

Literature Circle Research Slideshow Assignment

Historical and Cultural Context Project

Before starting your literature circle novel, you will complete a short research slideshow to help you understand the **historical background, social issues, and cultural context** of your book.

Create a **6-slide slideshow** using the prompts below for your assigned novel.

Each slide should include:

- 3–5 bullet points
 - at least one image
 - clear explanation in your own words
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Slide Structure

Slide 1 — About the Author

Who wrote the book? What experiences influenced their writing?

Slide 2 — Historical Context

What real historical events shaped this story?

Slide 3 — Social Issues in the Novel

What important social challenges appear in this book?

Slide 4 — Setting and Place

Where does the story take place, and why does that matter?

Slide 5 — Identity and Perspective

Whose voices are centered in this story?

Slide 6 — Why This Book Matters Today

How is this novel still relevant today?

The Hate U Give

Slide 1 — Author

Research Angie Thomas and her experiences growing up in Mississippi

Slide 2 — Historical Context

Research the Black Lives Matter movement

Slide 3 — Social Issues

Police violence, racial profiling, activism

Slide 4 — Setting

Life in urban American communities and inequality between neighbourhoods

Slide 5 — Identity

Code-switching between different social groups

Slide 6 — Relevance Today

Why conversations about race and justice are still important

Kindred

Slide 1 — Author

Octavia Butler's role as a groundbreaking Black science-fiction writer

Slide 2 — Historical Context

Slavery in the American South (1800s)

Slide 3 — Social Issues

Power, survival, racism, family history

Slide 4 — Setting

Differences between the 1800s plantation South and modern California

Slide 5 — Identity

How ancestry shapes identity

Slide 6 — Relevance Today

Why understanding slavery still matters today

Field Guide to the North American Teenager

Slide 1 — Author

Ben Philippe's immigration background

Slide 2 — Historical Context

Modern American teen culture

Slide 3 — Social Issues

Stereotypes, belonging, identity as a newcomer

Slide 4 — Setting

High school culture in Texas

Slide 5 — Identity

What it means to be an outsider in a new country

Slide 6 — Relevance Today

Why identity and belonging matter for teenagers

Internment

Slide 1 — Author

Samira Ahmed's activism and writing background

Slide 2 — Historical Context

Japanese American internment camps during WWII

Slide 3 — Social Issues

Islamophobia, surveillance, civil rights

Slide 4 — Setting

A fictional future United States

Slide 5 — Identity

Muslim American identity and resistance

Slide 6 — Relevance Today

Why protecting civil rights is important today

Daughters of the Deer

Slide 1 — Author

Danielle Daniel's Métis heritage

Slide 2 — Historical Context

Colonial Canada and the fur trade era

Slide 3 — Social Issues

Colonization and Indigenous survival

Slide 4 — Setting

Early Canadian frontier life

Slide 5 — Identity

Métis identity and women's roles in history

Slide 6 — Relevance Today

Why Indigenous stories are important in Canada today

Long Way Down

Slide 1 — Author

Jason Reynolds and his writing about youth experiences

Slide 2 — Historical Context

Cycles of violence in urban communities

Slide 3 — Social Issues

Gun violence, grief, revenge expectations

Slide 4 — Setting

Why the elevator journey is symbolic

Slide 5 — Identity

Expectations placed on young men

Slide 6 — Relevance Today

Why breaking cycles of violence matters today

Gutter Child

Slide 1 — Author

Jael Richardson's writing about race in Canada

Slide 2 — Historical Context

Connections to segregation and systemic racism in Canadian history

Slide 3 — Social Issues

Institutional racism and belonging

Slide 4 — Setting

A fictional dystopian version of Canada

Slide 5 — Identity

Mixed-race identity and displacement

Slide 6 — Relevance Today

Why conversations about racism in Canada are important

Iron Widow

Slide 1 — Author

Xiran Jay Zhao and their connection to Chinese history

Slide 2 — Historical Context

Wu Zetian, China's only female emperor

Slide 3 — Social Issues

Gender inequality and patriarchy

Slide 4 — Setting

Science-fiction world inspired by medieval China

Slide 5 — Identity

Female empowerment and resistance

Slide 6 — Relevance Today

Why gender equality conversations continue today

Dear Martin

Slide 1 — Author

Nic Stone's experiences writing about race in America

Slide 2 — Historical Context

Modern racial justice movements

Slide 3 — Social Issues

Police bias, privilege, stereotypes

Slide 4 — Setting

Modern American school and justice systems

Slide 5 — Identity

Code-switching and expectations

Slide 6 — Relevance Today

Why discussions about justice and equality matter today

Staying Fat for Sarah Byrnes

Slide 1 — Author

Chris Crutcher's background as a counselor working with teens

Slide 2 — Historical Context

Teen social pressures in the 1990s

Slide 3 — Social Issues

Abuse, censorship, friendship, identity

Slide 4 — Setting

American high school social environment

Slide 5 — Identity

Self-worth and loyalty in friendships

Slide 6 — Relevance Today

Why speaking truth and supporting others still matters today