Pacific Islands—Melanesia

Digital Resources and Children’s Books

Updated 12/2020

Kid-Friendly YouTube Clips:

Genetic History of the Pacific Islands, Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l8calZOhVv8

An Overview of Melanesia, It’s People and History: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZQFxccv7D50

Melanesian Africans, Fiji, Solomon, Vanatu and Papua New Guinea: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qe2jIMoZCSs

The People of Fiji: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QuBObB_tgnU

Fiji’s Unchanged Traditions: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BV7-BYrg_7g

Papua New Guinea, Overview: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n0amE96UjWk

The Food of Papua New Guinea: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_K2qU6VWwYE

New Caledonia/ Decolonialization: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xAhAK80K_kA

Villages and Culture in the Solomon Islands: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QyHBx_U67k

Solomon Islands Malika Shell Money Making: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XPA6-pTDicE

From the Field, The Plants and People of Vanuatu: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=akUblqLd6U

Language Lesson from the Happiest People on Earth in Vanuatu: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JrXDuR0WeCM

The Traditional Dances of Melanesia: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=asqepg0rDwE

Abaia, Monster Eel of Doom: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nEUzCDDqUUQ
Websites:

Geography of Melanesia: https://geography.name/melanesia/
Melanesia Overview: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Melanesia
People of Melanesia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Melanesians
Melanesian Mythology: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Melanesian_mythology
Melanesian Folktales: https://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Folk-Lore/Volume_4/Melanesian_Folk-tales
Melanesian Religions: http://www.philtar.ac.uk/encyclopedia/westoc/melan.html
All About Kava, Fiji’s National Drink: https://www.tripsavvy.com/enjoying-kava-fijis-national-drink-1532876
East Melanesian Islands – Species: https://www.cepf.net/our-work/biodiversity-hotspots/east-melanesian-islands/species
Making Connections across Melanesia to save Coral Reefs: https://coral.org/blog/making-connections-across-melanesia/

Lesson Plans:

Expansion of the Melanesian, Polynesian and Micronesian Cultures: https://study.com/academy/lesson/expansion-of-melanesian-polynesian-micronesian-cultures.html
Lesson Planet, Micronesia, Melanesia: https://www.lessonplanet.com/search?keywords=micronesia+melanesia
| Title: Pacific Island Legends, Tales from Micronesia, Melanesia, Polynesia and Australia  
| Author: Nancy Bo Flood  
| Publisher: The Bess Press, Inc.  
| ISBN: 978-1573060783  
| Summary: Collects forty-three historical or traditional stories from the Pacific Islands, including creation myths and stories of gods, heroes, and ordinary people. |

| Title: Enchantment of the World, Solomon Islands  
| Author: Judith Diamond  
| Publisher: Scholastic Library Publishing  
| Summary: This series succeeds dramatically in communicating the unique charm, the allure, and the cultures of other parts of the world. Here also are geography, history, economics, key attractions ... and so much more. The result is a delightful mix of enchantment that is as riveting as it is informative. |

| Title: Cultures of the World, Fiji  
| Author: Roseline Ng Cheong-Lum  
| Publisher: Cavendish Square Publishing  
| Summary: The highly regarded Cultures of the World series celebrates the diversity of other cultures in this fully updated and expanded edition. |
Title: My Ocean Home Fiji  
Author: Penelope Casey  
Publisher: Penelope Casey  
ISBN: 978-9829812711  
Summary: The popular series ‘Tui’s Gang’ releases their second picture book in the multicultural children’s book series. 'My Ocean Home Fiji' invites young readers to spend a day with Tui; a small Fijian boy, as he explores the reef and ocean near his home. The adventurous and water-loving Tui starts his day by exploring the beach with friends and finding kasikasi crabs. As Tui and his friends wade into the shallow waters they encounter beautiful blue starfish and schools of small fish near the reef. They swim to deeper waters and they find larger marine animals like the gentle turtle and a camouflaged octopus hidden in the rocks. Tui’s sea animal friends eventually lead him to the shining underwater treasure!

Title: The Turtle and the Island A Folktale from Papua New Guinea  
Author: Barbara Ker Wilson  
Publisher: Harper Collins Publishing  
Summary: Retells the legend of how Papua New Guinea was made by the great sea turtle, the mother of all sea turtles.

Title: Vanuatu, The Foreign Education of Abel  
Author: Karin Jensen  
Publisher: Readtodiscover  
Summary: 12-year-old Abel invites you to walk a few miles in his flip-flops as he leaves his tribal home for the first time on a cargo ship to go to boarding school. Here, in the jungles of the South Pacific, he has to fight not only for knowledge, but for food, acceptance and friendship. Meanwhile, a proposal for a new business on his island may threaten his clan's very existence. Thanks to what he's learning about himself and the world around him, he discovers how to become the leader his community will need.