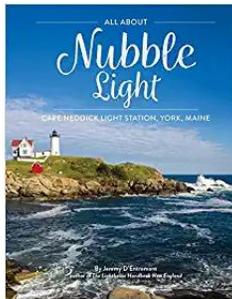


A Reading Kit for Middle School Students

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Rationale: USLHS is expanding its youth initiative. Youth are the next generation of lighthouse preservationists. Materials and experiences are needed for middle school youth (grades 6-8). Middle school students are familiar with fiction books, a.k.a. "Chapter Books." Nonfiction books may still be a puzzle for them. In this kit, we emphasize: How to read and use a nonfiction book and the information it contains.

Instructional Design: U.S. Lighthouse Society's "Education Committee" has produced an online, downloadable "Learning Kit" based on the nonfiction book, *All about Nubble Light* by Jeremy D'Entremont. Jeremy is the historian and archivist for the U.S. Lighthouse Society and a seasoned nonfiction writer. He is an excellent public speaker and hosts the society's weekly podcast, "Light Hearted." His book is fun, informative, and a great starting point for learning about lighthouses.



[Amazon.com says:](#) Nubble Light has long been at the center of Maine's maritime history and lore and is undoubtedly one of the state's greatest treasures...and *All About Nubble Light* is a treasure trove of facts, figures, history, and folklore surrounding this majestic beacon. Inside this book, you'll find:

- *The fascinating origins of Nubble Light and the history of the surrounding region
- *True tales of shipwrecks and daring rescues
- *Efforts undertaken for preservation
- *Stories of colorful keepers

In addition, this book is filled with information for visiting and viewing the lighthouse. More than just a lighthouse handbook, this is your one-stop travel guide and reference source for touring and learning about this spectacular location on the southern Maine seacoast.

Components: Items in **red** have a ready-made worksheet to accompany them.

- Ask your principal or PTO to fund the purchase of copies of *The Nubble Light* by Jeremy D'Entremont. Retail cost is \$14.95 per copy, but you should be able to get the books at wholesale cost through a book distributor.
- Have students create an online folder (or physical folder) called "Nubble Light" to store their work. Worksheets, scanned drawings, pictures, etc. should go into the folder. This can be emailed or handed in to the instructor at the end of the unit as a portfolio of learning. Below are examples of assignments and activities. Do add your own; personalize this kit as needed.
- Create a pre-reading K-W impression/experience sheet to do in literature circles. (K-W: What do I know about lighthouses? What do I want to learn about lighthouses?) Whole-class discussion should follow.
- Map the location of the Nubble Light using Google Maps. Write a reflective response about the location.

- Plan a reading strategy, depending on the availability of books—whole class/group, one copy per literature circle, or individual copies. Encourage note-taking. “Ah ha!” moments should be recorded, as in “I can’t believe and picture of the lighthouse was digitized and sent into outer space!” Build in catch-up plans for student absences. Ask students to brainstorm for ideas on how to equitably share one book in a group of four or five.
- Develop a Yesterday and Today slide show of images of the 1879 Nubble Light with accompanying discussion topics. **Folders** are included in the learning kit with old and new images. Students might also use D’Entremont’s book. He has plenty of old and new images of the lighthouse.
- Assign circles, pairs, or individuals to create PowerPoint presentations on approved topics in the book, such as “Living at an Island Lighthouse,” “The Natural World around the Nubble Light,” “Nubble Light’s Notoriety,” “Animals at the Nubble Light,” or “Who Lived at the Nubble Light?”
- Do a PowerPoint Presentation Day of the finished programs.
- **In small groups, develop a “Facts about Nubble Lighthouse” using the book *All about Nubble Lighthouse* and other sources.**
- **Create a double or triple Venn Diagram comparing and contrasting two or three books, one being *All about Nubble Lighthouse*.**
- Have students create drawings, paintings, painted rocks or shells, and the like of Nubble Lighthouse. Want to make a painting or drawing foggy? Attach a sheet of waxed paper over top of it. When the wax paper covers the drawing, it looks foggy. When it is lifted up, the image is clear. Want to make a model of Nubble Light? Go here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vznZrOIUWks>. The music is fun too!
- Assign students Writing Prompts about the Nubble Lighthouse. These may be nonfiction or fiction prompts. Use pictures as prompts. Use sidebars as prompts and help students understand the purpose of sidebars. They may wish to add sidebars to their own nonfiction writings. (The sidebars in **The Nubble Light** are red pages.)
- A fun writing prompt might be: “If I Owned the Nubble Light Gift Shop.” A folder in this learning kit is titled “**Souvenirs**” and gives ideas and inspiration for some items that might be sold in a gift shop.
- Write a book review such as would appear in a newspaper or magazine or online. This is NOT a report. It’s a review. It needs to be persuasive writing.
- Offer a classroom Zoom session with the author, Jeremy D’Entremont. Email—jeremy@uslhs.org
- Explore other titles by the author. (Amazon has several.)
- For students in proximity, plan a field trip to view the lighthouse.
- Extend student learning by creating a reading table with books about other lighthouses, lighthouses in general, the sea, shipwrecks, pirates, and more.

More Sources

- Facebook.com/NubbleArt/
- Newenglandlighthouses.net/cape-neddick-nubble-light-history.html
- Lighthousefriends.com/light.asp?ID=548
- Nubblelight.org
- Nubblelightstore.com
- <https://www.facebook.com/capeneddick/>

Learning Outcomes:

- Learn and rehearse approaches to reading a nonfiction book, A.K.A. “Don’t just open to page 1 and start reading.” Read the covers first. Scan the table of contents and index. Open to a random page and scan it. Look at photos.
- Practice using Google Maps and other mapping resources.

- Track and appreciate a place's timeline and age, its past and present.
- Develop a plan for reading, including note-taking of facts. Practice skills for reading in pairs and literature circles.
- Learn to create a presentation with PowerPoint.
- Develop and practice public presentation skills.
- Create art as a method of expression and presentation.
- Continue to develop as a reader and writer.
- Refine note-taking skills.
- Improve persuasive writing.
- Learn to use Zoom or another face-to-face communication.