

Helen Crocker Russell Library of Horticulture

Selections from the Children's Book Collection:

Immigrant Experiences

Morning Glory Monday. Alda, Arlene ; illustrated by Maryann Kovalski.

Publication: Toronto, Ontario, Canada : Tundra Books, c2003.

A young girl makes her Italian immigrant mother happy by planting morning glories outside their tenement window. Early readers. (j) SB413 M67 AL21 2003

Amelia's Road. Altman, Linda Jacobs ; illustrated by Enrique O. Sanchez. New York : Lee & Low Books, c1993.

Tired of moving, Amelia, the daughter of migrant farm workers, feels at home when she discovers an old tree next to a rocky road. Early readers. (j) SB186 .AL79 1993

El Camino de Amelia. Altman, Linda Jacobs ; ilustrado por Enrique O. Sánchez. New York : Lee & Low Books, c1993. Tired of moving, Amelia, the daughter of migrant farm workers, feels at home when she discovers an old tree next to a rocky road. Early readers. (j) SB186 .AL79s 1993

Wishtree. Applegate, Katherine ; illustrated by Charles Santoso. New York, NY : Feiwel and Friends, 2017.

"Red is an oak tree who is many rings old. Red is the neighborhood "wishtree"--People write their wishes on pieces of cloth and tie them to Red's branches. Along with a crow named Bongo and other animals who seek refuge in Red's hollows, this wishtree watches over the neighborhood. You might say that Red has seen it all. Until a new family moves in. Not everyone is welcoming, and Red's experience as a wishtree is more important than ever." Advanced readers. (j) QK475 .Ap53 2017

Xochitl and the Flowers / Xóchitl, la niña de las flores. Argueta. Jorge ; illustrations, Carl Angel.

San Francisco, Calif. : Children's Book Press, c2003.

Xochitl and her family, newly arrived in San Francisco from El Salvador, create a beautiful plant nursery in place of the garbage heap behind their apartment, and celebrate with their friends and neighbors. Early readers. (j) SB453 .A74 2003

One Green Apple. Bunting, Eve ; illustrated by Ted Lewin. New York : Clarion Books, c2006.

While on a school field trip to an orchard to make cider, a young immigrant named Farah gains self-confidence when the green apple she picks perfectly complements the other students' red apples.

Advanced readers. (j) SB363 .B886 2006

Goldfish and Chrysanthemums. Cheng, Andrea ; illustrated by Michelle Chang. New York : Lee & Low Books, c2003.

A Chinese-American girl puts her goldfish into a fish pond that she creates and borders with chrysanthemums in order to remind her grandmother of the fish pond she had back in China. Early readers. (j) SB423 .C421 2003

Calling the Doves / El canto de las palomas. Herrera, Juan Felipe ; pictures by Elly Simmons. San Francisco, Calif. : Children's Book Press, c1995.

In this bilingual autobiography, the Mexican American poet Juan Felipe Herrera describes his childhood in California as the son of migrant workers. Vibrant illustrations bring Herrera's words to life.

Early readers. (j) SB186 .H43 1995

Butterflies Belong Here: A Story of One Idea, Thirty Kids, and a World of Butterflies.

Hopkinson, Deborah ; illustrated by Meilo So. San Francisco, California : Chronicle Books, 2020.

A creative nonfiction story of an immigrant girl explaining how she learned English by reading about Monarch butterflies, and how, troubled by their decline, she got her classmates and neighbors together to build a butterfly garden. Early readers. j QL561.D3 H77 2020

Harvesting Hope : the story of Cesar Chavez. Krull, Kathleen ; illustrated by Yuyi Morales. San Diego : Harcourt, Inc., c2003.

A biography of Cesar Chavez, from age ten with emphasis on their Arizona ranch, to age thirty-eight when he led a peaceful protest against California migrant workers' miserable working conditions. Early readers. (j) SB186 .K939 2003

A Place to Grow. Pak, Soyung ; illustrated by Marcelino Truong. New York : Arthur A. Levine Books, c2002.

As a father tells his daughter what a seed needs to flourish, he also explains the reasons he emigrated from wartorn Vietnam to a new homeland. Early readers. (j) SB453 .P17 2002

Watercress. Wang, Andrea ; pictures by Jason Chin. New York : Holiday House, 2021.

Embarrassed about gathering watercress from a roadside ditch, a girl learns to appreciate her Chinese heritage after learning why the plant is so important to her parents.

Early readers. j SB351.L6 W36 2021

Updated May 2024. Books are listed alphabetically by the author's last name. For more educational resources, please ask a librarian.