



September 7, 2023

LINKS TO MORE LEARNING



Library Card Sign-Up Month



Learn how your students (and you) can score a library card!

ilovelibraries.org

National Hispanic Heritage Month



<https://www.hispanicheritagemonth.gov/>

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS



Find your local library

To discover the wonderful array of resources available at your public library from books (of course) to databases (Library edition of Ancestry, anyone?) to films, exhibits, museum passes, and more, use the [Library Locator](https://libraries.idaho.gov) at libraries.idaho.gov.

DIGITAL TOOLS



An impartial collection development tool that assists librarians faced with the challenges of growing and establishing a collection for their Spanish-speaking readers.



One Month, Two Great Celebrations

by Jeannie Standal

September is Library Card Sign-Up Month and September 15th kicks off National Hispanic Heritage Month. It's an excellent opportunity to find ways to coax Latine students to visit the school library and pick up a book, or even head to the public library to get a library card! School and public libraries have titles by Latine authors with characters from all kinds of families and backgrounds, helping Latine students see themselves in literature and helping others learn more about the lives and experiences of Latine families. Whether set in the United States or another part of the world, students can learn and relate.

Librarians often refer to Windows, Mirrors, and Sliding Glass Doors when talking about reading experiences. They mean that there are some books that offer insights into others' lives, experiences, and cultures (window books). There are books in which we see ourselves or feature characters that are like us (mirrors). And there are books through which we are transported to an entirely different place (sliding glass doors). A good book can provide any of these experiences, depending on the reader, and a great library collection will have a variety of books that offer each type of experience to readers.

Teachers have a lot of influence, and when you encourage students to read, allow students to see you reading, and talk with students about what each of you has read, that shared experience can make a big impact on life-long reading for you both. During National Hispanic Heritage Month, perhaps make it a point to read a book with Latine characters that would appeal to the age group in your class and, if it's good, make a recommendation to a student who might like it. Ask if they can make a recommendation to you and if they do, read it. What a wonderful connection!

[Read more about Windows, Mirrors, and Sliding Glass Doors](#)



"Low Hanging Fruit" is available through school libraries and made possible with support from the Idaho Commission for Libraries. For previous editions, go to: <https://libraries.idaho.gov/lowhangingfruit>.

