5th Annual Latinx Read-In Week Recommended Booklist

September 30th - October 4th, 2019



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TK - 2nd Grade Recommended Books

1. Mango, Abuela, and Me by Meg Medina

Mia's abuela has left her sunny house with parrots and palm trees to live with Mia and her parents in the city. The night she arrives, Mia tries to share her favorite book with Abuela before they go to sleep and discovers that Abuela can't read the words inside. So while they cook, Mia helps Abuela learn English ("Dough. Masa"), and Mia learns some Spanish too, but it's still hard for Abuela to learn the words she needs to tell Mia all her stories. Then Mia sees a parrot in the pet-shop window and has the perfecto idea for how to help.

2. Last Stop on Market Street by Matt de la Peña

Every Sunday after church, CJ and his grandma ride the bus across town. But today, CJ wonders why they don't own a car like his friend Colby. Why doesn't he have an iPod like the boys on the bus? How come they always have to get off in the dirty part of town? Each question is met with an encouraging answer from Grandma, who helps him see the beauty and fun in their routine and the world around them

3. Turning Pages: My Life Story by Sonia Sotomayor

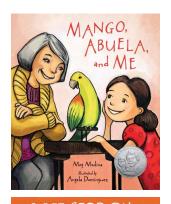
As the first Latina Supreme Court Justice, Sonia Sotomayor has inspired young people around the world to reach for their dreams. But what inspired her? For young Sonia, the answer was books! They were her mirrors, her maps, her friends, and her teachers. They helped her to connect with her family in New York and in Puerto Rico, to deal with her diabetes diagnosis, to cope with her father's death, to uncover the secrets of the world, and to dream of a future for herself in which anything was possible.

4. Alma and How She Got Her Name by Juana Martinez-Neal

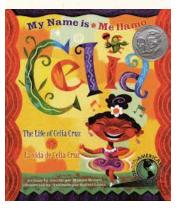
If you ask her, Alma Sofia Esperanza José Pura Candela has way too many names: six! How did such a small person wind up with such a large name? Alma turns to Daddy for an answer and learns of Sofia, the grandmother who loved books and flowers; Esperanza, the great-grandmother who longed to travel; José, the grandfather who was an artist; and other namesakes, too. As she hears the story of her name, Alma starts to think it might be a perfect fit after all — and realizes that she will one day have her own story to tell.

5. My Name is Celia: The Life of Celia Cruz / Me llamo Celia: La Vida de Celia Cruz by Monica Brown

Sing, clap, shake, and dance as Celia Cruz narrates her life in this colorfully illustrated story filled with the sounds and rhythms of her tropical homeland, Cuba. Celia recounts her childhood in Havana and her rise to becoming the Queen of Salsa, all with the "sugar" that reminds her of the love, warmth, and kisses of the home she left behind. A lyrical biography, perfect for reading aloud.







3rd - 5th Grade Recommended Books

 Side by side: the story of Dolores Huerta and César Chávez / Lado a lado: la historia de Dolores Huerta y César Chávez by Monica Brown

Every day, thousands of farmworkers harvested the food that ended up on kitchen tables all over the country. But at the end of the day, when the workers sat down to eat, there were only beans on their own tables. Then Dolores Huerta and Cesar Chavez teamed up. Together they motivated the workers to fight for their rights and, in the process, changed history.

2. Portraits of Hispanic American Heroes by Juan Felipe Herrera

An inspiring tribute to Hispanic Americans who have made a positive impact on the world. This stunning book showcases 20 Hispanic and Latino American men and women who have made outstanding contributions to the arts, politics, science, humanitarianism, and athletics.

 Separate is Never Equal: Sylvia Mendez and Her Family's Fight for Segregation by Duncan Tonatiuh

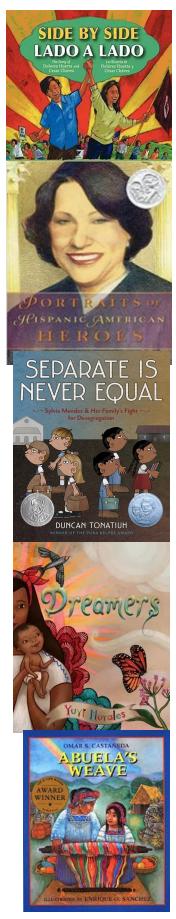
Almost 10 years before "Brown vs. Board of Education," Sylvia Mendez and her parents helped end school segregation in California. An American citizen of Mexican and Puerto Rican heritage who spoke and wrote perfect English, Mendez was denied enrollment to a Whites only school. Her parents took action by organizing the Hispanic community and filing a lawsuit in federal district court.

4. **Dreamers** by Yuyi Morales

Yuyi Morales tells her own immigration story in this picture-book tribute to the transformative power of hope and reading. In 1994, Yuyi Morales left her home in Xalapa, Mexico and came to the US with her son. She left behind nearly everything, but she didn't come empty-handed. *Dreamers* is a celebration of what migrants bring with them. It's a story to remind us that we are all dreamers, bringing our own gifts wherever we roam.

5. Abuela's Weave by Omar Castaneda

Esperanza's Abuela, her grandmother, is unmatched in her skill in weaving traditional Mayan tapestries. She has shared her gift with her granddaughter, and now they plan to sell their goods at the market. However, the birthmark on Abuela's face may scare customers away. So Esperanza must cope with the city streets and find buyers alone. This touching story of personal growth and family pride is illustrated with authentic Guatemalan scenery that gives life to the country's radiant landscape and bustling city streets.



6th - 8th Grade Recommended Books

 Schomburg: The Man Who Built a Library by Carole Boston Weatherford

Amid the scholars, poets, authors, and artists of the Harlem Renaissance stood an Afro–Puerto Rican named Arturo Schomburg. This law clerk's life's passion was to collect books, letters, music, and art from Africa and the African Diaspora and bring to light the achievements of people of African descent through the ages. A century later, his groundbreaking collection has become a beacon to scholars all over the world.

2. From North to South / Del Norte al Sur by Rene Colato Lainez

Jose loves helping Mama in the garden outside their home in CA. But when Mama is sent back to Mexico for not having citizenship papers, Jose and his Papa face an uncertain future. Award-winning children's book author Rene Colato Lainez tackles the difficult and timely subject of family separation with exquisite tenderness.

3. Lucky Broken Girl by Ruth Behar

Ruthie Mizrahi and her family recently emigrated from Castro's Cuba to New York City. Just when she's finally beginning to gain confidence in her mastery of English, a horrific car accident leaves her in a body cast and confined her to her bed for a long recovery. As Ruthie's world shrinks because of her inability to move, her powers of observation and her heart grow larger and she comes to understand how vulnerable we all are as human beings, and how friends, neighbors, and the power of the arts can sweeten even the worst of times.

4. Us, In Progress: Short Stories About Young Latinos by Lulu Delacre

Puerto Rican author Lulu Delacre writes 12 short stories about what it means to be Latinx in the U.S. today. Readers will meet a young girl who spends the day on her father's burrito truck, two sisters working together to change the older sister's immigration status, and more. Short stories are often the just-right thing for reluctant readers who have low reading stamina.

5. Bad Hair Does Not Exist / Pelo Malo No Existe by Sulma Arzu-Brown

This is a book with an anti-bullying message that reinforces respect for individualism. The term "bad hair" or "pelo malo" is used to describe hair that is usually of curlier texture or of a thick and coarse density. The book's purpose is to empower all children by giving them alternate terms to describe their hair, and teaching them the importance of respecting one another's differences.





9th - 12th Grade Recommended Books

1. In the Time of the Butterflies by Julia Alvarez

In 1960, three sisters were found near their wrecked Jeep in the Dominican Republic. The official state newspaper reports do not explain that the sisters were among the leading opponents of Gen; Rafael Leónidas Trujillo's dictatorship. But everybody knows of Las Mariposas--the Butterflies. The voices of the sisters tell their own stories, and to describe the everyday horrors of life under Trujillo's rule. The martyred Butterflies live again in this novel of courage and love.

2. The Poet Slave of Cuba: Juan Francisco Manzano by Margarita Engle

Born into the household of a wealthy slave owner in Cuba in 1797, Juan Francisco Manzano spent his early years by the side of a woman who made him call her Mama, even though he had a mama of his own. Denied an education, young Juan still showed an exceptional talent for poetry. Powerful, haunting poems and breathtaking illustrations create a portrait of a life in which even the pain of slavery could not extinguish the capacity for hope.

3. The Carrying: Poems by Ada Limon

Vulnerable, tender, acute, these are serious poems, brave poems, exploring with honesty the ambiguous moment between the rapture of youth and the grace of acceptance. A daughter tends to aging parents. A nation convulses: "Every song of this country / has an unsung third stanza, something brutal." And still Limón shows us, as ever, the persistence of hunger, love, and joy, the dizzying fullness of our too-short lives. "Fine then, / I'll take it," she writes. "I'll take it all."

4. Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe by Benjamin Sáenz

Set in El Paso, "Aristotle and Dante Discover The Secrets of the Universe" is the story of two loners who strike up an unusual friendship and later, something more. This book is great for teenagers (particular gay teenagers) who think they're alone in the world and in their struggles. This book is a reminder that everyone will find their place and their people.

5. The Book of Unknown Americans by Cristina Henriquez

When 15-year-old Maribel Rivera sustains a terrible injury, the Riveras leave behind a comfortable life in Mexico and risk everything to come to the U.S. so that Maribel can have care she needs. It's not long before Maribel attracts the attention of the neighbor's son, who sees a kindred spirit. Their love story sets in motion events that will have profound repercussions. The Book of Unknown Americans is a stunning novel of hopes and dreams, guilt and love—a book that offers a resonant new definition of what it means to be American.





Additional Recommended Books

Organized by Grade Level (Lowest to Highest), then Author's Last Name

TITLE	FIRST NAME	AUTHOR LAST NAME	GRADE LEVEL
The Christmas Tree/ El arbol de Navidad	Alma Flor	Ada	TK – K
¿Quién nacerá aquí?	Alma Flor	Ada	TK – K
La tataranieta cucarachita	Alma Flor	Ada	TK – K
Los 6 deseos de la jírafa	Alma Flor	Ada	TK – K
Sale el oso	Alma Flor	Ada	TK – K
Why are you doing that?	Amado, Elisa	Amado	TK – K
Maybe Something Beautiful	F. Isabel	Campoy	TK - 2
Quinito's Neighborhood	Ina	Cumpiano	TK - 2
Lightkeepers to the Rescue!	Marisa	de Jesus Paolicelli	TK – K
The Bossy Gallito/El Gallo de Bodas	Lucia M.	Gonzalez	TK – K
The Rooster Who Would Not Be Quiet!	Carmen	Agra Deedy	TK – 2
Maybe Something Beautiful: How Art Transformed a Neighborhood	F. Isabel	Campoy	TK – 2
Sing, Don't Cry	Angela	Dominguez	TK – 2
Calling the Doves/ El Canto de las Palomas	Juan	Felipe Herrera	TK - 2
Furqan's First Flat Top, El primer corte de mesita de Furqan	Robert	Liu-Trujillo	TK – 2
Viva Friday	Yuyi	Morales	TK - 2
What Can You Do with a Paleta?	Carmen	Tafola	TK - 2
Gathering the Sun	Alma Flor	Ada	TK – 3
La Princesa and the Pea	Juana	Martinez-Neal	TK – 3
Maria had a little llama / María tenía una llamita	Angela	Dominguez	K – 1
The Secret Footprints	Julia	Alvarez	K – 2
Jimmy the Greatest!	Jairo	Buitrago	K – 2
My Name is Celia: The Life of Celia Cruz/ Me llamo Celia: La Vida de Celia Cruz	Monica	Brown	K - 2
Ten Little Puppies/ Diez Perritos	Isabel	Campoy	K – 2
Be My Valentine	Isabel	Campoy	K – 2
The New Hamster	Isabel	Campoy	K – 2
Year by Year	Isabel	Campoy	K – 2
My Place	Isabel	Campoy	K – 2
Parents' Night	Isabel	Campoy	K – 2
Abuela	Arthur	Dorros	K – 2
Little Roja Riding Hood	Susan Middleton	Elya	K – 2
The Empanadas That Abuela Made	Diane	Gonzales Bertrand	K – 2
Tiger, Tiger	Susan	Guevara	K – 2
Señor Pancho had a rancho	René Colato	Laínez	K – 2
Just a Minute: A Trickster Tale and Counting Book	Yuyi	Morales	K – 2
Chato and the Party Animals	Gary	Soto	K – 2

What Can You Do with a Paleta? / ¿Qué puedes hacer con	Carmen	Tafolla	K – 2
una paleta?	Carrieri	rarolla	N – Z
What Can You Do with a Rebozo? / ¿Qué puedes hacer con	Carmen	Tafolla	K – 2
un rebozo?			
Mi familia calaca / My skeleton family	Cynthia	Weill	K – 2
I Love Saturdays and Domingos	Alma Flor	Ada	K – 3
La lagartija y el sol	Alma Flor	Ada	K – 3
Xochitl and the Flowers: Xóchitl, la Niña de las Flores	Jorge	Argueta	K – 3
Salsa: Un poema para cocinar / A Cooking Poem (Bilingual Cooking Poems)	Jorge	Argueta	K – 3
Guacamole: Un poema para cocinar / A Cooking Poem			14 0
(Bilingual Cooking Poems)	Jorge	Argueta	K – 3
Tamalitos: Un poema para cocinar / A Cooking Poem	Lawara	A a l. a.	К 2
(Bilingual Cooking Poems)	Jorge	Argueta	K – 3
Arroz con leche / Rice Pudding: Un poema para cocinar	lorgo	Argueta	K – 3
/ A Cooking Poem (Bilingual Cooking Poems)	Jorge	Argueta	K = 3
Sopa de frijoles/Bean Soup (Bilingual Cooking Poems)	Jorge	Argueta	K – 3
Talking with Mother Earth / Hablando con madre tierra: Poems /	Jorge	Argueta	K – 3
Poemas			
Abuela's Weave	Omar	Castaneda	K – 3
Isla	Arthur	Dorros	K – 3
Mama and Me	Arthur	Dorros	K – 3
Papa and Me	Arthur	Dorros	K – 3
My Colors, My World / mis colores, mi mundo	Maya Christina	Gonzalez	K – 3
Juana and Lucas	Juana	Medina	K - 3
Doña Flor	Pat	Mora	K – 3
Niño Wrestles the World	Yuyi	Morales	K – 3
Big Bushy Mustache	Gary	Soto	K – 3
Chato's Kitchen	Gary	Soto	K – 3
Chato Goes Cruising	Gary	Soto	K – 3
Green is a Chile Pepper	Roseanne	Thong Greenfield	K – 4
Snapshots from the Wedding	Gary	Soto	K – 4
The Old Man and His Door	Gary	Soto	K – 5
The Princess and the Warrior	Duncan	Tonatiuh	K - 5
There's a Coqui in My Shoe	Marisa	de Jesus Paolicelli	K – 6
The Cazuela that the Farm Maiden Stirred	Samantha	Vamos	K – 6
From North to South Del Norte al Sur	René	Laínez	1 – 2
Dear Primo: a letter to my cousin	Duncan	Tonatiuh	1 – 2
Kikiriki / Quiquiriqui	Diane	de Anda	1 – 3
Drum Dream Girl	Margarita	Engle	1 – 3
Stella Diaz Has Something to Say	Angela	Dominguez	1 – 4
The Storyteller's Candle	Lucia	Gonzalez	1 – 4
My Very Own Room / Mi propio cuartito	Irma	Perez Amada	1 – 4

A Gift from Papá Diego / Un regalo de Papá Diego	Benjamin Alire	Saenz	1 – 4
Pancho Rabbit and the Coyote: A Migrant's Tale	Duncan	Tonatiuh	1 – 4
Drum Dream Girl	Margarita	Engle	1 - 5
Family Pictures / Cuadros de familia	Carmen Lomas	Garza	1 – 5
In My Family / En Mi Familia	Carmen Lomas	Garza	1 – 5
Martina the Beautiful Cockroach: A Cuban Folktale	Carmen	Agra	1 – 5
Tito Puente, Mambo Kind / Tito Puente, Rey del Mundo	Rafael	Lopez	1 - 5
The Harvest Bird	Blanca	Lopez de Mariscal	1 – 5
Laughing Tomatoes and Other Spring Poems / Jitomates Risueños y otros poemas de primavera	Francisco	Alarcon	2-3
Me, Frida	Amy	Novesky	2-3
Dear Primo: A Letter to My Cousin	Duncan	Tonatiuh	2-3
Sonia Sotomayor: a judge grows in the Bronx / Sonia Sotomayor: la juez que creció en el Bronx	Jonah	Winter	2-5
The First Rule of Punk	Celia C.	Perez	2 - 7
Separate is never equal: Sylvia Mendez and her family's fight for desegregation	Duncan	Tonatiuah	2-7
Abuela's Weave	Omar	Castaneda	3 – 3
How Tía Lola Came to Visit Stay	Julia	Alvarez	3 – 5
Book Fiesta!: Celebrate Children's Day/Book Day; Celebremos El dia de los ninos/El dia de los libros	Pat	Mora	3 – 5
Celebrations	Isabel	Campoy	3 – 5
Food for Fun	Isabel	Campoy	3 – 5
My School Year	Isabel	Campoy	3 – 5
Observe, Think, Try!	Isabel	Campoy	3 – 5
The ABCs of My School	Isabel	Campoy	3 – 5
The Science Fair	Isabel	Campoy	3 – 5
Two Fridas	Isabel	Campoy	3 – 5
What Should I Be?	Isabel	Campoy	3 – 5
Tomas and the Library Lady	Pat	Mora	3 – 5
If the Shoe Fits	Gary	Soto	3 – 5
La Bamba	Gary	Soto	3 – 5
Off and Running	Gary	Soto	3 – 5
The Cat's Meow	Gary	Soto	3 – 5
The Pool Party	Gary	Soto	3 – 5
Marisol	Gary	Soto	3-5
How Tia Lola Saved Summer	Julia	Alvarez	3 - 7
Gaby, Lost and Found	Angela	Cervantes	3 – 7
Dancing Home	Alma	Flor Ada	3 – 7
Too Many Tamales	Gary Soto	Soto	3 – 7
Stef Soto, Taco Queen	Jennifer	Torres	3 - 7
Celebra de Día de Acción de Gracias	Alma Flor	Ada	3-8

My Name is Maria Isabel	Alma Flor	Ada	3 - 8
Hairs/ Pelitos	Sandra	Cisneros	4 – 5
My Name is Maria Isabel / Me llamo Mariá Isabel	Alma Flor	Ada	4 – 5
Los ángeles andan en bicicleta	Francisco X.	Alarcón	4 – 5
Under Royal Palms	Alma Flor	Ada	4 – 6
Esperanza Rising / Esperanza Renace	Pam	Munos Ryan	4 – 6
Boys at Work	Gary	Soto	4 – 7
Fearless Fernie: Hanging out with Fernie and Me	Gary	Soto	4 – 7
Pacific Crossing	Gary	Soto	4 – 7
Petty Crimes	Gary	Soto	4 – 7
The Skirt	Gary	Soto	4 – 7
The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora	Pablo	Cartaya	5 – 6
Lion Island: Cuba's Warrior of Words	Margarita	Engle	5 – 6
Cajas de cartón	Francisco	Jimenez	5 – 6
Yes! We are Latinos	Alma Flor	Ada	5 – 8
Breaking Through	Francisco	Jimenez	5 – 8
Becoming Naomi León	Pam	Munos Ryan	5 – 8
Baseball in April	Gary	Soto	5 – 8
La mariposa	Francisco	Jimenez	6 – 5
El bosque de los pigmeos	Isabel	Allende	6 – 8
This is Who I Am	Isabel	Campoy	6 – 8
BRAVO! Poems About Amazing Hispanics	Maria	Engle	6 - 8
The Circuit: Stories from the Life of a Migrant Child	Francisco	Jimenez	6 – 8
Broken Chain	Gary	Soto	6 – 8
Buried Onions	,	Soto	6-8
Crazy Weekend	Gary	Soto	6 – 8
Fire in My Hands	Gary	Soto	6 – 8
Help Wanted: Stories	Gary	Soto	6-8
Local News	Gary	Soto	6 – 8
Neighborhood Odes	Gary	Soto	6 – 8
Small Faces	Gary	Soto	6 – 8
Summer on Wheels	Gary	Soto	6-8
Taking Sides	Gary	Soto	6-8
The Afterlife	Gary	Soto	6-8
The Jumping Tree: A Novel	Rene	Saldana	6 – 9
Reaching Out	Francisco	Jimenez	6 – 12
Taking Hold: From Migrant Childhood to Columbia	Francisco	Jimenez	6 – 12
University			
Más allá de mí	Francisco	Jimenez	6 – 12
Senderos Fronterizos	Francisco	Jimenez	6 – 12
Burn Baby Burn	Meg	Medina	6 – 12
	Amada	Perez	6 – 12
Before We Were Free	Julia	Alvarez	7 – 10
Enchanted Air: Two Cultures, Two Wings: A Memoir	Margarita	Engle	7 - 10

Cuba 15	Nancy	Osa	7 – 10
Accidental Love	Gary	Soto	7 – 10
Silver People: Voices from the Panama Canal	Margarita	Engle	7 – 12
The Lightening Dreamer	Margarita	Engle	7 - 12
Love is the Drug	Alaya Dawn	Johnson	7 – 12
La ciudad de las bestias	Isabel	Allende	7 – 8
Jesse	Gary	Soto	7 – 9
Show and Prove	Sophia	Quintero	8 – 12
The House on Mango Street	Sandra	Cisneros	9 - 12
Labryinth Lost	Zoraida	Cordova	
The Hunted	Matt	de la Peña	9 – 12
The Living	Matt	de la Peña	9 – 12
The Surrender Tree: Poems of Cuba's Struggle for Freedom	Margarita	Engle	9 – 12
Even if the Sky Falls	Mia	Garcia	9 – 12
The Summer Prince	Alaya Dawn	Johnson	9 – 12
Eye from the Edge	Ruben	Llamas	9 – 12
Parrot in the Oven: Mi Vida	Victor	Martinez	9 – 12
Shadowshaper	Daniel Jose	Older	9 – 12
An Island Like You: Stories of the Barrio	Judith	Ortiz Cofer	9 – 12
Gabi, A Girl in Pieces	Isabel	Quintero	9 – 12
Always Running	Luis	Rodriguez	9 – 12
More Happy than Not	Adam	Silvera	9 – 12
A Summer Life	Gary	Soto	9 – 12
Jessie de la Cruz: Profile of a United Farm Worker	Gary	Soto	9 – 12
Living Up the Street	Gary	Soto	9 – 12
Nerdlandia: A Play	Gary	Soto	9 – 12