Unit Title/Theme: American Dream

Focus: Historical Documents/Poetry/Speeches

Grade Level: 8

Texts Examined:
Poetry
"I Hear America Singing" by Walt Whitman
"I Too" by Langston Hughes
"Let America be America Again" by Langston Hughes
"O'Captain, My Captain" by Walt Whitman
"The Midnight Ride" by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
"Ellis   Island" by Joseph Bruchac
"New   Colossus " by Emma Lazarus

-Informational-
Documents
The Declaration of Independence
Preamble to the *Constitution of the United States*
The Bill of Rights
Expository
What is the American Dream? Essay from Library of Congress
"Manifest Destiny" Essay
Speeches
The Gettysburg Address by Abraham Lincoln
"Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death" by Patrick Henry
Inaugural Address by John F. Kennedy
Magazine Articles
American Dreams Profiles from *Forbes* Magazine
Time Magazine Article "Coming to America" (in textbook)
"Coming to America" by Marianne Szegedy Maszak (in textbook)
"Keeping the Dream Alive" by Jon Meachum from Time Magazine

Multimedia
Ellis Island (Photos)
 Description of Ellis Island (Informational Text) by Jacob Riis 1903
 Ellis Island: Deconstructed (Video) History Channel Unknown History.com

Writing: (Argumentative, Expository, Narrative)
Paul Revere Essay - Why Longfellow Changed Story (Argumentative)
Most Effective Speech Analysis/ Argument (Argumentative)
TPCASTT Poetry Analysis (Expository)
Short answers to essential questions

Speaking:
Group discussion during poetry analysis

Presentation of visual
Viewing: JFK Inaugural Speech (video)   Reenactment of Gettysburg Address (video)   *American: Fact vs. Fiction* - Paul Revere episode from History Channel (video)   *The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere* (1931) by Grant Wood (Painting)   See multi-media above
Listening: Reading of "The Midnight Ride" from Paul Revere House   Reading of "Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death"
Project: Visual representation of what the American Dream is to student
Notes: Grammar, language, conventions, and vocabulary are imbedded in every unit.