

Using
Tunnels of Time
in the classroom

A wild looking-glass trip through time, from present-day Moose Jaw to the past of Prohibition and gangsters and the mysterious underground tunnels.

*These suggestions for using *Tunnels of Time* are taken from the comprehensive novel study guide created by Mary Harelkin Bishop and Eileen Deneiko. For the complete guide, see www.stf.sk.ca/teaching_res/library/teach_mat_centre/tmc/E11281/Tunnels%20of%20Time.pdf

- Invite discussion about Moose Jaw. Where is it located? Why is it important? What do you know about it? Explain the significance of the discovery of tunnels under downtown Moose Jaw.
- Invite discussion about time travel. Is it possible? Explain why you think it would or wouldn't be a good idea to time travel.
- Have students work in groups to make a newspaper of the 1920s. They should include all major portions of the paper such as: headlines, editorials, advertisements, classifieds, local and international news, etc. The articles in the paper should reflect events of that time period, as should prices in advertisements.
- Students should choose a character and then write at least five diary entries from that character's point of view. The diary could include things that might have happened to the character before, during or after the tunnel adventure.
- Have students choose a character and do one of the following:
 - prepare and give a speech from the character's point of view on one of the important topics in the book, such as Prohibition, Asian Immigrants and their Rights, The Head Tax, Gender Issues, corruption of authorities, etc.
 - choose a part from the novel and act it out
 - choose a part from the novel, change it and act it out
- The novel makes several references to gender issues, such as girls being allowed in the tunnels, girls' jobs and appearance. Have students compare the gender issue of yesterday to those of today. How have things changed? How are they still the same? What is fair? What should be done to promote gender equity?
- The tunnels in Moose Jaw are just one of many interesting and colourful places in the history of Saskatchewan. Have students choose and then research an interesting historical place or event in the province. Students may present their findings in a variety of ways such as, an oral presentation, a written report, an audio tape with or without accompanying slides, a visual display. A map of Saskatchewan could be visibly displayed in the classroom on a bulletin board. The historical places could be marked on the map, giving students an idea of where various sites are located.
- Students are contracted by the gangsters to build secret tunnels underground. List ten challenges you will face in doing the job. Problem solve how you would overcome them using the science and technology of the 1920s.
- Create a 'Most Wanted' poster for a character from the book. Include a written description and key information that would lead to a positive identification.

