Use the following classroom activities to accompany your reading of *The Kids Book of Canadian Immigration* by Deborah Hodge. The activities are designed to engage your students in thinking about Canada’s past and present, and about the people who have come here from many countries of the world. Free to print and share these activities with your colleagues. Thank you for your interest!

**LANGUAGE ARTS**

Ask your students to:

**Imagine** you are a passenger travelling to Canada from Europe on a ship across the Atlantic in the early 1800s. Write a journal entry describing your travels.

**Imagine** you are a newcomer to the Canadian prairies in the early 1900s. Compose a letter to your family describing the challenges of your new life.

**Make a list** of reasons why people might leave their home country to come to Canada (past or present) and why Canada would (or would not) be a good place to emigrate to.

**Interview** a family member or friend who came to Canada from another country. Ask about their experiences of moving from one country to another. What were the benefits? What were the challenges? Were there any surprises? Present your findings in an oral or written report.

**Ask your parents** or other family members about your background. Where is your family from? Make a family tree.

**Imagine** (or remember) a journey you took from one country to another. Make a postcard with an illustration on one side and a message on the other describing your journey.

**Compile a list** of immigration terms and define them. For example: passport, immigrate, refugee, settler and so on.

**Dramatize** the historical arrival of people at Pier 21 in Halifax. The characters might include: immigration officials, medical doctors doing health checks, and volunteers assisting the newcomers. Dress up in costumes, create passports and immigration documents.

**Read novels** and other books that describe the experience of emigrating to a new country. (A few examples are: *Goodbye Marianne* by Irene Watts, *The Arrival* by Shaun Tan, and books from the *Dear Canada series*.)
SOCIAL STUDIES

Research why one cultural group came to Canada and what their early experiences in Canada were like. (For example, many early Irish immigrants were fleeing the potato famine.) Present your findings in a written or oral report, a drawing, or a dramatic presentation.

Make a map of Canada showing where most newcomers settle today. Compare this with where immigrants settled in the early 1900s.

Hold a class discussion on discrimination or racism. Brainstorm ways to make newcomers feel welcome.

Host a multicultural day. Cook food from other countries or set up a potluck, inviting students and their families to bring traditional dishes of their home countries.

Take a field trip to a museum to find out where people in your area came from and what their early days were like.

SCIENCE

Research the history and development of modes of transportation to Canada (ship, train, airplane) over time and present your findings in a written or oral report.

Use an atlas to compare temperatures and precipitation for Canada and another country of the world that people emigrate from. Consider how Canada’s weather and climate might affect the newcomers.

MATH

Create a graph or pie chart showing Canada's cultural mix (numbers of people from various regions of the world).

Make a chart comparing the above figures with numbers from the early 1900s.

FINE ARTS

Paint or draw a scene from an early immigrant ship or homesteader train.

Design a brochure or poster advertising Canada to other parts of the world. What might attract people to Canada?

Using modeling clay, build a model-sized sod house or prairie homestead.

Sing, play or listen to traditional music from other countries.

Create a multicultural mural.

Make a collage that shows something meaningful about you and your heritage.
Create an illustrated book that shows the immigration journey of someone in history or yourself. (See *The Arrival* by Shaun Tan for an example.)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

For more information on Deborah’s books or school visits, please see her website. Thank you for your interest!

WWW.DEBORAHHODGE.COM
However, Canadian immigration is a complicated legal process, especially if you want to immigrate using a work visa in 2019. Find out how to immigrate to Canada as a nanny! Moving to Canada as a nanny is becoming increasingly popular, and is an excellent life choice for many people. However, Canadian immigration is a complicated legal process, especially if you want to immigrate using a work visa. Canada does offer attractive opportunities for those who plan to live and work in the country using a work visa. If you are looking to move to the US from Canada, see this. After assuring Canadians that any abuses with the TFW program were being cracked down on in 2013, Minister Kenney found himself with a scandal on his hands by April of 2014. According to a recent CBC Survey taken in 2014, 75% of Canadians feel Canada is a welcoming place for all ethnicities but only 55% feel they are important to building a stable economic future for Canada. In other words, when it comes to competing with immigrants for jobs, Canadians are not nearly as generous in their attitudes. With the outrage over the Temporary Foreign Workers Program scandal, a significant portion of Canadians worry about losing their jobs to immigrants. Filipino immigration to Canada began somewhat late compared to many other nationalities. Immigrants from the Philippines were first recorded in small numbers in the year 1930. By the 50s and 60s, only 800 or so had settled in Canada. Almost all resided in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Filipinos in Canada can and do work in a wide range of disciplines in every province in the country. Because many Filipinos have a good command of the English language, they are able to find jobs and quickly settle into their new homes upon arrival. Many Filipino immigrants find work in one of two popular fields: nursing and care giving. Prospective immigrants with experience in these fields are in luck, as Canada has many immigration programs geared towards workers with these skill sets.