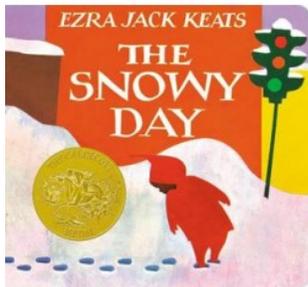




Recommended Book List

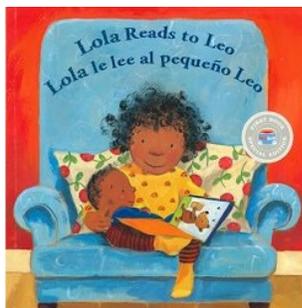
The Oakland Literacy Coalition and First Book believe that ALL kids deserve access to an abundance of books in which they can see themselves, their families, their culture, and their neighborhood reflected. The “Stories for All” section of The First Book Marketplace carries close to 1,500 titles featuring diverse characters with a variety of experiences. Here are some of our favorites:

Ages 0-5



The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats

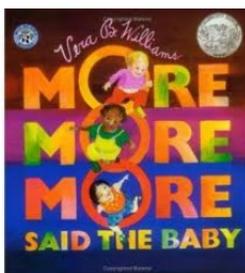
The Snowy Day, a 1963 Caldecott Medal winner, is the simple tale of a boy waking up to discover that snow has fallen during the night. Keats's illustrations, using cut-outs, watercolors, and collage, are strikingly beautiful in their understated color and composition. The tranquil story mirrors the calm presence of the paintings, and both exude the silence of a freshly snow-covered landscape. The little boy celebrates the snow-draped city with a day of humble adventures—experimenting with footprints, knocking snow from a tree, creating snow angels, and trying to save a snowball for the next day. Awakening to a winter wonderland is an ageless, ever-magical experience, and one made nearly visceral by Keats's gentle tribute. The book is notable not only for its lovely artwork and tone, but also for its importance as a trailblazer.



Lola Reads to Leo / Lola le lee al pequeño Leo by Anna McQuinn

From potty time to bath time to nap time, Lola knows just the right book to read to baby Leo.

Lo mismo a la hora de cambiar pañales, que a la hora del baño, que a la hora de la siesta, Lola sabe exactamente cuál es el mejor libro para leerle al pequeño Leo.



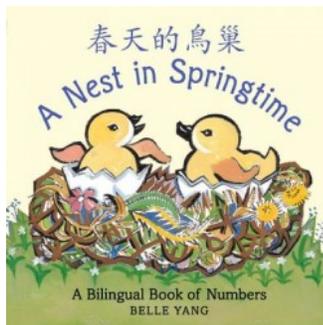
"More More More," Said The Baby by Vera B. Williams

Meet Little Guy, Little Pumpkin, and Little Bird, stars of three vignettes that celebrate the joy babies generate among those who love them.



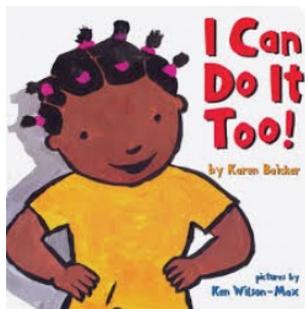
Ten Little Fingers And Ten Little Toes / Diez Deditos De Las Manos Y Diez Deditos De Los Pies by Mem Fox, illustrated by Helen Oxenbury

"There was one little baby / who was born far away. / And another who was born / on the very next day. / And both of these babies, / as everyone knows, / had ten little fingers / and ten little toes." No matter which part of the world a baby comes from—born on the ice or in a tent—that baby has "ten little fingers / and ten little toes," the pleasing refrain of this rhyming tribute to the sweet universality of babies of all colors. Soft, rounded babies are captured in soft, rounded watercolors in this new Spanish-English bilingual board book edition!



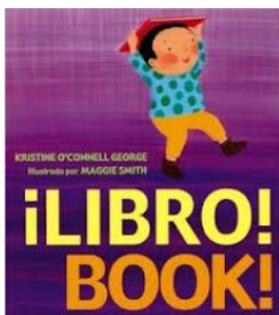
A Nest In Springtime: A Bilingual Book Of Numbers (Bilingual Board Book, English/Mandarin Chinese) by Belle Yang

In English and Mandarin Chinese, Belle Yang's bilingual board books celebrate the natural world with simple concepts and beautiful, bold illustrations. In springtime, when wild geese come to nest, there are eggs for counting. But how many goslings will there be? And how many in the whole paddling family, when Papa and Mama join them? Tonal marks used in the book are explained in a final spread, along with a pinyin translation of the Chinese characters.



I Can Do It Too by Karen Baicker

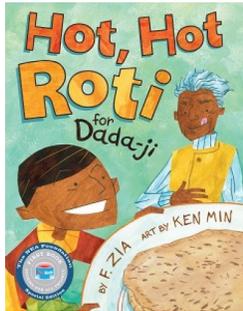
Anyone can pour juice, bake a cake, and kiss away hurts-right? But maybe—just maybe—it's not so easy when you are very small! Daddy pours juice without even thinking about it, Grandma bakes a cake effortlessly, and the next-door neighbor rides a bike as if he were born on one! Whatever is happening, our little heroine wants to join in and "do it too." With caring support from her family and many friends, she not only finds she can do it too, but soon she is big enough to pass on loving encouragement of her own. The simple cadence of the text and the direct-to-the-heart art result in a book as warm and generous as its message.



¡LIBRO! / BOOK! By Kristine George

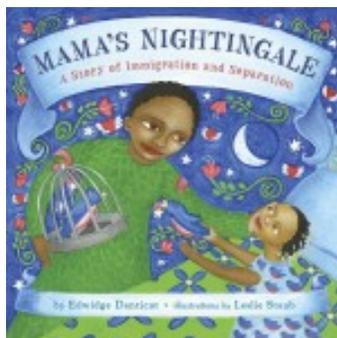
A bilingual (Spanish/English) version of BOOK! in a board-book edition. A perfect first real book for babies, with simple, easy-to-read text (in both Spanish and English) by an award-winning poet, and bright, contemporary illustrations by a well-known artist.

Ages 5-9



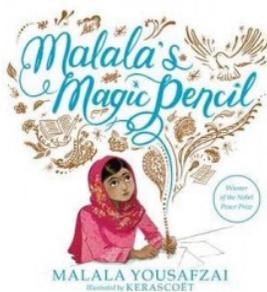
Hot, Hot Roti by F. Zia with illustrations by Ken Min

Aneel's grandparents have come to stay, all the way from India. Aneel loves the sweet smell of his grandmother's incense, and his grandfather, Dada-ji, tells the world's best stories. When he was a boy, adventurous, energetic Dada-ji had the power of a tiger. Hunh-ji! Yes, sir! He could shake mangoes off trees and wrangle wild cobras. And what gave him his power? Fluffy-puffy hot, hot roti, with a bit of tongue-burning mango pickle. Does Dada-ji still have the power? Aneel wants to find out but first he has to figure out how to whip up a batch of hot, hot roti.



Mama's Nightingale: A Story of Immigration and Separation by Edwidge Danticat with illustrations by Leslie Staub

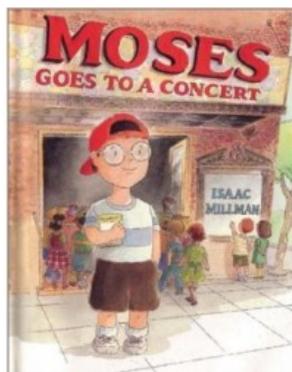
After Saya's mother is sent to an immigration detention center, Saya finds comfort in listening to her mother's warm greeting on their answering machine. To ease the distance between them while she's away, Mama begins sending Saya bedtime stories inspired by Haitian folklore on cassette tape. Moved by her mother's tales and her father's attempts to reunite their family, Saya writes a story of her own – one that just might bring her mother home for good.



Malala's Magic Pencil by Malala Yousafzai

Malala's first picture book will inspire young readers everywhere to find the magic all around them.

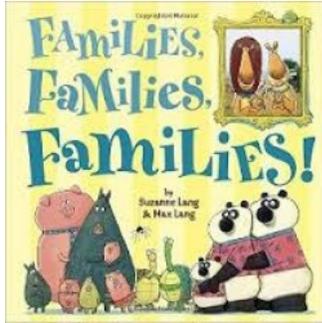
As a child in Pakistan, Malala made a wish for a magic pencil. She would use it to make everyone happy, to erase the smell of garbage from her city, to sleep an extra hour in the morning. But as she grew older, Malala saw that there were more important things to wish for. She saw a world that needed fixing. And even if she never found a magic pencil, Malala realized that she could still work hard every day to make her wishes come true.



Moses Goes To A Concert by Isaac Millman

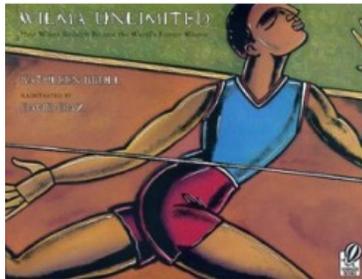
Moses and his school friends are deaf, but like most children, they have a lot to say. They communicate in American Sign Language, using visual signs and facial expressions. This is called signing. And even though they can't hear, they can enjoy many activities through their other senses. Today, Moses and his classmates are going to a concert. Their teacher, Mr. Samuels, has two surprises in store for them, to make this particular concert a special event.

Isaac Millman tells Moses's story in pictures and written English, and in American Sign Language (ASL), introducing hearing children to the signs for some of the key words and ideas. At the end of the book are two full conversations in sign language and a page showing the hand alphabet.



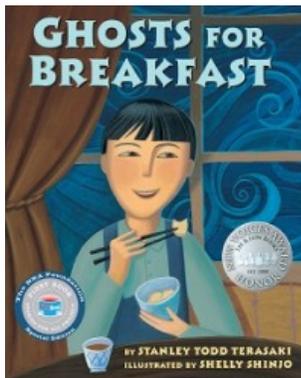
Families, Families, Families! By Suzanne Lang

Mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers - and even Great Aunt Sue - appear in dozens of combinations, demonstrating all kinds of nontraditional families! Silly animals are cleverly depicted in framed portraits, and offer a warm celebration of family love.



Wilma Unlimited: How Wilma Rudolph Became The World's Fastest Woman, by Kathleen Krull, illustrated by David Diaz

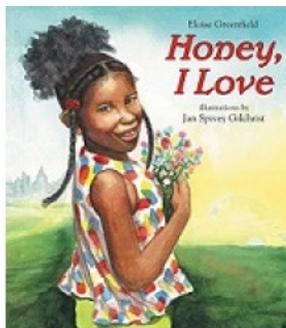
Before Wilma Rudolph was five years old, polio had paralyzed her left leg. Everyone said she would never walk again. But Wilma refused to believe it. Not only would she walk again, she vowed, she'd run. And she did run—all the way to the Olympics, where she became the first American woman to earn three gold medals in a single olympiad. This dramatic and inspiring true story is illustrated in bold watercolor and acrylic paintings by Caldecott Medal-winning artist David Diaz.



Ghosts For Breakfast, by Stanley Todd Terasaki, illustrated by Shelly Shinjo

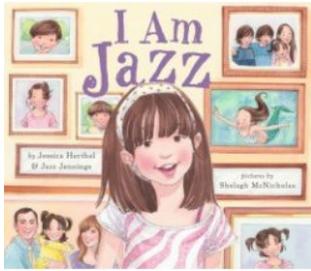
PON! PON! PON! PON! The pounding on the door brings three unexpected guests to our young narrator's home—Mr. Omi, Mr. Omaye, and Mr. Ono. The Troublesome Triplets, as they are called because they always seem to have some sort of complaint, have just seen ghosts—dozens of them—in Farmer Tanaka's field! The ghosts were long and thin and white, very white, and they were dancing in the moonlight. Papa thinks the situation is great fun, but his son isn't so sure. After all, there are ghosts out there. So Papa decides to get to the bottom of the Triplets' story. He sets off to hunt the ghosts, and he takes his son with him.

Set in California in the 1920s, this delightful father-son story speaks to all young children who yearn to overcome their fears.



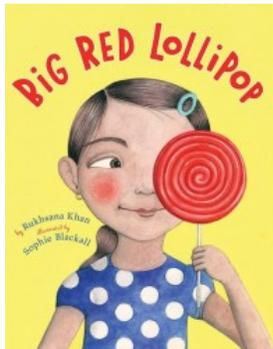
Honey, I Love by Eloise Greenfield

To one young narrator, it's the simple things that mean the most, like sharing laughter with a friend, taking family rides in the country, and kissing her mama's arm. This paperback edition of the classic poem by Eloise Greenfield with illustrations by Jan Spivey Gilchrist is sure to delight a new generation of readers.



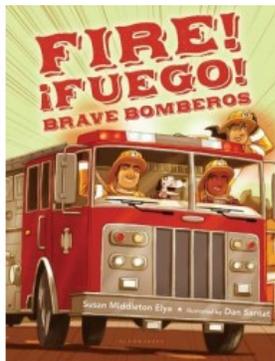
I Am Jazz, by Jessica Herthel

From the time she was two years old, Jazz knew that she had a girl's brain in a boy's body. She loved pink and dressing up as a mermaid and didn't feel like herself in boys' clothing. This confused her family, until they took her to a doctor who said that Jazz was transgender and that she was born that way. Jazz's story is based on her real-life experience and she tells it in a simple, clear way that will be appreciated by picture book readers, their parents, and teachers.



Big Red Lollipop by Rukhsana Khan, illustrated by Sophie Blackall

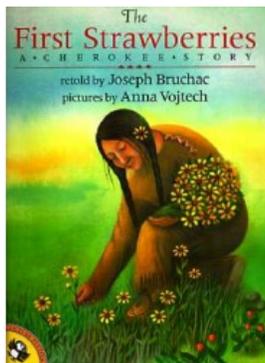
Rubina has been invited to her first birthday party, and her mother, Ami, insists that she bring her little sister along. Rubina is mortified, but she can't convince Ami that you just don't bring your younger sister to your friend's party. So both girls go, and not only does Sana demand to win every game, but after the party she steals Rubina's prized party favor, a red lollipop. What's a fed-up big sister to do?



Fire! Fuego! Brave Bomberos by Susan Middleton Elya

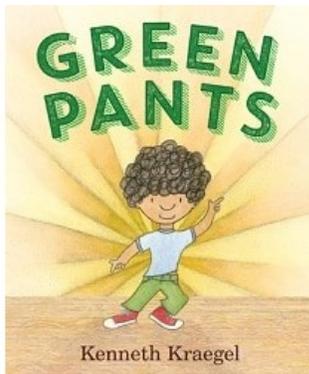
At the station, sirens sound.
Corazones start to pound.
"House fire!" says el capitán.
"Fuego! Get your helmets on!"

So begins a rollicking race to save a burning casa from the roaring flames--and these bomberos are up to the task, with hoses ready and sirens blaring. Spanish words sprinkled throughout the lively text--plus a glossary at the end--will enrich young readers as they cheer for the firefighters to save the day.



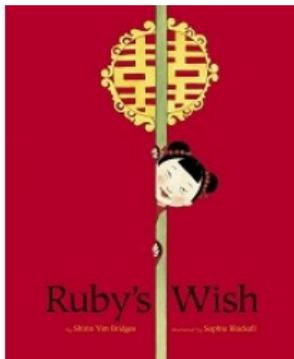
The First Strawberries: A Cherokee Story by Joseph Bruchac

From an award-winning Native American storyteller comes this captivating retelling of a Cherokee legend, which explains how strawberries came to be. Long ago, the first man and woman quarreled. The woman left in anger, but the Sun sent tempting berries to Earth to slow the wife's retreat. Luminous paintings perfectly complement the simple, lyrical text.



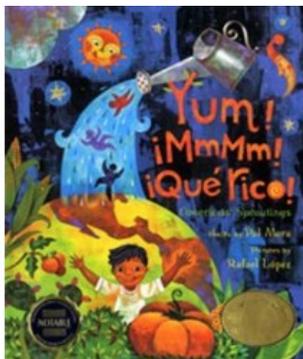
Green Pants by Kenneth Kraegel

Jameson only ever wears green pants. When he wears green pants, he can do anything. But if he wants to be in his cousin's wedding, he's going to have to wear a tuxedo, and that means black pants. It's an impossible decision: Jameson would love nothing more than to be in his cousin's wedding, but how can he not wear green pants? Will Jameson turn down this big honor, or will he find a way to make everyone happy, including himself? In this pitch-perfect ode to individualism, acclaimed author-illustrator Kenneth Kraegel creates a character readers of all ages can root for—whatever color pants they wear.



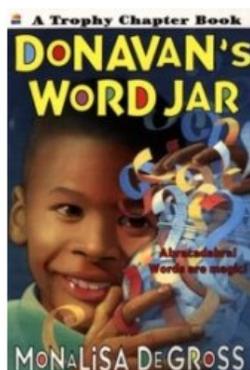
Ruby's Wish by Shirin Yim Bridges

Based upon the inspirational story of the author's grandmother and accompanied by richly detailed illustrations, *Ruby's Wish* is an engaging portrait of a young girl who's full of ambition and the family who rewards her hard work and courage.



Yum! iMmmm! ¡Qué Rico!: Americas' Sproutings by Pat Mora

Peanuts, blueberries, corn, potatoes, tomatoes, and more—here is a luscious collection of haiku celebrating foods native to the Americas. Brimming with imagination and fun, these poems capture the tasty essence of foods that have delighted, united, and enriched our lives for centuries. Exuberant illustrations bring to life the delicious spirit of the haiku, making *Yum! ¡MmMm! ¡Qué rico!* an eye-popping, mouth-watering treat. Open it and dig in!



Donavan's Word Jar by Monalisa Degross

Donavan is fascinated by words. They seem to leap out at him from books, signs, even the back of cereal boxes. He savors each word as he learns to say it and discovers its meaning. He keeps the words he collects on slips of paper in a big glass jar. But one day the jar is almost full and Donavan has a dilemma. How can he make room for new words without giving up all the terrific words already in his jar? A visit to his grandmother provides the unexpected solution in this heartwarming story about how important words can be.