Authentic Spanish Books for Grades PreK-12

Libros auténticos en español de PreK a 12º Grado

Where Wonder Grows/ Donde las maravillas crecen written by Xelena González, illustrated by Adriana M. Garcia, 2023 Pura Belpré Award Winner for Illustration

High-quality bilingual and Spanish books help build a solid foundation to achieve Spanish literacy or bilingualism while also affirming and validating a child's identity, culture, and home language. Here are some of our most popular bilingual and dual language texts written by authors from the cultures featured in the books. En Lee & Low Books estamos orgullosos de publicar libros cultural y lingüísticamente auténticos de los que todos pueden disfrutar. Estamos honrados de mostrar historias que celebran culturas, voces y experiencias de comunidades que históricamente han estado ausentes o mal representadas en la literatura infantil. Los libros bilingües y en español de alta calidad no solo ayudan a construir una base sólida a la alfabetización en español, sino también afirman y validan la identidad, cultura e idioma del hogar de los niños.





Antonio's Card/La tarjeta de Antonio • written by Rigoberto González, illustrated by Cecilia Concepción Álvarez • In this gentle LGBTQ story written from award-winning Chicano poet, a young boy considers how to celebrate his mother and her partner on Mother's Day.



leeandlow.com/books featherless-desplumado

Featherless/Desplumado • written by Juan Felipe Herrera, illustrated by Ernesto

Cuevas, Jr. • A young boy in a wheelchair learns to soar after his father gives him a special pet bird in this sparkling story of self-empowerment and friendship from the former US Poet Laureate.

antonio-s-card-la-tarietade-antonio

Fresh Juice and Jugo Fresco • written and illustrated by Robert Liu-Trujillo • What makes a great juice that keeps everyone healthy? Art and his dad discover it takes carrots. . . collards. . . cayenne. . . and community!



All Around Us and Por todo nuestro alrededor • written by Xelena González, illustrated by Adriana M. Garcia

This gorgeous picture book—winner of the Pura Belpré Illustrator Honor and American Indian Youth Literature Award Picture Book Honorcelebrates the circles that surround us, in the sky, the earth, our neighborhoods, ourselves . . . if we just dare to look for them.

leeandlow.com/books/ jugo-fresco



me-tree-llamame-arbol

Call Me Tree/Llámame Árbol • written and illustrated by Maya Gonzalez • An imaginative tale of self-discovery by a child who grows, learns about the natural world, embraces others, and is free to become who he or she is meant to be—a child as unique as a tree.



leeandlow.com/books/ finding-the-music-enpos-de-la-musica

Finding the Music/En pos de la música written by Jennifer Torres, illustrated by Renato Alarcão • A determined Latina girl accidentally breaks her grandfather's vihuela and ventures into her community to find someone who can fix the instrument, leading her to discover her grandfather's legacy as a mariachi player.

Ic Donald Doc

Marisol McDonald Doesn't Match/Marisol McDonald no combina • written by Monica Brown, illustrated by Sara Palacios Mismatched and fabulous Marisol McDonald celebrates her Peruvian and Scottish heritage.

leeandlow.com/books/ marisol-mcdonalddoesn-t-match-marisolmcdonald-no-combina



leeandlow.com/books/ from-north-to-south-delnorte-al-sur

Winner of the Pura Belpré Award Honor.

From North to South/Del Norte al Sur

written by René Colato Laínez, illustrated by Joe Cepeda • When Mamá is sent back to

Mexico for not having proper papers, José and

his Papá face an uncertain future. This nuanced picture book tackles the difficult and timely

subject of family separation and deportation

with exquisite tenderness.



Confetti: Poems for Children and Confeti: Poemas para niños • written by Pat Mora, illustrated by Enrique O. Sánchez

In this joyful and spirited collection, poems in many formats celebrate the vivid landscape of the American Southwest and the delightful rapport that children share with the natural world.

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super-cilantro-girl-la-

supernina-del-cilantro

Super Cilantro Girl/La Superniña del Cilantro • written by Juan Felipe Herrera, illustrated by Honorio Robledo Tapia

An empowering story by the former US poet laureate about a young girl who uses her newfound superpowers to rescue her mamá from the United States-Mexico border.

leeandlow com/books/ por-todo-nuestroalrededor

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Zombies Don't Eat Veggies! and ;Los Zombis no comen verduras! • 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 . . .



drum-chavi-drum-toca-

chavi-toca

Drum, Chavi, Drum!/¡Toca, Chavi, Toca! written by Mayra L. Dole, illustrated by Tonel Even though nobody in her Cuban-American neighborhood thinks girls should play the drums, Chavi knows she was born to drum.

leeandlow.com/books/ los-zombis-no-comenverduras



the-great-and-mightynikko-el-gran-y-

poderoso-nikko

The Great and Mighty Nikko!/¡El gran y poderoso Nikko!: A Bilingual Counting Book • written and illustrated by Xavier Garza • It's bedtime! Join Nikko in this joyous bilingual lucha libre counting adventure.



Gracias • Thanks • written by Pat Mora, illustrated by John Parra • In a series of poetic sentences, a young boy talks about some of the everyday things for which he is thankful in this Pura Belpré Illustrator Award Honorwinning book.

leeandlow.com/books gracias-thanks



auinito-s-neighborhood el-vecindario-de-quinito

Quinito's Neighborhood/El vecindario de Quinito • written by Ina Cumpiano, illustrated by José Ramírez • Join Quinito in exploring his neighborhood as he finds out that it is made up of much more than buildings, streets, and shops. It is made up of the people he knows and loves.



family-poems-for-everyday-of-the-week

Family Poems for Every Day of the Week/ Poemas familiares para cada día de la semana • written by Francisco X. Alarcón, illustrated by Maya Gonzalez • A bilingual collection of poetry by acclaimed Chicano poet celebrating the days of the week and everyday childhood experiences.



leeandlow.com/books/ αrandma-and-me-at-the∙ flea-los-meros-merosremateros

measured in dollars.



leeandlow.com/books/ mama-the-alien-mama-laextraterrestre

Mamá the Alien/Mamá la extraterrestre • written by René Colato Lainez, illustrated by Laura Lacámara • In this lighthearted bilingual immigration story, a young girl sees the word alien on her mother's Resident Alien card and concludes that her mother is from another planet-until the girl finds out that the word has more than one meaning.

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xochitl-and-the-flowers-

xochitl-la-nina-de-las-



Xochitl and the Flowers/Xóchitl, la niña de las flores • written by Jorge Argueta, illustrated by Carl Angel • Thousands of miles away from El Salvador, Xochitl and her family make a new home in the United States. When they start a flower business, Xochitl learns the value of her new community.



Arrorró, mi niño: Latino Lullabies and Gentle Games • written and illustrated by Lulu Delacre • This Pura Belpré Illustrator Award Honor book is a loving tribute to Latine lullabies and games, inspired by the author's own childhood in Puerto Rico.

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calling-the-doves-el-

canto-de-las-palomas

Calling the Doves/El canto de las palomas written by Juan Felipe Herrerra, illustrated by Elly Simmons • Here is the former Poet Laureate's story of his migrant farmworker childhood, featuring his mother's songs and poetry, and his father's stories and relationship with nature, all revealed in vibrant language.



leeandlow.com/books/ donde-las-maravillascrecen

Where Wonder Grows and Donde las maravillas crecen • written by Xelena González, illustrated by Adriana M. Garcia

From the creators of All Around Us comes another lyrical intergenerational story exploring our connections to nature, family, and traditions—winner of the Pura Belpré Illustrator Award.

Hanna and Report Have a Store Provincement and the second se

leeandlow.com/books/latienda-de-mama-y-papa

Amelia Lau Carling • A young girl describes what a typical day is like in her parents' Chinese store in Guatemala City, Guatemala in this Pura Belpré Illustrator Honor book.

Mama and Papa Have a Store and La tienda

de mamá y papa • written and illustrated by



leeandlow.com/books/ poems-to-dreamtogether-poemas-parasonar-juntos

soñar juntos • written by Francisco X. Alarcón, illustrated by Paula Barragán • Partly based on Alarcón's own memories of growing up in Mexico and California, these joyous, universal poems will inspire all readers to dream their own dreams for a better, compassionate, and loving world.

Poems to Dream Together/Poemas para



leeandlow.com/books/ family-pictures-cuadrosde-familia

Family Pictures/Cuadros de familia • written and illustrated by Carmen Lomas Garza Pura Belpré Honor-winning illustrator tells the story of her girlhood in Kingsville, Texas, through fifteen

Pura Belpre Honor-winning illustrator tells the story of her girlhood in Kingsville, Texas, through fifteen paintings and stories, each focusing on a different aspect of Mexican American culture.



The Wild Ones and **Los Bravos • by Megan and Jorge Lacera •** From the creators of *Zombies Don't Eat Veggies!* comes a heartwarming and epic tale of four best friends who turn to the mythical monsters from their respective cultures to help them save the only home they've ever known.



leeandlow.com/books/ still-dreaming-seguimossonando





los-bravos

leeandlow.com/books/ prietita-and-the-ghostwoman-prietita-y-lallorona

book.

Prietita and the Ghost Woman/Prietita y la llorona • written by Gloria Anzaldúa, illustrated by Maya Gonzalez • Readers are in for a magical journey in this reinterpretation of the famous Mexican legend of *la Llorona*, the ghost woman in this Pura Belpré Author Honor

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the-storyteller-s-candlela-velita-de-los-cuentos The Storyteller's Candle/La velita de los cuentos • written by Lucía González, illustrated by Lulu Delacre • Cousins Hildamar and Santiago long for their home in Puerto Rico until they meet New York City's first Latina librarian in this Pura Belpré Author Honor and Illustrator Honor book.



leeandlow.com/books the-turquoise-room-elcuarto-turquesa

The Turquoise Room/El cuarto turquesa written by Monica Brown, illustrated by Adriana M. Garcia • In this loving picture book memoir, readers take a magical journey into the lives of the generations of creative women in the author's family.

The Upside Down Boy/El niño de cabeza

written by Juan Felipe Herrera, illustrated

by Elizabeth Gómez • Playful language and

colorful art capture the universal experience

of children entering a new school feeling like

from the former Poet Laureate.

strangers in this engaging picture book memoir



leeandlow.com/books/ my-papa-diego-and-memi-papa-diego-v-vo

My Papa Diego and Me/Mi papa Diego y yo written by Guadalupe Rivera Marín, illustrated by Diego Rivera • Rivera Marín shares some of her childhood memories of her father, worldrenowned artist Diego Rivera, in this intimate artistic portrait.



leeandlow.com/books/ the-upside-down-boy-elnino-de-cabeza



leeandlow.com/books/ animal-poems-of-theiguazu-animalario-deliquazu

del Iguazú • written by Francisco X. Alarcón, illustrated by Maya Gonzalez • The animals of the Iguazú speak for themselves, creating a collection of poems that will resonate with readers of all ages.



my-tata-s-remedies-los-

remedios-de-mi-tata

My Tata's Remedies/Los remedios de mi tata • written by Roni Capin Rivera-Ashford, illustrated by Antonio Castro L. • In this Pura Belpré Illustrator Honor book of family and traditional wisdom, Tata teaches grandson Aaron natural remedies through healing neighbors and family.



leeandlow.com/books/ mv-verv-own-room-mipropio-cuartito

My Very Own Room/Mi propio cuartito written by Amada Irma Pérez, illustrated by Maya Gonzalez • In this delightful memoir of a California childhood, a girl tries to carve out space for herself among five brothers, two parents, and a house full of visiting relatives.



yum-mmmm-que-ricobrotes-de-las-americas Yum! ¡Mmmm! ¡Qué Rico! America's Sproutings and Yum! ¡MmMm! ¡Qué rico! Brotes de las Américas • written by Pat Mora, illustrated by Rafael López • This delightful collection of haiku explores the many foods native to the Americas, including peanuts, blueberries, corn, potatoes, and more.

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volcanoes-los-perros-

magicos-de-los-volcanes

Magic Dogs of the Volcanoes/Los perros mágicos de los volcanes • written by Manlio Argueta, illustrated by Elly Simmons Whenever Salvadoran people gather to tell stories, someone will have a story about the

magic dogs called cadejos.



A Movie in My Pillow/Una película en mi almohada • written by Jorge Argueta, illustrated by Elizabeth Gómez • Young Jorgito has come to live in the Mission District of San Francisco, but he hasn't forgotten the unique beauty of El Salvador.

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olor-a-perfume-de-viejita

The Smell of Old Lady Perfume and Olor a perfume de viejita • written by Claudia Guadalupe Martínez • Chela Gonzalez faces the challenges of losing her best friend, her dad, in this bittersweet story about death, family, and the resilient emotional strength of the human heart.

It Doesn't Have to Be This Way/No tiene

que ser así • written by Luis J. Rodríguez,

illustrated by Daniel Galvez • A compelling

tale of a young boy's encounter with the world



leeandlow.com/books/ marti-s-song-for-freedommarti-y-sus-versos-por-lalibertad

sencillos.

Martí's Song for Freedom/Martí y sus versos por la libertad • written by Emma Otheguy, illustrated by Beatriz Vidal • José Martí dedicated his life to the promotion of liberty: the abolishment of slavery, political independence for Cuba, and intellectual independence from colonialism for all Latinos. This bilingual biography is written in verse with excerpts from Marti's seminal work, Versos



it-doesn-t-have-to-be-this-

way-no-tiene-que-ser-asi

of gangs-a world the author knows firsthand. There is no easy answer to Monchi's dilemma, but the love and respect of his uncle help him find a way out. leeandlow.com/books/



Summer of the Mariposas and El verano de las mariposas • written by Guadalupe García McCall • In this young adult retelling of The Odyssey, Odilia and her four sisters journey to Mexico to return a dead man to his family and encounter magical creatures along the way.



On These Magic Shores and En estas tierras mágicas • written by Yamile Saied Méndez Minerva must take care of her sisters after her

mother's disappearance in this magical middle grade story that pairs perfectly with Peter Pan.

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com/books/lucha-libre

Lucha Libre: The Man in the Silver Mask: A **Bilingual Cuento •** written and illustrated by Xavier Garza • Xavier Garza brings another action-packed bilingual picture book about traditional Mexican wrestling-lucha libre!

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leeandlow.com/books/ water-rolls-water-rises-elagua-rueda-el-agua-sube

Water Rolls, Water Rises/El agua rueda, el agua sube • written by Pat Mora, illustrated by Meilo So • In a series of poetic verses, readers learn about the movement and moods of water around the world and the ways in which water affects different landscapes and cultures.



A Perfect Season for Dreaming/Un tiempo perfecto para soñar • written by Benjamin Alire Sáenz, illustrated by Esau Andrade Valencia • In this stunning bilingual picture book, an old man tells his granddaughter about the nine most beautiful dreams of his life.

books/a-perfect-seasonfor-dreaming-un-tiempoperfecto-para-sonar

Illustration by Adriana M. Garcia from The Turquoise Room/El cuarto turquesa





maximilian-the-mystery-

of-the-guardian-angel

Angel/Maximilian y el misterio del Ángel de la Guardia #1 • written by Xavier Garza In this Pura Belpré Author Honor book, Maximillian's summer vacation resembles one

Maximillian's summer vacation resembles one of his beloved lucha libre movies—grudge matches, fantastic villains, and the Guardian Angel.

Maximilian & the Mystery of the Guardian



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Maximilian & the Bingo Rematch/ Maximilian & la revancha de la lotería #2 written by Xavier Garza • Maximilian & the

Bingo Rematch is the second book in the award-winning series Max's Lucha Libre Adventures. Maximilian's old aunts battle for the Queen Bingo trophy while his sweetheart and the new girl war for Max's heart.

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leeandlow.com/books/ maximilian-the-luchalibre-club-max-s-luchalibre-adventures-3maximilian-y-el-club-delucha-libre Maximilian & the Luchra Libre Club/ Maximilian y el Club de Lucha Libre #3 written by Xavier Garza • In the third book in Max's Lucha Libre series, sixth-grader Max joins the Lucha Libre Club. Grab your masks and let the action begin!



leeandlow.com/books/ maximilian-the-curse-ofthe-fallen-angel-max-slucha-libre-adventures-4maximilian-la-maldiciondel-angel-caido

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Maximilian & the Curse of the Fallen Angel/ Maximilian & la maldición del Ángel Caído #4 • written by Xavier Garza • In the fourth book in Max's Lucha Libre series, fourteen-yearold Max struggles with the biggest heartbreak

old Max struggles with the biggest heartbreak of his life—his hero just announced his last match ever as the king of lucha libre!

Grades 9–12



The Moonlit Vine and Claro de luna

written by Elizabeth Santiago • Fourteen-yearold Taina just learned that she is a descendant of a long line of strong Taino women, but will knowing this help her bring peace and justice to her family and community?

leeandlow.com/books/ claro-de-luna



leeandlow.com/books/elparlamento-de-lechuzascurandera-mecanica-1 The Witch Owl Parliament (Clockwork Curandera #1) and El parlamento de lechuzas (Curandera mecánica #1) • written by David Bowles & Raúl the Third, illustrated by Stacey Robinson, lettering by Damien Duffy • Discover a graphic novel unlike any

other—a brilliant steampunk reimagining of *Frankenstein* set in colonial Mexico.

work Curandera #1







Más Piñata: The first authentic Spanish leveled reader series!

Más Piñata, a leveled reader series from Bebop Books, offers rich, culturally relevant stories that support meaningful literacy development in guided reading and biliteracy settings. All titles were originally written in Spanish by native Spanish speakers and longtime educators.

¡Más Piñata, la primera serie de lecturas niveladas auténticas en español!

Más Piñata, una serie de lecturas niveladas de Bebop Books, ofrece historias ricas en contenido y culturalmente relevantes que apoyan el desarrollo significativo de la alfabetización tanto en lectura guiada como en ambientes bilingües. Todos los títulos de la serie fueron escritos originalmente en español por educadores hispanohablantes nativos.











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