

**Hispanic Heritage**  
(*National Hispanic Heritage Month Sept-Oct*)

**Teaching Resources Center, Joyner Library**  
**A Selective Annotated Bibliography**

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<th>Lexile Score</th>
<th>Title Information</th>
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<td><strong>BIG BOOKS</strong></td>
<td><strong>Abuela</strong>. Morristown, NJ: Silver Burdett, 1995. While riding on a bus with her grandmother, a little girl imagines that they are carried up into the sky and fly over the sights of New York City.</td>
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Already so worried about the big second grade test that his stomach is upset, seven-year-old Tiger Turcotte, whose parents are African American, Meherrin Indian, and Hispanic, gets stuck on the question about race.

Nikko's mother wants him to stop jumping on his bed, but he's not jumping on his bed, as he tried to convince her. Instead there are luchadors, masked wrestlers, trying to fight him one at a time. In the end, of course, Nikko is the winner: the great and mighty Nikko!

A young girl takes a walk through her urban neighborhood, observing items representing every letter of the alphabet, from her abuela to loud, zooming cars.

Sofia feels that because she looks so much like her older sisters, nobody notices her--so when school picture day comes around she comes up with a way to stand out.

Lily Lujan is known as Little Chanclas because she wears her chanclas, or flip flops, wherever she goes, especially to parties, so when the chanclas come apart while she is dancing at a family barbecue and Chewcho the bulldog eats one, Lily is inconsolable until Granny Lola arrives with a solution.

Max and his class are excited to visit the local fire station. They find out all about firemen.

Nia is afraid to tell her mother, who is shy because she speaks little English, that Nia volunteered her to organize a party for the first-graders of Robin Hill School.


A spunky young girl from Colombia loves playing with her canine best friend and resists boring school activities, especially learning English, until her family tells her that a special trip is planned to an English-speaking place.


Mia's abuela has left her sunny house with parrots and palm trees to live with Mia and her parents in the city. The night she arrives, Mia tries to share her favorite book with Abuela before they go to sleep and discovers that Abuela can't read the words inside. So while they cook, Mia helps Abuela learn English ("Dough. Masa"), and Mia learns some Spanish too, but it's still hard for Abuela to learn the words she needs to tell Mia all her stories. Then Mia sees a parrot in the pet-shop window and has the perfect idea for how to help them all communicate a little better.


Doña Flor, a giant lady with a big heart, sets off to protect her neighbors from what they think is a dangerous animal, but soon discovers the tiny secret behind the huge noise.


An alphabet story in verse about a Latino boy and his remarkable teacher who can teach an astronaut how to float in space and instruct a ballet dancer how to land with grace.


Tata Gus teaches his grandson Aaron how to use natural healing remedies, and in the process helps the members of his family and his neighbors.
Children discover a world of colors all around them. Many of the featured objects are Latino in origin, but all are universal in appeal. A short glossary explains the cultural significance of the colored objects featured in this book.

**FICTION**


Alex is a bruja and the most powerful witch in her family. But she’s hated magic ever since it made her father disappear into thin air. When a curse she performs to rid herself of magic backfires and her family vanishes, she must travel to Los Lagos, a land in-between as dark as Limbo and as strange as Wonderland, to get her family back.


Shy, seventeen-year-old Marcus and his sixteen-year-old brother, Enrique, accompanied by two friends, drive from their home in southern California to Monterey to confront the abusive father who walked out a year earlier, and who now wants to return home.


When poverty forces her family to leave their home in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Dani has a hard time adjusting to life in New York City, where everything is different except her father's anger, but an unlikely bond she forms with a wealthy, spoiled girl at school helps heal both of their families.


When the murals painted on the walls of her Brooklyn neighborhood start to change and fade in front of her, Sierra Santiago realizes that something strange is going on. Then she discovers that her Puerto Rican family are shadowshapers, and she finds herself in a battle with an evil anthropologist for the lives of her family and friends.
Violet Paz, a Chicago high school student, reluctantly prepares for her upcoming "quince," a Spanish nickname for the celebration of an Hispanic girl's fifteenth birthday.

Haunted by the event that sentences him to time in a group home, Miguel breaks out with two unlikely companions and together they begin their journey down the California coast hoping to get to Mexico and a new life.

Ambitious high school senior and honor student Efrain Rodriguez makes some questionable choices in pursuit of his dream to escape the South Bronx and attend an Ivy League college.

Looks at the different ways that Hispanic Americans have fought for their civil rights in the United States throughout the past few centuries.

Years before the landmark U.S. Supreme Court ruling Brown v. Board of Education, Sylvia Mendez, an eight-year-old girl of Mexican and Puerto Rican heritage, played an instrumental role in Mendez v. Westminster, the landmark desegregation case of 1946 in California.

With sugar skulls, sweet-smelling marigold petals and joyful songs, Hispanic families welcome back ancestors on this holiday.

Presents the authors' retellings of more than ten traditional tales accompanied by information on origins and different versions.


Contains poems about the different people who stop by Marisol's father's music store on a hot summer night, looking for just the right songs to make their hearts fly home.


Twenty Hispanic American artists, scientists, athletes, activists and political leaders are profiled in this stunning picture book, complete with inspirational quotes and distinctive expressionist portraits.


Discusses conflicts arising from the throwing off of Spanish colonial rule and the loss of land to the United States. Major conflicts such as the Spanish-American War and the Mexican-American War are introduced. Also includes key figures such as Simon Bolivar, Miguel Hidalgo, Vicente Guerrero, Santa Anna, and David Glasgow Farragut.

**BIOGRAPHIES**


Presents an account of the life of the Mexican American labor activist who helped organize the migrant farm workers and establish a union to fight for their rights.


In this poetic memoir Engle, the first Latina woman to receive a Newbery Honor, tells of growing up as a child of two cultures during the Cold War. Her heart was in Cuba, her mother's tropical island country, a place so lush with
vibrant life that it seems like a fairy tale kingdom. But most of the time she lived in Los Angeles, lonely in the noisy city and dreaming of the summers when she can take a plane through the enchanted air to her beloved island. When the hostility between Cuba and the United States erupted at the Bay of Pigs Invasion, Engle's worlds collided in the worst way possible. Would she ever get to visit her beautiful island again?


Frida Kahlo may be Mexico's most famous artist. Her paintings are known and seen around the world. Learn what inspired and tortured one of the twentieth century's most famous women.


Born in Spain in 1713, Father Serra was sent to the New World to spread the Catholic religion. He founded twenty-one missions in what became the state of California, and influenced the lives of thousands of people.


The first Latina to serve in the United States Supreme Court, Sonia came from humble beginnings in the Bronx in New York City. Overcoming health and financial problems, she earned a high-level college degree, became a lawyer, and eventually became a judge. Learn about Sonia's inspiring life, her refusal to back down, and her insistence on fighting for the American Dream.


Provides an introduction to the life and biography of Pancho Villa, the Mexican outlaw who played an important role in the Mexican Revolution of 1910.

**PROFESSIONAL COLLECTION**


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