

Worlds of Words 2021

Grade 2-3 Recommended Global Fiction Books

Themes	Global Books	Genre Date	Level Info	Global Context	Themes/Plot of Global Books
Everyday Adventures	<i>Adventures with Waffles</i> , Maria Parr, illus. Kate Forrester	RF 2015	720 L (R) 232 pp.	Norway Tr	Two friends in a small town in Norway share rollicking adventures and poignant moments.
	<i>All the Way to Havana</i> , Margarita Engle, illus. Mike Curato	RF/PB 2017	32 pp. 890 L	Cuba	A boy helps his father keep their old car running on a trip to Havana. Vibrant snapshot of modern Cuba.
	<i>Anna Hibiscus</i> series, Atinuke	RF 2007	540-680L 112 pp	Nigeria	8 chapter books include episodes from Anna Hibiscus's life in a warm family in contemporary Nigeria.
	<i>Bruno</i> , Catharina Valckx, illus. Nicolas Hubesch	FAN 2017	86 pp 600 L	France, Tr	Bruno the cat recounts six interesting days of adventures in his life, told in brief chapters.
	<i>Count on Me</i> , Miguel Tanco	RF/PB 2019	RL 2.3 32 pp	Italy Tr	A girl sees the beauty of the world through math and geometric shapes, keeping detailed notes in her journal.
	<i>The Herd Boy</i> , Niki Daly	RF/PB 2020	750 L(Q) 32 pp	South Africa	A boy has adventures caring for grandfather's sheep but has bigger dreams for his life.
	<i>I Need All of It</i> , Petra Postert, illus. Jens Rassmus	RF/PB 2018	540L 32 p RL 2.3	Germany Tr	A boy empties his pockets full of "treasures" with stories about each one as he and his father do the wash.

<i>Juana & Lucas</i> , Juana Medina	RF 2019	870 (P) 88 pp	Colombia	Friendship between a girl and her dog as she struggles to learn a new language. Also <i>Juana & Lucas: Big Problemas</i>
<i>My Beijing</i> , Nie Jun	RF/GN 2018	RL 4.0 128 pp	China Tr	4 stories in the life of a child in modern Beijing whose grandfather finds ways to overcome her physical challenges.
<i>My First Day</i> , Nguyen Q. Phung, Kim L. Huynh	PB 2021	680L 32 p RL 3.3 (N)	Vietnam Tr	A young boy sets alone in a boat for his first day of school in the Mekong Delta on a journey of fear and imagination. Visually stunning illustrations.
<i>The No. 1 Car Spotter and the Firebird</i> , Atinuke	RF 2011	550 L 93 pp	Nigeria	Humorous adventures of a young boy who makes mistakes and saves the day in his village.
<i>The Patchwork Bike</i> , Maxine Beneba Clarke, illus. Van Thanh Rudd	RF/PB 2018	RL 2.1 32 pp	Not named	A girl in a remote desert village describes how she and her brothers built a bike from found items.
<i>The Pencil</i> , Susan Avingaq, Maren Vsetula, illus. Charlene Chua	RF/PB 2019	RL 4.0 32 pp.	Indigenous Inuktitut	A young girl uses her mother's only pencil to draw, worrying as it becomes a short stub.
<i>Song of the Old City</i> , Anna Pelliccioli, illus. Merve Atilgan	RF/PB 2020	RL 2.9 32 pp	Turkey	A day in the life of a young girl in the old city of Istanbul as she interacts with others. Includes famous sights.
<i>A Story about Afiya</i> , James Berry, illus. Anna Cunha	PB 2020	670 L 32 pp	Jamaica	Afiya's dress records childhood memories from roses to pigeons to tigers at the zoo.
<i>There Must Be More Than That!</i> Shinsuke Yoshitake	RF/PB 2020	RL 2.8 32 pp	Japan Tr	When her brother tells her the future of Earth is bleak, a girl's grandmother assures her that there are many possible futures and encourages her imagination.
<i>Too Small Tola</i> , Atinuke, illus. Onyinye Iwu	RF 2021	88 pp RL 3.7	Lagos, Nigeria	Three adventures of Tola who lives in an apartment in Lagos with her older sister, brother, and grandmother.

	<i>Why Do We Cry?</i> Fran Pintadera, illus. Ana Sender	RF/PB 2020	590 L 32 pp	Spain Tr	A mother explains the different reasons why people cry in response to her son's questions.
Strength through Relationship	<i>Across the Bay</i> , Carlos Aponte	RF/PB 2019	570 L (N) RL 2.8 32 pp	Puerto Rico	Carlitos lives happily with his mother and abuela but wonders about his father. He goes to San Juan, across the bay, to search for him.
	<i>Away</i> , Emil Sher, illus. Qing Leng	RF//PB 2017	32 pp 400 L	Canada	A deaf child exchanges post-it notes with her mother as she worries about summer camp.
	<i>Cherry Blossom and Paper Planes</i> , Jef Aerts, illus. Sanne te Loo	RF/PB 2020	32 pp	Dutch Tr	Two best friends love to plant cherry seeds until Adin moves away to the city. They search for a way to connect.
	<i>Daniel and Ismail</i> , Juan Pablo Iglesias, illus, Alex Peris	RF/PB 2019	32 pp	Israel	A Palestinian and Israeli boy meet by chance on a soccer field. Trilingual – English, Arabic, Hebrew
	<i>Days with Dad</i> , Nan Hong	RR/PB 2017	520L 32p RL 2.6	South Korea Tr	A young girl treasures the special moments with her father, despite his worry about what he cannot do in a wheelchair.
	<i>A Drop of the Sea</i> , Ingrid Chabbert, illus. Raúl Nieto Guridi	PB 2018	590L 32 p RL 2.6	France Tr	Ali's great-grandmother longs to see the sea but can no longer walk, so he sets out to bring the sea to her.
	<i>A Gift from Abuela</i> , Cecilia Ruiz	RF/PB 2018	520L 32 p RL 2.2	Mexico	A grandmother saves money for a special gift for Niña but her savings become worthless.
	<i>Grandma Lives in a Perfume Village</i> , Suzen Fang, illus. Sonja Danowski	PB 2015	710L 32 pp	China Tr.	Xiao Le visits his dying grandmother. When she passes, he finds a way to comfort his mother.

	<i>Grandparents</i> , Chema Heras, illus. Rosa Osuna	RF/PB 2020	530 L 32 pp	Spain Tr	A grandfather shows his love for a grandmother as they prepare for a dance.
	<i>The Happiest Tree</i> , Hyon-Ju Yi	PB 2019	RL 3.3 32 pp	Korea Tr	A ginkgo tree's experiences as it grows upwards outside an apartment building.
	<i>The House of Lost and Found</i> , Martin Widmark, illus. Emilia Dziubak	RF/PB 2018	RL 1.9 40 pp	Sweden, Tr	Niles lives alone in an old house full of dust and memories that comes alive with hope when a young boy asks him to care for his plant.
	<i>Letters from Bear</i> , David Gauthier, illus. Marie Caudry	Fan PB 2020	610 L (P) RL 2.4 32 pp	France Tr	Bear misses Bird who has gone south for the winter and so travels to visit Bird, sending updates on her adventures. Told through letters.
	<i>Little Tigers</i> , Jo Weaver	PB 2019	520 RL 2.6 32 pp	India	A tiger and her cubs must find a new home away from the men and dogs that hunt them. Includes info on their endangered status
	<i>Mikis and the Donkey</i> , Bibi Tak Dumon, illus. Philip Hopman	RF 2014	640 L 93 pp	Greece Tr	Friendship between a boy and his grandfather's donkey in a close community.
	<i>Mommy Sayang</i> , Rosana Sullivan	RF/PB 2019	RL 4.0 32 pp	Malaysia	When Aleeya's mother becomes ill, she remembers her mother's words that she will always be by her side.
	<i>The Moose of Ewenki</i> , G. Blackcrane, illus. Jiu Er	PB 2019	610L 32 p RL 3.4	Mongolia Tr	An elder hunter raises an orphaned moose, with many mishaps, before returning it to the forest. Traditional Indigenous way of life.
	<i>My Happy Life</i> , Rose Lagercrantz, illus. Eva Eriksson	RF 2013	500 L 134 pp	Sweden Tr	Short, illustrated chapters on a girl's experiences of family and friendship. Also, <i>My Heart is Laughing, When I am Happiest, Life According to Dani, See You When I See You.</i>

	<i>On the Other Side of the Garden</i> , Jairo Buitrago, Elisa Amado, illus. Rafael Yockteng	RF/PB 2018	32 pp RL 2.0	Mexico Tr	A young girl experiences confusion and fear when her father leaves her with her grandmother.
	<i>The Phone Booth in Mr. Hirota's Garden</i> , Heather Smith, illus. Rachel Wada	PB 2019	490 L (R) RL 2.2	Japan Tr	Mr. Hirota puts a phone booth on a hill so villagers can talk "in the wind" to family members lost in a tsunami. Grief
	<i>The Runaways</i> , Ult Stark, illus. Kitty Crowther	RF 2019	480 L RL 2.2 129 pp	Sweden Tr	A boy helps his grandfather run away from the hospital so he can visit his home on an island one last time.
	<i>Selvakumar Knew Better</i> , Virginia L. Kroll, Xiaojun Li	RF/PB 2006	RL 2.8 32 pp	India	When a giant tsunami approaches his village, a boy is saved by the family dog.
	<i>The Stray and the Strangers</i> , Steven Heighton, illus. Melissa Iwai	RF 2020	107 pp 780 L RL 4.5	Greece	A stray dog befriends an orphan boy in a refugee camp on the Greek island of Lesbos, comforting him when he has nightmares. Based on a true story.
	<i>Tiger Boy</i> , Mitali Perkins, illus. Jamie Hogan	RF 2015	770 L 140 pp	Island in India	Environmental adventure as a boy rescues a valuable tiger cub from being captured for the black market. Sunderbans of Bengal.
	<i>Walk with Me</i> , Jairo Buitrago, illus. Rafael Yockteng	PB 2017	490 L 32 pp	Mexico Tr	A young girl, whose father is absent, asks an imaginary lion to accompany her on the streets. Tied to Families of the Disappeared in 1985.

	<i>Weekend Dad</i> , Naseem Hrab, illus. Frank Viva	RF/PB 2020	540 L (M) 32 pp RL 3.3	Canada	Confused and sad by his parent's separation, a boy visits his father on weekends, unsure of their new relationship and of what it means to have two homes.
Family Stories and Cultural Traditions	<i>Auntie Luce's Talking Painting</i> , Francie Latour, illus. Ken Daley Daley	RF 2018	RL 2.8 (P) 32 pp	Haiti	A child's memories of her visits to Auntie Luce, an artist, who paints her history and identity.
	<i>Birdsong</i> , Julie Flett	RF/PB 2019	560 L RL 3.0	Indigenous Canada	A lonely young girl meets an elderly woman who shares her love of nature. Cree.
	<i>Big Red Lollipop</i> , Rukhsana Khan, illus. Sophie Blackall	RF/PB 2010	410L 32 pp	Canada	Rubina's mother, who is Pakistani, forces her to take her little sister to a birthday party, not realizing the difference in cultural traditions.
	<i>Cora Cooks Pancit</i> , Dorina Lazo Gilmore, illus. Kristi Valient	RF/PB 2014	RL 3.0 32 pp	Philippines	When her older siblings are away, Cora's mother lets her help make pancit, a Filipino noodle dish.
	<i>A Day with Yayah</i> , Nicola Campbell, illus. Julie Flett	RF/PB 2017	RL 2.5 32 pp	Canada Indigenous	A Salish girl in British Columbia forages for herbs and mushrooms with her grandmother. Interlingual
	<i>Deep in the Sahara</i> , Kelly Cunnane, illus. Hoda Hadadi	RF/PB 2018	890L (P) 34 pp	Mauritania	A Muslim girl wants to wear a <i>malafa</i> , a colorful cloth used by women to cover their heads but must first understand the meanings of a malafa.
	<i>A Dog Named Haku</i> , Margarita Engle, Amish Karanjit, Nicole Karanjit, illus. Ruth Jeyaveeran	RF/PB 2018	32 pp	Nepal	2 brothers in Nepal search for a dog they can honor with gratitude and food for a Hindu festival.
	<i>Freedom Soup</i> , Tami Charles, illus. Jacqueline Alcántara	RF/PB 2019	RL 3.1 32 pp	Haiti	Belle learns how to make Freedom Soup, a New Year's tradition based in Haitian history.

	<i>Grandpa Cacao</i> Elizabeth Zunon	RF/PB 2019	820 L RL 4.5 32 pp	Ivory Coast	A father tells his daughter the story of her grandfather harvesting cacao beans in the Ivory Coast as they bake a cake.
	<i>Hidden: A Child's Story of the Holocaust</i> , Loic Dauvillier, illus. Marc Lizano	RF/HF GN 2014	530L 76 pp	France Tr.	Dounia tell her granddaughter the story of her childhood in Paris and how she was hidden to save her life during the Holocaust. Graphic Novel.
	<i>Home is In Between</i> , Mitali Perkins, illus. Lavanya Naidu	RF/PB 2021	32 pp	India/U.S.	A Bengali immigrant navigates between her family's Bengali traditions and the culture of her new country, wishing for a space where she would not have to choose between them.
	<i>Islandborn</i> , Junot Diaz	RF/PB 2018	600 L RL 2.5 32 pp	Dominican Republic	Lola is asked to draw the place she is from and gathers memories from family and friends.
	<i>Kamishibai Man</i> , Allen Say	PB 2005	690L (Q) 32 pp	Japan	After many years of retirement, an old Kamishibai man decides to make his rounds once more.
	<i>Leila in Saffron</i> , Rukhsanna Guidroz, illus. Dinara Mirtalipova	RF/PB 2019	550 L RL 2.7	Pakistan	Shy and unsure, Leila's Naani helps her discover and celebrate her cultural identity.
	<i>Malaika's Winter Carnival</i> , Nadia Hohn, Irene Luxbacher	RF/PB 2017	32 pp 530 L RL 2.3	Jamaica	Malaika has difficulty adjusting to cold Quebec when her family moves from her warm island home. Also <i>Malaika's Costume</i> about the celebration of Carnival in Jamaica.
	<i>My Dadima Wears a Sari</i> , Kashmira Sheth, illus. Yoshiko Jaeggi	RF/PB 2007	600L (M) 32 pp	India	Two young sisters learn about the beauty and art of wearing a sari from their grandmother. Soft watercolor illustrations with sari borders.

<i>My Grandmother and Me</i> , Mina Javaherbin, illus. Lindsey Yankey	RF/PB 2019	RL 2.5 32 pp	Iran	A girl and her grandmother spend each day together. Family stories from the author's childhood in Iran.
<i>Nana Akua Goes to School</i> , Tricia E. Walker, illus. April Harrison	RF/PB 2020	(O) 32 pp	Ghana/U.S.	Zura is worried about her grandmother's visit to school because of the Inbal tribal markings on her face.
<i>A New Year's Day Reunion</i> Li-Qiong Yu, illus. Zhu Cheng-Liang	RF/PB 2013	490 L 32 pp	China Tr	A young girl's father, who works far away, returns to celebrate Chinese New Year with the family.
<i>Night of the Moon</i> , Hena Khan, illus. Julie Paschkis	RF/PB 2018	32 pp 660 L	Pakistan	A young girl celebrates the Muslim holy month of Ramadan with her family and friends.
<i>Ojiichan's Gift</i> , Chieri Uegaki, illus. Genevieve Simms	RF/PB 2019	RL 4.8 32 pp	Japan Tr	A girl gives a traditional Japanese garden to her grandfather who is entering a care facility.
<i>Playing Loteria</i> , Rene Colato Lainez, illus. Jill Arena	RF/PB 2006	530 L 32 pp	Mexico	A boy learns to play Loteria with his grandmother in Mexico as they communicate across languages. Bilingual.
<i>Sing to the Moon</i> , Nansubuga N. Isdahl, illus. Sandra van Doorn	RF/PB 2018	770 L RL 2.9	Uganda	A grandfather shares stories and memories with his grandson on a rainy day.
<i>Stolen Words</i> , Melanie Florence, illus. Gabrielle Grimard	RF/PB 2017	32 pp RL 2.1	Canada Indigenous	A young girl helps her grandfather remember his native Cree language, lost in residential school.
<i>The Story of Chopsticks/ Kuai Zi De Gu Shi</i> , Ying Chang Compestine, illus. Yong Sheng Xuan	HF/PB 2001	RL 2.2 32 pp	China	When Kuia cannot get enough to eat, he uses sticks to grab food too hot for the hands, and soon all of China is using chopsticks.

	<i>Under My Hijab</i> , Hena Khan, illus. Aaliya Jaleel	RF/PB 2019	710 L (K) RL 3.4	US/Muslim world	A young girl observes that each of the women in her life wears her hijab and hair in a different way.
	<i>When I Found Grandma</i> , Saumiya Balasubramaniam, illus. Qing Leng	RF/PB 2019	RL 2.0 32 pp	India Canada	A girl in Canada and her grandmother from India find a way to honor both of their cultural traditions and embrace their differences.
Forced and Chosen Journeys	<i>Along the River</i> , Vanina Starkoff	RF/PB 2017	32 pp 410 L	Brazil, Tr	All kinds of boats travel on the river across the seasons. Visual metaphor for life as a journey.
	<i>Along the Tapajos</i> , Fernando Vilela	RF/PB 2019	RL 2.8 32 pp	Brazil Tr	Children go to higher ground along the Tapajos River during flooding but return for their pet.
	<i>Child's Play</i> , Ramiro José Peralta, illus. Blanca Millan	RF/PB 2020	(N) 32 pp	Spain Tr	Two children love to play but are facing a big change as their family moves for safety.
	<i>The Day War Came</i> , Nicola Davies, illus. Rebecca Cobb	RF/PB 2018	RL 2.0 32 pp	Middle East/UK	A child fleeing war finally finds refuge but is told there is no room in the school. Children take action to make room by bringing chairs.
	<i>Desert Girl, Monsoon Boy</i> Tara Daiman, illus. Archana Sreenivasan	RF/PB 2020	32 pp	India	Two families in different places flee extreme weather and come together on a mountaintop.
	<i>I Dream of a Journey</i> , Akiko Miyakoshi	PB 2020	530L 32p RL 3.0	Japan Tr	An innkeeper welcomes guests, always dreaming of packing his bag and setting out on his own journey.
	<i>I Know Here</i> , Laurel Croza, illus. Matt James	RF/PB 2013	760L 32 pp	Canada	A little girl in Saskatchewan is upset by the news that their family will be moving to Toronto.

	<i>From There to Here</i> , Laurel Croza, illus. Matt James	2014	580 L, 28 pp	Canada	A young girl tries to adjust to living in Toronto.
	<i>I Talk Like a River</i> , Jordan Scott, illus. Sydney Smith	RF/PB 2020	RL 2.4 (O) 32 pp	Canada	A boy describes how it feels to stutter and how his father's words help him through a "bad speech day."
	<i>Idriss and His Marble</i> , Rene Gouichoux, illus. Zau	RF/PB 2019	RL 2.7 (P) 32 pp	Africa	A boy and his mother flee from Africa to Europe, as he clutches a marble, bringing him comfort in their journey.
	<i>The Journey</i> , Francesca Sanna	RF/PB 2016	630 L 32 pp	Middle East/Syria	A mother and two young children are forced to flee from danger, facing fear and hope (see also, <i>Me and My Fear</i>).
	<i>The Lady with the Books</i> , Kelly Stinson, illus. Marie Lafrance	HF/PB 2020	620 L RL 2.8 32 pp	Germany 1945	After WWII, two German children in search of food find a hall filled with books in Munich. Inspired by true events and the work of Jella Lepman.
	<i>The Map of Good Memories</i> , Fran Nuño, illus. Zuzanna Celej	HF 2017	820 L 32 pp	E. Europe Spain Tr	Zoe has to flee from her city because of war, but before she leaves draws a map of the places that remind her of good memories so they will always be with her.
	<i>Marwan's Journey</i> , Patricia Arias, illus. Laura Borràs	RF/PB 2018	520L 32pp RL 3.3	Syria Tr	A child walks across the desert fleeing conflict and promising to return someday.
	<i>Mexique: A Refugee Story from the Spanish Civil War</i> , Maria Jose Ferrada & Ana Penyas	HF/PB 2020	500 L RL 2.4 32 pp	Mexico Tr Spain, 1937	456 children were sent to Mexico from Spain by their families during the Spanish Civil War on what was supposed to be a short stay but stretched into many years.
	<i>Migrant</i> , Maxine Trottier, illus. Isabelle Arsenault	RF/PB 2011	880L 34 pp	Mexico Canada	Anna and her family travel north each year to harvest crops. She compares herself to animals and wonders what it would be like to be a tree.

	<i>Migrants</i> , Issa Watanabe	VN FAN 2020	32 pp	Peru Tr	The journey of a animals flee a leafless forest, followed by death and hope.
	<i>Molly & Mae: A Friendship Journey</i> , Danny Parker, illus. Freya Blackwood	RF/PB 2017	32 pp 470 L RL 2.8	Australia	Two girls experience the highs and lows of friendship on a train journey. Railways signs are metaphors for the stages of their journey.
	<i>My Beautiful Birds</i> , Suzanne Del Rizzo	RF/PB 2017	32 pp 620 L	Syria	A Syrian refugee struggles with what he has lost, finding comfort in the birds he cares for.
	<i>My Name is a Blessing</i> , Eric Walters, illus. Eugenie Fernandes	RF/PB 2013	630 L 32 pp	Kenya	Muthini's grandmother sends him to a school when she cannot help him due to a physical disability.
	<i>A New Home</i> , Tania De Regil	RF/PB 2019	RL 3.2 (K) 32 pp	Mexico US	A boy moving to Mexico City and a girl moving to New York City express their fears about living in an unfamiliar place.
	<i>Nya's Long Walk: A Step at a Time</i> , Linda Sue Park, illus. Brian Pinkney	HF/PB 2019	530 L (O) 32 pp	Sudan	Nya's little sister becomes sick when returning from the water hole and Nya must carry her and the water.
	<i>The Paper Boat</i> , Thao Lam	HF/VN 2020	32 pp	Vietnam	A family flees war-torn Vietnam on a small boat, with ants taking a parallel journey.
	<i>The Real Boat</i> , Marina Aromshtam	FAN PB 2017	RL 2.3 32 pp	Russia Tr	Modern fable of a paper boat on a dangerous journey to the ocean. Striving to go beyond your comfort zone.
	<i>Red Kite, Blue Kite</i> , Ji-li Jiang, illus. Greg Ruth	HF/PB 2013	630L (R) 32 pp	China 1970s	A father and son, separated during the Cultural Revolution, fly kites to greet each other from afar.
	<i>Room on Our Rock</i> , Kate Temple, Jol Temple, illus. Terri Rose Baynton	PB 2019	RL 2.0 32 pp	Australia	Two seals perched on a rock respond to seals needing shelter. Reading the book in reverse provides a different response and perspective.

<i>Sadako</i> , Eleanor Coerr, illus. Ed Young	HF/PB 1997	500L 48 pp	Japan 1950s	Hospitalized with leukemia after Hiroshima, a girl races to fold one thousand paper cranes.
<i>A Sky Without Lines</i> , Kryslia Basil, illus. Laura Borràs	RF/PB 2019	RL 3.9 32 pp	Mexico US	A boy divided from his family by the border dreams of flying through a sky of no lines.
<i>Sleeping with the Lights On</i> , David Unger, illus. Carlos Aquilera	HF 2020	RL 3.6 620 L 93 pp	Guatemala 1950s	David and his family enjoy their life running a restaurant but are forced to leave when violence and war erupts.
<i>Some Days</i> , Maria Wernicke	RF/PB 2020	RL 2.0 32 pp	Argentina Tr	A girl tells her mother about a passageway in their yard where, some days, she glimpses the father she is grieving.
<i>Stepping Stones: A Refugee Family's Journey</i> , Margriet Ruurs, Nizar Ali Badr	RF/PB 2016	660 L (S) 32 pp.	Syria	A young girl and her family are forced to flee to escape civil war, encountering both danger and support. Beach stone collages by Syrian artist, text in Arabic/English.
<i>Story Boat</i> , Kyo Maclear & Rashin, illus. Rashin Kheiriyeh	PB 2020	RL 2.3 32 pp	Middle East	As a family flees, children find hope in small items, like a cup and a flower, to hold dreams.
<i>Tomorrow</i> , Nadine Kaadan	RF/PB 2018	540 L RL 2.7	Syria Arabic Tr	Yazan is no longer allowed to play outside due to war and questions why his world has changed.
<i>Vanishing Colors</i> , Constance Orbeck-Niessen, illus. Akin Duzakin	RF/PB 2019	520 L (S) 32 pp	Norway Tr	A refugee girl and her mother take refuge for the night in a dark, bleak world, but the girl finds courage and color in her memories to hope for a better future.
<i>Wall</i> , Tom Clohosy Cole	HF/PB 2014	480L (Q) 32 pp	Germany	When a wall suddenly divides Berlin, a boy searches for a way to reunite his now separated family.

	<i>The Wall: A Timeless Tale</i> , Giancarlo Macri, Carolina Zanotti	FAN PB 2019	510 L RL 2.8	Italy	A king banishes anyone who is different from him to the other side of a wall. Pop-up wall.
	<i>Wherever I Go</i> , Mary W. Copp, illus. Munir Mohammed	RF/PB 2019	32 pp	Ethiopia	Abia is the self-proclaimed Queen of the Shimelba refugee camp and worries when her father says it is time to move on to a permanent home.
	<i>Wishes</i> , Muon Van, illus. Victo Ngai	HF/PB 2021	32 pp	Vietnam 1980s	Stunning illustrations and poetic text tell the story of a family packing up everything to embark on a dangerous voyage. Told through a series of wishes by inanimate objects.
Taking Action	<i>Ayobami and the Names of the Animals</i> , Pilar Lopez Avila, illus. Mar Azabal	PB 2018	550 (N) 32 pp	Africa Spanish Tr	After war comes to an end, Ayobami can return to school, but must take a dangerous path through the jungle, armed only with paper and pencil.
	<i>Beatrice's Goat</i> , Page McBrier, illus. Lori Lohstoeter	RF/PB 2004	640L 33 pp	Uganda	A young girl's dream of attending school is fulfilled after her family is given an income-producing goat.
	<i>The Best Tailor in Pinbaue</i> , Eymard Toledo	RF/PB 2017	660 L (P) RL 3.6	Brazil, Tr	A town is ruined by a factory that puts his uncle out of work until a boy finds a way to give the town some hope.
	<i>The Black Book of Colors</i> , Menena Cottin, illus. Rosana Faría	RF/PB 2008	520L 24 pp	Mexico Tr.	A blind boy describes his perceptions of colors in imagery and through illustrations with raised lines.
	<i>Book Uncle and Me</i> , Uma Krishnaswami, illus. Julianna Swaney	RF 2016	580 L 149 pp	India	Yasmin takes action when Book Uncle's stand, her source of free books, is closed by the city.
	<i>The Boy and the Whale</i> , Mordicai Gerstein	RF/PB 2017	610L 32 p RL 3.4	Latin America	A boy defies his father and sets out to rescue a whale caught in their tangled fishing net.

	<i>The Cat Man of Aleppo, I</i> , Karim Shamsi-Basha, Irene Lathan, illus. Yuko Shizimu	RF/PB 2020	32 pp	Syria	Based on the true story of a man who took care of Aleppo's abandoned cats during the Syrian War.
	<i>The Dam</i> , David Almond, illus. Levi Pinfold	PB 2021	RL 2.0 32 pp	England	A haunting story of the power of music as a girl and her father return to play their fiddles in memory of a village buried beneath the waters of a dam.
	<i>The Day Gogo Went to Vote</i> , Elinor Sisulu, illus. Sharon Wilson	HF/PB 1996	780L (P) 28 pp	South Africa	Thembi and her great grandmother go together to vote on the momentous day when black South Africans are allowed to vote for the first time.
	<i>Drum Dream Girl</i> , Margarita Engle, illus. Rafael Lopez	HF/PB 2015	RL 3.8 32 pp	Cuba 1920a	A multiracial girl in the 1920s strives to become a drummer, despite being reminded that only boys play the drums.
	<i>The Firekeeper's Son</i> , Linda Sue Park, illus. Julie Downing	HF/PB 2004	490L (O) 37 pp	Korea 1800s	A boy takes on the task of lighting the evening fire which signals to the palace that all is well.
	<i>First Come the Zebra</i> , Lynne Barasch	PB 2009	600L 32 pp	Kenya	Two boys become friends despite the feud between the Kikuyu and the Maasai people of Kenya
	<i>Flowers for Sarajevo</i> , John McCutcheon, illus. Kristy Caldwell	HF/PB 2017	570 (W) 32 pp	Bosnia 1992	A boy discovers the power of music upon witnessing a cellist's actions after the bombing of Sarajevo. Includes CD
	<i>Four Feet, Two Sandals</i> , Karen Lynn Williams, Khadra Mohammed	RF/PB 2007	620L 32 pp	Pakistan	Two young girls living in a refugee camp in Pakistan share a pair of sandals brought by relief workers.
	<i>My Little Small</i> , Linda Bondestam	FAN PB 2018	32 pp 540 L	Sweden Tr	A lonely Creature hides from the sun in a cave without color until a stray sun spark enters.

<i>Pablo Finds a Treasure</i> , Andree Poulin, illus. Isabelle Malenfant	RF/PB 2016	570 L 32 pp	Latin America	Two children comb through a landfill of trash, avoiding bullies to help their family survive. Expressionistic charcoals.
<i>The Promise</i> , Nicola Davies, illus. Laura Carlin	PB 2017	32 pp RL 3.6 (O)	UK	A young girl who tries to snatch an old woman's bag instead goes on a journey of change and hope.
<i>Ruby's Wish</i> , Shirin Yim Bridges, illus. Sophie Blackall	HF/PB 2015	600L 32 pp	China	Ruby perseveres in her dreams, even though girls are not allowed to go to the university.
<i>Sami and the Time of Troubles</i> , Florence Parry Heide, illus. Ted Lewin	HF/PB 1992	600L 33 pp	Lebanon	A Lebanese boy deals with his life in a war-torn city and considers his responsibility to speak for peace.
<i>Shelter</i> , Celine Claire, illus. Qin Leng	FAN PB 2017	32 pp 530 L RL 2.5	France Tr	Two strangers arrive in the forest as a storm arrives, asking for shelter, to be turned away, until a fox family must ask the outsiders for help.
<i>Sosu's Call</i> , Meshack Asare	HF/PB 2019	37 pp 760 L (P)	Ghana Tr	During a great storm, Sosu, who is unable to walk, finds a way to save the village.
<i>Sparrow Girl</i> , Sara Pennypacker, illus. Yoko Tanaka	HF/PB 2009	590L 32 pp	China 1950s	Ming-Li tries to save as many sparrows as possible when Chairman Mao banishes them as pests.
<i>There's Room for Everyone</i> , Anahita Taymourian	PB 2019	RL 2.7	Iran	A boy wonders why people fight for space when he sees that there's room for everyone wherever he goes.
<i>What the Kite Saw</i> , Anne L. Carter, illus. Akan Duzakin	RF/PB 2021	600L 32 p RL 3.4	Palestine	Children living under the threat of military occupation fly kites as a symbol of resistance and hope.
<i>When I Colored in the World</i> , Ahmadreza Ahmadi, illus. Ehsan Abdollahi	Poem 2019	530L 32p RL 2.0	Iran Tr	A child uses a crayon to change the world, creating a more hopeful place.

	<i>When the Rain Comes</i> , Alma Fullerton, illus. Kim La Fave	RF/PB 2017	32 pp RL 3.0	Sri Lanka	When a flash flood threatens an ox cart full of her village's rice seedlings, a young girl must summon her courage to save the crop.
	<i>The Wooden Camel</i> , Wanuri Kahiu, illus. Manuela Adreani	HF/PB 2017	590 L RL 2.8	Kenya	Elabo wants to race camels but hard times takes away his dream until his sister helps him imagine.
Folklore	<i>Bahar the Lucky</i> , Rashin Kheiriyeh	PB 2021	RL 790 32 pp	Iran	An original tale of a girl who decides to become a fortune teller but finds herself in trouble when summoned by the king.
	<i>Brush of the Gods</i> , Lenore Look, illus. Meilo So	PB 2013	580L 34 pp	China	During the Tang dynasty, master painter Wu Daozi creates an extraordinary mural for the emperor.
	<i>Chicken in the Kitchen</i> , Nnedi Okorafor, illus. Mehrdokht Amini	PB 2017	560L 32 p RL 2.3	Nigeria	An Igbo girl must trick the chicken spirit who eats food her family has prepared for the New Yam Festival of harvest.
	<i>The Chinese Emperor's New Clothes</i> , Ying Chang Compestine, illus. David Roberts	PB 2017	32 pp 650 L RL 2.9	China	A young emperor, taken advantage of by his advisors, enlists honest tailors to reveal their misdeeds. A twist on the classic tale, based on Chinese Cultural Revolution.
	<i>Dragon Dancer</i> , Joyce Chng, illus. Jeremy Pailler	PB 2018	32 pp 640 L	Singapore	A young boy battles the ancient sky dragon through the skies of Singapore to battle the bad luck from the previous year and usher in the New Year.
	<i>The Dragon Slayer</i> , Jaime Hernandez	GN 2018	40 pp 570L	Latin America	Graphic novel retellings of 3 beloved Latin American folktales Dragon Slayer, Cucarachita Martinez, and Tup and the Ants.
	<i>Feathered Serpent and the Five Suns</i> , Duncan Tonatiuh	PB 2020	32 pp RL 3.8	Mexico	Mesoamerican myth about the creation of human beings by Quetzalcoatl, the god of knowledge. Detailed author's note.

<i>The Girl of the Wish Garden</i> , Uma Krishnaswai, illus. Nasrin Khosravi	PB 2013	24 pp 810 L (P)	Iran	Retelling of Thumbelina about a girl who is one inch tall in poetic language and luminous illustrations.
<i>The Girl with a Brave Heart</i> , Rita Jahan Foruz	PB 2013	620L (M) 40 pp	Iran	Shiraz receives a gift of beauty after showing kindness to an old woman, but her unkind stepsister receives a different fate.
<i>The Glass Mountain</i> , David Walser, illus. Jan Pienkowski	COL 2014	570 L 84 pp	Poland	A collection of traditional tales with vibrant paper-cut illustrations. Highlights cleverness and goodness.
<i>Glass Slipper, Gold Sandal</i> , Paul Fleischman, illus. Julie Paschkis	PB 2007	32 pp 700 L	Global	Cinderella retelling integrating elements from many global cultures into one story. Folk-style art identifies each culture. Also, <i>First Light</i> , <i>First Life</i> , a world-wide creation story, and <i>Fearsome Giant</i> , <i>Fearless Child</i> , a worldwide Jack and the Beanstalk story.
<i>The Golden Sandal</i> Rebecca Hickox, illus. Will Hillenbrand	PB 1998	870L (O) 32 pp	Iraq	An Iraqi variant of the Cinderella tale. Illustrations establish a strong sense of place.
<i>Gondra's Treasure</i> , Linda Sue Park, illus. Jennifer Black Reinhardt	PB 2019	540L, 32p RL 2.4	Global	Combines cultural traditions of dragons. Gondra has a mother from the east and a father from the west.
<i>The Gothamites</i> , Eno Raud, illus. Priit Parn	PB 2019	44 pp RL 2.5	Estonia Tr	A town decides to play the fool so that people will leave them alone. Noodlehead tales.
<i>The Great Race: Indonesian Trickster Tale</i> , Nathan Kumar Scott, Jagdish Chitara	PB 2012	RL 3.2 34 pp	Indonesia	An adaptation of the Indonesian folk tale about Kanchil the mouse deer and Pelan the snail.

<i>Jabuti, the Tortoise</i> , Gerald McDermott	PB 2005	510 L 32 pp	Brazil Global	A trickster tale from the Amazon rainforest about clever tortoise. Vivid geometric shapes. Other tales by McDermott include <i>Monkey: A Trickster Tale from India</i> and <i>Zomo the Rabbit: A Trickster Tale from West Africa</i> .
<i>Jaya's Golden Necklace</i> , Peter Linenthal	PB 2015	510 L (L) 48 pp	Asia Silk Road	Jaya joins her father on a royal mission and discovers her strengths through a magical necklace. Buddhist traditions
<i>Legend of the Chinese Dragon</i> , Marie Sellier, illus. Catherine Louis, Wang Fei	PB 2008	RL 3.6 28 pp	China	Tired of their tribes fighting, the children create one spirit, a dragon, to bring peace to the country.
<i>Lon Po Po: A Red Riding Hood Story</i> , Ed Young	PB 1989	670L (S) 32 pp	China	Three sisters are endangered by a hungry wolf who is disguised as their grandmother.
<i>Mangoes, Mischief and Tales of Friendship</i> , Chitra Soundar, illus. Uma Krishnaswamy	COL 2021	600 L RL 2.2 179 pp	India	8 traditional Indian folktales are retold in new original settings as a young prince attempts to solve the villager's problems by dispensing wisdom when his father falls ill.
<i>Martina, The Beautiful Cockroach</i> , Carmen Agra Deedy, illus. Michael Austin	PB 2008	32 pp 610 L (P) RL 3.1	Cuba	Humorous Cuban folktale about a cockroach who interviews prospective suitors to decide who to marry.
<i>The Matatu</i> , Eric Walters, Eva Campbell	PB 2012	510 L 32p RL 3.6	Kenya	Grandfather's story of why dogs chase the bus told to a boy riding the bus for the first time.
<i>Nasreddine</i> , Odile Weulersse, illus. Rébecca Dautremer	PB 2013	680 L (O) 32 pp	Middle East	Traditional fool's tale of a boy who listens to criticism of his father and their donkey and makes foolish decisions.
<i>Never Trust a Tiger</i> , Lari Don, illus. Melanie Williamson	PB 2012	RL 3.1 32 pp	Korea	A merchant helps a tiger out of a hole but protests when the tiger threatens to eat him.

<i>The Nian Monster</i> , Andrea Wang, illus. Alina Chau	PB 2016	32 pp 550 L	China	A girl outsmarts the legendary Nian monster who returns at Chinese New Year to devour Shanghai.
<i>The Origin of Day and Night</i> , Paula Ikuutaq Rumbolt, illus. Lenny Lishchenko	PB 2018	RL 4.5 29 pp	Canada Inuit	A traditional Inuit tale in which the actions of a hare and fox change the Arctic by creating day and night.
<i>Ossiri and the Bala Mengro</i> , Richard O'Neill, Katharine Quarmby, Hannah Tolson	PB 2017	RL 2.3 32 pp	Romani UK	A Traveler girl makes her own musical instrument, and accidentally wakes the ogre in the hills.
<i>The Parrot and the Merchant</i> , Marjan Vafaeian, illus. Azita Rassi	PB 2019	RL 3.2 32 pp	Iran Tr	Based on an ancient tale by Rumi, the famous Persian poet and Sufi mystic, about a rich merchant who learns a lesson about putting parrots in cages and the desire for freedom.
<i>The Phoenix of Persia</i> , Sally Clayton, illus. Amin Hassanzadeh Sharif	PB 2020	530 L (L) 48 pp	Iran Ancient	A folktale of an albino prince who is banished by his father. Epic story from Shahnameh.
<i>The Princess and the Warrior</i> , Duncan Tonatiuh	PB 2016	32 pp 770 L	Mexico	A Mexican legend about two great volcanoes formed when a warrior and a princess refuse to be separated. Mixtec symbols.
<i>Riding a Donkey Backwards</i> , Sean Taylor, illus. Shirin Adl	COL 2018	RL 2.5 48 pp	Muslim world	21 classic tales from different parts of the Muslim world about a much-loved character who is both wise and a fool.
<i>The Rise of the Halfling King</i> , David Bowles, illus. Charlene Bowles	GN 2020	63 pp	Mexico Maya	A graphic novel retelling of the adventures of a magical boy from Maya mythology. The boy is a halfling child who challenges a cruel king.
<i>The Rooster Who Would Not Be Quiet</i> , Carmen Agra Deedy, illus. Eugene Yelchin	PB 2017	550 L 32 pp	Cuba/ Latin America	Allegorical tale about courage and voices that cannot be silenced. A mayor, who forbids noise, is challenged by a brave rooster who sings, despite punishment.

	<i>The Shadow in the Moon</i> , Christina Matula, illus. Pearl Law	PB 2018	640 L RL 2.5 32 pp	China	Two girls decorate their mooncakes as their Ah-ma tells the ancient legend of how the Mid-Autumn Festival began. See also, <i>A Big Mooncake for Little Sister</i> .
	<i>Stars & Poppy Seeds</i> , Romana Romanyshyn, Andriy Lesiv	PB 2019	RL 4.4 32 pp	Ukraine Tr	Dora loves to count and worries she'll never count all the stars in the sky.
	<i>Tiny Feet Between the Mountains</i> , Hanna Cha	PB 2019	RL 2.4 32 pp	Korea	A tiny girl is ridiculed in her village, but when the sun disappears, she goes on a quest to find the spirit tiger.
	<i>The Tooth Mouse</i> , Susan Hood, illus. Janice Nadeau	PB 2012	580 L 32 pp	France	Sophie must prove she is brave, honest, and wise to be the next Tooth Mouse, France's version of the tooth fairy.
	<i>The Tortoise's Gift</i> Lari Don, illus. Melanie Williams	PB 2012	630L 32 p RL 2.8	Zambia	A drought sends hungry animals in search of a magical tree that they must name to get food.
	<i>The Turtle Ship</i> , Helena Rhee, illus. Colleen Kong-Savage	PB 2018	RI 4.0 (0)	Japan	Legend of a boy in the 16 th century who designs a great battleship, inspired by his pet turtle.
	<i>What Rat Told Me</i> , Marie Sellier, Catherine Louis	PB 2009	840 L 42 pp	China	Legend of the Chinese zodiac explains why cat and dog do not get along. Linoleum prints with calligraphy.
	<i>When Apples Grew Noses and White Horses Flew</i> , Jan Andrews, illus. Dušan Petricic	PB 2011	520 L 67 pp	French Canadian	Collection of stories featuring Ti-Jean, Quebec's traditional hero, a character who is both wise and foolish.
	<i>Yaffa and Fatima</i> , Fawzia Gilani-Williams, illus. Chiara Fedele	PB 2017	530 L RL 2.0, 32 pp	Jerusalem	Retelling in which two friends, one Jewish and one Muslim, find ways to support each other in hard times.

	<i>Yokki and the Parno Gry</i> , Richard O'Neill	PB 2017	RL 3.4 32 pp	Romani UK	When a Traveler family experiences bad luck, an imaginative boy lifts their spirits with tales of a magical white horse.
	<i>Yeh-Shen: A Cinderella Story</i> , Ai-Ling Louie	PB 1996	840L 32 pp	China	A young girl overcomes the wickedness of her stepsister and stepmother to become the bride of a prince.
Series books and transitional chapter books	<i>Bicycling to the Moon</i> , Timo Parvela, illus. Virpi Talvitie	FAN 2016	700 L 128 pp	Finland Tr	Short stories of friendship between a cat with big dreams and a dog with endless patience.
	<i>Detective Gordon: The First Case</i> , Uff Nilsson, illus. Gitte Spee	FAN 2015	500 L 92 pp	Norway Tr	Detective Gordon, a toad, takes on a new assistant to track down who is stealing the squirrel's nuts. See also, <i>A Case in Any Case</i> and <i>A Case for Buffy</i> .
	Dodsworth in ... series, Tim Egan	FAN 2009	340-360 L (L) 48 pp	London Paris Rome Tokyo	Each book features an adventure of Dodsworth and his friend duck in a different city. Humorous
	<i>Good Night, Sleep Tight</i> , Kristina Andres	FAN 2018	640 L RL 3.3 59 pp	Germany Tr	Eleven-and-a-half goodnight stories of best friends Fox and Rabbit who help each other get to sleep—sometimes
	<i>Mambo & Bambang: The Not-a-Pig</i> , Polly Faber, illus. Clara Vulliamy	RF 2016	690 L (N) 135 pp	UK	In a busy city, a lonely girl meets and rescues a Malaysian tapir who comes home and becomes a true friend.
	<i>The Most Beautiful Place in the World</i> , Ann Cameron	RF 1993	700 L 128 pp	Guatemala	A boy and his grandmother are connected by their love of learning and the beauty of the place they live.
	<i>Rafi and Rosi</i> , Lulu Delacre	FAN 2016	2.8 RL 63 pp	Puerto Rico	Two tree frog siblings have adventures in their island home. Dive into Reading series. Also in Spanish editions.

	<i>Shu-Li and Tamara</i> , Paul Yee	RF 2008	660 L RL 4.6 71 pp	Canada	A friendship between two girls in Vancouver, one of whom comes from a Chinese immigrant family. <i>Shu-Li and Diego</i>
	<i>Wolf and Dog</i> , Sylvia V. Heede, illus. Marije Tolman	FAN 2013	460 L 91 pp	Dutch Tr	Short stories about the unusual friendship and adventures of two cousins, Wolf and Dog.
	<i>Yours Sincerely, Giraffe</i> , Megumi Iwasa, illus. Jun Takabatake	FAN 2017	510 L RL 4.3 102 pp	Japan Tr.	Short stories that involve letters between a lonely giraffe and a penguin. See also, <i>Dear Professor Whale</i> .

Easy-to-Read Wonder Tales and Easy-to-Read Spooky Tales, by Veronkia Martenova Charles (Tundra Books)	RL 2.9-3.3 56 pp	Global	<p>Easy-to-read books that involve a conversation among a group of children from different global cultures about a situation that leads each to share their version of a familiar folktale.</p> <p>Spooky Tales include titles such as <i>Don't Go In There!</i>, <i>Don't Talk to Strangers!</i>, and <i>Don't Open the Door!</i> 9 different titles</p> <p>Wonder Tales include <i>It's Not About the Beanstalk!</i>, <i>It's Not about the Straw!</i>, and <i>It's Not about the Tiny Girl!</i> 9 different titles</p>
---	---------------------	--------	---

Examples of Possible Pairings of Classic Novels with Global Literature

Theme	Classic Novel	Global Literature
-------	---------------	-------------------

Children taking action in their families and everyday lives	<i>Sarah Plain and Tall</i> , Patricia MacLachlan	<i>Book Uncle and Me</i> , Uma Krishnasawami <i>My Happy Life</i> , Rose Lagercrantz <i>The Runaways</i> , Ult Stark
Children telling stories about their lives	<i>The Stories that Julian Tells</i> , Ann Cameron	Anna Hibiscus series, Atinuke <i>The No. 1 Car Spotter and the Firebird</i> , Atinuke <i>Juana & Lucas</i> , Juana Medina
Children rescuing an animal	<i>My Father's Dragon</i> , Ruth Garnett	<i>Tiger Boy</i> , Mitali Perkins <i>Mikis and the Donkey</i> , Bibi Tak Dumon

Tr = translated from that language and country into English

Under Levels, the letters, e.g. (O), in parentheses are Fountas and Pinnell levels

Note: There are many global books for read-alouds to Grade 2-3 children listed under the 4-5 grade level

9/5/2021