



## The ABC's of Diversity



A Selective Bibliography of Multicultural Books for Students in Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

### A

O'Brien, T. & Sullivan, M., (2008). *Afghan dreams: Young voices of Afghanistan*. New York: Bloomsbury Children's Books From the landscape of war-ravaged Afghanistan, interviews with children, recording their dreams, their hopes, and their stories. (920 OBR)

### B

Lewin, T. (2002). *Big Jimmy's Kum Kau Chinese take out*. New York: HarperCollins. The sights, sounds, and smells of a busy Chinese take-out restaurant are seen through the eyes of the owner's young son. (E LEW)

### C

Wellington, M. (2004). *Crepes by Suzette*. New York: Dutton. Suzette sells a variety of her crepes and French pancakes from the street cart she takes all over Paris. Includes a recipe, and a glossary of French words. (E WEL)

### D

Sanders, N. (2007). *D is for Drinking gourd: An African American alphabet*. Farrington Hills, MI: Sleeping Bear Press. Brief rhymes for each letter of the alphabet explore topics in African-American history (E SAN)

### E

Geslin, C. (2004). *Elena's serenade*. New York: Atheneum Books. In Mexico, a little girl goes on a journey to learn to be a glassblower and gains confidence along the way. (E GEE)

### F

Weatherford, C. B. (2005). *Freedom on the menu: The Greensboro sit-ins*. New York: Dial Books. The 1960 civil rights sit-ins at the Woolworth's lunch counter in Greensboro, NC, are seen through the eyes of a young black girl. (NC E WEA)

## G

Park, F. (2002). *Good-bye, 382 Shin Dang Dong*. Washington, DC: National Geographic Society. Jangmi finds it hard to say goodbye to relatives and friends, plus the food, and customs of her home in Korea, when her family moves to America. (E PAR)

## H

Shulevits, U. (2008). *How I learned Geography*. New York: Farrar Straus Giroux. As he studies his father's world map, a young boy escapes the hunger and misery of refugee life. Based on the author's childhood in Kazakhstan, where he lived as a Polish refugee during World War II. (E SHU)

## I

Dicker, K. & DeSilva, N. (2007). *I belong to the Buddhist faith*. New York: PowerKids Press. One in a series of titles that presents an introduction to each of the world's main religions from the perspective of a child belonging to that faith. (294.3 DIC)

## J

Morales, Y (2008). *Just in case*. New York: Roaring Book Press. As Senor Calabara prepares for Grandma Beetle's birthday he finds an alphabetical assortment of unusual presents, but with the help of Zelmiro the Ghost, he finds the best gift of all. (E MOR). See also **Just a minute** by Morales (E MOR)

## K

Jones, L. (2000). *Kids around the world celebrate: The best feasts and festivals from many lands*. New York: J. Wiley. Introduces a variety of festivals celebrated around the world. Includes recipes and hands-on activities to give a taste of what it is like to be part of a feast or ceremony in another country. (394.26 JON)

## L

Mortensen, G. & Roth, S. (2008). *Listen to the wind: The story of Dr. Greg and three cups of tea*. New York: Dial Books for Young Readers. The story of the school Greg Mortenson vowed to help build after he stumbled into the remote Himalayan village during a failed climb up K2. (371.0095 MOR)

## M

Recorvits, H. (2003). *My name is Yoon*. New York: Frances Foster Books. The compelling tale of a young Korean girl who is struggling to adjust to life and school in the United States. (E REC)

## N

Jules, J. (2007). *No English*. Ann Arbor: MI: National Geographic. When Diane behaves unkindly to the new girl from Argentina, not knowing she cannot speak English, she decides to find a way they can communicate and become friends. (E JUL)

## O

Bunting, E. (2006). *One green apple*. New York: Clarion. While on a school field trip to an orchard to make cider, a young immigrant named Farah gains self-confidence when the green apple she picks perfectly complements the other students' red apples. (E BUN)

## P

Nivola, C.A. (2008). *Planting the trees of Kenya: The Story of Wangari Maathaa*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux. The story of Wangari Maathai, winner of the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize and founder of the Green Belt Movement. (B MAA) See also *Wangari's Trees of Peace* by Jeanette Winter (B MAA)

## Q

Cumpiano, I. (2005). *Quinito's neighborhood / El vecindario de Quinito*. New York: Children's Book Press. Quinito not only knows everyone in his neighborhood; he also knows that each person in his community has a different, important occupation. (468 CUM).

## R

Perkins, M. (2007). *Rickshaw girl*. Watertown, MA : Charlesbridge. In her Bangladesh village, ten-year-old Naimi excels at painting designs called alpanas, but to help her impoverished family financially she would have to be a boy- or disguise herself as one. (F PER)

## S

Brown, T. (2004). *Salaam: A Muslim American boy's story*. New York: Holt. Follows the day-to-day life of a young Muslim American boy named Imran and his family in the San Francisco Bay Area. (973 BRO). See also, Wolf, B. (2003). *Coming to America: A Muslim family's story* by Wolf (305.892 WOL)

## T

Ajmera, M. (2004). *To be an artist*. Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge. This engaging, global view of young artists is an excellent supplement for social studies units and an inspiring springboard for arts programs. (700 AJM)

## U

Johnston, T. (2001). *Uncle Rain Cloud*. Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge. Carlos tries to help his uncle, who is frustrated and angry at his inability to speak English, adjust to their new home in Los Angeles. (E JOH)

## V

Howard, E. (2000). *Virgie goes to school with us boys*. New York: Aladdin. In the post-Civil War South, a young African-American girl is determined to prove that she can go to school just like her older brothers. (E HOW)

## W

Tafolla, C. (2008). *What can you do with a ReBozo?*. Berkeley, CA: Ten Speed Press. A young Mexican American girl explains the many uses of her mother's red rebozo, or long scarf. (E TAF) See also, *What can you do with a paleta?* by Tafolla (E TAF)

## X

Argueta, J. (2003). *Xochitl and the flowers / Xochitl la Nina de las Flores*. San Francisco: Children's Book Press. Xochitl and her family, newly arrived in San Francisco from El Salvador, create a beautiful plant nursery in place of the garbage heap behind their apartment, and celebrate with their friends and neighbors. (468 ARG)

## Y

Mora, P. (2007). *Yum! MnMn! Que rico! Americas' sproutings*. New York: Lee & Low Books, Inc. From blueberries to vanilla, indigenous foods of the Americas are celebrated in this collection of haiku, which also includes information about each food's origins. (811 MOR)

## Z

Muth, J.J. (2005). *Zen Shorts*. New York: Scholastic. This book introduces readers to a Zen approach to the world, wrapped in a story about three siblings and their new neighbor, a panda. One by one, the children visit Stillwater, enjoying his company and listening to him tell a brief tale that illustrates a Zen principle. (E-MUT) See also *Zen Ties* by Muth (E MUT)