

2015 USBBY International Children's Book Day Booklist

Birth to PreK

Ada, Alma Flor and F. Isabel Campoy. *Muu, Moo!: Rimas de animales/Animal Nursery Rhymes*. New York: Rayo, 2010.

A collection of animal-themed nursery rhymes in Spanish, from Spain and Latin America, with English translations.

Ajmera, Maya. *Global Baby Boys*. Charlesbridge, 2014.

A board book showcasing the many faces of baby boys around the world.

Ajmera, Maya, Elise Hofer Derstine, and Cynthia Pon. *Music Everywhere!* Charlesbridge, 2014.

Vibrant photographs show how children across the world take joy in sharing music.

Burkert, Rand. *Mouse & Lion*. Illustrated by Nancy Ekholm Burkert. Michael diCapua/Scholastic, 2011.

This retelling of the familiar Aesop fable, set in Botswana, gives the little mouse pride of place.

Colato, Rene Lainez. *Señor Pancho Had a Rancho*. Illustrated by Elwood Smith. Holiday House, 2013.

A celebration of the song "Old MacDonald Had a Farm" in English and Spanish with their dance-inducing animal sounds.

Cunnane, Kelly. *Deep in the Sahara*. Illustrated by Hoda Hadadi. Schwartz & Wade Books, 2013.

Lalla is a young girl growing up in West Africa who is desperate for her own malafa to wear. She tells the women in her family she wants one to be beautiful and mysterious, but in the end she learns the malafa is for more than just decoration.

Gibson, Amy. *By Day, By Night*. Illustrated by Meilo So. Boyds Mills Press, 2014.

Follows people from morning to night, all around the world, doing the same things in different ways.

Hofmeyr, Dianne. *The Magic Bojabi Tree*. Illustrated by Piet Grobler. Frances Lincoln Children's Books, 2013.

Animals in search of food during a famine come across a tree bursting with mouth-watering fruit, but are not allowed to eat the fruit until they can name the tree in this African folktale.

Isadora, Rachel. *Old Mikamba Had a Farm*. Nancy Paulsen Books, 2013.
Celebrate the animals on the plains of Africa with this rendition of the familiar children's song.

Kalluk, Celina. *Sweetest Kulu*. Illustrated by Alexandria Neonakis. Inhabit Media, 2014.

A baby called by the endearment of Kulu is welcomed to the world with the traditions and values of the Inuit people.

Saltzberg, Barney. *Chengdu Could Not, Would Not, Fall Asleep*. Disney Hyperion Books for Children, 2014.

High in the trees in the middle of the night, all of the pandas are sleeping except for Chengdu, who tries everything and still cannot fall asleep until he finds the perfect spot--atop his brother, Yuan.

Thong, Roseanne Greenfield. *Green is a Chile Pepper - A Book of Colors*. Illustrated by John Parra. Chronicle Books, 2014.

This concept book is interspersed with Spanish language words as colors are explored in an Hispanic American neighborhood.

Tonatiuh, Duncan. *Dear Primo: A Letter to My Cousin*. Abrams Books for Young Readers, 2010.

Charlie lives in New York City. Carlitos lives in the Mexican countryside. The two cousins share letters and discover their lives have quite a lot more in common than you might think.

Tonatiuh, Duncan. *Pancho Rabbit and the Coyote: a Migrant's Tale*. Abrams, 2013.

When Papa Rabbit does not return home as expected from many seasons of working in the great carrot and lettuce fields of El Norte, his son, Pancho, sets out on a dangerous trek to find him, guided by a coyote.

Wolf, Gita. *Gobble You Up!* Illustrated by Sunita. Translated by Susheela Varadarajan. Tara Books, 2013.

An adaptation of an oral Rajasthani trickster tale set to cumulative rhyme. Meet the most wily jackal in the forest: too lazy to hunt for food, he starts by tricking his friend the crane, and then proceeds to gobble up every animal he comes across.

K-2nd Grade

Aylesworth, Jim. *My Grandfather's Coat*. Illustrated by Barbara McClintock. Scholastic, 2014.

This rendition of the folk song gives it a rich context that spans four generations of an American Jewish family.

Bruchac, Joseph and James. *Rabbit's Snow Dance: a traditional Iroquois story*. Illustrated by Jeff Newman. Dial Books For Young Readers, 2012.

Rabbit uses a snow dance and a drum to make it snow whenever he wants, but goes too far and cannot stop.

Bryan, Ashley. *Can't Scare Me*. Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2013.

A little boy isn't scared of monsters at all, until he runs away and meets some in this lively re-telling of a trickster tale.

Divakaruni, Chitra Banerjee. *Grandma and the Great Gourd: a Bengali Folktale*. Illustrated by Susy Pilgrim Waters. Roaring Brook Press, 2013.

After convincing hungry animals to wait until after she visits her daughter on the other side of the jungle to have her for dinner, Grandma must find a way to outwit them so she can make it home safely.

Elya, Susan Middleton. *Little Roja Riding Hood*. Illustrated by Susan Guevara. G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2014.

This original and refreshing retelling of the traditional tale incorporates many Spanish language words.

Hsyu, J. C. *The Dinner That Cooked Itself*. Illustrated by Kenard Pak. Flying Eye Books, 2014.

Tuan, a hardworking man, is rewarded in a surprising way after helping a snail in this Chinese folktale.

Icinori. *Issun Boshi: The One-Inch Boy*. Translation from the French by Nicholas Grindell. Little Gestalten Books, 2014.

A traditional Japanese tale about a tiny boy who faces adventure with a needle for a sword and a soup bowl for a boat.

Jian, Li. *The Water Dragon: A Chinese Legend*. Better Link Press, 2012.

A young boy tries to save his village from a drought by searching for the water dragon to save them.

Look, Lenore. *Brush of the Gods*. illustrations by Meilo So. Schwartz & Wade Books, 2013.

In eighth century China, Wu Daozi studies calligraphy, but he finds he has an amazing talent for painting. Flying Sleeves, as the people come to call him, is so gifted his art actually springs to life.

Lyons, Kelly Starling. *Ellen's Broom*. Illustrated by Daniel Minter. Putnam Juvenile, 2012.

Now that Ellen's parents are free, they can get married at the courthouse. On the day of the ceremony, Ellen brings the broom they jumped over as slaves to celebrate her parents' union and their traditions.

MacDonald, Margaret Read. *Give Up, Gecko!: A Folktale From Uganda*. Illustrated by Deborah Melmon. Amazon Children's Publishing, 2013.

All the animals took their turns stomping the ground to find water, but Gecko was determined to stick with it until he succeeded.

Patel, Sanjay and Emily Haynes. *Ganesha's Sweet Tooth*. Chronicle Books, 2012.

Ganesha's sweet tooth causes him to break his tusk. When he meets the poet Vyasa, he'll find the bright side in this re-telling of the legend of how Hindu God Ganesha transcribed the Mahabharata.

Rodgers, Greg. *Chukfi Rabbit's Big, Bad Bellyache: A Trickster Tale*. Illustrated by Leslie Stall Widener. Cinco Puntos Press, 2014.

While all the other animals work together to build Ms. Shukata Possum a new home, Chukfi pretends he is sick and eats all the butter that has been promised as a reward after working all day.

Sehgal, Kabir and Surishtha Sehgal. *A Bucket of Blessings*. Illustrated by Jing Jing Tsong. Beach Lane Books, 2014.

Monkey must take a bucket of water up the mountain so that Peacock can perform a rain dance to end a drought in this retelling of an Indian myth.

Winter, Jeanette. *Malala, A Brave Girl from Pakistan / Iqbal, A Brave Boy from Pakistan..* Beach Lane Books, 2014.

These two biographies of brave young people who are willing to speak up and act in the face of injustice are bound together in one picture book volume.

3rd-5th Grade

Arnaquq-Baril, Alethea. *The Blind Boy and The Loon*. Illustrated by Alethea Arnaquq-Baril and Daniel Gies. Inhabit Media, 2014.

The traditional Inuit story that explains the origin of the spiral tusked narwhal.

Competine, Ying Chang and Vinson Competine. *Secrets of the Terra-Cotta Soldier*. Amulet Books, 2014.

Ming, a thirteen year old boy in mid-70's China, learns about the history of the builder of the Great Wall and about the terra-cotta soldiers.

Goldman, Judy. *Whiskers, Tails and Wings: Animal Folktales from Mexico*. Illustrated by Fabricio Vanden Broeck. Charlesbridge, 2013.

Retells animal folktales from five indigenous peoples of Mexico – including the Tarahumara tale in which a puma meets a grasshopper – and provides information on the culture of each indigenous people.

Gunderson, Jessica. *Little Red Riding Hood Stories Around the World: 3 Beloved Tales*. Picture Window Books, 2015.

See how three different cultures (Germany, Italy, and Taiwan) approach the Red Riding Hood story.

Johnson, R. Kikuo. *The Shark King*. Toon Books, 2012.

Nanaue, who has a human mother and shark father, must discover his true self in this graphic novel retelling of a Native Hawaiian legend.

Laird, Elizabeth. *Pea Boy and Other Stories from Iran*. Illustrated by Shirin Adl. Frances Lincoln Children's Books, 2010.

Retells folktales and fables from Iran, including the stories of a mouse and a cockroach who fell in love, a foolish weaver's apprentice, and a boy with the head of a chickpea.

Lee, H. Chuku. *Beauty and the Beast: A Retelling*. Illustrated by Pat Cummings. HarperCollins, 2014.

A beautiful maiden releases a prince from a spell that has turned him into a beast by showing him friendship and love.

Montileaux, Donald. *Tasunka: A Lakota Horse Legend*. Translated by Agnes Gay. South Dakota State Historical Society Press, 2014.

The Lakota people prospered thanks to the gifts from Tasunka, the horse, but when they grow too prideful, they must reckon with the consequences of their behavior in this bilingual retelling of a traditional Lakota legend.

Ondaatje, Griffin. *The Camel In the Sun*. Illustrated by Linda Wolfsgruber. Groundwood Books, 2013.

In this retelling of a traditional Muslim hadith, a camel, who has worked very hard his entire life and never complained to his owner, is visited by the Prophet. The Prophet shows the camel empathy and opens the owners eyes to how the camel feels.

Pinkney, Andrea Davis. *The Red Pencil*. Illustrated by Shane W. Evans. Little, Brown and Company, 2014.

Displaced from her home in South Darfur, 12-year-old Amira finds new hope for her future through creative expression.

Senzai, N.H. *Saving Kabul Corner*. Paula Wiseman Books, 2014.

Cousins Laila and Ariana are polar opposites who don't get along. Their family owns a struggling store called Kabul Corner. When a rival family arrives and opens a store nearby, a long standing feud is rekindled. When strange things begin to happen at both stores, the children from both families unite to solve the mystery.

Snyder, Laurel. *The Longest Night: A Passover Story*. illustrated by Catia Chien. Schwartz & Wade, 2013.

In simple rhymes, a slave girl in Ancient Egypt tells the story of her people's escape into freedom in this recounting of the first Passover.

Tavaci, Elspeth. *The Stone of Destiny: Tales from Turkey*. Illustrated by Paul Hess. Frances Lincoln Children's Books, 2013.

A poor stonemason, named Salahaddin, tells traditional stories as he travels to Istanbul after making an amazing discovery.

Walser, David. *The Glass Mountain: Tales from Poland*. Illustrated by Jan Pienkowski. Candlewick, 2014.

A collection of eight traditional Polish stories is accompanied by gorgeous cut-paper illustrations.

Yoo, Paula. *Twenty-two Cents: Muhammad Yunus and the Village Bank*. Illustrated by Jamel Akib. Lee & Low Books, 2014.

A picture book biography for older readers of the Nobel Peace Prize winner Muhammad Yunus who developed the concept of micro-lending as a way to fight world-wide poverty.

Titles on the 2015 International Children's Book Day book list were compiled and annotated by members of the Association for Library Service to Children's (ALSC) Quicklists Consulting Committee. ALSC Is

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