Grades 3–5

OTHEGUY, EMMA
Sofía Acosta Makes a Scene
KNOPF, 2022
9780593372630
Sofia’s Cuban American family is filled with talented ballet dancers, but that doesn’t help her when she mistakenly lets slip another Cuban dancer’s plans to defect to the United States.

PARTRIDGE, ELIZABETH
Seen and Unseen: What Dorothea Lange, Toyo Miyatake, and Ansel Adams’s Photographs Reveal about the Japanese American Incarceration
ILLUS. BY LAUREN TAMAKI
CHRONICLE, 2022
9781452165103
Learn about what happened to Americans of Japanese descent during World War II through the work of three photographers who captured life in the prison camps.

PÉREZ, CELIA C.
Tumble
KOKILA, 2022
9780593372517
Addie Ramirez starts to put together the puzzle of who makes up her family, including her biological father’s luchador side of the family. A heartwarming story of belonging, self-discovery, and professional wrestling.

RYAN, PAM MUÑOZ
Mañanaland
SCHOLASTIC, 2020
9781338157864
A magical coming-of-age story that offers a window into how and why someone becomes a refugee as well as its effects on their life. Also available in Spanish.

SHANG, WENDY
WAN-LONG
The Secret Battle of Evan Pao
SCHOLASTIC, 2022
9781338678857
As the new kid in a small town and the only Asian American student in school, Evan faces bullying. A Civil War reenactment provides an opportunity for Evan to stand up for himself.

SOONTORNVAT, CHRISTINA
The Last Mapmaker
CANDLEWICK, 2022
9781536204957
Sai, assistant to a renowned mapmaker, runs away to explore the uncharted southern seas, but she faces dangers and secrets along the way that risk her chances of escaping her past and securing a better future.

TORRES, JENNIFER
The Do-Over
SCHOLASTIC, 2022
9781338754193
When twins Raquel and Lucinda Mendoza find out that they must spend the rest of the school year at their father’s ranch instead of in the city with their mom, they hatch a plan to bring their parents closer together.

Día
El día de los niños/El día de los libros (Children’s Day/Book Day) is a celebration of children and wonderful books. Día honors the cultures and languages of all children.

dia.al.org

This DÍA BOOKLIST was created by the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association (ALA).

Titles on this list were selected by members of ALSC’s Quicklists Consulting Committee.

For more booklists, please visit ala.org/alsc/booklists.
AHMED, SAMIRA
Amira & Hamza: The War to Save the Worlds
LITTLE, BROWN, 2021 9780316540469
A fantasy-adventure novel based on Islamic folklore, featuring siblings who are tasked with saving the world from a demon.

ARMENDARIZ, LUISANA DUARTE
Julieta and the Diamond Enigma
TU BOOKS, 2020 9781643790466
Julieta gets to accompany her father on a work trip to the Louvre in Paris! When the Regent Diamond is stolen, Julieta must work to find the thief so her father is not blamed. Also available in Spanish.

ATINUKE
Too Small Tola
ILLUS. BY ONYINYE Iwu
TU BOOKS, 2021 9781536211276
Three short and funny chapters follow Tola, a young girl who lives in Lagos, Nigeria, with her siblings and grandmother.

BARTON, CHRIS
Moving Forward: From Space-Age Rides to Civil Rights Sit-Ins with Airman Alton Yates
ILLUS. BY STEFFI WALTHALL
BEACH LANE, 2022 9781534473652
The story of Alton Yates, an Air Force veteran who, after returning from duty, devoted his time to standing up to Jim Crow laws. Based on exclusive interviews with the author.

BROWN, DANIELLE
Run like a Girl
BUTTON BOOKS, 2021 9781778881806
Written by a white Paralympian, this collection celebrates women from every corner of the sports world. Profiles include biographical details and fun facts.

CHRISTMAS, JOHNIE
Swim Team
ILLUS. BY THE AUTHOR
HARPER ALLEY, 2022 9780063506770
A graphic novel about a girl moving to a new town and joining her middle-school swim team. Layered in the book is the history of racism in regards to swimming and how that history continues to impact Black people today.

CISNEROS, ERNESTO
Falling Short
QUILL TREE, 2022 9780062681724
Marco and Isaac are best friends, and they need one another’s support more than ever as they encounter challenges in sixth grade. Marco wants to try out for the basketball team, while Isaac needs to improve his grades.

COLLIER, NICOLE D.
Just Right Jillian
ILLUS. BY KITT THOMAS
VERSIFY, 2022 9780358434610
Fifth-grader Jillian learns how to speak up and come out of her own shell while her class hatches chicks as a science project.

DOBBS, ALDA P.
The Other Side of the River
SOURCEBOOKS, 2021 97815789288449
A sequel to Barefoot Dreams of Petra Luna in which Petra and her family begin a new life in the United States in 1913 after fleeing the Mexican Revolution.

ENGLE, MARGARITA
Singing with Elephants
VIKING, 2022 9780593206690
In this novel in verse set in the 1940s, Oriel moves with her veterinarian parents from Cuba to Santa Barbara, California. There she meets the poet Gabriela Mistral and finds her own voice to advocate for change.

FRANCO, BETSY
Counting in Dog Years and Other Sassy Math Poems
ILLUS. BY PRISCILLA TEG
CANDLEWICK, 2022 9781536201161
A humorous poetry collection that explores math in a way that relates to the daily lives of children. The book pairs math with English language arts in a fun way.

GETTEN, KEREEN
If You Read This
DELACORTE, 2022 9780593174005
On her twelfth birthday, Brie receives one final treasure hunt from her mother, who passed away three years ago. To complete it, she will need help from family and friends in her Jamaican community.

GLASER, KARINA YAN
A Duet for Home
LITTLE, BROWN, 2021 9780593387268
June and Tyrell, residents of a homeless shelter, hatches chicks as a science project. Oriel, the resident dog, bonds over a shared love of music and a fight to save their home from a new housing policy that threatens to force families out before they are ready.

GONZALES, CHUCK
Carlos Gomez Freestyles
ILLUS. BY THE AUTHOR
SALAAM READS, 2022 9780861543199
In this hilarious and vibrant graphic novel, Carlos finds his own way to shine in this hilarious and vibrant graphic novel.

HINANANDANI, VEERA
How to Find What You’re Not Looking For
KOKILA, 2021 9780525555032
Ariel’s Jewish family is rocked when her older sister elopes with her boyfriend from India shortly after the Loving v. Virginia ruling. Ari must navigate friendships, family financial troubles, and the diagnosis of a learning disability without her beloved sister.

KELLY, ERIN ENTRADA
Surely Surely
VERSIFY, 2022 9780593174005
A memoir in verse tells of the author’s life of activism, beginning when she was a child through adulthood. The book can be used as a blueprint for young activists looking to make a difference.

KHAN, HENA
Zara’s Rules for Record-Breaking Fun
VERSIFY, 2022 9780593174005
Set in 1986 in the aftermath of Chernobyl and the spaces humans left behind, this is the story of a dog’s survival in the wilds. Full of love and hope.