Grades 4-6

The Last Cuentista

JF Higuera

Earth has been destroyed by a comet and only a few hundred scientists and their children have been chosen to journey to a new planet. Hundreds of years later, Petra wakes to this new planet- and the discovery that she is the only person who remembers Earth. Petra alone now carries the stories of the past, and any hope for the future. Can she make them live again? *Pura Belpré Award winner

Grades 4-6

Juana & Lucas Series

Chapter Medina

Juana, is a spunky young Colombian girl who stars in this playful illustrated series. Juana loves many things: drawing, living in Bogotá, Colombia, and especially her dog, Lucas, the best *amigo* ever.

*Pura Belpré Award winner

Grades 2-3

Merci Suarez Changes Gears

JF Medina

Merci Suarez knew that 6th grade would be different, but she had no idea just how different. As a scholarship student, Merci has never been like the other kids at her private school. But things aren't going well at home, either: Merci's grandfather has been acting strangely lately and no one in her family will tell Merci what's going on.

Grades 4-6

Red Panda & Moon Bear

JF G Red Panda

Red Panda and Moon Bear, magical defenders of their community, battle ghosts, evil robots, alien invaders, and time portals, all before Mami and Papi get home.

Grades 3-6

Esperanza Rising

JF Ryan

Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California, where they must adapt to the harsh circumstances facing Mexican farm workers on the eve of the Great Depression.

*Pura Belpré Award winner

Grades 4-6

Nonfiction

Dancing Hands: How Teresa Carreño Played the Piano for President Lincoln E-JB Carreno

Looks at the life and accomplishments of Teresa Carreèano, one of the world's most famous pianists who, by age 9, performed for President Lincoln at the White House. *Pura Belpré Award winner

Grades 1-2

Martina, the Beautiful Cockroach: a Cuban Folktale

J 398.2 DEE

Based on a Cuban folktale, Martina Josefina Catalina Cucaracha puts romantic suitors to the test. As they fail her abuela's "coffee test," she wonders if she'll ever find true love.

Grades 1-3

Viva Frida!

J 759.972 MOR

Bilingual text, accompanied by colorful photographs, explores Frida Kahlo's life, and illuminates the laughter, love, and tragedy that influenced her work.

*Pura Belpré Award winner

Grades 1-2

Celebrate the Latino/Latina Experience!





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Picture Books

Drum Dream Girl

P Engle

Follows a girl as she strives to become a drummer, despite being continually reminded that only boys play the drums. *Pura Belpré Award winner

Sofia Valdez, Future Prez

P Beaty

2nd grader Sofia starts a petition to turn the city's landfill into a park. Her persistence pays off: "Now every evening till long after dark, the town comes together at Citizens' Park. They hold this truth to be self-evident. Sofia Valdez could grow up to be president!"

¡Vamos! Let's Cross the Bridge

P Raul

Using their new truck to carry party supplies over the bridge, Little Lobo and his friends are stuck in traffic and decide to throw an epic party to pass the time.

*Pura Belpré Award winner

Alma and How She Got Her Name P Martinez-Neal

When Alma Sofia Esperanza José Pura Candela asks her father why she has so many names, she hears the story of her name and learns about her grandparents.

Los Gatos Black on Halloween

P Montes

When the monsters decide to throw a ball in the Haunted House, the witches, skeletons, and black cats happily decide to attend, in a fun holiday book enhanced with Spanish words.

*Pura Belpré Award winner

Book Fiesta!: Celebrate Children's Day / Book Day

SPA P Mora

This bilingual story explores the joyous history of Children's Day/El día de los niños, with children reading aloud in various settings to celebrate.

*Pura Belpré Award winner

Niño Wrestles the World

P Morales

Lucha Libre champion Niño has no trouble fending off monstrous opponents, but when his little sisters awaken from their naps, he is in for a no-holds-barred wrestling match that will truly test his skills. *Pura Belpré Award winner

Early Readers

Sofia Martinez Series

E Jules

Sofia Martinez has a big personality and big plans, which makes every day memorable. From adventures with her sister and cousins, to taking school pictures, this 7-year-old knows how to make every moment count.

Fiction

I Lived on Butterfly Hill

JF Agosin

When her beloved country, Chile, is taken over by a militaristic government, Celeste is sent to America for her safety. As she adapts to her new life, Celeste never stops dreaming of home. Will her parents reemerge from hiding? Will she ever be truly safe again?

*Pura Belpré Award winner

Grades 4-6

Return to Sender

JF Alvarez

After his family hires migrant Mexican workers to help save their Vermont farm from foreclosure, eleven-year-old Tyler befriends the oldest daughter, but when he discovers they may not be in the country legally, he realizes that real friendship knows no borders.

*Pura Belpré Award winner

Grades 4-6

Me, Frida, and the Secret of the Peacock Ring

JF Cervantes

When Lizzie and Gael share an irresistible challenge, to find the peacock ring that once belonged to artist Frida Kahlo, Paloma decides it is the perfect way to honor her father.

Grades 4-6

Efren Divided

JF Cisneros

While his father works two jobs, seventhgrader Efrén Nava must take care of his twin siblings, kindergartners Max and Mia, after their mother is deported to Mexico.

*Pura Belpré Award winner

Grades 3-6

Sal & Gabi Break the Universe

JF Hernandez

What would you do if you had the power to reach through time and space and retrieve anything you want? When Gabi learns of Sal's power (and she takes it all in stride) Sal knows that she is someone he can work with. There's only one slight problem: their manipulation of time and space could put the entire universe at risk! *Pura Belpré Award winner