Serving Latin-X Students in the Elementary School Library

~ From “Selecting and Using Latino Children’s Literature in your Library,” Dr. Jamie Naidoo, University of Alabama School of Library and Information Studies, Feb. 2016. Used with permission.

🌟 Locating Quality Children’s Books About and By Latinos 🌟

1. **Latino Children’s and Young Adult Book Awards Websites:**
   - Pura Belpré Award: [http://www.ala.org/alsc\belpre](http://www.ala.org/alsc\belpre)
   - Tomás Rivera Mexican-American Children’s Book Award: [http://riverabookaward.org/](http://riverabookaward.org/)
   - Américas Award: [http://claspprograms.org/pages/detail/37](http://claspprograms.org/pages/detail/37)

2. **Latinas for Latino Lit** is a timely blog, which covers Latino children’s literature and library/literacy programs with Latino literature. [http://latinas4latinolit.org/blog-news/](http://latinas4latinolit.org/blog-news/)


4. **Latin@s in Kid Lit**: Exploring the World of Latino/a YA, MG, and Children’s Literature is a review blog that evaluates Latino children’s and YA literature and provides new stories related to Latino literacy. [http://latinosinkidlit.com](http://latinosinkidlit.com)

5. The **Association of Library Service to Children** (ALSC) has compiled a list of children’s books about “Growing Up Latino in the U.S.A.” which can be accessed at: [https://www.ala.org/alas/alsc/alscresources/booklists/GrowingUpLatino.htm](https://www.ala.org/alas/alsc/alscresources/booklists/GrowingUpLatino.htm)

🌟 Information on Library Services to Latino Children and Families 🌟

1. **REFORMA** – an affiliate of ALA & the national association to promote library and information services to Latinos and the Spanish speaking. Available at: [http://www.reforma.org](http://www.reforma.org)


3. **¡Es divertido hablar dos idiomas!** - Created by Katie Cunningham Scherrer, this blog is dedicated to sharing books, music, literacy techniques, and practical suggestions related to delivering bilingual story programs in the library. [http://bilingualchildrensprogramming.blogspot.com/](http://bilingualchildrensprogramming.blogspot.com/). Videos of Katie’s bilingual stories and songs: [https://www.youtube.com/user/LibraryofVa/videos](https://www.youtube.com/user/LibraryofVa/videos) (scroll down)

🌟 Education-Based Latino Literacy Programs/Outreach Services 🌟

1. **¡Colorín Colorado!** – This literacy program provides information on the importance of reading in the lives of English Language Learner (ELL) children, specifically Latino children. Activities and links are
available concerning children’s literature about Latinos, helping Latino families, how the school can help Latino families, etc. The activities, free 92-page booklet, and video clips of Latino authors are available at: http://www.colorincolorado.org/.

Here is a special tab just for school library staff: http://www.colorincolorado.org/school-support/school-libraries-ells.

2. Cuentos y Más is a one-of-a-kind literacy program that promotes reading among both English and Spanish-speaking children, sort of a bilingual Reading Rainbow series, created by Arlington County, Virginia - https://tinyurl.com/arlington-cuentos-y-mas.

Resources for Planning Latino Literacy and Library Programs


El día de los Niños/El día de los libros (Day of the Child/Day of the Book) Toolkit is a 100-page online document describing booktalks, author visits, storytelling, and other programming ideas that can be used to celebrate El dia de los Niños/El dia de los libros on April 30th. These suggestions can be used for library programs throughout the entire year! The comprehensive document is available at: http://www.texasdia.org/toolkit.html

2. Dígame un cuento/Tell Me A Story: Bilingual Library Programs for Children and Families – Created by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, this useful online manual suggests bilingual story hour programs for Latino children and their families. Media Specialists can use this resource to plan activities using Latino children’s books. Available at: http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/pubs/bilingual/index.html

3. Spanish Playground: An all-inclusive site, with booklists, activities and games, songs and rhymes, printables, and much more. www.spanishplayground.net

Publishers & Distributors of Latino & Spanish Children’s Books

Arte Público Press/Piñata Books - http://pinatabooks.com (use “Resources” tab, then “Educators”)


Cinco Puntos Press – www.cincopuntos.com

Del Sol - www.delsolbooks.com

Lectorum – www.lectorum.com

Lee & Low Books – www.leeandlow.com

Santillana USA – www.santillanausa.com
**Selected Top Latino Authors and Illustrators of Children’s and Young Adult Literature**

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<tr>
<th>Alma Flor Ada</th>
<th>Francisco X. Alarcón</th>
<th>Julia Alvarez</th>
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<tr>
<td>George Ancona</td>
<td>Carmen Bernier-Grand</td>
<td>Monica Brown</td>
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<td>F. Isabel Campoy</td>
<td>Judith Ortiz Cofer</td>
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<td>Matt de la Peña</td>
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<td>Francisco Jiménez</td>
<td>Laura Lacámara</td>
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<td>Rafael López</td>
<td>Guadalupe Garcia McCall</td>
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<td>Meg Medina</td>
<td>Marisa Montes</td>
<td>Pat Mora</td>
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<td>Yuyi Morales</td>
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<td>Pam Muñoz Ryan</td>
<td>Benjamin Alire Sáenz</td>
<td>Gary Soto</td>
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<td>Carmen Tafolla</td>
<td>Duncan Tonatiuh</td>
<td>Lila Quintero Weaver</td>
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