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Unit Resource Notebook for The Westing Game

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## **Thematically Related Trade Books** (also see Thematic Unit/Bibliography)

### ***Books on the Stock Market:***

- Blumenthal, Karen. Six Days in October: The Stock Market Crash of 1929. New York: Simon & Schuster's Children, 2002.
- Modu, Emmanuel and Andrea Walker. Teeninvestor: The Practical Investment Guide for Teens and Their Parents. New York: Berkley, 2002.

*Six Days in October* is an account of the market crash of October 1929 filled with archival photographs, cartoons, and documents, giving detail about the customs of the stock exchange. *Teeninvestor* is an easy-to-understand guide for teaching teens and their parents how to invest in the stock market.

### ***Different From Everyone?***

- Mitchell, Lori. Different Just Like Me. Watertown: Charlesbridge, 2001.

*Different Just Like Me* is a children's book about a young girl who notices that, like the flowers in Grammie's garden, people that are different from one another,

but that they also share similarities. She learns that it is okay to like people, even if they are different.

***Feeling Depressed:***

Hamilton, DeWitt. Sad Days, Glad Days. Morton Grove: Albert Whitman, 1995.

*Sad Days, Glad Days* is about a girl whose mother has "something called depression." This story helps the reader understand the everyday consequences of depression and the effects it can have on a family.

***Crime/Bombing:***

Ambrose, Stephen E. The Good Fight. New York: Simon & Schuster's Children, 2001.

Tsuchiya, Tukiyo. Faithful Elephants. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1988.

*The Good Fight* attempts to explain how the Allies won World War II through the use of a series of short, informative essays describing key events in Europe and the Pacific that led to the defeat of Germany and Japan. The text includes color and black-and-white photos as well as key battlefield maps. *Faithful Elephants* is the true story about three elephants at the Ueno Zoo in Tokyo during World War II. As bombing began, people were afraid that the cages would be broken, allowing dangerous animals to escape. An order was given to kill all the animals, including the three elephants. This category of books helps teachers to address the issue of violence. In The Westing Game, bombing was not taken very seriously. These books help students to see the horrible consequences caused by bombing and violence.

***Problem Solving: Brainteasers, Puzzles:***

Conrad, Hy. Whodunit Crime Puzzles. New York: Sterling, 2002.

Moscovich, Ivan. 1000 Play Thinks. New York: Workman, 2001.

*Whodunit Crime Puzzles* includes twenty-five brief mysteries that are investigated by Sherman Holmes who is a brilliant sleuth who believes he is descended from the legendary Sherlock Holmes. *1000 Play Thinks* is a book of brainteasers and puzzles featuring hundreds of puzzles in categories such as patterns, numbers, science, perception, geometry, shapes, and more. The Westing Game is a mystery that provides students with problem-solving opportunities. These books provide additional puzzles and mind games to stretch your students' minds.