

**Book Title:** *Smiler's Bones*

**Authors:** Peter Lerangis

**Annotation:** *Smiler's Bones*, is the heartfelt story of Minik, his father and the plight of Inuit people who were taken from their home in Greenland to New York city in 1897. Explorer Robert Peary took them to the American Museum of Natural History as living "Eskimo" exhibits. It is a compelling, engaging story of loss, deception, exploration and survival based on historical facts from the book "Give Me My Father's Body: The Life of Minik, the New York Eskimo" by Kenn Harper.

**Concepts at a Glance:**

- ✚ Community, identity, place
- ✚ Culture, tradition, history
- ✚ Resilience, humility, courage, loss

**Could be part of text sets on survival, identity, explorers**

**Projects, Ideas and Activities:**

1. Math – determine distance from Greenland to New York and convert distance
2. Science – ecological systems of the Arctic and northwest passage
3. Social – freedom, democracy, human rights
4. English language Arts: Interview Minik



## Smiler's Bones: Curricular Links

### Social Studies General Outcomes

- 6.1 Citizens participating in Decision Making
- 8.3.1 Appreciate how a society's worldview influences the society's choices, decisions and interactions with other societies

### Social Studies Values and Attitudes

- Value the diversity, respect the dignity and support the equality of all human beings

### Social Studies Skills and Processes

- Develop skills of critical thinking and creative thinking
- Develop skills of historical thinking

### Mathematical Strands:

#### Shape and Space

- (5) Demonstrate an understanding of measuring length

**Mathematical Processes:** Problem Solving, Reasoning

### Science Grade 7: Unit A: Interactions and Ecosystems (Social and Environmental)

### English Language Arts

#### 4.2 Clarify and Extend

- (7) Use talk, writing and representing to examine, clarify and assess understanding of ideas, information and experiences.

#### 2.2 Respond to Texts

- (7) Experience oral, print and other media texts from a variety of cultural traditions and genres, such as journals, nature programs, short stories, poetry, letters, CDROM programs, mysteries, historical fiction, drawings and prints.

#### 2.3 Understand Forms, Elements and Techniques

- (6) Explore techniques, such as visual imagery, sound, flashback and voice inflection, in oral, print and other media texts.