

Many Cultures, One Community Reading List

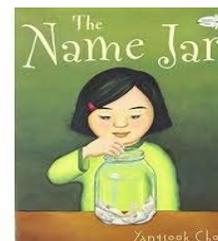


Introduction

Plan 1: Setting Our Acceptance Perspective

The Name Jar by Yangsok Choi

Being the new kid in school is hard enough, but what about when nobody can pronounce your name? Having just moved from Korea, Unhei is anxious that American kids will like her. So instead of introducing herself on the first day of school, she tells the class that she will choose a name by the following week. Her new classmates are fascinated by this no-name girl and decide to help out by filling a glass jar with names for her to pick from. But while Unhei practices being a Suzy, Laura, or Amanda, one of her classmates comes to her neighborhood and discovers her real name and its special meaning. On the day of her name choosing, the name jar has mysteriously disappeared. Encouraged by her new friends, Unhei chooses her own Korean name and helps everyone pronounce it—*Yoon-Hee*.



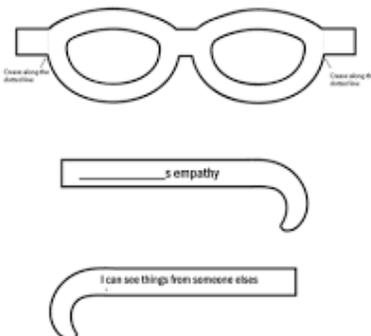
Recommended Additional Reading:

The Crayon Box that Talked by Shane DeRolf

Yellow hates Red, so does Green, and no one likes Orange! Can these crayons quit arguing and learn to cooperate? Shane DeRolf's deceptively simple poem celebrates the creation of harmony through diversity.

Abuela's Weave by Enrique O. Sanchez

This story about the importance of family pride, heritage and personal endurance introduces children to the culture of Guatemala through the eyes of little Esperanza, who works with her grandmother on weavings to sell at the public market.



Applying C.A.R.E. *about* U.

Plan 2: Exploring Different Languages

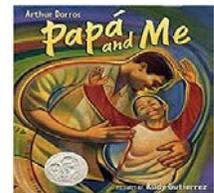
Say Hello by Rachel Isadora

Carmelita loves to greet everyone in her colorful neighborhood. There are people from so many different cultures! They all like to say hello too, so now Carmelita can say hello in Spanish, English, French, Japanese, and many other languages.



Papa' and Me by Rudy Guierrez

A young boy and his papa may speak both Spanish and English, but the most important language they speak is the language of love. In this beautiful bilingual picture book, you witness a close bond between father and son.



Recommended Additional Reading:

Guatemalan ABCs A Book about the People and Places of Guatemala by Marcie Aboff

Utilizing the alphabet, this book introduces language and facts about Guatemala!

Jambo Means Hello by Muriel Feelings

Utilizing the alphabet, this book introduces language and facts about the countries in Africa where Swahili is spoken

What is Your Language? by Debra Leventhal

A simple children's book which sets illustrations to the way the word 'yes' is said around the world.

My Language, Your Language by Lisa Bullard

The arrival of a new student arrives who speaks Spanish at home inspires her classmates to explore different languages. A chart of the letters in American sign language is included at the back of the book.

Just a Minute- A Trickster Tale and Counting Book by Yuri Morales

This book provides a tale to relay counting in both English and Spanish while sharing the rich traditions of Mexican culture.

Plan 3: Exploring History

Ruth and the Green Book by Calvin Alexander Ramsey

Ruth and the Green Book is the story of one black family's trip from Chicago to Alabama by car in the late 1940s. Along the way they encounter prejudice, but they also discover The Green Book, a real guide to accommodations which was published for decades to aid African-American travelers as they faced prejudice on the roads across the country.



Recommended Additional Reading:

Four Feet, Two Sandals by Karen Lynn Williams & Khadra Mohammed

Learn a bit about refugee camp living with this kind story of two girls. When relief workers bring used clothing to the refugee camp, everyone scrambles to grab whatever they can. Ten-year-old Lina is thrilled when she finds a sandal that fits her foot perfectly, until she sees that another girl has the matching shoe.

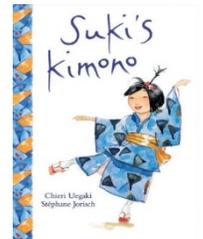
The Butterfly by Patricia Polacco

Living as a Jewish child with Nazi's in your village creates an opportunity for friendship. This story tells not only of history, but of the bond between two young girls.

Plan 4: Appreciating Music, Dance and Clothing

Suki's Kimono by Chieri Uegaki and Stephane Jorisch

Suki's favorite possession is her blue cotton kimono. A gift from her obachan, it holds special memories of her grandmother's visit last summer. And Suki is going to wear it on her first day back to school --- no matter what anyone says.



What We Wear – Dressing Up Around the World by Maya Ajmera

Bright, uplifting photographs show children from different countries dressed in traditional clothing from each culture. Captions suggest context for the images; "Dressing up means celebrating who we are... and what we believe," reads one.



Recommended Additional Reading:

A Life Like Mine, How Children Live Around the World (In Association with Unicef) Forward by Harry Belafonte

This book is hard to locate, but it offers a magnificent glimpse into cultures around the world. Photos of clothing, daily life experiences and foods show a clear picture of what children experience in many parts of the world.

Lola's Fandango by Anna White

Lola is in awe of her glamorous older sister. She wants to learn to flamenco dance like the older women in her family. She learns it is hard to do, but she keeps trying! The text is infused with the rhythms, movements and sounds of the dance. Spanish dress and customs are beautifully illustrated with a wonderful story of family tradition.

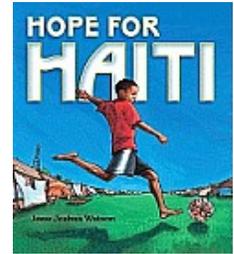
Plan 5: Sports and Games

Hope for Haiti by Jesse Joshua Watson

The earth shook, and his whole neighborhood was gone. Now he and his mother are living in the soccer stadium, in a shelter made of tin and bedsheets, waiting in line for food and water. But even with so much sorrow all around, the children play with a soccer ball made from rags.

Update: Title is no longer in print. Alternatives:

1. Play the read aloud starting at 3:11 at <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=mOfI-Fmyt84>
2. Substitute one of the books below by Mina Javaerbin



Recommended Additional Reading:

Goal! by Mina Javaerbin

A lyrical, strikingly illustrated story celebrates the unifying power of soccer. In a dusty township in South Africa, Ajani and his friends have earned a brand-new, federation-size soccer ball. They kick. They dribble. They run. They score. But when a crew of bullies tries to steal their ball, will Ajani and his friends be able to beat them at their own game?

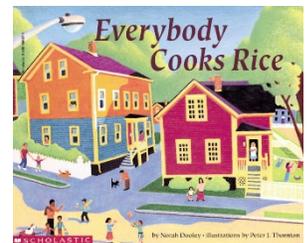
Soccer Star! by Mina Javaerbin

When Paulo Marcelo Feliciano becomes a soccer star, crowds will cheer his famous name! Then his mother won't have to work long hours, and he won't have to work all day on a fishing boat. For now, Paulo takes care of his little sister Maria (she teaches him reading, he teaches her soccer moves) and walks her to school... Set in a country whose resilient soccer stars are often shaped by poverty, this uplifting tale of transcending the expected scores a big win for all.

Plan 6: Savoring Foods

Everybody Cooks Rice by Norah Dooley

When Carrie's little brother is late for supper, she is sent to look for him. On her search she stops by her neighbor's homes, tasting as she goes. She is offered rice with black-eyed peas, bacon and onions from Barbados, Puerto Rican rice cooked with turmeric and pigeon peas and Haitian rice and beach! She gets to sample Vietnamese, Indian and Chinese cooking as well, before she returns home to an Italian meal of risi e bisi on the table next to her brother.



Recommended Additional Reading:

Mice and Beans by Pam Munoz Ryan

Rosa Maria, a Spanish-speaking grandmother, spends all week getting ready for her granddaughter's seventh birthday party. She is preparing a Mexican meal with all the birthday trimmings but each day items keep disappearing.