



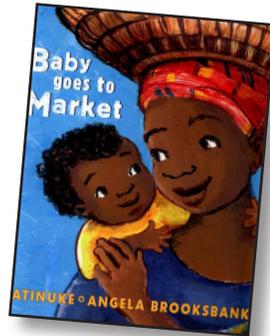
Help children get excited about reading! Each month, a list of featured books will be available to: Assist teachers, librarians, and families in finding quality books to encourage independent reading; offer titles that allow students to see themselves, explore other cultures, and discover more about the world in which they live; and ignite a passion for reading.

### PRESCHOOL

#### ***Baby Goes to Market***

by Atinuke

When Baby and Mama go to a Nigerian market, Baby is so adorable that the banana seller gives him six bananas. Baby eats one and puts five in the basket. This goes on with each seller until Mama notices her basket is getting heavy. This fun read-aloud is a gentle introduction to numbers.

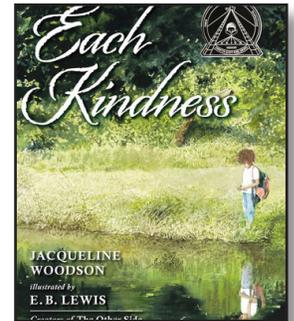


### INTERMEDIATE (GRADES 3 – 5)

#### ***Each Kindness***

by Jacqueline Woodson

Chloe and her friends won't play with the new girl, Maya. Every time Maya tries to join them, they reject her. Eventually, Maya stops coming to school. When Chloe's teacher gives a lesson about how even small acts of kindness can change the world, Chloe is stung by the lost opportunity for friendship, and thinks about how much better it could have been if she'd shown a little kindness toward Maya.

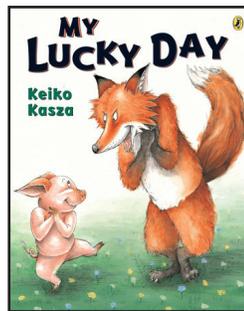


### PRIMARY (GRADES KINDERGARTEN – 2)

#### ***My Lucky Day***

by Keiko Kasza

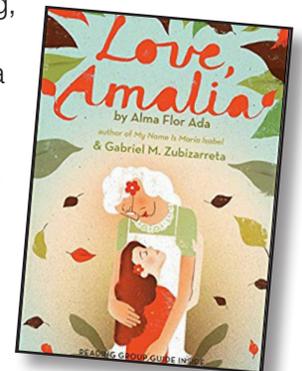
When a delicious-looking piglet knocks on Mr. Fox's door "accidentally," the fox can hardly believe his good luck. It's not every day that dinner just shows up on your doorstep. It must be his lucky day! Or is it?



#### ***Love, Amalia/Con cariño, Amalia***

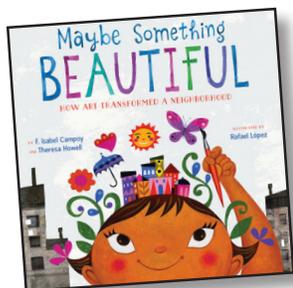
by Alma Flor Ada and Gabriel M. Zubizarreta

Amalia's best friend Martha is moving away, and Amalia is feeling sad and angry. The loving, wise words of Amalia's *abuelita* have a way of making everything a little bit brighter. Amalia finds great comfort in times shared with her grandmother: cooking, listening to stories and music, learning, and looking through her treasured box of family cards.



#### ***Maybe Something Beautiful/Quizás algo hermoso***

by F. Isabel Campoy



What good can a splash of color do in a community of gray? As Mira and her neighbors discover, more than you might ever imagine! Based on the true story of the Urban Art Trail in San Diego, California, *Maybe Something Beautiful* reveals how art can

inspire transformation—and how even the smallest artists can accomplish something big.

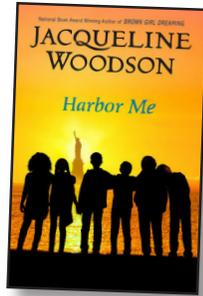
But when another loss racks Amalia's life, nothing makes sense anymore. In her sorrow, will Amalia realize just how special she is, even when the ones she loves are no longer near?

## MIDDLE SCHOOL (GRADES 6 – 8)

### **Harbor Me**

by Jacqueline Woodson

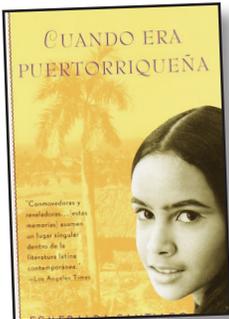
It all starts when six kids have to meet for a weekly chat—by themselves, with no adults. They soon dub the room ARTT—A Room To Talk—and discover it's safe to talk about what's bothering them. They share everything from Esteban's father's deportation and Haley's father's incarceration to Amari's fears of racial profiling and Ashton's adjustment to his changing family fortunes. When the six are together, they can express the feelings and fears they must hide from the rest of the world. Together, they can grow brave and ready for the rest of their lives.



### **When I Was Puerto Rican/ Cuando era puertorriqueña**

by Esmeralda Santiago

This true story of Esmeralda Santiago begins in rural Puerto Rico, where her parents and seven brothers lived a troubled life that was full of love and tenderness. As a child, Esmeralda learned to appreciate the foods and customs of Puerto Rico. But then her family took her to New York where the rules and language were strange and different. How Esmeralda gained entrance to New York's Performing Arts High School and then continued to Harvard University to graduate with high honors is the story of a truly extraordinary woman.

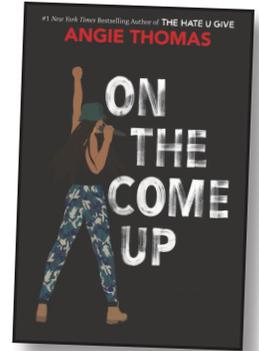


## HIGH SCHOOL (GRADES 9 – 12)

### **On the Come Up**

by Angie Thomas

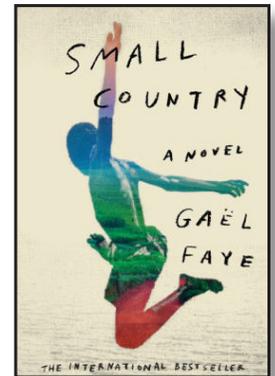
By the author of the award-winning *The Hate U Give*. Sixteen-year-old Bri wants to be one of the greatest rappers of all time. As the daughter of an underground hip hop legend who died right before he hit it big, Bri's got massive shoes to fill. But it's hard to follow your dreams when you're labeled a hoodlum at school and your mom loses her job. So Bri pours her anger and frustration into her first song, which goes viral for all the wrong reasons. Bri is soon at the center of a controversy, portrayed by the media as more menace than MC. But with an eviction notice staring at her family, Bri *has to make it*, even if that means becoming the very thing the public has made her out to be.



### **Small Country**

by Gaël Faye

Burundi, 1992. For ten-year-old Gabriel, life in his comfortable neighborhood of Bujumbura with his French father, Rwandan mother, and little sister Ana is something close to paradise. These are carefree days of laughter and adventure as he and his mischievous gang of friends transform their tiny cul-de-sac into their kingdom. But dark clouds are gathering over this small country, and soon their peaceful existence will shatter when Burundi and neighboring Rwanda are brutally hit by civil war and genocide.



For more books, visit:  
[mpsmke.com/mpsreads](https://mpsmke.com/mpsreads)