

DIVERSE SUMMER READING LIST

Grades Pre-K-8



LEE & LOW BOOKS is committed to meeting the needs of educators by providing award-winning, diverse books for today's classrooms! Check out our selection of summer reading books for purchase below, and find FREE resources including Teacher Guides, Lesson Plans, Activity Kits, and more available online at leeandlow.com

For more information about building a culturally diverse library or a customized quote, please contact:

Katie Potter, M.S. Ed.
Literacy Specialist
(212) 779-4400, ext. 40
kpotter@leeandlow.com

Grades PreK-2

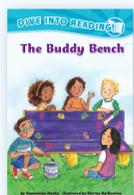
Dive into reading with Confetti Kids, our popular early chapter book series about five friends from diverse backgrounds learning to navigate common childhood challenges, new experiences, and the world around them!



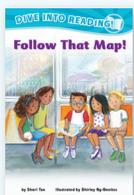
THE PERFECT GIFT
written by Paula Yoo,
illustrated by Shirley Ng-Benitez
Mei's little brother is turning 100 days old, and Mei is determined to find the perfect gift for his special day.
leeandlow.com/books/the-perfect-gift



THE GARDEN
written by Gwendolyn Hooks,
illustrated by Shirley Ng-Benitez
Lily and her friends volunteer to help at the public garden, where they learn that plants need water, sun, and—just like them—time to grow.
leeandlow.com/books/the-garden



THE BUDDY BENCH
written by Gwendolyn Hooks,
illustrated by Shirley Ng-Benitez
Padma and her friends create a buddy bench, where kids can sit if they feel lonely and need a friend.
leeandlow.com/books/buddy-bench



FOLLOW THAT MAP!
written by Sheri Tan,
illustrated by Shirley Ng-Benitez
Pablo is excited to help his friends find the best route to Coney Island by using different transportation maps.
leeandlow.com/books/follow-that-map

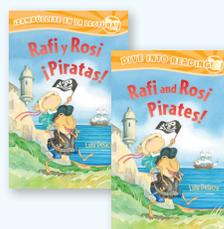
Check out our early chapter book series about Rafi and Rosi, two Puerto Rican tree frog siblings having fun together and learning about science and social studies topics during their adventures on their island home.



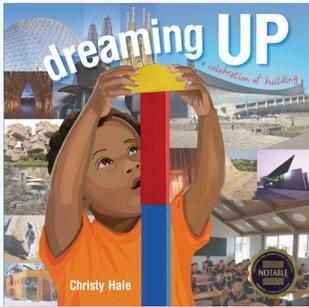
RAFI AND ROSI
written and illustrated by Lulu Delacre
Rafi amazes Rosi with magic he finds everywhere in nature, but he needs her help when his hermit crab runs away.
Also available in Spanish
leeandlow.com/books/rafi-and-rosi



RAFI AND ROSI CARNIVAL!
written and illustrated by Lulu Delacre
Rafi and Rosi celebrate Puerto Rico's joyous holiday, Carnival.
Also available in Spanish
leeandlow.com/books/rafi-and-rosi-carnival



RAFI AND ROSI PIRATES!
written and illustrated by Lulu Delacre
Rafi and Rosi explore Puerto Rico's famous El Morro Fort and learn about its Spanish history, treasure, and pirates.
Also available in Spanish
leeandlow.com/books/rafi-and-rosi-pirates



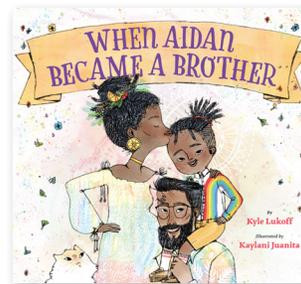
DREAMING UP
written and illustrated by **Christy Hale**
A collection of illustrations, concrete poetry, and photographs that shows how young children's constructions, created as they play, are reflected in notable works of architecture from around the world.
leeandlow.com/books/dreaming-up



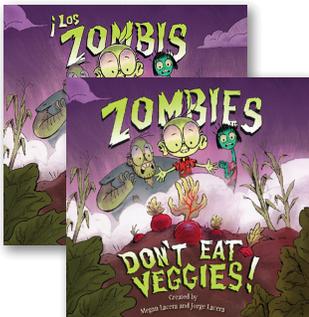
OUR CELEBRACIÓN!
written by **Susan Middleton Elya**, illustrated by **Ana Aranda**
A town celebrates summer with a joyful parade in this rhyming story written in English with Spanish words sprinkled throughout.
leeandlow.com/books/our-celebracion



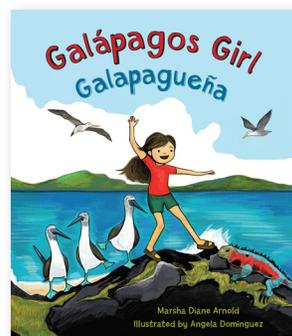
UNDER MY HIJAB
written by **Hena Khan**, illustrated by **Aaliya Jaleel**
As a young girl enjoys the many female connections in her life, readers come to understand and appreciate the hijab and the Muslim women who choose to wear it.
leeandlow.com/books/under-my-hijab



WHEN AIDAN BECAME A BROTHER
written by **Kyle Lukoff**, illustrated by **Kaylani Juanita**
This sweet #ownvoices picture book celebrates the changes in a transgender boy's life, from his initial coming-out to becoming a big brother.
leeandlow.com/books/when-aidan-became-a-brother



ZOMBIES DON'T EAT VEGGIES
written and illustrated by **Megan and Jorge Lacera**
In this delightful debut by a talented husband-and-wife team, Mo Romero is a zombie with a deep, dark secret . . . he loves vegetables!
Also available in Spanish
leeandlow.com/books/zombies-don-t-eat-veggies



GALÁPAGOS GIRL / GALAPAGUEÑA
written by **Marsha Diane Arnold**, illustrated by **Angela Dominguez**
This charming bilingual picture book introduces the fascinating creatures of the Galápagos Islands through the life of one very lucky girl.
Bilingual English/Spanish
leeandlow.com/books/galapagos-girl-galapagueña



BENJI, THE BAD DAY, AND ME
written by **Sally J. Pla**, illustrated by **Ken Min**
Sammy is having the absolute rottenest, worst day ever. His little brother, Benji, knows exactly what that's like in this tender story involving neurodiversity.
leeandlow.com/books/benji-the-bad-day-and-me



A LIBRARY FOR JUANA
written by **Pat Mora**, illustrated by **Beatriz Vidal**
An inspiring, award-winning biography of Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, a renowned Mexican scholar, composer, writer, and feminist who defied convention in the pursuit of education.
Also available in Spanish
leeandlow.com/books/a-library-for-juana



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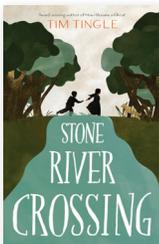
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Diverse Summer Reading List

Grades 3-5

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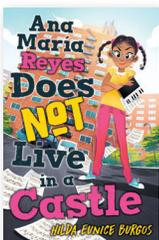
STONE RIVER CROSSING

written by **Tim Tingle**
From the award-winning author of *How I Became a Ghost*, a tale of unlikely friendship and miracles. When Martha Tom helps Lil Mo and his family escape from the plantation across the river, it's just the beginning of a Choctaw adventure of a lifetime.
leeandlow.com/books/stone-river-crossing



THE WIND CALLED MY NAME

written by **Mary Louise Sanchez**
In this heartwarming historical middle-grade novel set in the 1930s, Margarita Sandoval and her family navigate the shifting winds of belonging in their new Wyoming town.
leeandlow.com/books/the-wind-called-my-name



ANA MARÍA REYES DOES NOT LIVE IN A CASTLE

written by **Hilda Eunice Burgos**
In this sparkling middle-grade debut, a Dominican American girl in New York City juggles an upcoming piano showcase and her hopes of entering an elite private school with her big, boisterous family and community.
leeandlow.com/books/ana-maria-reyes-does-not-live-in-a-castle

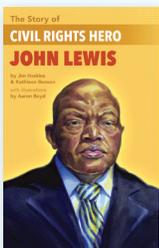


THERE'S NO BASE LIKE HOME

written by **Jessica Mendoza and Alana Mendoza Dusan**, illustrated by **Ruth McNally Barshaw**
ESPN baseball analyst and two-time Olympic medalist Jessica Mendoza teams up with her sister Alana Mendoza Dusan for this heartwarming, highly illustrated novel for young readers about Sophia's quest to find her place on a softball team.
leeandlow.com/books/there-s-no-base-like-home

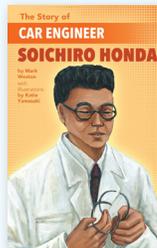
Discover Lee & Low's fresh collection of chapter-book biographies focused on historical figures of color!

All books feature informative sidebars, highlighted vocabulary words, a timeline, a glossary, a bibliography, and recommended reading.



THE STORY OF CIVIL RIGHTS HERO JOHN LEWIS

written by **Jim Haskins & Kathleen Benson**, illustrated by **Aaron Boyd**
Meet John Lewis, a leader in the civil rights movement of the 1960s and a revered Congressman today.
leeandlow.com/books/the-story-of-civil-rights-hero-john-lewis



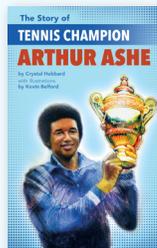
THE STORY OF CAR ENGINEER SOICHIRO HONDA

written by **Mark Weston**, illustrated by **Katie Yamasaki**
Meet Soichiro Honda, the innovative Japanese motorcycle and car manufacturer and business pioneer.
leeandlow.com/books/the-story-of-car-engineer-soichiro-honda



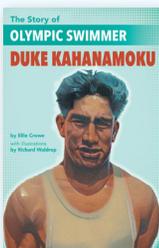
THE STORY OF MOVIE STAR ANNA MAY WONG

written by **Paula Yoo**, illustrated by **Lin Wang**
Meet Anna May Wong, whose trailblazing career in Hollywood broke new ground for future generations of Asian American actors.
leeandlow.com/books/the-story-of-movie-star-anna-may-wong



THE STORY OF TENNIS CHAMPION ARTHUR ASHE

written by **Crystal Hubbard**, illustrated by **Kevin Belford**
Meet Arthur Ashe, one of the most compelling tennis players, athletes and humanitarians of the twentieth century.
leeandlow.com/books/the-story-of-tennis-champion-arthur-ashe



THE STORY OF OLYMPIC SWIMMER DUKE KAHANAMOKU

written by **Ellie Crowe**, illustrated by **Richard Waldrep**
Meet Duke Kahanamoku, the six-time Olympic swimming champion and a legendary surfer who popularized surfing around the world.
leeandlow.com/books/the-story-of-olympic-swimmer-duke-kahanamoku



THE STORY OF WORLD WAR II HERO IRENA SENDLER

written by **Marcia Vaughan**, illustrated by **Ron Mazellan**
Meet Irena Sendler, a social worker who helped save nearly 2500 Jewish children from the Warsaw Ghetto during the Nazi occupation of Poland.
leeandlow.com/books/the-story-of-world-war-ii-hero-irena-sendler

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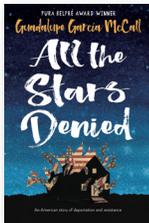
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Diverse Summer Reading List

Grades 6-8

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ALL THE STARS DENIED

written by **Guadalupe García McCall**

Guadalupe García McCall tackles the hidden history of the United States's first mass deportation event, which swept up hundreds of thousands of Mexican American citizens during the Great Depression.

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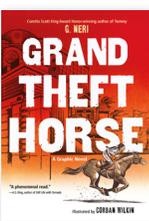


SUMMER OF THE MARIPOSAS

written by **Guadalupe García McCall**

In this creative telling of *The Odyssey*, fifteen-year-old Odilia and her younger sisters embark on a journey to return a dead man to his family in Mexico, and must outwit monsters and witches to make it back home again. *Also available in Spanish*

leeandlow.com/books/summer-of-the-mariposas

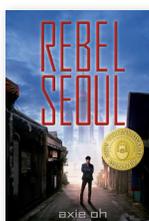


GRAND THEFT HORSE

written by **G. Neri**, illustrated by **Corban Wilkin**

Author G. Neri shares the powerful story of his cousin Gail Ruffu, who stole a racehorse in order to save it, and ended up taking on the whole racing industry to fight for the humane treatment of animals.

leeandlow.com/books/grand-theft-horse



REBEL SEOUL

written by **Axie Oh**

When Jaewon is assigned to partner with supersoldier Tera in Neo Seoul's top weapons development division, he must decide where he stands: with the people his rebel father protected or with the totalitarian government that claims it will end all war.

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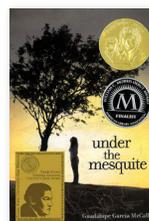


I AM ALFONSO JONES

written by **Tony Medina**, illustrated by **Stacey Robinson and John Jennings**

Perfect for fans of *The Hate U Give*: An unflinching graphic novel about the afterlife of a young man killed by an off-duty police officer, co-illustrated by *New York Times* bestselling artist John Jennings.

leeandlow.com/books/i-am-alfonso-jones

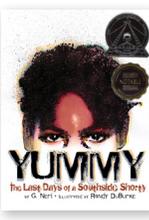


UNDER THE MESQUITE

written by **Guadalupe García McCall**

Lupita, a budding actor and poet in a close-knit Mexican American immigrant family, comes of age as she struggles with adult responsibilities during her mother's long illness.

leeandlow.com/books/under-the-mesquite

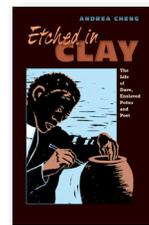


YUMMY: THE LAST DAYS OF A SOUTHSIDE SHORTY

written by **G. Neri**, illustrated by **Randy DuBurke**

A graphic novel based on the true story of Robert "Yummy" Sandifer, an eleven-year-old boy from Chicago's South Side who was killed by his own gang members.

leeandlow.com/books/yummy

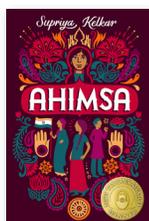


ETCHED IN CLAY: THE LIFE OF DAVE, ENSLAVED POTTER AND POET

written and illustrated by **Andrea Cheng**

This older biography in verse reveals the life of Dave, an enslaved potter who inscribed his works with sayings and short poems, in spite of the slave anti-literacy sentiment in the years leading up to the Civil War.

leeandlow.com/books/etched-in-clay

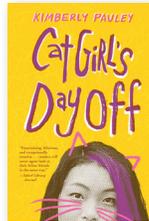


AHIMSA

written by **Supriya Kelkar**

In this historical novel set in India, Gandhi asks for one member of each family to join the fight for independence from the British, and when Anjali's mother is jailed for doing so, Anjali must step out of her comfort zone to take over her mother's work.

leeandlow.com/books/ahimsa



CAT GIRL'S DAY OFF

written by **Kimberly Pauley**

Natalie "Cat Girl" Ng, who has the ability to talk to cats, must save the day when she is the only one who can see the true story of a kidnapped celebrity and the imposter who took her place.

leeandlow.com/books/cat-girl-s-day-off

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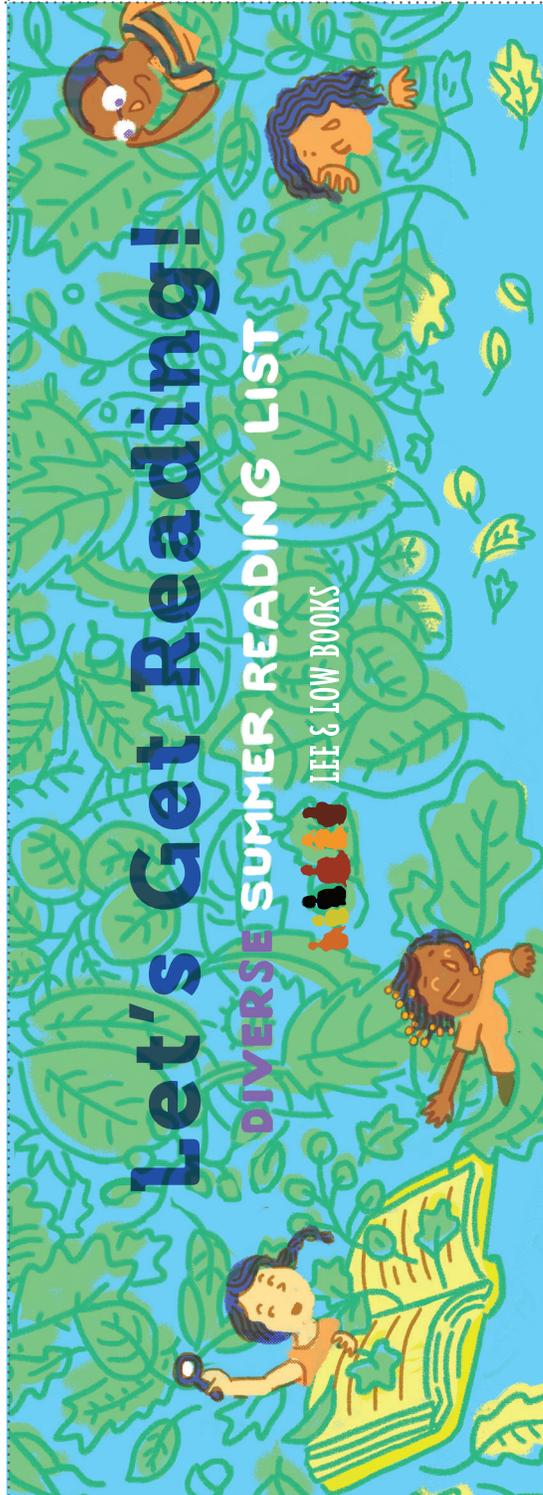
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Diverse Summer Reading List

Additional Resources

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Name of Book:

I want to find out more about:

Name of Book:

I related to:

Name of Book:

A new word that I discovered:

Name of Book:

I was surprised by:

Name of Book:

My favorite character is:

Name of Book:

I learned that:

Make your own Summer Reading Bookmark!

1. Use scissors to cut along the dotted lines.
2. Fold the bookmark in the middle (purple arrow).
3. Use a gluestick or tape to stick both sides together.

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