



TeachersFirst **READING TREKS**

If You Lived Here, Houses of the World

[TeachersFirst Reading Treks Link](#)

Synopsis of Book

Take a trip around the world and through history visiting the homes of various peoples and cultures in this amazing picture book. Giles Laroche bas-relief, cut-paper collages illustrate typical dwellings. Each stop includes information on the house type, materials, location, time period, and fun facts.

Using a TeachersFirst Reading Trek to Explore This Book

TeachersFirst Reading Treks are a way of creating a virtual field trip of resources about a piece of literature or text using the My Maps feature of Google Maps. To motivate and enrich student reading, teachers and students can reference this visual collection of web resources and images as they relate to a book.

TeachersFirst has done the hard work for you! Use the activities in this Instructional Guide and the accompanying Reading Trek as you and your students explore this book. And, if you feel inspired, you (or your students) can create your own Reading Trek about this or another book!

Grade Level & Content Areas

Grades 1 - 4 for reading aloud or older students for individual reading. English Language Arts, social studies, including history and geography. Lexile Level: 1170L Reading Level: 6.6

Common Core State Standards for Grades K-6

Reading

- **Informational Text** (key ideas and details and craft and structure)

Writing

- **Text Types and purposes**
- **Research** (to build and present knowledge)

ISTE: Student Standards

(1) Empowered Learner: Students leverage technology to take an active role in choosing, achieving and demonstrating competency in their learning goals, informed by the learning sciences

(3) Knowledge Constructor: Students critically curate a variety of resources using digital tools to construct knowledge, produce creative artifacts and make meaningful learning experiences for themselves and others.

(6) Creative Communicator: Students communicate clearly and express themselves creatively for a variety of purposes using the platforms, tools, styles, formats and digital media appropriate to their goals

National Curriculum Standards for Social Studies

- Theme: Culture
- Theme: People, Places and Environments
- Theme: Time, Continuity and Change

Using the Reading Trek in Class

This title has connections to people, places and time periods.

1. Introduce the book to the whole class on an interactive whiteboard using the Reading Trek map.
2. Have students research more about the book using the Reading Trek as a web quest.
3. In the continent layers, have students explore the continents, countries and places, including culture, history, geography, and climate.
4. Research the homes chronologically.
 - a. After reading the book, place the home in order on a paper or digital timeline. Use one of the digital timeline tools discussed in [this Ok2Ask webinar](#).
 - b. Have small groups research time period/era of a book and present to the class.
5. Book and author information:
 - a. Read about the author's life and art using the author information links.
 - b. Assign older students extended research papers using one of the titles listed in "Selected Sources" on the last page of the book.

Additional Activities

1. Use the Reading Trek for stimulating discussion, asking questions, or for writing prompts about different cultures and how people live.
2. As an activity or assignment, have individuals or small groups create Reading Treks about homes in their town or state.
3. Using a CAD program, Google Draw or similar software have students design their bedrooms or houses accompanied by a paragraph or short essay describing what is in the design and why.
4. Create a book trailer about the book as a video or podcast.
5. Have students create a collage about themselves and their town, school or houses.

Helpful Resources

- [Giles Laroche Website](#)
- [Illustrations by Giles Laroche](#)
- [Book Trailer Examples](#)
- [TeachersFirst CurriConnects Book List - Maps](#)
- [OK2Ask: Mapping Across Content Areas with Google](#)
- [OK2Ask: Seeing is Believing: Make Literature Come Alive with Google Lit Trips](#)