

Migration is a Human Right

SHARA GUARNACCIA JUL 18, 2023 09:34PM UTC

This text set considers the question of what it means to think about migration as a human right, as defined by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It explores this idea through the five guiding questions below.

The resources in this text set are intended for use in an upper elementary classroom. There are resources in English and some in Spanish.

They are organized by type of resource and labeled based on the guiding question they relate to.

Julia Moves to the United States by Sean McCollum

A short text, also available as audio, that asks students to imagine being an immigrant and tells the story of author Julia Alvarez.

Age: 5-11

Guiding Question: Return/Imagine/Leave

Julia Moves to the United States

Sean McCollum gives an account of writer Julia Alvarez's move to the United States from the Dominican Republic as a young girl. Although Alvarez struggled to fit in in this unfamiliar place, she finally found a comfortable niche in her writing.

LEARNING FOR JUSTICE

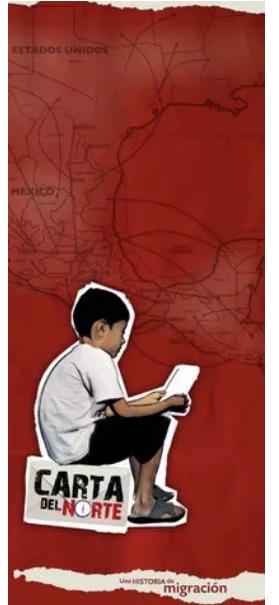


Additional Resources and Images

Carta del norte

Read Carta del norte by Museo de la Palabra y la Imagen on Issuu and browse thousands of other publications on our platform. Start here!

ISSUU



Carta del Norte

Carta de un padre a su hijo en la que explica su decisión de emigrar y describe su viaje. También se incluyen recursos adicionales para el profesor y planes de clase.

Age: 10-14

Guiding Question: Stay/Leave

Carta Del Norte

Con esta publicación, el Museo de la Palabra y la Imagen inicia el Programa Memoria de la Migración, estableciendo un espacio didáctico de información y reflexión que facilite a escolares y comunidades la comprensión integral del fenómeno migratorio.

ISSUU



All the Stars Denied by Guadalupe García McCall

A historical fiction about a girl and her family who are deported, despite being US citizens, during the Repatriation in the 1930s.

Age: 12-17

Guiding Question: Return

PURA BELPRÉ AWARD WINNER

Guadalupe García McCall

All the Stars Denied

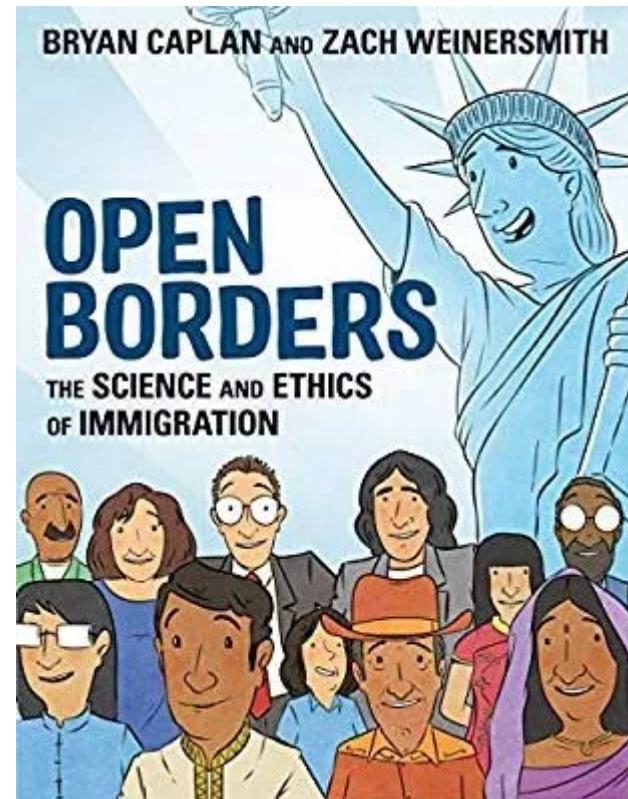


Open Borders: The Science and Ethics of Immigration by Bryan Caplan and Zach Weinersmith

A graphic nonfiction that makes the case, based on an economic argument and extensive research, for opening all borders.

Age: 13-17

Guiding Question: Imagine

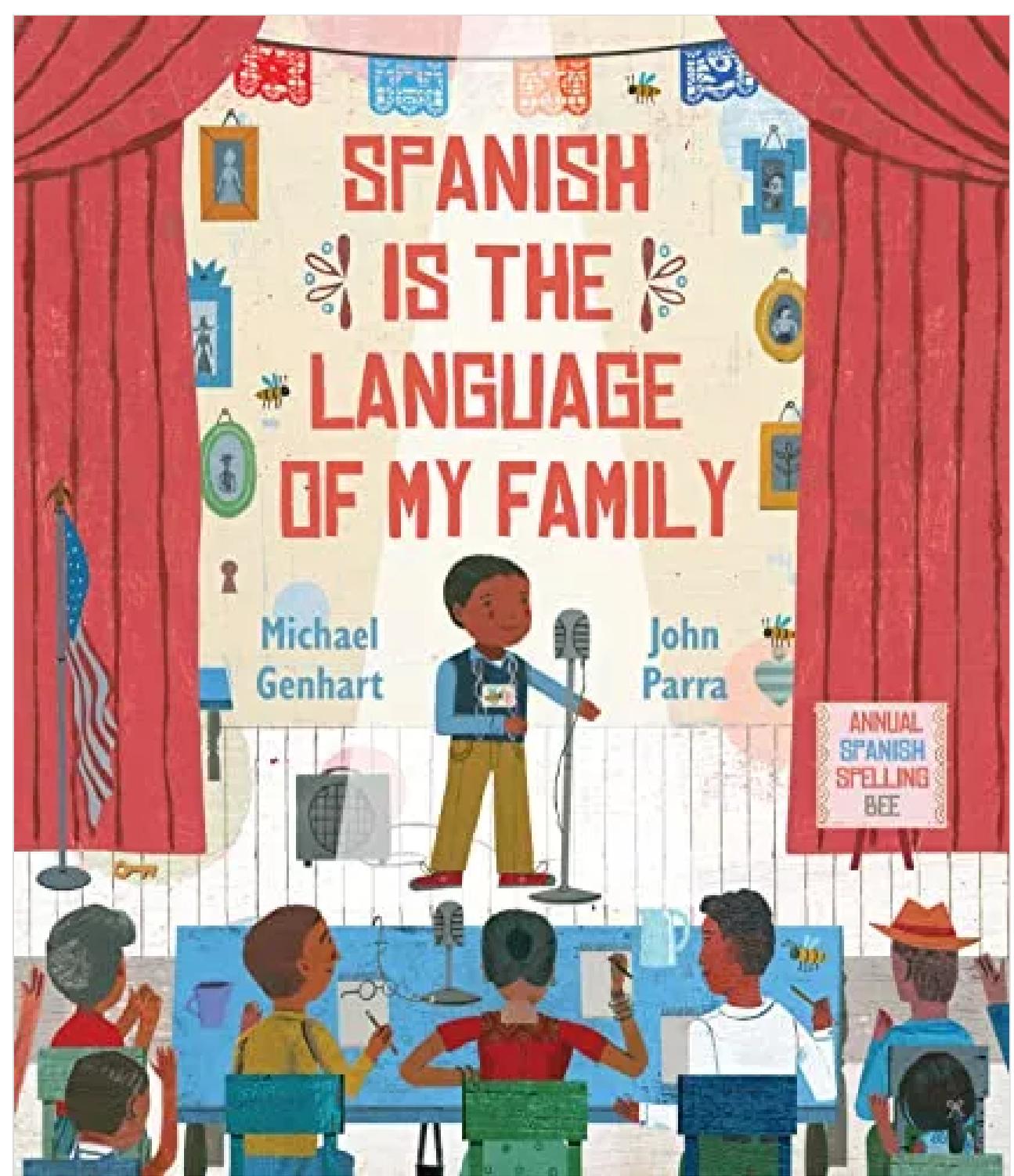
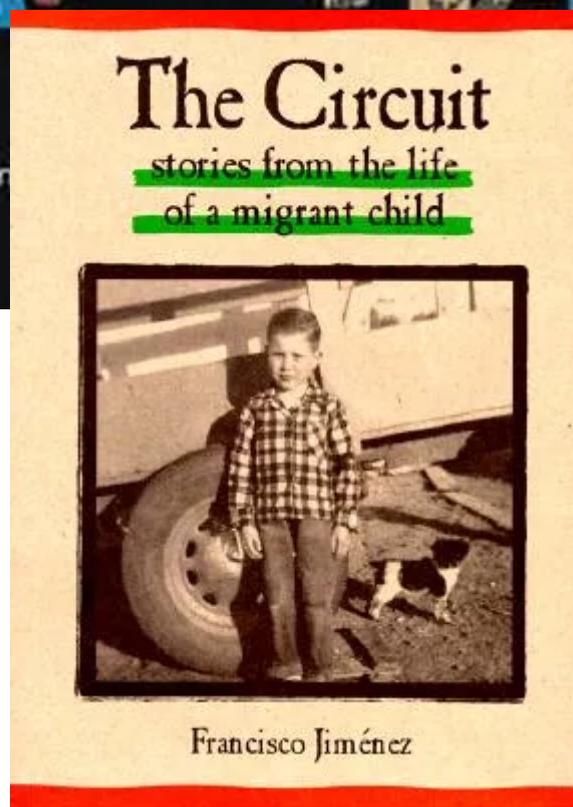


The Circuit by Francisco Jiménez

A collection of 12 short stories about a boy and his family's journey to establish a new life in the US in 1947 after migrating from Mexico.

Age: 10-13

Guiding Question: Leave



Spanish is the Language of my Family by Michael Genhart and John Parra

A picture book about the history of the National Spanish Spelling Bee, the history of English only in school and the value of Spanish as a heritage language. Uses Spanglish throughout and highlights many empowering words.

Age: 4-8

Guiding Question: Stay

Youth Speech

Sophie Cruz, age 6, spoke at the Women's March in 2017 with her undocumented parents. A bilingual call for action and resistance: "We are here together making a chain of love to protect our families. Let us fight with love, faith and courage so our families will not be destroyed!"

Guiding Question: Leave



Sophie Cruz at the Women's March on Washington | Define American

by Define American

YOUTUBE

Vwayaj - Jean Appolon Expressions

Clips from a performance of Vwayaj



JAE, Jean and the dancers have poured their talent, passion and resources into putting on these performances! Vwayaj 2019! | By Jean Appolon Expressions (JAE) | Facebook

JAE, Jean and the dancers have poured their talent, passion and resources into putting on these performances! Vwayaj 2019!

FB.WATCH

Vwayaj - Jean Appolon Expressions

Highlights from the performance with voice over about the process



Jean Appolon Expressions: Vwayaj Highlights 2018

by Jean Appolon Expressions

YOUTUBE

Vwayaj - Jean Appolon Expressions

Vwayaj is an interdisciplinary production that considers immigration from a specifically Haitian perspective and speaks to universal themes. The Jean Appolon Expressions dance company partnered with Edwidge Danticat, Val Jeanty and the community to collect and incorporate oral histories into the performance.

Guiding Question: Leave

Vwayaj - Jean Appolon Expressions

In Haitian Kreyòl the word "Lakou" carries multiple meanings: It is the backyard, the land passed down through generations, the gathering place for shared meals, for dancing, singing, worship or passionate debate. "Lakou" can also mean home, or the idea of home, the place that calls us back not just to sacred ground, but to a sense of belonging without which we are not whole.

JEAN APPOLON EXPRESSIONS

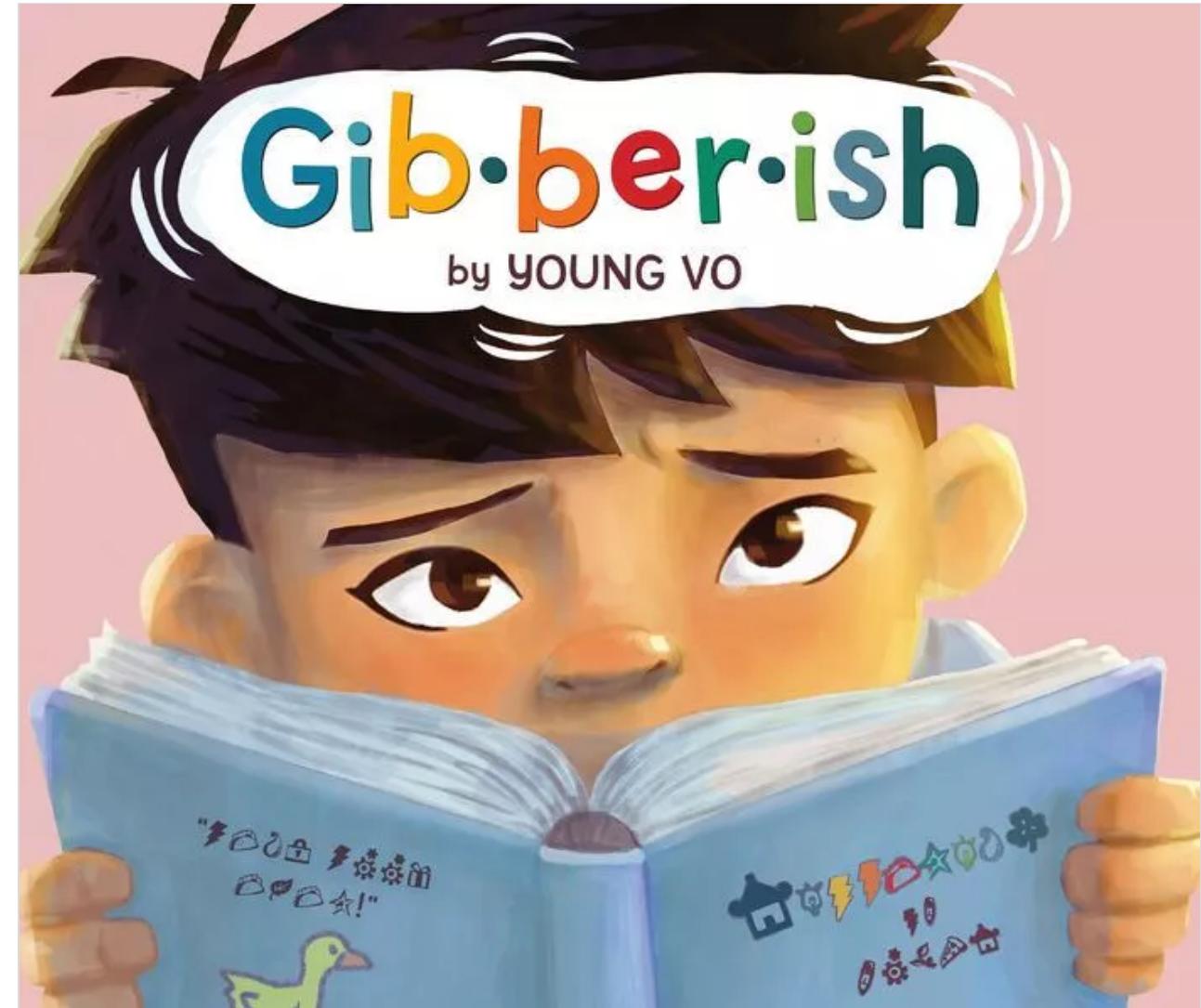


Gibberish by Young Vo

A picture book about learning English. The powerful images show how the words start to make sense.

Age: 4-8

Guiding Question: Leave



The Day Saida Arrived by Gómez Redondo & Sonja Wimmer

A picture book about learning English. Whimsical illustrations with lots of words incorporated into the images.

Age: 3-7

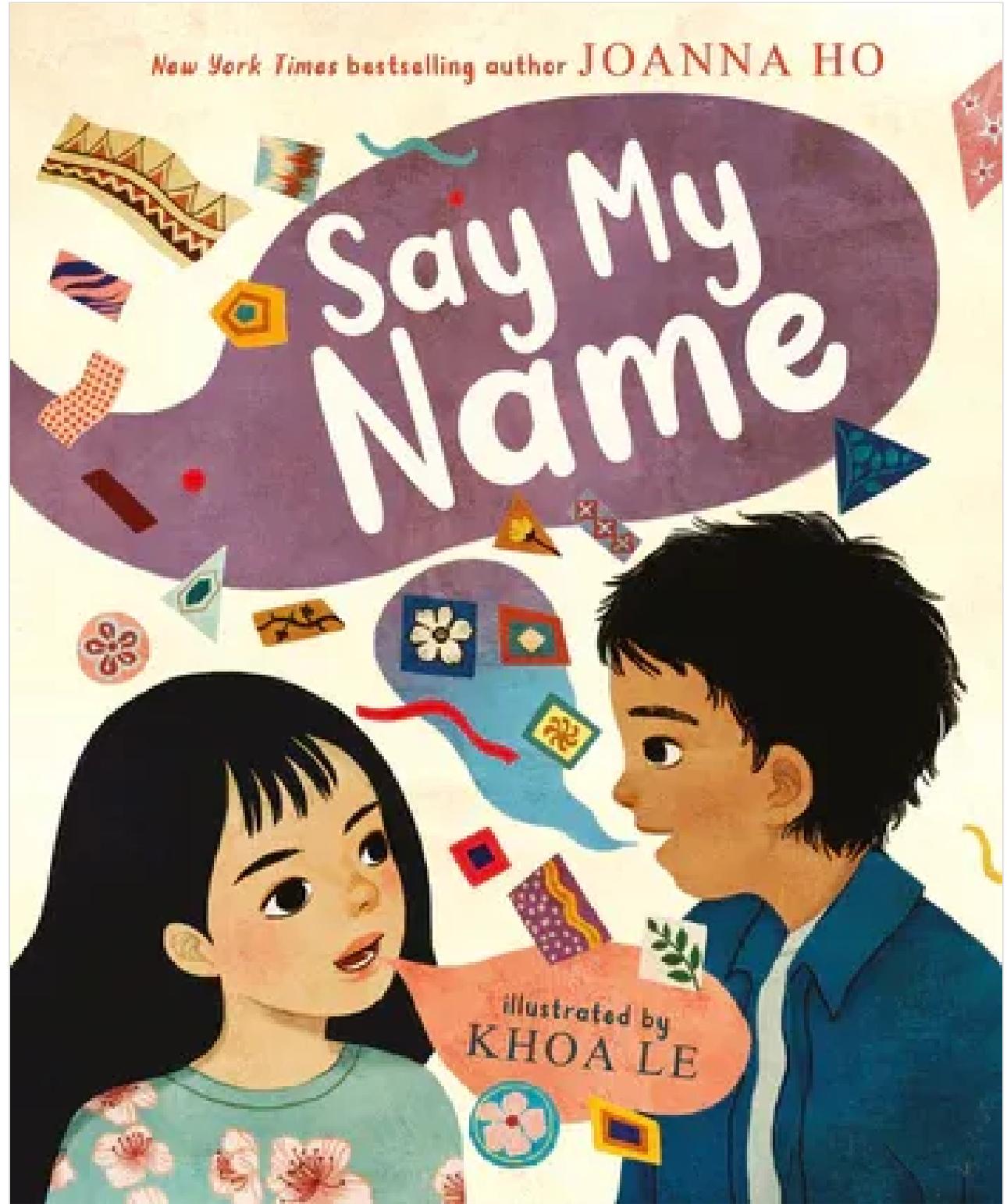
Guiding Question: Leave



Say My Name by Joanna Ho

A book in verse about the importance and beauty of saying names correctly. There is a series of poems about specific children and their names.

Age: 4-8
Guiding Question: Stay
Available 9/2023

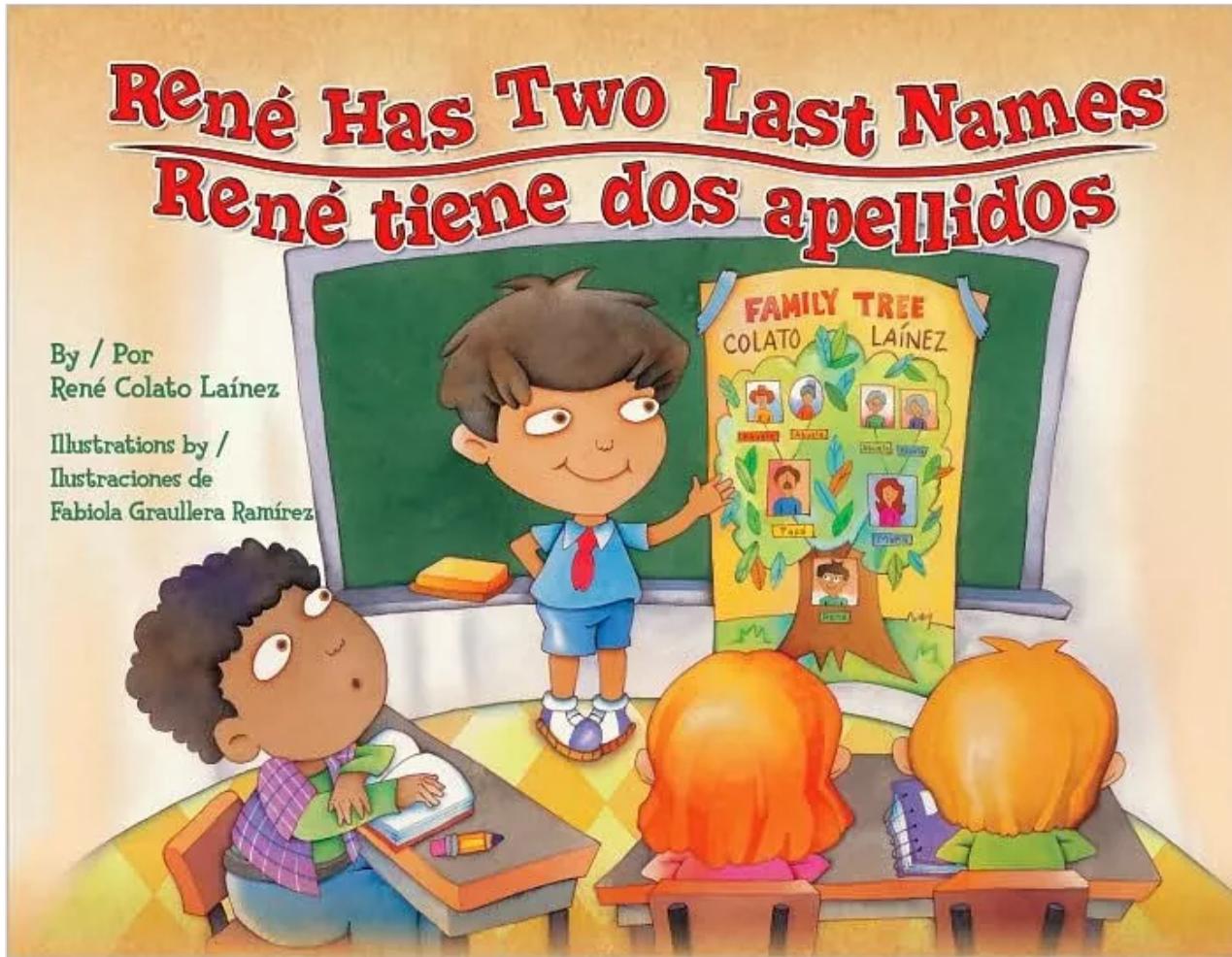


René has Two Last Names by René Colato Laínez

A bilingual book about a boy with two last names whose school only uses one name. He is from El Salvador and a family tree project lets him explain the importance of both names to his classmates.

Age: 6-9

Guiding Question: Stay



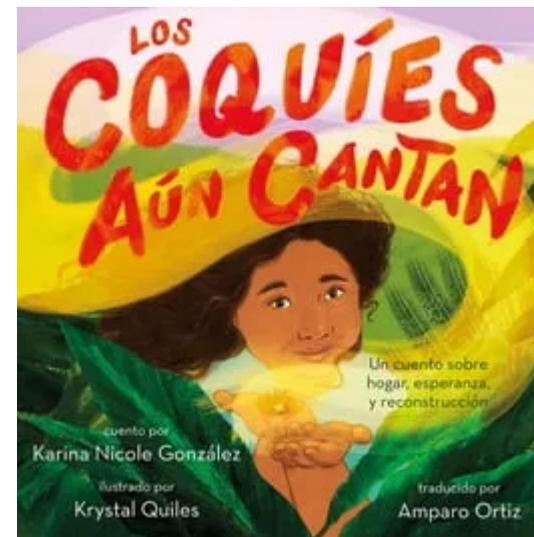
Los Coquíes aún Cantan cuento por Karina Nicole González e ilustrado por Krystal Quiles

Un libro sobre el Huracán María y una familia que queda. Ellos reconstruyen su casa y la comunidad.

Age: 4-8

Guiding Question: Stay

Also available in English

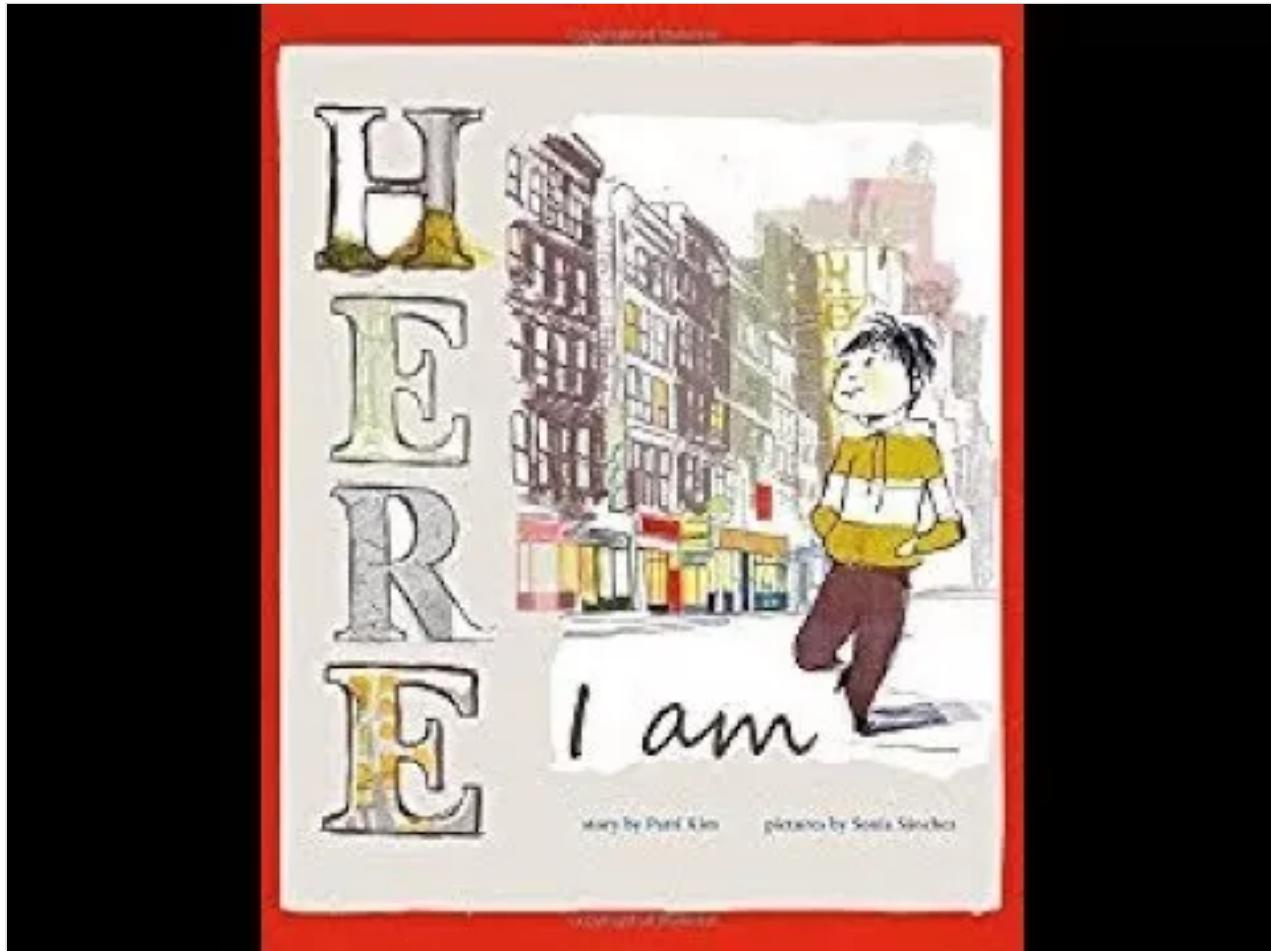


Here I am by Patti Kim

A wordless picture book about leaving your home, traveling to a new place, and the challenge of building a new life there.

Age: 8-10

Guiding Question: Leave

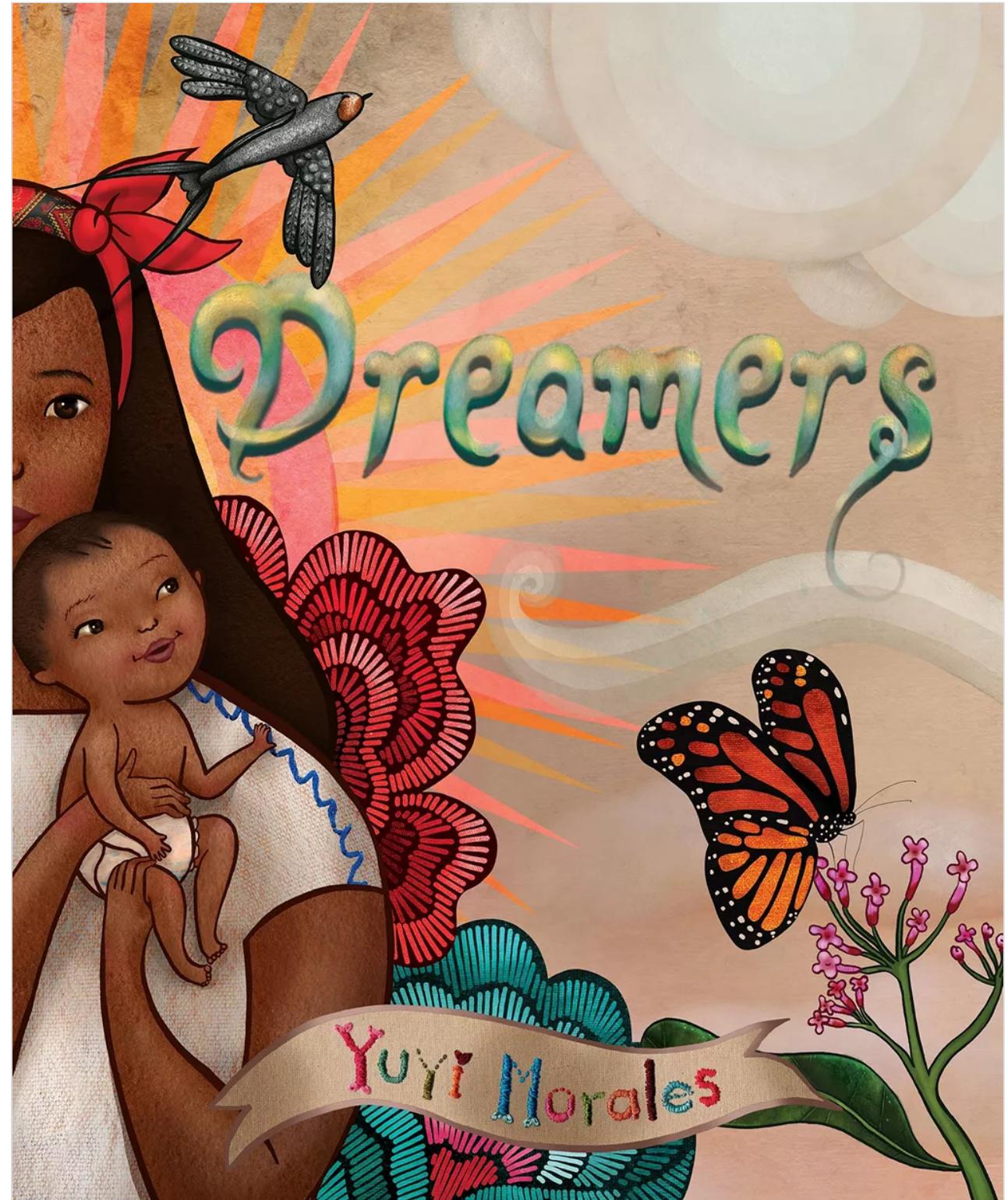


Dreamers by Yuyi Morales

A picture book about a mom and daughter who walk across the border and find refuge and hope in the library and books.

Age: 5-9

Guiding Question: Leave/Imagine

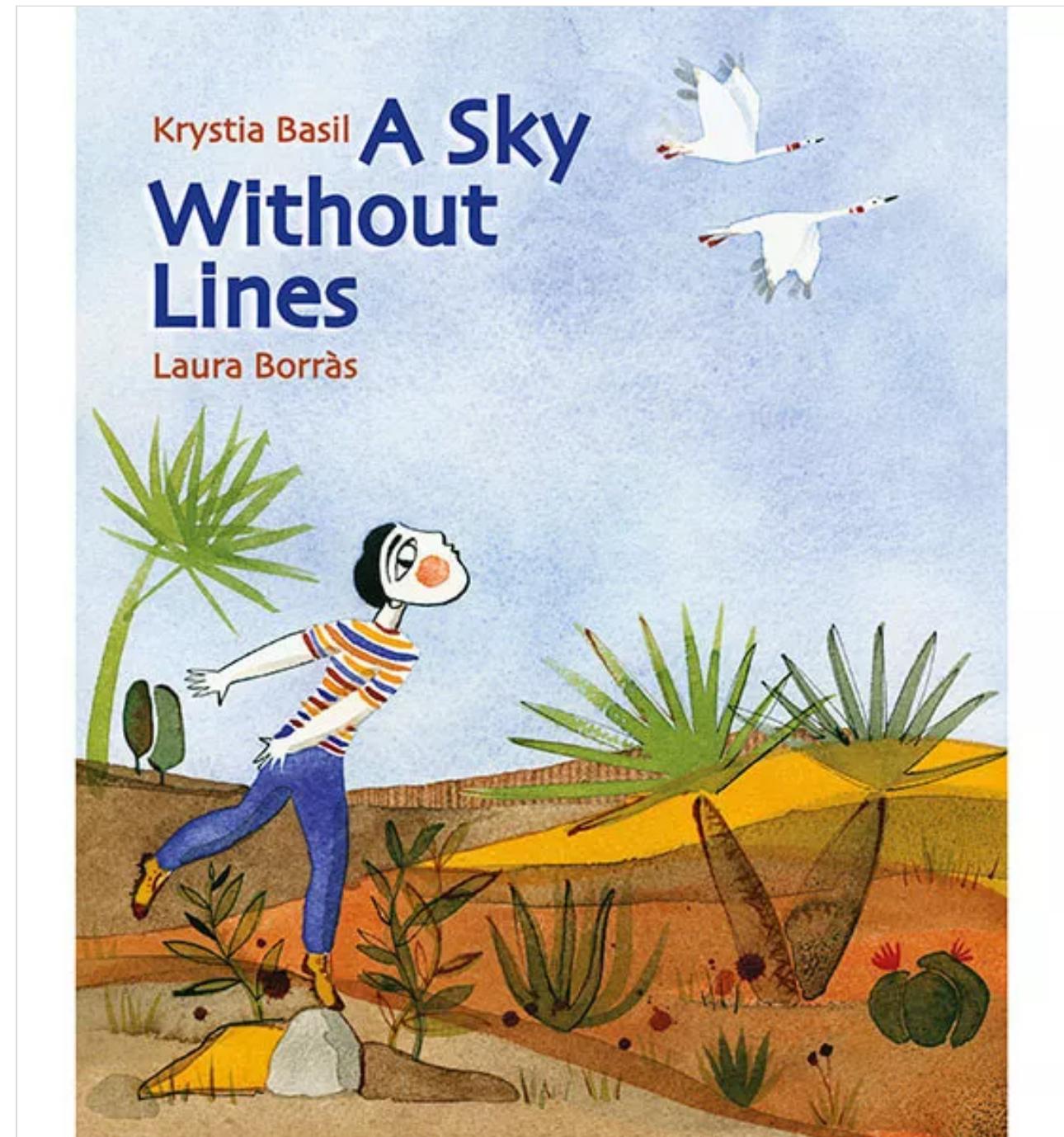


A Sky Without Lines by Krystia Basil & Laura Borràs

A picture book about the arbitrariness of lines on a map made to separate people. A family is divided between countries and the boy dreams of connecting with his family.

Age: 5-8

Guiding Question: Imagine



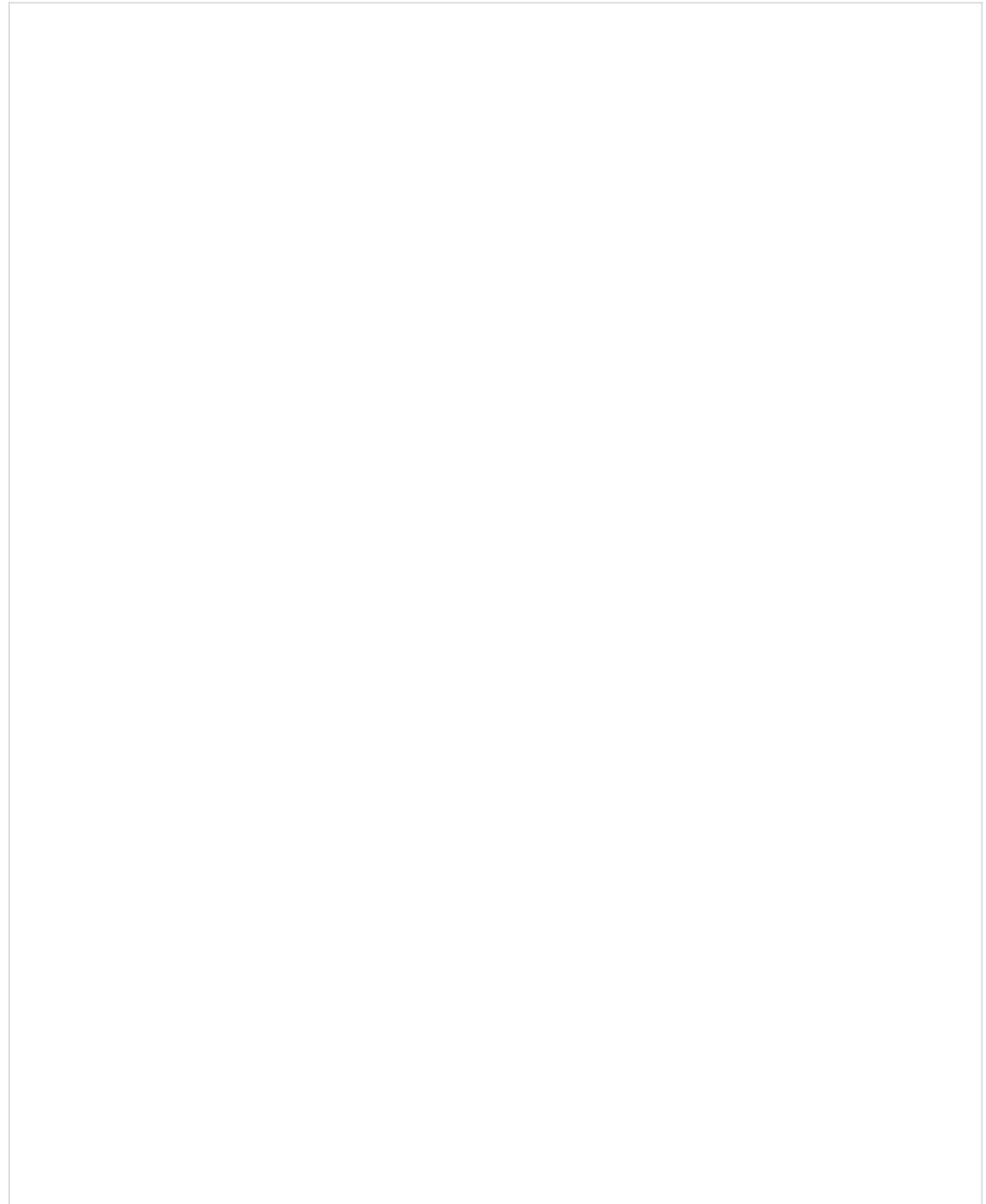
How Tia Lola... by Julia Alvarez

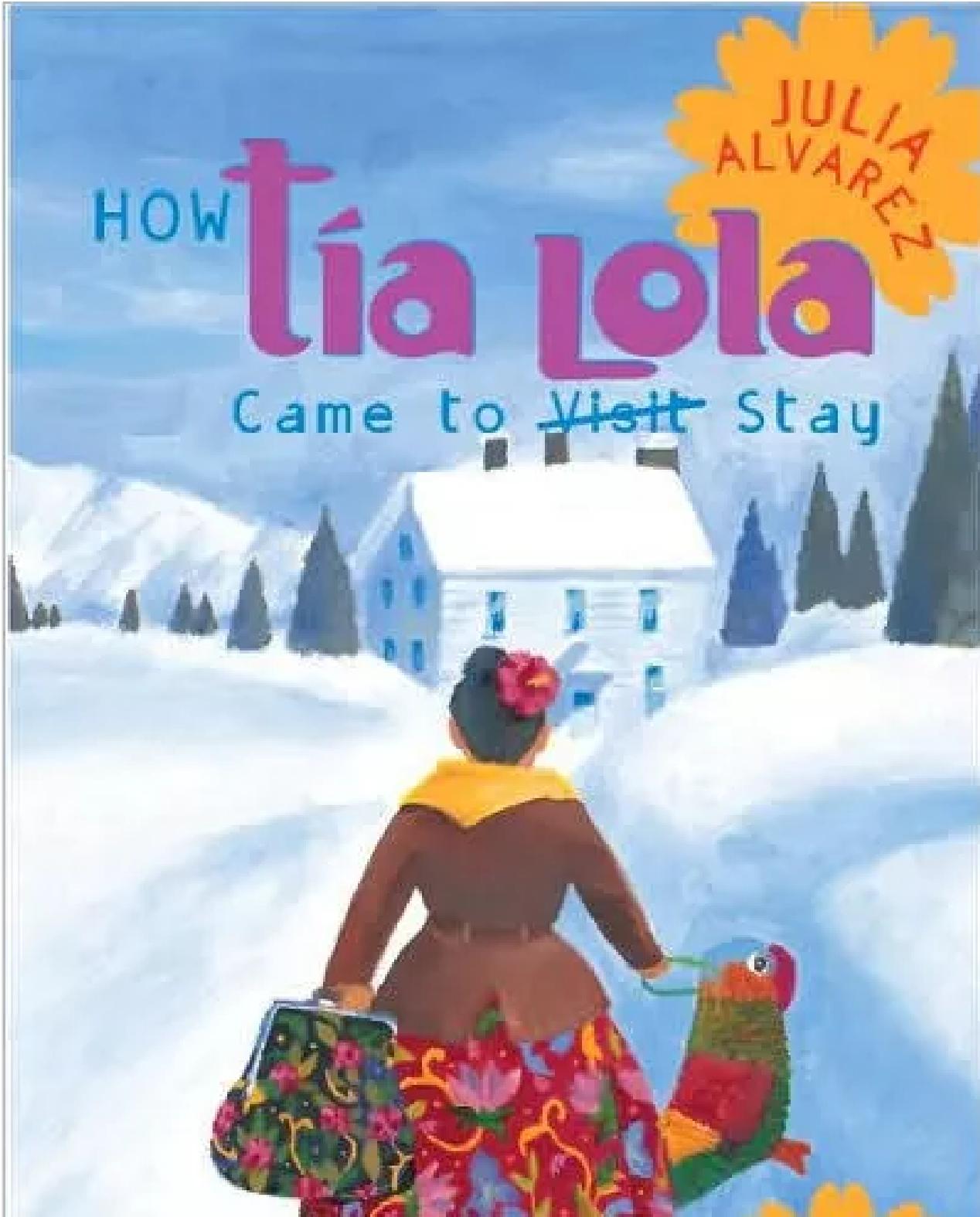
A middle grade series about a boy who immigrated to Vermont from the Dominican Republic. The books explore the different stages of building a life in a new country and changing family dynamics.

Age: 7-12

Guiding Question: Leave

Some books available in Spanish



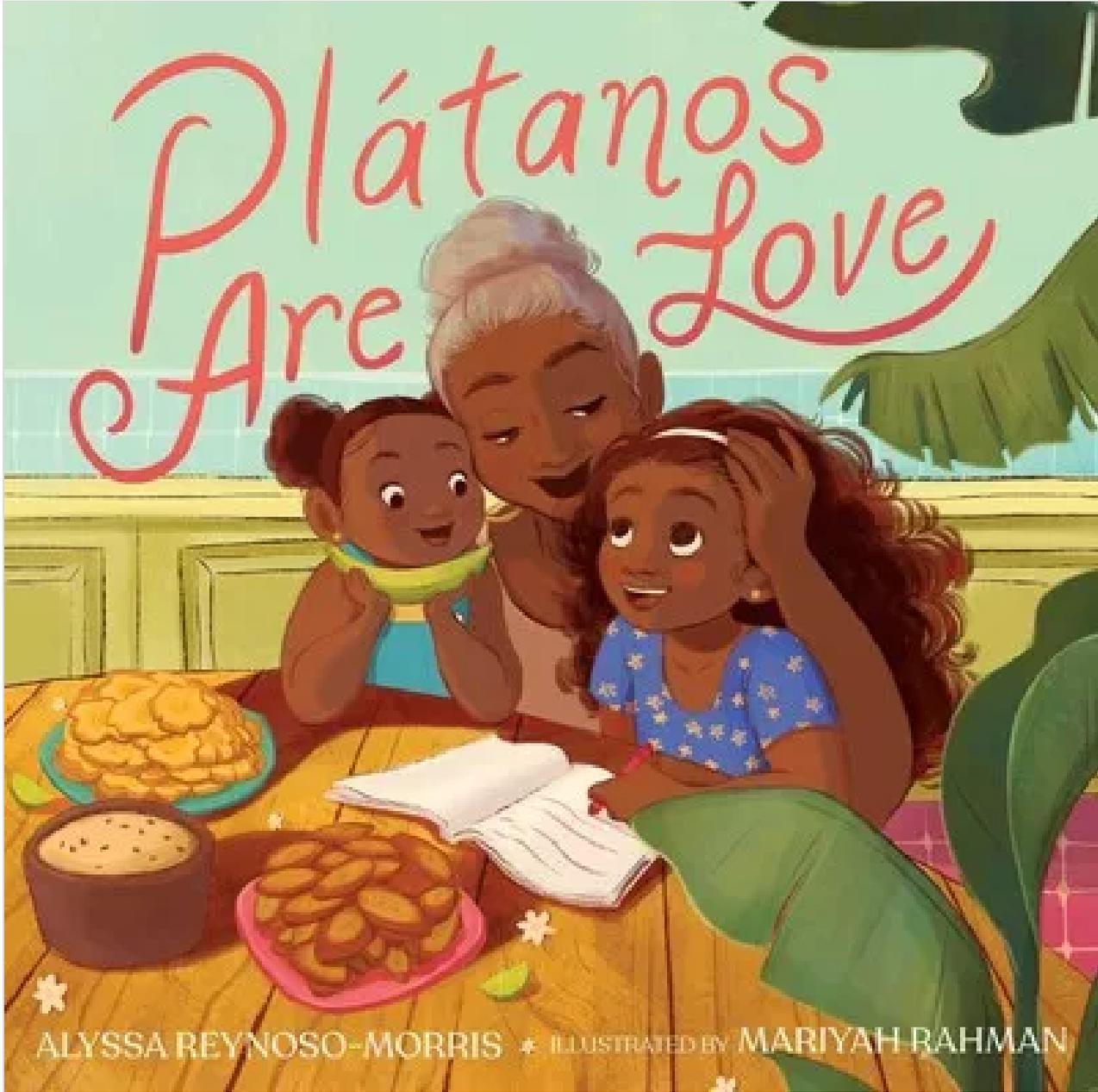


Plátanos are Love by Alyssa Reynoso-Morris & Mariyah Rahman

A family story picture book written in Spanglish about the meaning and cultural history of plantains.

Age: 4-8

Guiding Question: Stay



If Dominican were a Color by Sili Recio & Brianna McCarthy

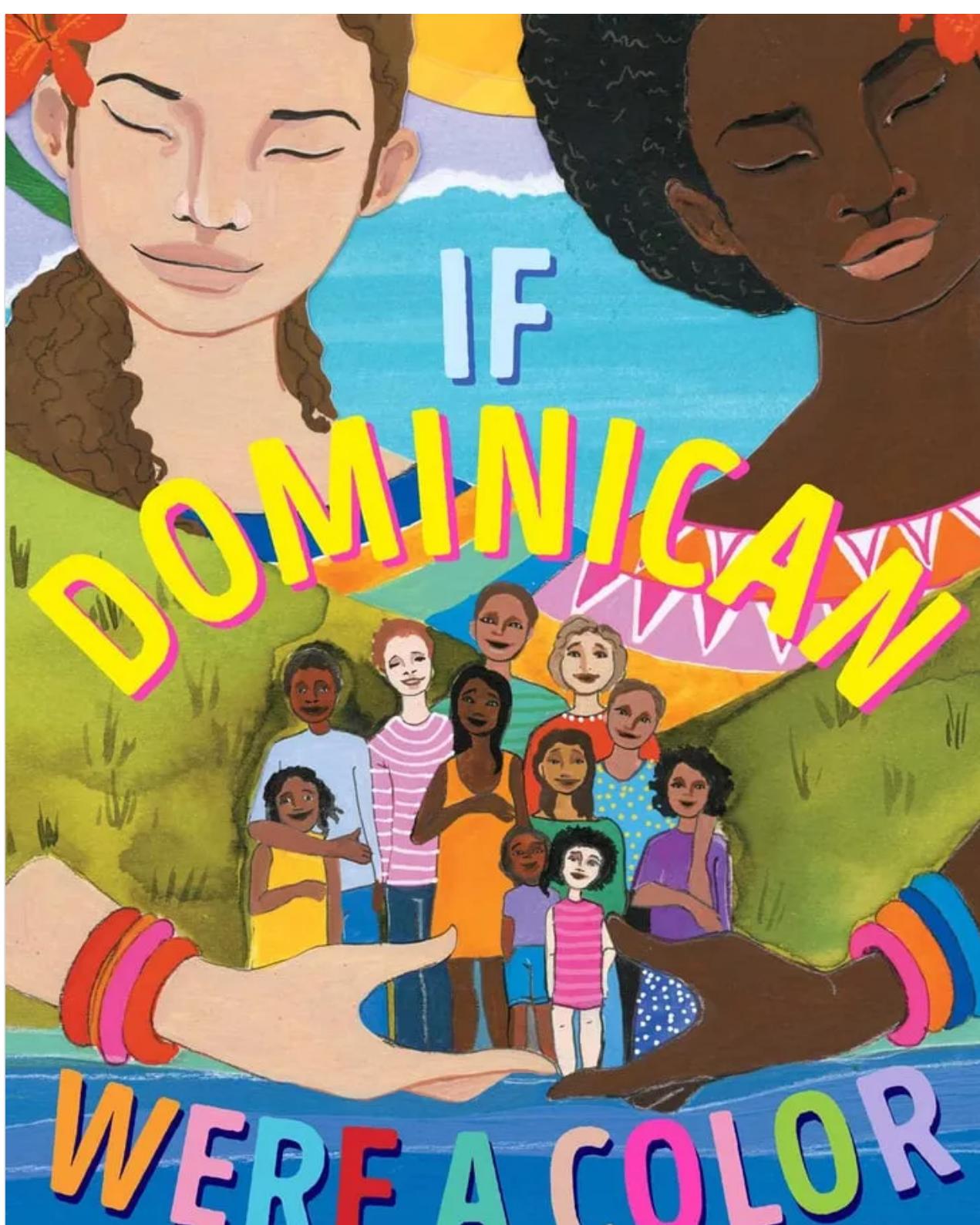
A picture book written in verse about the beauty of the people and things in the Dominican Republic. Focuses on the beauty of blackness.

Age: 4-8

Guiding Question: Stay

Also available in Spanish





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

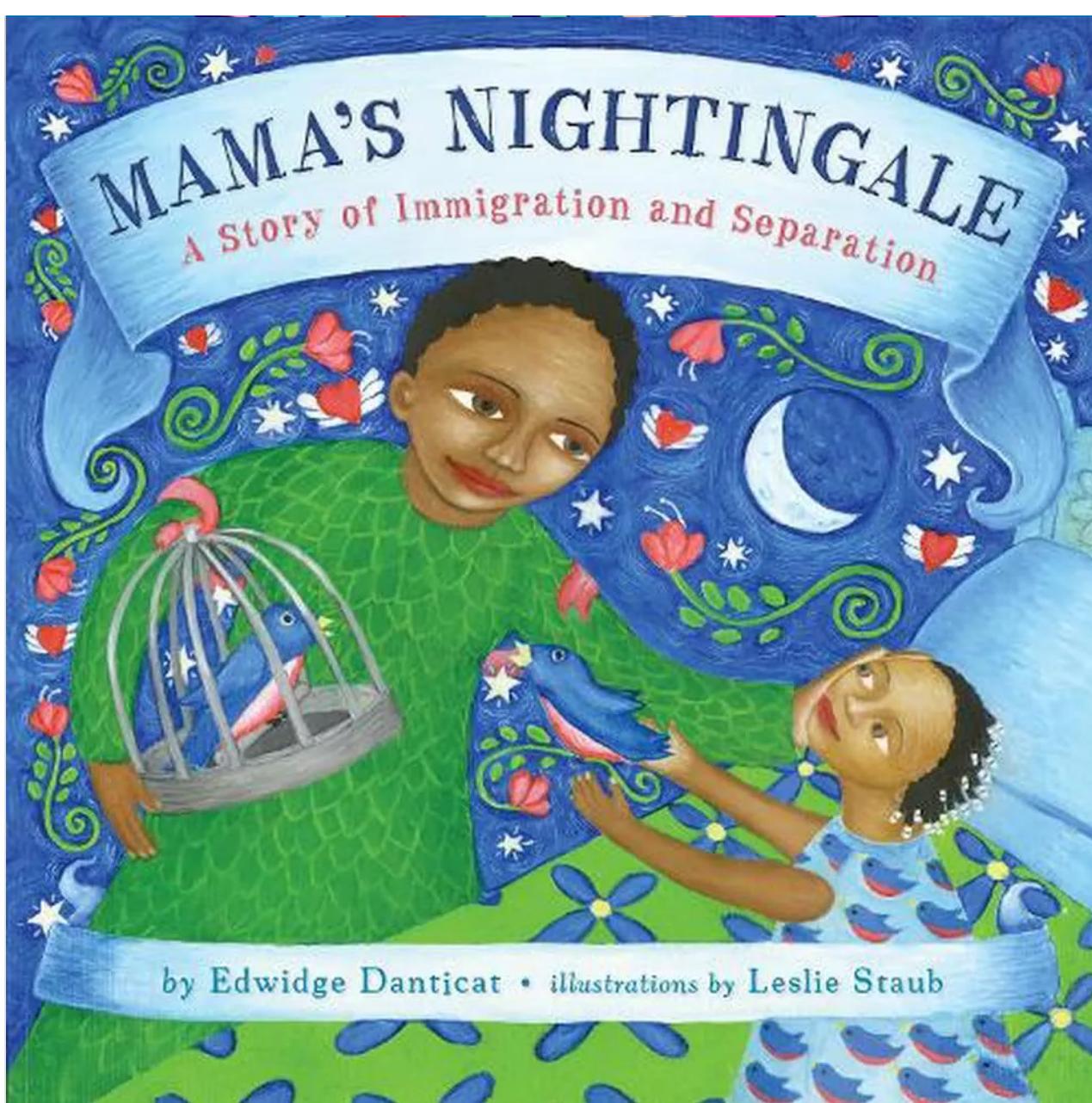
A story about a young girl, Saya, whose mother is in an immigration detention center. The mother sends Saya oral stories and she writes a letter to try and help her mom. A story about the power of children, story and the human cost of immigration policy.

Age: 5-8

Guiding Question: Return

Age: 10-13

Guiding Question: Leave



Esperanza Rising by Pam Muñoz Ryan

This is a middle grade historical fiction novel that explores the journey of Esperanza, a young girl born into a comfortable life of privilege in Mexico in the 1930s, who is forced to flee to California and must rise above her difficult circumstances.

Esperanza Rising



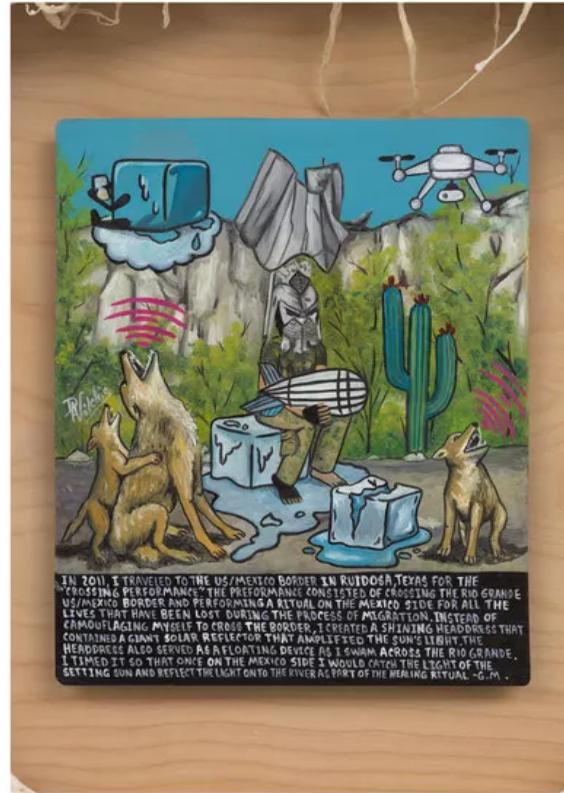
Guadalupe Maravilla

Guadalupe Maravilla is a transdisciplinary artist. He came to the US by himself from El Salvador at the age of 8 to escape the Civil War. His work traces his migration and the displacement of other people.

[Retablos](#)

[Mariposa Relampago](#)

Guiding Question: Leave/Return



What are human rights?

What is our right to stay?

What is our right to leave?

What is our right to return?

What is our right to imagine or create?

BY THE AUTHOR OF *RIDING FREEDOM*
P A M M U Ñ O Z R Y A N

Guiding Questions

Synopsis

Islandborn by Junot Díaz & Leo Espinosa

A picture book about a class of students from different countries who have to draw about where they are from. The main character is from the Dominican Republic, but doesn't remember the island so she learns about it from her community and family.

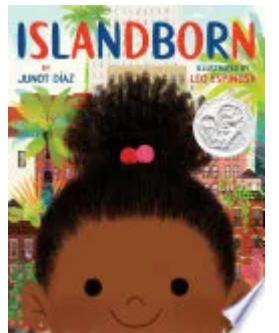
Age: 5-8

Guiding Question: Imagine

Islandborn

From New York Times bestseller and Pulitzer Prize winner Junot Díaz comes a debut picture book about the magic of memory and the infinite power of the imagination. A 2019 Pura Belpré Honor Book for Illustration Every kid in Lola's school was from somewhere else. Hers was a school of faraway places.

[GOOGLE BOOKS](#)

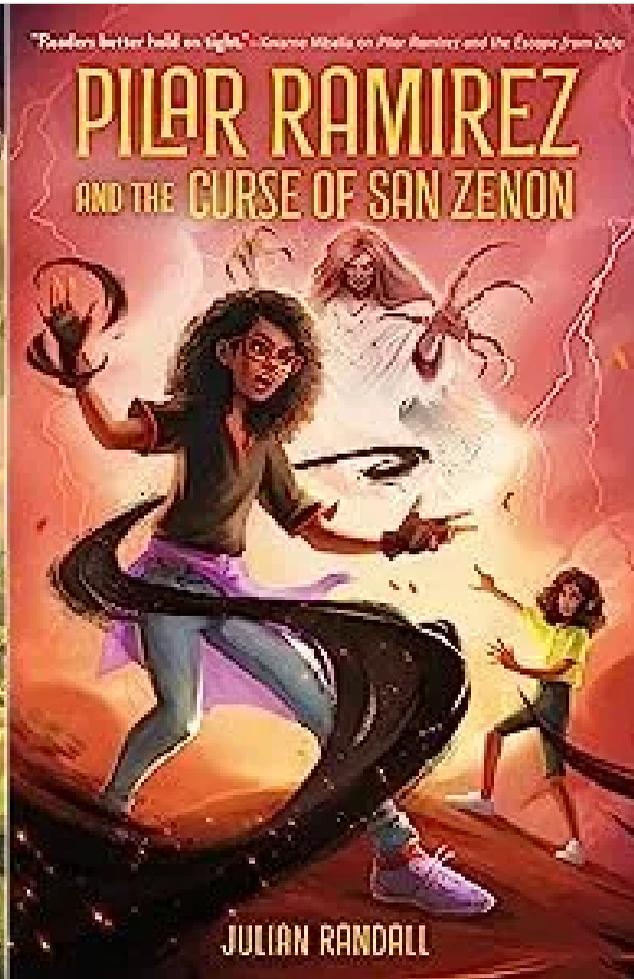
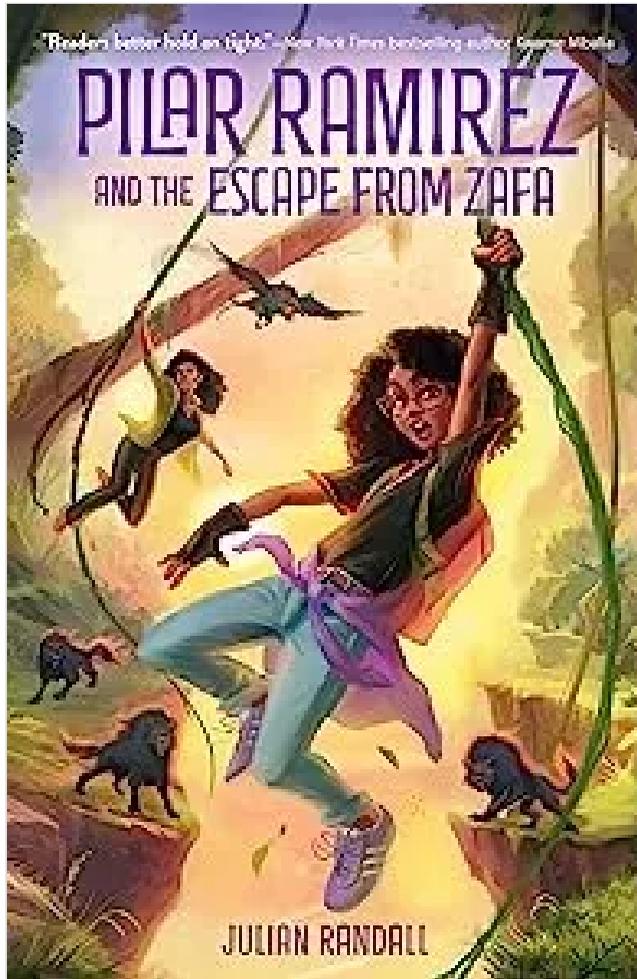


Pilar Ramirez Duology

This duology of middle grade chapter books is the story of a girl from Chicago who has to face adversity and adventure in the Dominican Republic and Zafa, a magical island. These books bring myths and legends to life in their action packed stories. Written in Spanglish.

Age: 8-14

Guiding Question: Return/Imagine



In this 5 minute TedTalk with Benedetta Berti, she explains the history of the UDHR, the UN, and challenges in enforcing the UDHR. Parts could be shown to children ages 8+ and it provides helpful background for teachers.
Resource Type: Video



Visual and Performance Art

Digital Resources

Chapter Books

Picture Books

What are the Universal Human Rights?

Declaración Universal de Derechos Humanos

Resumen de la DUDH para celebrar el Día de los Derechos Humanos. Realizado por la Comisión Nacional de Derechos Humanos de México.

Resource Type: Video

Opinion política



Declaración Universal de Derechos Humanos

by Comisión Nacional de los Derechos Humanos (CNDH)

YOUTUBE

Article 14

Kristy Thorburn - UDHR Article 14

I was drawn to this project due to my commitment to social justice and passion for creative pursuits. The human right to seek and be provided asylum is a tricky issue in Australia right now, with our horrendous policies for offshore processing on Nauru and Manus Island.

UDHR QUILTS



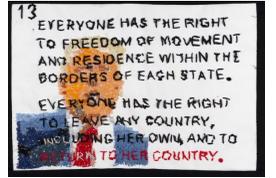
What are Human Rights?

Article 13

Sarah Pedlow - UDHR Article 13

My block and Article 13 speak to several major human rights violations enacted by the current US administration, in breach of one of the nation's founding tenets. I have stitched a pattern from an Iranian carpet onto a piece of linen from Poland with netting intended for a hat or veil.

UDHR QUILTS



Article 6

Emma Dolan - UDHR Article 6

The block I made uses digitally printed cotton and hand-embroidery, using imagery of visual identity recognition technology. Craftivism is a valuable tool in publicising issues overlooked or deliberately ignored by mainstream media. This project was brought to my attention at a time when, having been recently re-politicised by world and national events, I wanted to move into work with a more overt social message.

UDHR QUILTS



Article 3

Dahlia Rodriguez - UDHR Article 3

Dahlia strongly believes in arts and culture as vectors of social change. The promotion of the UDHR was a very special opportunity because the project involved embroidery and quilting: creative languages without borders used for centuries worldwide, especially by women, to express their deepest thou...

UDHR QUILTS



Declaración Universal de Derechos Humanos Ilustrada

Esta versión ilustrada de la DUDH incluye el lenguaje exacto de la Declaración e ilustraciones de Yacine Ait Kaci.

Edad: 10+

Resource Type: Online Book



DECLARACIÓN
UNIVERSAL
DE DERECHOS
HUMANOS

DECLARACIÓN UNIVERSAL DE DERECHOS HUMANOS



udhr_booklet_sp_web

PDF document

PADLET DRIVE

#UDHRquilt Project

The #UDHRquilt Project is a collaborative crafting project to document the articles of the UDHR. It uses craft as a "tool and strategy" to celebrate and raise awareness around the UDHR. There are currently 4 quilts.

Resource Type: Website, images, Instagram, craft

Illustrated Universal Declaration of Human Rights

This illustrated version of the UDHR includes the exact language from the Declaration and illustrations by Yacine Ait Kaci.

Age: 10+

Resource type: Online Book



UNIVERSAL
DECLARATION
OF HUMAN
RIGHTS

UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS



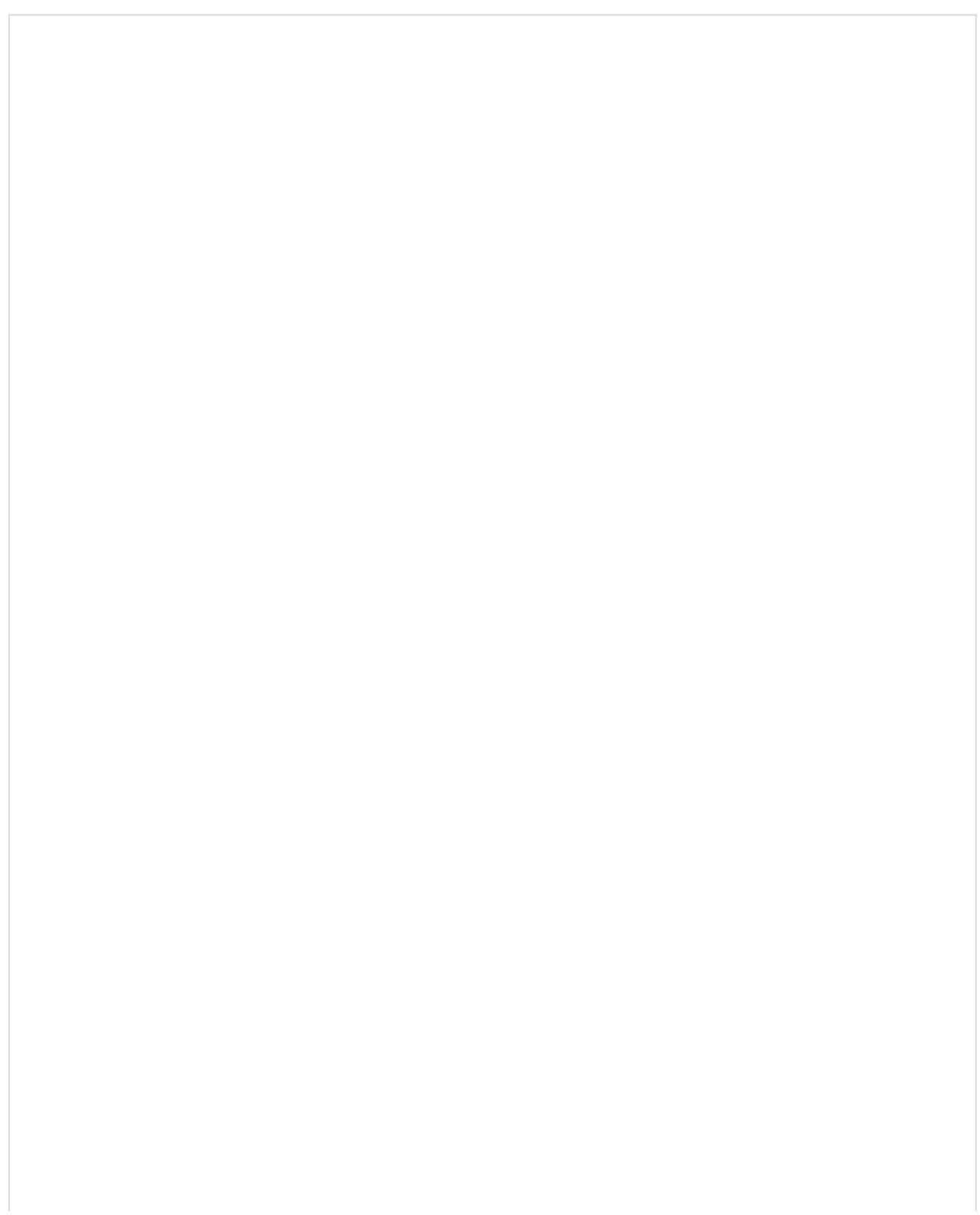
United Nations

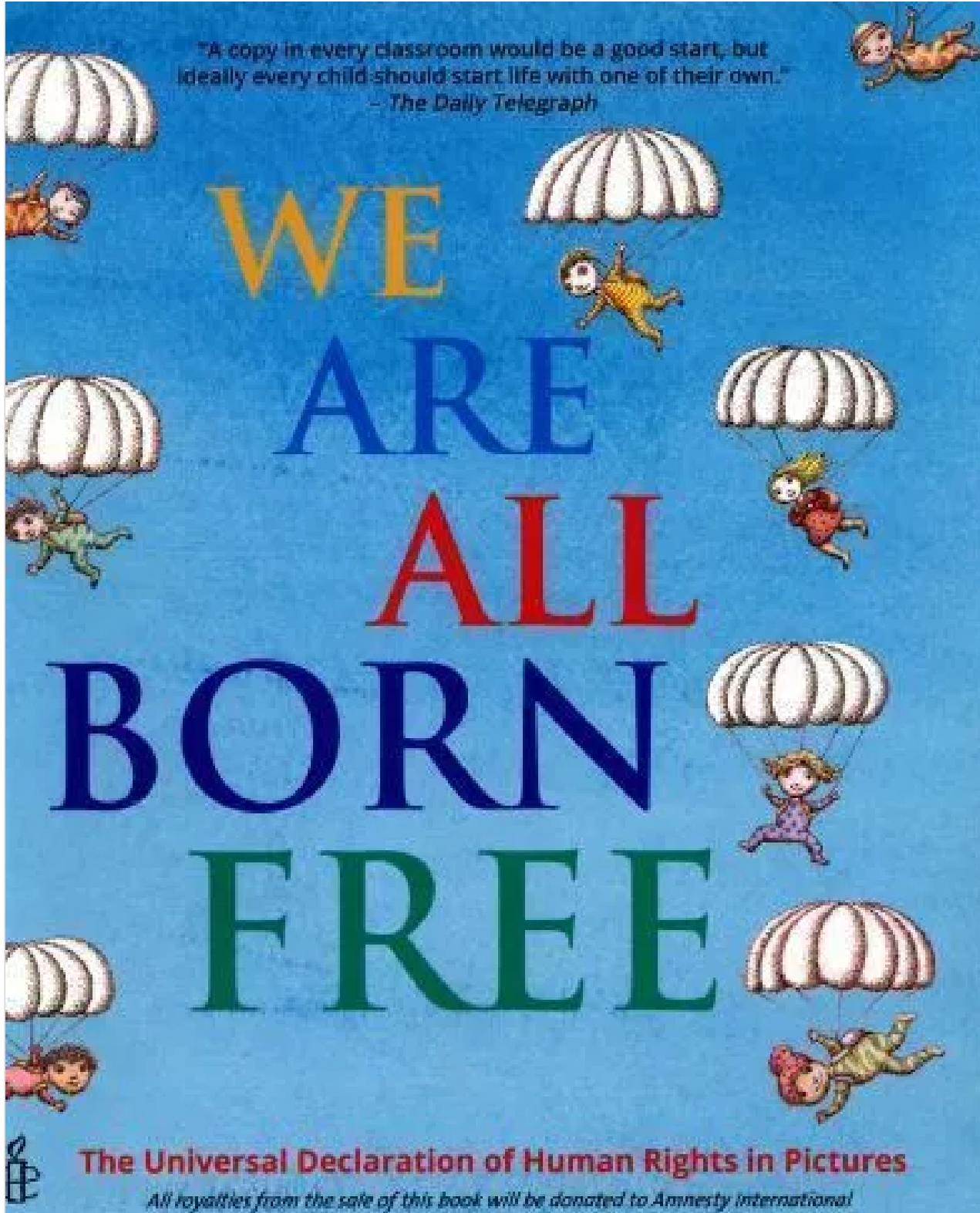
We are All Born Free: The Universal Declaration of Human Rights in Pictures

This book includes kid friendly language and illustrations for each Article. Each Article is illustrated by a different artist or illustrator.

Age: 5+

Resource Type: Book





Universal Declaration of Human Rights

This is the official Universal Declaration of Human Rights published by the UN. This includes the preamble and all 30 articles.

This text set focuses on Articles 3, 6, 13 and 14.

Resource type: Document

Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Preamble

Whereas recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world,

Whereas disregard and contempt for human rights have resulted in barbarous acts which have outraged the conscience of mankind, and the advent of a world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear and want has been proclaimed as the highest aspiration of the common people,

Whereas it is essential, if man is not to be compelled to have recourse, as a last resort, to rebellion against tyranny and oppression, that human rights should be protected by the rule of law,

Whereas it is essential to promote the development of friendly relations between nations,

Whereas the peoples of the United Nations have in the Charter reaffirmed their faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and have determined to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom,

Whereas Member States have pledged themselves to achieve, in cooperation

udhr.pdf

PDF document

WWW.UN.ORG

Universal Declaration of Human Rights Abridged for Youth

This version of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights uses kid friendly language for the rights and descriptions.

Abridged for Youth

1. **We are all born free and equal.** We are all born free. We all have our own thoughts and ideas. We should all be treated in the same way.
2. **Don't discriminate.** These rights belong to everybody, whatever our differences.
3. **The right to life.** We all have the right to life, and to live in freedom and safety.
4. **No slavery.** Nobody has any right to make us a slave. We cannot make anyone our slave.
5. **No torture.** Nobody has any right to hurt us or to torture us.
6. **You have rights no matter where you go.** I am a person just like you!
7. **We're all equal before the law.** The law is the same for everyone. It must treat us all fairly.
8. **Your human rights are protected by law.** We can all ask for the law to help us when we are not treated fairly.
9. **No unfair detainment.** Nobody has the right to put us in prison without good reason and keep us there, or to send us away from our country.
10. **The right to trial.** If we are put on trial this should be in public. The people who try us should not let anyone tell them what to do.
11. **We're always innocent till proven guilty.** Nobody should be blamed for doing something until it is proven. When people say we did a bad thing we have the right to show it is not true.
12. **The right to privacy.** Nobody should try to harm our good name. Nobody has the right to come into our
17. **The right to your own things.** Everyone has the right to own things or share them. Nobody should take our things from us without a good reason.
18. **Freedom of thought.** We all have the right to believe in what we want to believe, to have a religion, or to change it if we want.
19. **Freedom of expression.** We all have the right to make up our own minds, to think what we like, to say what we think, and to share our ideas with other people.
20. **The right to public assembly.** We all have the right to meet our friends and to work together in peace to defend our rights. Nobody can make us join a group if we don't want to.
21. **The right to democracy.** We all have the right to take part in the government of our country. Every grown-up should be allowed to choose their own leaders.
22. **Social security.** We all have the right to affordable housing, medicine, education, and childcare, enough money to live on and medical help if we are ill or old.
23. **Workers' rights.** Every grown-up has the right to do a job, to a fair wage for their work, and to join a trade union.
24. **The right to play.** We all have the right to rest from work and to relax.
25. **Food and shelter for all.** We all have the right to a good life. Mothers and children, people who are old, unemployed or disabled, and all people have the right to be cared for.
26. **The right to education.** Education is a right. Primary

YHRI_declaration-human-rights-abridged.pdf

PDF document

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Esta es la Declaración Universal de Derechos Humanos oficial publicada por la ONU. Incluye el preámbulo y los 30 artículos.

Se centrare en los artículos 3, 6, 13 y 14.

Resource type: Document

Considerando que la libertad, la justicia y la paz en el mundo tienen por base el reconocimiento de la dignidad intrínseca y de los derechos iguales e inalienables de todos los miembros de la familia humana,

Considerando que el desconocimiento y el menosprecio de los derechos humanos han originado actos de barbarie ultrajantes para la conciencia de la humanidad; y que se ha proclamado, como la aspiración más elevada del hombre, el advenimiento de un mundo en que los seres humanos, liberados del temor y de la miseria, disfruten de la libertad de palabra y de la libertad de creencias,

Considerando esencial que los derechos humanos sean protegidos por un régimen de Derecho, a fin de que el hombre no se vea compelido al supremo recurso de la rebelión contra la tiranía y la opresión,

Considerando también esencial promover el desarrollo de relaciones amistosas entre las naciones,

Considerando que los pueblos de las Naciones Unidas han reafirmado en la Carta su fe en los derechos fundamentales del hombre, en la dignidad y el valor de la persona humana y en la igualdad de derechos de hombres y mujeres; y se han declarado resueltos a promover el progreso social y a elevar el nivel de vida dentro de un concepto más amplio de la libertad,

Considerando que los Estados Miembros se han comprometido a asegurar. en

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Declaración Universal de Derechos Humanos
