SALAZAR, AIDA
The Land of the Cranes
SCHOLASTIC, 2020
9781338343809
After her father is arrested by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and she and her mother are forced into a family detention camp, Betita takes heart in her poetry and finds hope in her new community.

SHANG, WENDY WANG-
LONG, AND MADELYN ROSENBERG
Not Your All-American Girl
SCHOLASTIC, 2020
9781338037760
When her best friend Tara is cast as the lead because Lauren doesn’t look the part of an “all-American girl,” Lauren struggles to regain her confidence and to support her friend.

TATE, DON
William Still and His Freedom Stories
The Father of the Underground Railroad
Illus. by the author
PEACHTREE, 2020
9781561459353
A picture-book biography of William Still, a tireless champion of antislavery efforts who documented the stories of those who passed through Philadelphia on their journey north, and helped reunite freedom seekers with family, including his own brother.

TONTIUIH, DUNCAN
Feathered Serpent and the Five Suns
A Mesoamerican Creation Myth
Illus. by the author
ABRAMS, 2020
9781419746772
A retelling of the Mesoamerican tale of Quetzalcóatl, the god of knowledge, and his journey to the underworld to confront Mictlantecuhtli, lord of the underworld, and reclaim the sacred bones in order to create humans.

WATSON, RENÉE
Ways to Make Sunshine
Illus. by Nina Mata
BLOOMSBURY, 2020
9781547600564
Ryan and her family have just moved from their old house in Portland to a new-to-them home, and as Ryan struggles with changes, she realizes that she must learn to roll with the punches.

WEATHERFORD, CAROLE
Boston Box: Henry Brown Mails Himself to Freedom
ILLUS. BY MICHELE WOOD
CANDLEWICK, 2020
9780763691561
Poetry and mixed media tell the true story of Henry Brown, who mailed himself in a wooden box to escape slavery.

WOODSON, JACQUELINE
Before the Ever After
NANCY PAULSEN, 2020
9780399545436
ZJ’s father is a pro football player, adored by fans, including ZJ’s friends, but ZJ sees how the game changes Daddy, and in this novel in verse, ZJ tries to understand why his father has headaches, anger outbursts, and moments of forgetting his son’s name.

YANG, KELLY
Three Keys
SCHOLASTIC, 2020
9781338691385
In this sequel to the acclaimed Front Desk (2018), set in the hostile political climate of 1994 California, Mia turns to her friends and family to find strength as she fights for immigration rights, health care, and equal access to education after her family has become owners of the Calivista Hotel.

This DÍA BOOKLIST was created by the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association (ALA).

Titles on this list were selected by members of ALSC’s Quicklists Consulting Committee.

For more booklists, please visit www.ala.org/alsc/booklists.

© 2021 American Library Association
Grades 3–5

**BOOKLIST**

**Each Story MATTERS Every Child COUNTS**

**ALEGRE, REINA LUZ**
*The Dream Weaver*
EDMÓN & SCHUSTER, 2020 9781534462311

When Zoey finds out that her beloved bowling alley is closing, her mission to save it reawakens Zoey’s interest in her heritage and memories of her mother.

**ALZNAUER, AMY**
*A Tale of the Genius Dreamed of Infinity*
CANDLEWICK, 2020 9780593121368

A picture-book biography of Ramanujan, a mathematician who was fascinated with the idea of infinity and math concepts.

**BAKER, KIM**
*The Water Bears*
CAREER LITE, 2020 9781984852205

Newt has a secret wish: to move off Murphy Island, away from the nightmares following a bear attack, but when animals start to go missing, and his grandma is the main suspect, Newt will have to use his ability to save not only his grandma but the entire town.

**BAPTIST, KELL Y J.**
*Isaiah Dunn Is My Hero*
CROWN, 2020 9780593121368

Isaiah is tired of living out of a single room in a run-down motel, but since his father’s untimely passing, he and his family can only hope to keep their heads above the water. This story about the power of the written word and the unending love of family is a strikingly hopeful tale.

**BROWNE, MONICA SHARUKA: El Héroe Peruano Julio C. Tello / Peruvian Archaeologist Julio C. Tello**
ILLUS. BY ELISA CHAVARRI *CHILDREN’S BOOK PRESS*, 2020 9780892394234

A bilingual biography of Julio Tello—who was given the boyhood nickname Sharuka, which means brave in Quechua—a curious boy who grew up to become the first Indigenous archaeologist of the Americas. *(Bilingual)*

**CISCO, ERNESTO**
*Efrén Divided*
QULL TREE, 2020 9780993883587

Efrén’s parents do everything they can to make sure he and his siblings are safe and loved, but when his undocumented ama doesn’t return from work one day, it will take all of Efrén’s strength to try to reunite his family.

**CÓRDOVA, ZORAIDA**
*The Way to Rio Luna*
SCHOLASTIC, 2020 9781338255812

With the help of a magical book, Danny goes on the journey of his life to find his sister in the magical land of Rio Luna.

**CUEVAS, ADRIANNA**
*The Total Eclipse of Nestor Lopez*
FARRAR, STRAUS AND GIROUX, 2020 9780374313609

After a case of stage fright, Alley Benjamin Lane turns to his grandfather, whose magical tap shoes transport Alley back to 1930s Harlem, where he meets prominent Black performers, including his talented grandpa as a youth.

**DIAZ, ALEXANDRA**
*Santiago’s Road Home*
SIMON & SCHUSTER/PAULA WISEMAN, 2020 9781338255812

Twelve-year-old Lupe needs to get good grades so she can meet her hero, fellow Chinese Mexican American baseball player Fu Li Hernandez, but a square dancing unit in P.E. stands in her way.

**GUERRERO, TANYA**
*How to Make Friends with the Sea*
FARRAR, STRAUS AND GIROUX, 2020 9780374313609

Maureen and Francine are new friends and avoid the racist incident occurs in their school, discovers the power of using her voice when a racist incident occurs in her small town.

**HIGUERA, DONNA BARBA**
*Nestor* LEA, 2020 9780374313609

Nestor Lopez was fluent in sign language. In the 1800s where everyone was fluent in sign language, he must decide if he’s ready to move off Murphy Island, away from the nightmares following a bear attack, but when animals start to go missing, and his grandma is the main suspect, Nestor will have to use his ability to save not only his grandma but the entire town.

**HIGUERA, DONNA BARBA**
*Lupe Wong Won’t Dance* SIMON & SCHUSTER, 2020 9781338255812

Twelve-year-old Lupe needs to get good grades so she can meet her hero, fellow Chinese Mexican American baseball player Fu Li Hernandez, but a square dancing unit in P.E. stands in her way.

**JOHNSON, VARIAN**
*Twins*
ILLUS. BY SHANNON WRIGHT GRAPHIX, 2020 9780374313609

Maybe starting an anonymous gossip blog and flying halfway across the world without telling your parents in order to show everyone you’re not a baby isn’t a great plan, but twelve-year-old Henry Kho is going to give it a shot.

**KAPIT, SARAH**
*Accidental Trouble Magnet*
SIMON & SCHUSTER/PAULA WISEMAN, 2020 9781338255812

Hanna is a half-Chinese girl living in an 1880s frontier town and navigating xenophobia and the town’s small-mindedness while she develops a thriving dressmaking business.

**KELKAR, SUPRIYA**
*American as Paneer Pie*
ALADDIN, 2020 9780374311995

Mary Lambert is sheltered from the outside world until a threatening newcomer opens her eyes to prejudices against deaf people in this work of historical fiction based on a real New England community in the 1800s where everyone was fluent in sign language.

**KELLER, TAE**
*When You Trap a Tiger*
RANDOM HOUSE, 2020 9781338255812

While looking forward to Eid, Omar tries to make new friends and avoid the class bully in this humorous illustrated novel.

**NYE, NAOMI SHIHAB**
*Everything Comes Next: Collected and New Poems*
GREENWILLOW, 2020 9780374311995

The 2019–21 Young People’s Poet Laureate writes about her childhood and her Palestinian heritage, sharing writing tips and sources of inspiration.

**PARK, LINDA SUE**
*Prairie Lotus*
CLARION, 2020 9780374311995

Hanna is a half-Chinese girl living in an 1880s frontier town and navigating xenophobia and the town’s small-mindedness while she develops a thriving dressmaking business.