

Title:

“Migration, Change, and Our Emotions: Always in Motion”

Overview of the text set: This text set is meant to capture the idea that migration is a constant in our lives. It is meant to underscore the fact that the lives of immigrants, refugees, and migrants are human stories that constitute human emotions and actions. These are stories we can use as we teach our students vital social and emotional learning skills. The set includes traditional books, videos, interviews, and PDF character maps.

Guiding inquiry questions:

- How is migration a constant in our lives?
- What are the kinds of texts that might help illustrate migration as constant?
- What are the different kinds of emotions we might encounter as we explore migration?
- How can the study of migration help us teach and learn social and emotional skills?

Annotated bibliography:

Agee, J. (2019). *The wall in the middle of the book*. Scholastic Australia.

Agee very subtly invites us to examine our assumptions about the other. He hints that ignorance breeds fear, and fear breeds irrationality.

Carmona, H., & Cunha, A. (2021). *Anita and the dragons*. Lantana.

A beautifully tender story touching on the range of emotions immigrants may feel when leaving their home countries – excitement and sorrow, fear and courage.

Coy, J., & Huie, W. Y. (2016). *Their great gift: Courage, sacrifice, and hope in a new land*. Carolrhoda Books.

This book explores the experiences of immigrants in the twenty-first century, focusing on the lives of children. Images of families who came to the United States from many different parts of the world celebrate the diversity of our country and contain a vision of hope for the future.

Dauids, S., Mays, N. K., & Pawis-Steckley, J. M. (2021). *Sharice’s Big Voice: A Native kid becomes a congresswoman*. CELA.

This picture book autobiography tells the triumphant story of Sharice Dauids, one of the first Native American women elected to Congress, and the first LGBTQ congressperson to represent Kansas.

Dominguez, G. H., & Martínez, T. (2019). *Dear abuelo*. Reycraft Books.

There is much Juana is going to miss as she moves from Mexico to New York, but nothing more than her abuelo. Through letters to her grandfather, Juana details her flight, her new apartment,

and her first days of school, where everyone speaks a language she barely understands. When Juana makes her first friend, though, things begin to change.

Facing History and Ourselves. (2022, June). Character Map. FacingHistory.org.

This character map can be used to help students understand the social and emotional underpinning of the characters in most of the books.

Fullerton, A., & Deines, B. (2016). *In a cloud of dust*. Pajama Press.

In a Tanzanian village school, Anna struggles to keep up. Her walk home takes so long that when she arrives, it is too dark to do her homework. Working through the lunch hour instead, she doesn't see the truck from the bicycle library pull into the schoolyard. By the time she gets out there, the bikes are all gone.

Gale, H., & Song, M. (2020). *Ho'onani: Hula warrior*. CNIB.

This is an incredible book based on a real person! Ho'onani is a young girl that feels in the middle of being a girl (wahine) and a boy (kâne) but still uses feminine pronouns.

Gonzalez, K. N., & Quiles, K. (2023). *The coquies still sing: A story of home, hope, and rebuilding*. Playaway Products, LLC.

This is a powerful story about home, community, and hope, inspired by the rebuilding of Puerto Rico following Hurricane Maria in 2017

Grady, C., & Hirao, A. (2019). *Write to me: Letters from Japanese American children to the librarian they left behind*. Charlesbridge.

A touching story about Japanese American children who corresponded with their beloved librarian while they were imprisoned in World War II internment camps.

Gravel, E. (2019). *What is a refugee?* Random House Childrens Books.

Gravel shows readers that refugees may have to live in substandard conditions while waiting for a country to welcome.

Gray, G., & Mora, O. (2024). *I'm from*. Puffin.

A poetic, heartwarming ode to the small, defining moments of a boy's life.

Jones, S. J., & Saldaña, C. (2020). *The only way is Badger*. Little Tiger Press.

Bizarrely, a story about an intolerant, megalomaniac badger is somehow a highly relevant tale for our times. This book is packed with opportunities for discussion around diversity, tolerance, acceptance and the rule of law.

Knight, M. B., & O'Brien, A. S. (2014). *Talking walls: Discover your world*. Tilbury House, Publishers.

An illustrated description of walls around the world and their significance, from the Great Wall of China to the Berlin Wall

Lukoff, K., & Juanita, K. (2022). *When Aidan became a brother*. Atlantic Provinces Special Education Authority, Library.

A transgender boy anticipates his new job as a big brother by helping his parents prepare for his baby sibling's arrival. Aidan "felt trapped" in his old name, clothes, and room before he told his parents "what he knew about himself." Some girls never wore dresses, "but Aidan didn't feel like any kind of girl" because he was "another kind of boy." With his parents' support, he embraces his identity and takes on a new, important role, becoming a big brother. More than anything, he wants the baby to feel loved and understood.

Mednia, M. (2023). *Evelyn del Rey is moving away*. Candlewick Press.

This is a bittersweet story of two girls who will always be each other's número uno, even though one is moving away.

Mills, D., Alva, A., Lopez, A. M., & Navarro, C. (2019). *La Frontera: El Viaje Con papá*. Library Ideas, LLC.

Based on a true story, this book is about a young boy and his father who embark on an arduous journey from Mexico to the United States in the 1980s to find a new life.

Milway, K. S., & Evans, S. (2018). *The banana-leaf ball: How play can change the world*. W. Ross MacDonald School Resource Services Library.

Separated by his family, Deo feels alone at the camp and he is bullied by a gang leader. He misses his family and longs for the days of playing soccer with his friends. Before long, Deo shows all of his new friends how to make banana-leaf balls so they can practice and play soccer together.

Nayeri, D. (2024). *Waiting place: When home is lost and a new one not yet found*. Candlewick Press.

An unflinching look at ten young lives suspended outside of time—and bravely proceeding anyway—inside the Katsikas refugee camp in Greece.

Naylor-Ballesteros, C. (2020). *The suitcase*. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

This is a picture book that can be read on many different levels. Its author and illustrator, Chris Naylor-Ballesteros, talks about the kindness and tolerance that he hopes is there underneath this engaging story.

Nyong'o, L., & Harrison, V. (2021). *Sulwe*. ROSE Stories.

From Academy Award–winning actress Lupita Nyong'o comes a powerful, moving picture book about colorism, self-esteem, and learning that true beauty comes from within.

Perez, A. I., & Gonzalez, M. C. (2009). *My diary from here to there. Mi Diario de Aqui Hasta alla*. Lee & Low Books, Incorporated.

One night, young Amada overhears her parents whisper of moving from Mexico to the other side of the border—to Los Angeles, where greater opportunity awaits. As she and her family make their journey north, Amada records her fears, hopes, and dreams for their lives in the United States in her diary.

PMC (Public Media Connect). (2021a, February 24). *Relationship skills: Social-emotional learning*. PBS LearningMedia.

<https://why.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/relationship-skills-social-emotional-learning/social-emotional-learning-video/>

Learn to help students develop key skills for successful relationships: communication, cooperation and conflict resolution. Educators can help students develop these skills by working together in groups and discussing roles. Parents can support their children by spending time with them and encouraging communication.

PMC (Public Media Connect). (2021b, February 24). *Responsible decision-making: Social-emotional learning*. PBS LearningMedia.

<https://why.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/responsible-decision-making-social-emotional-learning-video/>

Learn ways to teach children to make responsible decisions by developing the ability to think through all parts of a problem, analyzing a situation, understanding its ethical implications, and evaluating the consequences.

PMC (Public Media Connect). (2021c, February 24). *Self-awareness: Social-emotional learning*. PBS LearningMedia.

<https://why.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/self-awareness-social-emotional-learning-video/>

Discover ways to help children develop social awareness and learn empathy by putting themselves in another's shoes: recognizing emotions, appreciating diversity and showing respect for others.

PMC (Public Media Connect). (2021d, February 24). *Self-management: Social-emotional learning*. PBS LearningMedia.

<https://why.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/self-management-video/social-emotional-learning-video/>

Learn how to teach children ways to manage their feelings and turn them into positive actions, including creating a calm and regulated environment, showing how to manage impulses, and discussing ways to resolve conflicts.

PMC (Public Media Connect). (2021e, February 24). *Social-awareness: Social-emotional learning*. PBS LearningMedia.
[https://why.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/social-awareness-social-emotional-learning/social-emotional-learning-video/](https://why.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/social-awareness-social-emotional-learning-social-emotional-learning-video/)

Learn how you can help children develop self-awareness, the foundation of social-emotional learning, by teaching the vocabulary of emotions, and modeling behavior that supports self-awareness.

Tokuda-Hall, M., & Imamura, Y. (2022). *Love in the library*. Candlewick Press.

An evocative and empowering tribute to human dignity and optimism. This story, inspired by the author's grandparents, celebrates love blooming in the desert during a time of extreme duress. In a World War II incarceration camp for Japanese Americans, two young people find respite in one another.

Trottier, M., & Arsenault, I. (2016). *Migrant*. Groundwood Books.

This is a picture book for young children. It tells the story of a migrant family from the perspective of its youngest member. She feels like a bird, flying north for the spring and south every fall. She feels like a jackrabbit living in an abandoned burrow (the housing of previous migrants).

UN Human Rights. (2018a). *Alene and Eli*. [Video]. YouTube. Retrieved July 30, 2023, from <https://youtu.be/XGui7iuoXD0>.

Love has no boundaries. Listen to Alene share her dreams and story with her teenage son, Eli. How far would you go to support someone you love?

UN Human Rights. (2018b). *Hanaa*. [Video]. YouTube. Retrieved July 30, 2023, from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ff9TnyX-Swc>.

Hanaa's migration story is one of empowerment, of how migration has enabled her to overcome a disability, move forward and be free.

UN Human Rights. (2018c). *Hari and Uma Kondabolu*. [Video]. YouTube. Retrieved July 30, 2023, from <https://youtu.be/9KysXeTMpC4>.

Hari Kondabolu and his mother, Uma Kondabolu, discuss growing up amongst diversity, facing bullying and how to stand up for what is right.

UN Human Rights. (2018d). *Hari Kondabolu*. [Video]. YouTube. Retrieved July 30, 2023, from <https://youtu.be/Q035JFRfz9U>.

Find out why Hari Kondabolu thinks migrants' stories matter and how we all have a role in confronting xenophobia.

UN Human Rights. (2018e). *Mai Na and Choua*. [Video]. YouTube. Retrieved July 30, 2023, from <https://youtu.be/VVbWWATpzPQ>.

A community's warm welcome means so much to migrants. Find out about Mai Na and Choua's experience and encourage your community to be welcoming.

Woodson, J., & Lopez, R. (2023). *The Day you begin*. Playaway Products, LLC.

This is a fun story that packs a powerful message. Woodson explains that the day you truly begin living is the day that you realize that even though you may be different from everyone else, once you find the courage to share your story, the world will create the space for you that you deserve.