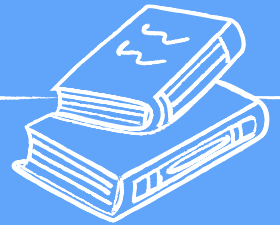
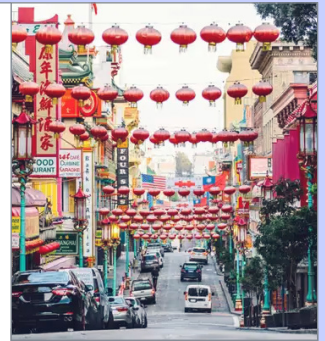


# K-5 Planning Guide

## Integrating AAPI History in Elementary Classrooms

This guide is designed as a practical planning tool to help K-5 educators integrate Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) history throughout the year using ready-to-teach lessons from the AAPI History Hub.



### How to use:

Use the table to find a theme that matches your upcoming unit, then pick one Hub lesson to integrate. Each theme includes common “integration moments” to help you spot easy entry points.

Theme	What this theme covers	Natural integration moments in a typical year (examples)	AAPI History Hub Resources
<p><b>Identity, Belonging, &amp; Community</b></p> <p>Centers students’ lived experiences: who they are, where they come from, and what it means to belong in a classroom and community. Lessons in this theme help students build empathy and shared norms by exploring names, family stories, community roles, and the many ways AAPI identities and experiences show up in everyday life.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identity</li> <li>• Names</li> <li>• Family Stories</li> <li>• Belonging</li> <li>• Community membership</li> <li>• Stereotypes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Back-to-school routines</li> <li>• Classroom community norms</li> <li>• Morning meetings</li> <li>• “All About Me”</li> <li>• Family stories</li> </ul>	<p><a href="#">Names &amp; Cultural Identity</a></p> <p><a href="#">Hidden Voices: AAPI ELA Mini Unit</a></p>
<p><b>Culture, Family &amp; Traditions</b></p> <p>Highlights the many ways culture shows up in children’s lives: family traditions, language, foodways, stories, celebrations, music, and art (beyond holidays). Lessons in this theme help students notice similarities and differences with curiosity and respect, and learn how AAPI communities express identity through everyday practices across generations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultural practices</li> <li>• Family/community traditions</li> <li>• Arts, language, foodways (beyond holidays)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read-aloud units</li> <li>• Cultural storytelling</li> <li>• Community celebrations</li> <li>• Arts integration</li> </ul>	<p><a href="#">Sana Amanat &amp; Ms. Marvel</a></p> <p><a href="#">What Do Things I Wear Say About Me?</a></p>
<p><b>Place, Geography &amp; Environment</b></p> <p>Explores how place shapes people’s lives: neighborhoods, regions, migration routes, and how communities adapt to their environment. Lessons in this theme build map skills and geographic thinking while introducing place-based AAPI stories, helping students understand how movement, settlement, and local environments influence culture and community.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maps</li> <li>• Regions</li> <li>• Place-based stories</li> <li>• Human-environment interaction</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Map skills</li> <li>• “Where we live”</li> <li>• Regions</li> <li>• Migration mapping</li> <li>• Local community study</li> </ul>	<p><a href="#">Chinatowns in the US and Latin America</a></p> <p><a href="#">Ohana Means Family</a></p>
<p><b>Work, Prosperity &amp; Everyday Economics</b></p> <p>Connects jobs and businesses to how families and communities build stability and prosperity over time. Lessons in this theme support basic economic concepts (needs/wants, goods/services, trade, entrepreneurship) while highlighting AAPI workers, innovators, and small business owners, and how their labor and ideas have shaped local economies and everyday life.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jobs</li> <li>• Needs/wants</li> <li>• Goods/services, Trade</li> <li>• Community</li> <li>• Economies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community helpers</li> <li>• Local businesses</li> <li>• Inventions &amp; work</li> <li>• Basic economics</li> </ul>	<p><a href="#">Ted Gnoy: The Donut King</a></p> <p><a href="#">Our History and Our Future</a></p>
<p><b>Civics, Rights &amp; Responsibilities</b></p> <p>Focuses on how communities make decisions and take care of one another: rules, fairness, leadership, participation, and inclusion. Lessons in this theme help students practice civic skills—listening, discussing, problem-solving, and taking action—while learning about AAPI leaders and movements that expanded rights and strengthened democracy.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rules/laws</li> <li>• Fairness</li> <li>• Leadership</li> <li>• Civic participation</li> <li>• Inclusion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Classroom rules &amp; fairness</li> <li>• Local government</li> <li>• Rights &amp; responsibilities</li> <li>• Community problem-solving</li> </ul>	<p><a href="#">Asian American Social Justice Leaders</a></p> <p><a href="#">Women Advancing Equality: Patsy Mink</a></p>



# AAPI History Hub

**We believe  
belonging starts in  
the classroom.**

The AAPI History Hub is a free collection of classroom-ready resources designed to help educators bring Asian American and Pacific Islander history into their existing curriculum.

Explore the full Hub at [aapihistoryhub.org](https://aapihistoryhub.org).

## Acknowledgements

This Planning Guide builds on the Sample Scope & Sequence for Grades K–5 developed by [Asian Americans Advancing Justice | Chicago](#) as part of their groundbreaking TEAACH Act implementation work, which made Illinois the first state to require Asian American history in public schools. We are grateful to Advancing Justice-Chicago for sharing their work and partnering with us to bring these resources to a wider audience through the AAPI History Hub.

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