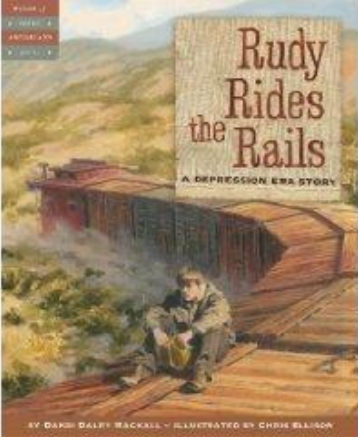




Book Backdrops: Connecting Literature and Primary Sources

Adapted from Gail Petri, Educational Resource Specialist, Library of Congress
<http://www.loc.gov/teachers/professionaldevelopment/tpsdirect/pdplanbuilder/>

By: Mary Beth Scumaci
 Date: March 2, 2010

Search Words: Great Depression, Children of the Great Depression, Riding the Rails, Railroads, Hobos, Hobo Symbols, Factories

<p style="text-align: center;">Cover Image</p> 	<p>Title: Rudy Rides the Rails A Depression Era Story by Dandi Daley Mackall & Illustrated by Chris Ellison Sleeping Bear Press ISBN: 978-1-58536-286-8</p> <p>Summary: The story is about a young boy in the depression era who leaves his family in search of a job so he can send money home to his family. He learns how to ride the rails and survive in the depression. He eventually returns home and carves the cat symbol on his front porch. This symbolizes that the home exhibits kindness to those in need.</p> <p>Setting: 1932- A poor depression family in Ohio. The young boy rides the rails westward in search of a better life.</p> <p>Subjects: Riding the Rails, family loyalty, depression era, personal dreams, human survival, working together in times of need, empathy for others.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Primary Source Thumbnail</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Library of Congress Bibliographic Information and Book Notes</p>
	<p>Title: Two hobos walking along railroad tracks, after being put off a train</p> <p>Collection: George Grantham Bain Collection (Library of Congress)</p> <p>URL: http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/cph.3a50795</p> <p>Book Note: Rudy encountered many other "Hobos" on his journey to California and back. He had to be careful and learn who he could trust. It was a dangerous journey. His father told him "Look out for you and yours, and nobody else."</p>
	<p>Title: Miami bound / Walter Hale photos</p> <p>Summary: Image from article entitled "Hobo women - a new social problem in the South", showing girl on railroad car and her brother boarding.</p> <p>Collection: LOOK Magazine Photograph Collection (Library of Congress).</p> <p>URL: LOOK Magazine Photograph Collection (Library of Congress). http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/cph.3c27746</p> <p>Book Note: Rudy had to learn how to ride the rails.</p>

