

Read Aloud Guide

Title: *Quinito, Day and Night / Quinito, Dia y Noche* by Ina Cumpiano, illustrated by Jose Ramirez

Best for: TK - 1st grade

Summary: This book is about Quinito, a young boy, who takes us through his very busy day. The book introduces opposites (day/night, rain/shine, quiet/noisy, etc).

Why we chose this book: We like that this book is about very common and simple childhood experiences: playing at the park, having siblings and family members, and even having to be quiet at home during nap time. It is written in both English and Spanish, so the reader can choose either language, or switch back and forth.

Notes: This book is meant for younger readers as it teaches opposites and tells a very simple story. It can be a great way to talk about Latine/x heritage, especially Afro-Latine/x heritage, as it features both Black and Brown characters

Central themes: Family life, opposites, early childhood experiences

Introducing the book: You can begin by showing the cover, reading the title and author, and then saying something like this:

"This book is about a boy named Quinito who lives with his parents, brother, and sister. Does anyone here have a brother AND a sister?"

"This book talks about opposites, like up and down, day and night, fast and slow. Can anyone name another set of opposites?"

During Reading: Stop to ask questions - children can respond to the whole group or talk to a partner

p 4 "I know that the author, Ina Cumpiano, is from Puerto Rico. In Puerto Rico, there are Black, Brown and Indigenous people, and they speak Spanish and English" Where do you think Quinito lives? Could this be Puerto Rico? Or could it be the US? What makes you think that?"

p.5-"Quinito saying that he 'gets up at just the right time' and that he's 'just the right size' reminds me of another book where a kid likes to have things "just right". Does it remind you of any other stories?" (Goldilocks and the Three Bears)

After Reading: Debrief with students

"What are some of the things Quinito does with his brother and sister?"

"What pets does Quinito have? Do you have any pets at home?"