Math History Resources: Articles for Students

"Galois Theory for Beginners"
John Stillwell, The American Mathematical Monthly, Vol. 101, No. 1 (Jan., 1994), pp. 22-27
The stated goal of the author is "to prove the unsolvability by radicals of the quintic ... using just the fundamentals of groups, rings, and fields from a standard first course in algebra."
And a nice companion piece to go with it is:

"Genius and Biographers: The Fictionalization of Evariste Galois"
Tony Rothman , The American Mathematical Monthly, Vol. 89, No. 2 (Feb., 1982), pp. 84-106.

"Evolution of the Function Concept: A Brief Survey. The College "
Kleiner, I. (1989). Evolution of the Function Concept: A Brief Survey. The College Mathematics Journal 20 (4), 282 - 300.

"The Evolution of the Normal Distribution"
Stahl, S. (2006). Mathematics Magazine 79 (2), 96 - 113.

"Mathematics: History of the Integral of the Secant",
V. Frederick Rickey, Philip M. Tuchinsky , An Application of Geography to Mathematics Magazine, Vol. 53, No. 3 (May, 1980), pp. 162-166

"Learning from Liu Hui? A Different Way to Do Mathematics"
Christopher Cullen in Notices of the American Mathematical Society, August 2002.
http://www.ams.org/notices/200207/comm-cullen.pdf
"Whereas Euclid was concerned to show how a great number of true propositions could be deduced from a small number of axioms, the anonymous author of the [Nine Chapters] followed a different but no less rational route in the reverse direction. He started from the almost infinite variety of possible problems and aimed to show that those known to him could all be reduced to nine basic categories solvable by nine basic methods."

"New Light on Plimpton 322"
Eleanor Robson in The American Mathematical Monthly, 109 (Feb. 2002), 105-120.
http://www.jstor.org/view/00029890/di021359/02p0070u/0?frame=noframe&userID=86351e51@muohio.edu/01cc99334100501e93582&dpi=3&config=jstor

"Descartes and Problem Solving"
Judith Grabiner, in Mathematics Magazine, 68:2, April 1995.
http://www.jstor.org/view/0025570x/di021189/02p0130a/0?frame=noframe&userID=86351e51@muohio.edu/01cce4403500501d01f5d&dpi=3&config=jstor

"The Literal Calculus of Viete and Descartes”
I. G. Bashmakova and G. S. Smirnova, in The American Mathematical Monthly, 106:3 (March 1999), pp. 260-263.
http://www.jstor.org/view/00029890/di011936/01p0377m/0?frame=noframe&userID=86351e51@muohio.edu/01cc99334100501e67a1d&dpi=3&config=jstor

"Isaac Newton: Man, Myth, and Mathematics”
V. Frederick Rickey in the College Mathematics Journal, 18:5 (November 1987).
http://www.jstor.org/view/07468342/di020729/02p0067y/0?frame=noframe&userID=86351e51@muohio.edu/01cce4403700501bacd3f&dpi=3&config=jstor

"The Changing Concept of Change”
Judith Grabiner in Mathematics Magazine, 56:4 (September 1983).
http://www.jstor.org/view/0025570x/di021131/02p02223/0?frame=noframe&userID=86351e51@muohio.edu/01cce4403700501bacd3f&dpi=3&config=jstor