

Cultures

Resource List for Grades K through 4

The Resources in this document can be used with the Cultures Curriculum Packet for grades K through 4.

Books

Non-fiction and Biography

- Brothers in Hope: The Story of the Lost Boys of Sudan, 2005 by Mary Williams (Author), R. Gregory Christie (Author), Gregory Christie (Illustrator).
An eight-year-old boy, orphaned by a civil war in Sudan, finds the inner strength to help lead other boys as they trek thousands of miles seeking safety in Ethiopia, then Kenya, and finally in the United States.
- Children Just Like Me: A new celebration of children around the world, 2016 by DK (Author).
A comprehensive view of international cultures, exploring diverse backgrounds from Argentina to New Zealand to China to Israel. With this brand-new edition, children will learn about their peers around the world through engaging photographs and understandable text.
- Faith (Global Fund for Children Books), 2009 by Maya Ajmera (Author), Cynthia Pon (Author), Magda Nakassis (Author).
Families around the world celebrate faith in many different ways, through praying, singing, learning, helping, caring, and more. With stunning photographs from many cultures and religious traditions, Faith celebrates the ways in which people worship around the globe.
- Her Right Foot Hardcover, 2017 by Dave Eggers (Author), Shawn Harris (Artist).
These authors set out to research the statue, but what they find is about more than history, more than art. What they find in the Statue of Liberty's right foot is the powerful message of acceptance that is essential of an entire country's creation.
- This Is How We Do It, 2017 by Matt Lamothe (Author).
Follow one day in the real lives of seven kids from around the world—Italy, Japan, Iran, India, Peru, Uganda, and Russia!

Fiction

- All Are Welcome, 2018 by Alexandra Penfold (Author), Suzanne Kaufman (Illustrator).
Follow a group of children through a day in their school, where everyone is welcomed with open arms.
- Chicken Sunday, 1998 by Patricia Polacco (Author).

In this book, the hatred sometimes engendered by racial and religious differences is overpowered by the love of people who recognize their common humanity.

- Coming to America: The Story of Immigration, 1996 by Betsy Maestro (Author), Susannah Ryan (Illustrator).
An introductory history of immigration from thousands of years ago through the present, focusing on why different groups of people came to America and how they became part of our national heritage.
- Dreamers, 2018 by Yuyi Morales (Author).
Dreamers is a celebration of what migrantes bring with them when they leave their homes. It's a story about family. And it's a story to remind us that we are all dreamers, bringing our own gifts wherever we roam.
- Here I Am, 2015 by Patti Kim (Author), Sonia Sánchez (Illustrator).
Newly arrived from their faraway homeland, a boy and his family enter into the lights, noise, and traffic of a busy American city in this wordless picture book. The language is unfamiliar. Food, habits, games, and gestures are puzzling. The boy clings tightly to his special keepsake from home and wonders how he will find his way.
- I'm New Here, 2015 by Anne Sibley O'Brien (Author, Illustrator).
Three students are immigrants from Guatemala, Korea, and Somalia and have trouble speaking, writing, and sharing ideas in English in their new American elementary school. With self-determination and with encouragement, the students learn to feel confident and comfortable in their new school without losing a sense of their home country, language, and identity.
- Mama's Nightingale: A Story of Immigration and Separation, 2015 by Edwidge Danticat (Author), Leslie Staub (Illustrator).
After a small girl's mother is sent to an immigration detention center, she finds comfort in listening to her mother's warm greeting on their answering machine. To ease the distance between them while she's in jail, Mama begins sending her daughter bedtime stories inspired by Haitian folklore on cassette tape.
- Muskrat Will Be Swimming, 2006 by Cheryl Savageau (Author) and Robert Hynes (Illustrator).
When a young girl being bullied at school confides her troubles to her grandfather, he tells her about his own childhood experiences with teasing. As the story unfolds, the grandfather shares a traditional Seneca story that helps the girl find strength in her Native identity and new appreciation for the different roles that animals play in nature.
- Thunder Boy, 2016 by Sherman Alexie (Author) and Yuyi Morales (Illustrator).
Thunder Boy Jr. is named after his dad, but he wants a name that's all his own. He and his father finally find the perfect name for him.
- When the Rain Sings: Poems by Young Native Americans, 1999 by Lee Francis (Author/Editor).

37 wonderful poems by young writers from throughout the United States and collected in this anthology. Their words are paired with images of artifacts from the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian.

Magazines, Journals, Miscellaneous

- Kids Discover: Ellis Island
<https://www.kidsdiscover.com/shop/issues/ellis-island-for-kids/>
- Kids Discover: Immigration
<https://www.kidsdiscover.com/shop/issues/immigration-for-kids/>
- Skipping stones: An International Multicultural Magazine
<https://www.skippingstones.org>

Online Links

- American Social History Project: Center For Media And Learning
<https://ashp.cuny.edu/>
- Have Fun With History: videos & activities for students, educators, and lovers of American History
<http://www.havefunwithhistory.com/>
- Ellis Island: Part of the Statue of Liberty National Monument
<https://www.nps.gov/elis/index.htm>
- Angel Island: Immigration Station Foundation
<https://www.aiisf.org/>

Background information for the Educator

- Edutopia: Culturally Responsive Teaching
<https://www.edutopia.org/blogs/tag/culturally-responsive-teaching>
- National Museum of the American Indian: Smithsonian: Native Knowledge, New perspectives on Native American history, cultures, and contemporary lives
<http://nmai.si.edu/nk360/>
- Teaching Tolerance: Thought-provoking classroom resources support diversity education
<https://www.tolerance.org/>