# Hand in Hand

## RIF EXTENSION ACTIVITIES FOR EDUCATORS

#### THINK-TAC-TOE ACTIVITY OPTIONS

- Individual students can choose an activity to complete.
- Student pairs or cooperative groups can work together on a choice of their own.
- Educators can assign an activity for an individual, pairs or groups.



#### **FAMILY HISTORY**

Talk to your grandparents or other older family members about your family history. Write a poem that shares something interesting about your family's past. Illustrate your poem with old photographs or pictures from other sources.

Word Smart/Creative Writing

#### I CAN SEE CLEARLY NOW...

It is always easier to look back in history and see what should have happened. Choose a modern-day event and write a poem about it from the perspective of a poet in 2050.

Word Smart/Creative Writing

### **HEADLINE NEWS**

Choose one of the poems from the anthology. Rewrite it as a newspaper article. Be sure to include a headline and important facts like date and location.

Informative Writing/Social Studies

#### **POSTCARD POETRY**

Choose a postcard or a picture of a famous place or landmark in the United States. Study the picture and write a poem about the place. Use descriptive words so that the scene comes alive for the reader. Include the location of your landmark and a few facts about its history.

Word Smart/Social Studies/ Geography

## TRAINS, PLANES AND AUTOMOBILES

American history is filled with stories about transportation. Pick one kind of transportation from a poem in the book and research to find out how it works. When was it invented? What powers it? Make a poster or PowerPoint to share your findings.

Science/Informative Writing

#### **POETRY IN MOTION**

Pick a poem. With a partner or group, research to find out more about the event it describes. Write and perform a short play about the event for the class. For a fun bonus, speak in rhymes!

Art Smart/Social Studies

#### WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Write an *acrostic* poem about a famous person in American history! For each letter of his or her name, write one word that starts with that letter that describes him/her. Draw a picture to decorate your poem.

Example: Aways told the truth

Bearded

Emancipated the slaves

Word Smart/Creative Writing

#### **GLOBAL CONNECTION**

These are poems about American history. Pick an important event from the history of another country and write a poem about it. Write a short description of the event your poem is about, including where and when.

Word Smart/Social Studies

#### **LADY LIBERTY**

America's colors are red, white and blue, so why is the Statue of Liberty green? Research to find out! Also find out where and when the Statue of Liberty was made and how it got to the U.S. Show your findings in a brochure.

Science/Social Studies

