul, Montana Historical Society Press, 1997.

A statesman, diplomat, warrior, and respected leader of the Oglala Sioux as they transitioned from nomadic to reservation life, this book draws from Red Cloud’s autobiography as told to other writers.



*Birchbark House*, *Game of Silence*, and *Porcupine Year*, Louise Erdrich, Hyperion, HarperCollins, 1999, 2005, and 2008 respectively.

Although this trilogy can be read by children as young as 9 or 10, they will interest teens and adults as well as they draw us into the world of the Ojibwe who live on a Lake Superior island in 1850. Their lives are altering as white men draw closer to their ancestral home. These books will settle into your heart.

*Black Elk Speaks*, John G. Neihardt, Philip J. Deloria, Bison Books, 2014, originally published in the 1930s.

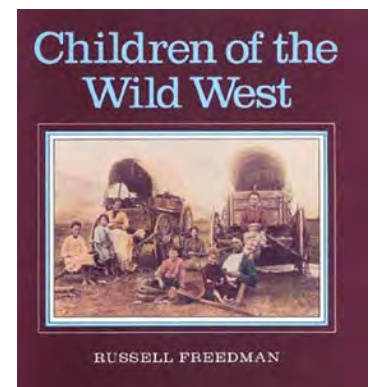
“If any great religious classic has emerged in [the twentieth] century or on this continent, it must surely be judged in the company of *Black Elk Speaks*.” Vine Deloria, Jr.

Whether appreciated as the poignant tale of a Lakota life, as a history of a Native nation, or as an enduring spiritual testament, *Black Elk Speaks* is unforgettable.

*Children of the Wild West*, Russell Freedman, Clarion Books, 1983.

A documentary within a book, featuring photos of children, both settlers and Native Americans. The photos are accompanied by true stories that will enthrall readers while they learn to interpret photographs.

*Crossing Bok Chitto: a Choctaw Tale of Friendship & Freedom*, Tim Tingle, illus by Jeanne Rorex Bridges, Cinco Puntos Press, 2006.



Read this picture book aloud with your classroom to discuss aspects of history that align with Buffalo Bill’s experience and portrayal of the Wild West. In Mississippi, a young Choctaw girl, Martha Tom, crosses the forbidden Bok Chitto River and meets a slave family. When their situation takes a dire turn, Martha steps forward to help.

*Custer Died for Your Sins: an Indian Manifesto*, Vine Deloria, Jr., Collier, 1969, new edition published by University of Oklahoma Press with a new author’s foreword, 1988.

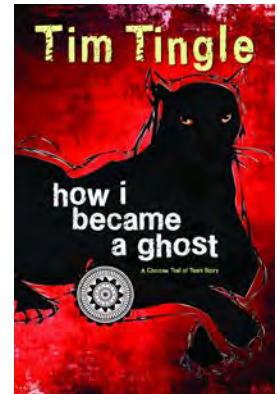
In his new preface to this paperback edition, the author observes, "The Indian world has changed so substantially since the first publication of this book that some things contained in it seem new again." Indeed, it seems that each generation of whites and Indians will have to read and reread Vine Deloria’s Manifesto for some time to come, before we absorb his special, ironic Indian point of view and what he tells us, with a great deal of humor, about U.S. race relations, federal bureaucracies, Christian churches, and social scientists.

*Geronimo*, Joseph Bruchac, Scholastic, March, 2006.

The book opens with Geronimo's final surrender to US government forces in 1886. Although the book is fictional, it is based upon primary source materials that reveals the strength and leadership of Geronimo and the hardships his band of Chiricahua Apache faced as the government tried to extricate them from Arizona, their homeland. A very moving book.

*How I Became a Ghost*, Tim Tingle, Road Runner Press, 2013.

This book opens with the line, "Maybe you have never read a book written by a ghost." It is the story of a Choctaw boy who did not survive the Trail of Tears. He bands together with three other Choctaw comrades to safeguard their family. It's a good look at the reality of Native Americans being forced to leave their homelands in the 1800s.



*Jim Thorpe: Original All-American*, Joseph Bruchac, Dial Books, 2006.

An excellent fictionalized account of a sports hero who may well have been the best of the 20th Century. Based on careful research, this book is included here even though Thorpe overlapped only the later years of Buffalo Bill. From the Oklahoma tribe, Thorpe's biography includes the infamous Carlisle Indian Industrial School and Olympic medals. It's a good account of the life a young Native American, even an exceptionally talented man, experienced at the turn of the 20th Century.

*Journey of Crazy Horse: a Lakota History*, Joseph M. Marshall III, Viking Adult, 2004.

A Lakota from the Rosebud Sioux Reservation, Marshall draws on oral histories and primary sources to tell this true story of Crazy Horse, an enigmatic warrior who was widely respected by his people. No photos exist of Crazy Horse.

*Sitting Bull: Lakota Warrior and Defender of His People*, S.D. Nelson, Harry N. Abrams, 2015.

Sitting Bull (c. 1831–1890) was one of the greatest Lakota/Sioux warriors and chiefs who ever lived. From Sitting Bull's childhood – killing his first buffalo at age 10 – to being named war chief to leading his people against the U.S. Army, *Sitting Bull: Lakota Warrior and Defender of His People* brings the story of the great chief to light. Sitting Bull was instrumental in the war against the invasive wasichus (white men) and was at the forefront of the combat, including the Battles of Killdeer Mountain and the Little Bighorn. He and Crazy Horse were the last Lakota/Sioux to surrender their people to the U.S. government and resort to living on a reservation.

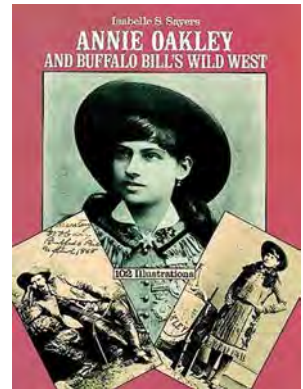
*Sitting Bull: The Life and Times of an American Patriot*, Robert M. Utley, Holt, 2008.

The Sitting Bull who emerges in this fast-paced narrative is a complex, towering figure: a great warrior whose skill and bravery in battle were unparalleled; the spiritual leader of his people; a dignified but ultimately tragically stubborn defender of the traditional ways against the steadfast and unwelcome encroachment of the white man.

## The West During Buffalo Bill Cody's Lifetime

*Annie Oakley and Buffalo Bill's Wild West*, Isabelle S. Sayers, Dover Publications, 1981.

Her life was the stuff of legend – from humble Quaker origins in Darke County, Ohio, Phoebe Ann Moses rose to the heights of renown as a world-famous entertainer and featured performer with Buffalo Bill's Wild West extravaganza. Her self-discipline, showmanship, and legendary gifts as a sharpshooter earned her the adulation of millions; yet to close friends she was always a generous, gentle woman.



*Black Cowboys of the Old West: True, Sensational, and Little-Known Stories*, Tricia Martineau, TwoDot, 2010.

Did you know that one-quarter of the wranglers and rodeo riders in the Old West were black? As freed men after the Civil War, they left the South for the West to seek their fortunes. In ten chapters, the historical details of their lives are woven in spellbinding, well-written stories.

*Black Frontiers: a History of African American Heroes in the Old West*, Lillian Schlissel, Aladdin, 2000.

Explores the lives of black homesteaders, mountain men, soldiers, cowboys, and scouts who settled in the American west between 1865 and the early 1900s, including Nat Love, Bill Pickett, Barney Ford, Stagecoach Mary, and more.

*Bleeding Kansas: Contested Liberty in the Civil War Era*, Nicole Etcheson, University Press of Kansas, 2004.

Many free-state Kansans seemed to care little about slaves, and many proslavery Kansans owned not a single slave. But the failed promise of the Kansas-Nebraska Act-when fraud in local elections subverted the settlers' right to choose whether Kansas would be a slave or free state-fanned the flames of war. While other writers have cited slavery or economics as the cause of unrest, Nicole Etcheson seeks to revise our understanding of this era by focusing on whites' concerns over their political liberties.



*Buffalo Gals: Women of Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show*, Chris Enss, TwoDot, 2005.

Many talented and daring women performed alongside men in the Wild West shows, including tiny sharpshooter Annie Oakley. Annie and the other female performers represented the feminine side of an American tradition and brought a woman's touch to an otherwise uncivilized form of entertainment, but they also changed the way the world thought about women forever through the demonstration of their skills.

*Children of the West: Family Life on the Frontier*, Cathy Luchetti, W.W. Norton & Company, 2001.

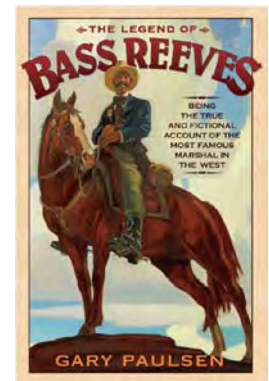
A photographic survey, Luchetti uses diaries, journals, and similar primary source materials to weave together anecdotal experiences of the children of not only European immigrants, but also black, Chinese, Japanese, and Spanish ranchero families.

*Devil's Paintbox*, Victoria McKernan, Alfred A. Knopf, 2009.

Sixteen-year-old Aiden Lynch and his younger sister Maddy leave their drought-stricken Kansas farm, orphaned when their parents died, to join Jefferson J. Jackson on the Oregon Trail. Their adventures, all historically accurate, are captivating.

*Legend of Bass Reeves*, Gary Paulsen, Random House, 2006.

Presenting the known facts within their historical context in short sections, interspersed with longer narrative sections, this book presents another good opportunity to look at the legend versus the true story, fiction versus fact. A runaway slave who hid with the Creek Indians for 22 years, after Emancipation he became a Federal Marshall, one who preserved the law in heroic ways. Reeves lived at roughly the same time as Buffalo Bill and he worked in the Oklahoma Territory.



*Legend of Jimmy Spoon*, Kristiana Gregory, Houghton Mifflin, 2002.

Twelve-year-old Jimmy Spoon yearns for a life of adventure. So when two Shoshoni boys offer him a horse, Jimmy sneaks away from his family in Salt Lake City to follow the boys. When Jimmy arrives at the Shoshoni camp, he discovers that he is expected to stay--as a member of the tribe! Inspired by the memoirs of a white man, Elijah Nicholas Wilson, who actually lived with Chief Washakie's tribe as a boy in the mid-1800s, *The Legend of Jimmy Spoon* is a compelling coming-of-age adventure.

*Love Lessons from the Old West: Wisdom from Wild Women*, Chris Enss, TwoDot, 2014.

From Calamity Jane's relentless pursuit of Wild Bill Hickok to Emma Walters, who gave it all up for the dashing Bat Masterson – and learned to regret it, these romantic stories from the Old West are still familiar and entertaining to readers today. Meet Agnes Lake Hickok, the intrepid wife of Wild Bill Hickok and learn about the last love letter he sent before being dealt the dead man's hand. Learn the story behind the charming performer Lotta Crabtree's heartaches. And discover the tale of the dashing Kit Carson and his beautiful bride. This collection features the lessons learned by and from the antics of the women who shaped the West.

*Many Loves of Buffalo Bill: the True Story of Life on the Wild West Show*, Chris Enss, TwoDot, 2010.

With rough-riding cowboys, sure shots, and fantastic reenactments of battles and train robberies, Buffalo Bill Cody brought the myth of the Old West to life for audiences all over the world – and some of the most popular cowboys in his Wild West Show were young ladies. Cody surrounded himself with strong, intelligent, talented, beautiful women – and this revealing portrait tells the stories of his life and of his relationships with many of the trick riders, sharpshooters, and other women associated with the show for which he was famous.

*Women of the West*, Cathy Luchetti, W.W. Norton & Company, 2001.

A myth-shattering look at the women who helped to settle the West, told through their own words and illustrated with 150 period photographs. Through these photos, plus diaries, memoirs, letters, and journals, *Women of the West* introduces 11 real frontier women whose words combine to re-create a place and time when resourcefulness and courage were demanded of everyone. This is American history, not as it was romanticized, but as it was lived.

