Embracing All Families Booklist for Elementary



All Are Welcome. Alexandra Penfold. (Pre-K-1) Follow a diverse group of children from all kinds of families through a day at school, where everyone is welcomed with open arms. It lets young children know that no matter what, they have a place, they have a space, they are welcome in their school.



All the Way to America: The Story of a Big Italian Family and a Little Shovel.

Dan Yaccarino. (K-2) The story of four generations of an Italian American family. It begins with an immigrant who came through Ellis Island with big dreams, a small shovel, and his parents' advice: "Work hard, but remember to enjoy life, and never forget your family."



Alma and How She Got Her Name. Juana Martinez-Neal. (Pre-K-2) What's in a name? For one little girl, her very long name tells the vibrant story of where she came from — and who she may one day be. Spanish Edition: Alma y cómo obtuvo su nombre



Almost Home. Joan Bauer. (4-7) When Sugar and her mother lose their home, they head to Chicago only to discover that fresh starts aren't so easy to come by. But, Sugar shows resilience with the help of a puppy and a warm foster family.



Amina's Song. Hena Khan. (4-7) Amina finds it hard to leave Pakistan, the sights, the shops and, most of all, her family. Back in Wisconsin, her friends don't seem interested in hearing about her trip. Will Amina find a way to remain true to herself, and to honor everyone and everything that makes her who she is?



And Tango Makes Three. Justin Richardson. (Pre-K – 2) The story of two famous dads — penguins Roy and Silo from New York's Central Park Zoo. The two take turns sitting on an egg until it hatches, and Tango is born. **Spanish Edition: Tres con tango** <u>Lesson Plan</u>



Antonio's Card. Rigoberto Gonzales. (K – 2) As Mother's Day approaches, Antonio must choose whether—or how—to express his connection and love for his mother and her partner, Leslie. **Spanish Edition:** La **Tarjeta de Antonio**



The Best Man. Richard Peck. (3-5) Follows a boy from elementary school to middle school navigating school and family dynamics, including his uncle's growing involvement with the guy who is the student teacher in the boy's school.



Beyond the Bright Sea. Lauren Wolk. (5-6) Crow has lived her entire life on a tiny island raised by the man who rescued her from the ocean as a baby. She has always been curious about the world around her. A chain of events leads her down a path of discovery and danger. Explores questions of identity, belonging and the true meaning of family.



Bird. Zetta Elliot. (3-5) A touching look at a young boy coping with real-life troubles from the impact of his older brother's drug addiction on his family and his beloved grandfather's death. Through drawing and the help of his grandfather's friend, Bird finds his own special somethin' and wings to fly.



The Case for Loving: The Fight for Interracial Marriage. Selina Alko. (1-3) This book teaches students important history. Before 1967, people were prohibited from marrying a person of a race different from their own – before the Supreme Court issued its decision in Loving v. Virginia.



Dancing Home. Alma Flor Ada. (4-6) Margie has been making efforts to distance herself from her heritage when her cousin from Mexico comes to live with her. Slowly the girls learn from each other and learn the importance of family and friendship. **Spanish Edition: Nacer bailando**



The Different Dragon. Jennifer Bryan. (Pre-K - 1) Shows how the wonderful curiosity and care of a little boy, with some help from his two moms, can lead to magical places with a dragon who is tired of being tough. **Spanish Edition: El dragón diferente**



A Different Pond. Bao Phi. (K-1) Childhood memories of Vietnamese-American poet Phi offer a portrait of a predawn father-son fishing trip, one of several ways the child's immigrant parents find to care for and feed their family.



Efrén Divided. Ernesto Cisneros. (4-7) Efrén worries about his parents. Although he's American-born, his parents are undocumented. His worst nightmare comes true one day when Amá doesn't return from work and is deported across the border to Tijuana, México. Now more than ever, Efrén must channel his inner Soperboy to help take care of and try to reunite his family.



Families. Shelley Rotner and Sheila M. Kelly. (Pre-K - 3) Big or small, similar or different, there are all kinds of families featured in the many photos in this book. This inclusive text can help children see beyond their experiences and begin to understand that all families are unique and different. Lesson Plan



The Family Book. Todd Parr. (Pre-K – 2) All kinds of families are celebrated in a funny, silly and reassuring way. Includes adoptive families, stepfamilies, single-parent families and two-mom and two-dad families. **Spanish Edition: El libro de familia** <u>Lesson Plan</u>



Front Desk. Kelly Yang. (4-6) Mia Tang has a lot of secrets. She lives in a motel and every day, while her immigrant parents clean the rooms, ten-year-old Mia manages the front desk. Her parents hide immigrants and if the mean motel owner, Mr. Yao finds out, the Tangs will be doomed. Mia wants to be a writer. But how can she when her mom thinks she should stick to math because English is not her first language?



Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story. Kevin Noble Maillard. (Pre-K – 1) Told in lively and powerful verse, *Fry Bread* is an evocative depiction of a modern Native American family. It is a celebration of old and new, traditional and modern, similarity and difference.



Gone Crazy in Alabama. Rita Williams-Garcia. (4-6) The three sisters from *One Crazy Summer* and *P.S. Be Eleven* head to Alabama to visit their grandmother and great-grandmother for the summer. The book includes family history, family complications and family fun.



The Great Big Book of Families. Mary Hoffman. (Pre-K-2) Features all kinds of families and their lives together. Each two-page spread showcases one aspect of home life—from houses and holidays, to schools and pets, to feelings and family trees.

Spanish Edition: El gran libro de las familias Lesson Plan



Harriet Gets Carried Away. Jessie Sima. (Pre-K – K) Harriet, an African-American girl with two dads, loves costumes and can get a little carried away. A fun story about remembering where you belong, no matter how far you roam or what you're wearing when you get there.



I Love Saturdays y domingos. Alma Flor Ada. (K-2) An affectionate portrait of a bilingual girl's weekend visits to her two sets of grandparents. She does different things in each place, goes on different outings and hears different stories reflecting her grandparents' heritages.



Islandborn. Junot Díaz. (Pre-K - 1) When her teacher asks the class to draw a picture of where they're from, Lola can't remember the Island. So she interviews the people in her neighborhood to find out about it. **Spanish Edition: Lola**



The Keeping Quilt. Patricia Polacco. (K - 5) Traces the history of a quilt made from bits of Polacco's ancestors' clothing connecting generations from one to the next. <u>Lesson Plan</u>



My Brother Charlie. Holly Robinson Peete. (K-2) Callie is very proud of her brother Charlie. He's good at so many things. But sometimes Charlie gets very quiet and his words get locked inside him. A sister's story of living with a brother with autism.



My Family, Your Family. Kathryn Cole. (Pre-K – K) Makayla is visiting friends in her neighborhood. She sees how each family is different. Some families have lots of children, but others have none. Some friends live with grandparents or have two dads or have parents who are divorced. How is her own family like the others? What makes each one great? This diverse cast allows readers to compare and contrast families in multiple ways.



Stella Brings the Family. Miriam B. Schiffer. (Pre-K - 2) Stella's class is having a Mother's Day celebration, but what's a girl with two daddies to do? Fortunately, Stella finds a unique solution to her party problem in this sweet story about love, acceptance and the true meaning of family. Lesson Plan



Thunder Boy Jr. Sherman Alexie. (K-2) Thunder Boy Jr. is named after his dad, but he wants a name that's all his own. In the Native American tradition, he and his dad set out to pick one based on who he is. Celebrates the special relationship between father and son.



Under My Hijab. Hena Khan. (K-1) A young girl observes six very different women in her life who each wear the hijab in a unique way. This book honors the diverse lives of contemporary Muslim women and girls, their love for each other and their pride in their culture and faith.



Visiting Day. Jacqueline Woodson. (1-3) A little girl and her grandmother get ready for visiting day at the prison to see her father who adores her and is getting ready too. The families who are taking the long bus ride upstate to visit loved ones share hope and comfort with each other.

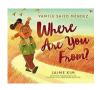


When Aidan Became a Brother. Kyle Lukoff. (Pre-K - 2) When Aidan was born, everyone thought he was a girl, but as he grew older, he was able to share that he is a transgender boy. When he finds out he is going to be a big brother, he learns the most important thing about being an older sibling: how to love with his whole self. <u>Discussion Guide</u>



When You Trap a Tiger. Tae Keller. (3-7) A heartwarming story of a girl discovering her family's past and present when she makes a deal with a magical tiger from her grandmother's stories. When Lily and her family move in with her sick grandmother, a magical tiger straight out of her halmoni's Korean folktales arrives, prompting Lily to unravel a secret family history.

Chinese Edition: 遇見虎靈的女孩



Where Are You From? Yamile Saied Méndez. (Pre-K – 2) When a girl is asked where she's from—where she's *really* from—none of her answers seem to be the right one. Her abuelo gives her an unexpected poetic response. With themes of self-acceptance, identity and home, this powerful book will resonate with anyone who has ever felt that they don't belong.

Spanish Edition: De dónde eres?



Yo Soy Muslim: A Father's Letter to His Daughter. Mark Gonzales. (Pre-K-3) A lyrical picture book about a parent who encourages their child to find joy and pride in all aspects of their multicultural identity.