RAMOS, NONIEQA
Your Mama
Illus. by Jacqueline Alcántara
VERSIFY, 2021
9781328633886
A humorous and positive take on the classic "go mama" jokes, this story highlights all the hard work that moms do for their children. The text is accompanied by beautiful tattoo-style art.

REID, MEGAN
Maryam’s Magic: The Story of Mathematician Maryam Mirzakhani
Illus. by Anjila Jaleel
BALZER + BRAY, 2021
9780593209562
A picture-book biography of the first woman and Iranian to win the most prestigious prize in mathematics. Maryam grew up speaking Farsi, but the language of shapes and numbers inspired her to pursue a career as a mathematician.

STERLING, MICHELLE
When Lola Visits
Illus. by Aaron Asis
KATHERINE TEGEN, 2021
9780593267809
For a young girl, summer is when her Lola visits from the Philippines, bringing delicious smells and cooking, fun memories, and familial love that spans across the sea.

TARIQ, AMBREEN
Fatima’s Great Outdoors
Illus. by Stevie Lewis
AZBELIA, 2021
9781984816916
Fatima and her family have recently emigrated from India to the United States and are excited to go camping for the first time. The text includes some Urdu words and phrases.

VÀN, MU’Ô‘N THE
Wishes
Illus. by Viete Ngai
ORCHARD, 2021
9781338305890
A spare, moving portrait of one Vietnamese family’s immigration story, showing them packing a few beloved possessions, leaving loved ones behind, and taking a harrowing journey to a new home.

WANG, ANDREA
Watercress
Illus. by Jason Chin
NEAL PORTER, 2021
9780399140747
Finding watercress growing on the side of the road is a cause for celebration for a young girl’s parents. For the young girl, it is first an embarrassing moment but becomes an invitation to better understand her parents and their shared Chinese heritage.

WILLIAMS, ALICIA D.
Jump at the Sun: The True Life Tale of Unstoppable Storycatcher Zora Neale Hurston
Illus. by Jacqueline Alcántara
AFTER THE SEEM, 2021
9781338442717
This lyrical and lively story of author Zora Neale Hurston explores her life as a burgeoning storyteller, from growing up in Florida to her career in preserving African American folktales.

YANG, JAMES
A Boy Named Isamu: A Story of Isamu Noguchi
Illus. by the author
VIZ, 2021
9780399203446
A fanciful imagining of a day in the childhood of the Japanese American sculptor Isamu Noguchi. As a young boy, alone even in a crowd, he experiences the world through objects found in the natural world.

YUM, HYEWON
Grandpa across the Ocean
Illus. by the author
ABRAMS, 2021
9781419782355
A boy visiting his grandpa in South Korea is bored at first, but as he adapts to his new surroundings, they form a strong, lasting bond.

El Día de los niños/El Día de los libros (Children’s Day/Book Day) is a celebration of children and wonderful books. Día honors the cultures and languages of all children.
ABERY, JULIE
Sakamoto’s Swim Club: How a Teacher Led an Unlikely Team to Victory
Illus. by Chris Sasaki
KIDS CAN, 2021
978-0-89959-307-8
This rhyming nonfiction picture book tells the story of a Hawaiian science teacher who became a swim coach and eventually led children of sugar-farm workers to compete in the Olympics.

ALESSANDRI, ALEXANDRA
Isabel and Her Colores Go to School
Illus. by Courtnay Dawson
SLEEPING BEAR, 2021
978-1-68299-110-5
A illustrate is nervous about going to school, especially because she doesn’t speak much English. Her colors (and a new friend) brighten her day.

ANTROBUS, RAYMOND
Can Bears Swim?
Illus. by Polly Dunbar
CANDLEWICK, 2020
978-1-5362-1084-0
Little Bear has a hard time understanding when his friends and father talk to him. After a trip to an audiologist, he learns he has been experiencing hearing loss and receives his first pair of hearing aids.

BOWLES, DAVID
My Two Border Towns
Illus. by Erika Meza
KOKILA, 2021
978-0-89959-110-4
A boy embraces his communities on both sides of the border during his regular Saturday visit with his dad to El Otro Lado, just down the road. Available in Spanish as Mis dos pueblos fronterizos.

CARMONA, HANNAH
Anita and the Dragons
Illus. by Anna Cunha
LANTANA, 2021
978-1-62778-681-4
Anita watches dragons—planes—from her home in the Dominican Republic and imagines herself as a princess taking on these dragons as she goes to a brand-new place.

COSTANZA, STEPHEN
King of Ragtime: The Story of Scott Joplin
Illus. by the author
ATHENHEUM, 2021
978-1-64341-036-7
A celebration of Scott Joplin, this book embodies ragtime music at its best with colorful, lively illustrations and accompanying melodic text.

DAVIDS, SHARICE, AND NANCYK, MAYS
Sharice’s Big Voice: A Native Kid Becomes a Congresswoman
Illus. by Joshua Mangeshig Paws-Steckley
HARCOURT, 2021
978-0-997279-66-7
An inspiring autobiographical picture book about Sharice Davids, one of the first Native American women in Congress and the first LGBTQ congressperson to represent Kansas.

DE LA PENA, MATT
Milo Imagines the World
Illus. by Christian Robinson
PUTNAM, 2021
978-0-9955459-0-8
On the bus to visit his mother in prison, Milo imagines the lives of everyone he sees. Is he surprised when a well-dressed white boy, imagined to be a prince, gets off at his stop. Milo then reconsiders how much you can tell about someone from their appearance.

DILLARD, J.
J.D. and the Great Barber Battle
Illus. by Akese S. Roberts
KOKILA, 2021
978-0-89959-104-6
In this series opener, third-grader J.D. decides to give himself a much-needed haircut. His friends love his cut! But now he’s caught in a rivalry with the local barber.

ENGE, MARGARITA
A Song of Fruits
Illus. by Sara Palacios
ATHENHEUM, 2021
978-1-64344-448-9
A little girl helps her abuela, a grocer, or singing street vendor, sell his fruits from a cart in Cuba. The two stay in touch through rhyming letters when they are apart. Also available in Spanish as Un pregón de frutas.

FEDER, TYLER
Bodies Are Cool
Illus. by the author
DJJAL, 2021
978-0-89959-146-5
An affirming and widely representative look at physical forms in a range of shapes, sizes, skin tones, and abilities.

GORMAN, AMANDA
Change Sings: A Children’s Anthem
Illus. by Loren Long
VICKERG, 2021
978-0-5932-0324-4
Presidential inaugural poet Amanda Gorman writes of a young Black girl who walks through her community with a guitar, passing out instruments and sharing a message of music and positive change.

HARRIS, MEENA
Ambitious Girl
Illus. by Marissa Valdez
LITTLE, BROWN, 2021
978-0-31622969-2
After seeing a Black female politician described as “too ambitious,” a young girl is initially discouraged until she is told that girls have overcome much in the past and is encouraged to be her whole, genuine self.

KARLINS, MARK
Kyoshi’s Walk
Illus. by Nicole Wong
LEE & LOW, 2021
978-1-77019-084-6
While watching his grandfather compose a haiku, Kyoshi wonders where poems come from. In response, his grandfather takes him on a walk discovering all the ways poems can be created from the outside world and from inside ourselves.

KUNKEL, ANGELA BURKE
Digging for Words: José Alberto Gutiérrez and the Library He Built
Illus. by Paola Escobar SCHWARTZ & WADE, 2020
978-0-8478-9290-0
Garbage collector José Alberto Gutiérrez uses the books he finds in the trash to build a library for the children of his neighborhood in Bogotá, Colombia. Also available in Spanish as Reciclando palabras.

LAKSHMI, PADMA
Tomeos for Neela
Illus. by Juana Martinez-Neal
VICKERG, 2021
978-0-5932-0270-8
A young girl and her mother cook sauce, something that her pasta always did. This heartwarming picture book explores love expressed through food. It includes recipes, tomato facts, and information about farm workers.

LOPEZ, DIANA
Sing with Me: The Story of Selena Quintanilla
Illus. by Teresa Martinez
DJJAL, 2021
978-0-89959-105-3
With her love of music, the help of her family, and pride in her Mexican American culture, Selena became the Queen of Tejano music. Available in Spanish as Canta conmigo.

MACLEAR, KYO
The Big Bath House
Illus. by Gracey Zhang
RANDOM HOUSE STUDIO, 2021
978-0-59318-159-9
A young girl visits a bath house with her family in a beautiful celebration of Japanese culture, body positivity, and the importance of community.

MORALES, ARELI
Areli Is a Dreamer: A True Story by Areli Morales, a DACA Recipient
Illus. by Luise Uribe
RANDOM HOUSE STUDIO, 2021
978-1-98849383-4
Arel Morales tells her own heartfelt story of family, change, and immigration. The author’s note expands on the DACA program and its current status.

QUANG, PHUNG NGUYEN
My First Day
Illus. by Huyng Kim Lien
MAKE ME A WORLD, 2021
978-0-59306-260-4
Breathtaking illustrations show what a young Vietnamese boy sees as he sets out in a wooden boat along the Mekong River on his way to his first day of school.

ZEMAN, KATHRYN
Tilly’s Tiny Tooty Tuba
Illus. by artist
PANZER, 2022
978-0-5932-2578-4
Tilly exercises her tiny little Tuba and plays a tune to cheer up her mom and dad.