

Knowledge-Building Resources for Designing Quad Text Sets

The table below lists a variety of websites for accessing knowledge-building resources. The resource title, website link, and a short description are included for each entry. Most of these resources are freely accessible or require the creation of a free account.

Title of Resource	Link	Description
American Experience (PBS)	https://www.pbs.org/show/american-experience/	TV's most-watched history series brings to life the compelling stories from our past that inform our understanding of the world today.
Biography	https://www.biography.com/	Useful site for students to build knowledge about unknown historical figures referenced in text.
CommonLit	https://www.commonlit.org/en	Free collection of fiction and nonfiction for use in grades 3–12 classrooms.
Digital Public Library of America	https://dp.la/	Discover 37,192,086 images, texts, videos, and sounds from across the United States.
Facing History and Ourselves	https://www.facinghistory.org/educator-resources	Provides resources on various historical topics and current events. Users need to create a free account to access resources.
HISTORY	https://www.history.com/	While all content may not be accessible, topical searches will yield some accessible resources.
Library of Congress	http://www.loc.gov	Largest library of manuscripts in the world, with millions of books, recordings, photographs, and maps in its collection
OER Commons	https://www.oercommons.org/	Public digital library of open educational resources. Explore, create, and collaborate with educators around the world to improve curriculum.

PBS American Portrait	https://www.pbs.org/american-portrait/	Collection of stories contributed by people all over the country — a portrait of what it really means to be American today.
Project Gutenberg	https://www.gutenberg.org/	Includes 60,000 free ebooks, public domain texts.
Simple English Wikipedia	https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page	Wikipedia using simple English and grammar. Note: educators are advised to screen articles for bias and sensitivity.
Smithsonian	https://www.si.edu/	World's largest museum, education, and research complex. Search Art and Design, History and Culture, Science and Nature.
Stitcher	https://www.stitcher.com/	Useful and free collection of podcast and searchable topics.
Teaching History	https://teachinghistory.org/	Designed to help K-12 history teachers access resources and materials to improve U.S. history education in the classroom.
Teaching Tolerance	https://www.tolerance.org/classroom-resources/texts	Searchable library of short texts offers a diverse mix of stories and perspectives. This multigenre, multimedia collection aligns with the Common Core's recommendations for text complexity and the Teaching Tolerance Social Justice Standards.
TIME	https://time.com/	American weekly news magazine (first ever published in the United States) and news website published and based in New York City.
Wiki for Kids	https://www.safesearchkids.com/wikipedia-for-kids/	Filtered search results for images. Users can choose between “safe search,” “safe image,” or “safe wiki.” Note: educators are advised to screen articles for bias and sensitivity.
Wikipedia	https://www.wikipedia.org/	Regular version of Wikipedia. Note: educators are advised to screen articles for bias and sensitivity.