This multi-media resource list, compiled by Shaun Briley of the San Diego Public Library provides a range of perspectives on the issues raised by the upcoming P.O.V. documentary “Up The Yangtze” that premieres on Wednesday, October 8th, 2008 at 10 PM (check local listings at www.pbs.org/pov/).

Nearing completion, China’s massive Three Gorges Dam is altering the landscape and the lives of people living along the fabled Yangtze River. Countless ancient villages and historic locales will be submerged, and 2 million people will lose their homes and livelihoods. The Yu family desperately seeks a reprieve by sending their 16-year-old daughter to work in the cruise ship industry that has sprung up to give tourists a last glimpse of the legendary river valley. With cinematic sweep, “Up the Yangtze” explores lives transformed by the biggest hydroelectric dam in history, a hotly contested symbol of the Chinese economic miracle. An Official Selection of the 2008 Sundance Film Festival. An EyeSteelFilm/National Film Board of Canada production in association with American Documentary | P.O.V. A co-presentation with the Center for Asian American Media (CAAM).

ADULT NONFICTION


Chetham, Deirdre. Before the Deluge: The Vanishing World of the Yangtze’s Three Gorges. New York, N.Y.: Palgrave Macmillan. (2002). A look at the communities about to be destroyed by the dam, including the social and political history of the area.

Cowles, Ben. Through the Dragon’s Mouth: Journeys into the Yangzi’s Three Gorges. Santa Barbara, Calif.: Fitzian Press. (1999). An account of life along the Yangtze before the dam was built.


Ma, Jun. China’s Water Crisis. Norwalk, CT: EastBridge. (2004). In the context of large water projects like the Three Gorges Dam, this book gives a bleak outlook for China’s water supply and outlines predicted water shortages for population centers.


Qing, Dai et al. The River Dragon Has Come! The Three Gorges Dam and the Fate of China’s Yangtze River and Its People. Armonk, N.Y.: M.E. Sharpe. (1998). A compilation of critical essays about the human and environmental costs of the dam, by a woman who was imprisoned for her opposition to it.


Mertha, Andrew C. *China’s Water Warriors: Citizen Action and Policy Change*. Cornell University Press, 2008. Studies the effect widespread opposition to dam projects throughout China have had on the country’s political atmosphere.


**ADULT FICTION**


**NONFICTION FOR YOUNGER READERS**


**FICTION FOR YOUNGER READERS**


"Great Wall Across The Yangtze". A film by Ellen Perry. PBS Home Video, 2000. (57 min.). Actor Martin Sheen narrates this documentary about the 15-year project to build the world’s largest dam and hydroelectric power plant. www.shoppbs.org

"Three Gorges: Biggest Dam in the World". A film by Jodie Foster & Justin Albert. Discovery Channel, 2006. (52 min.). Issues surrounding the building of the Three Gorges Dam are discussed with the help of expert interviews and computer simulation. www.shopping.discovery.com


"Drowned Out." A film by Franny Armstrong. (87 min.). The story of one family’s stand against the destruction of their land, homes, and culture brought on by the building of India’s Narmada Dam. www.bullfrogfilms.com
www.amazon.com

“Wild China”. A film by BBC Video. BBC Video, 2008. (300 min). This six hour miniseries was produced by the BBC and China’s CCTV and invites viewers into a country steeped in tradition and moving towards modernity.
www.amazon.com