



The Booklist Project



Focus: Culturally-Responsive Author Study Booklist

Pat Mora

Developed by: Amanda Bento

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Pat Mora Author Study Booklist

Grade Level: PreK-2

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Biography:

Pat Mora was born on January 19, 1942 in El Paso, Texas. Her grandparents came to Texas during the Mexican Revolution. She was raised in a bilingual home. Her bilingual and bicultural experiences as a Mexican-American are expressed throughout her books. Pat Mora earned her undergraduate and graduate degree at the University of Texas. According to Colorin Colorado, Pat Mora has worked as a teacher, a university administrator, and a consultant on U.S.-Mexico cultural exchanges. She has written more than 25 books for children and adults. She has also received many honors and awards throughout her career. Many of these books are bilingual and some come in both English and Spanish editions. In 1996, Pat Mora founded *el Dia de los libros/El Dia de los ninos* which is a celebration based on childhood literacy.

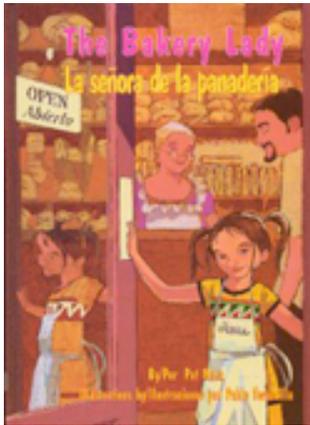
References:

Original Interview and Biography. <http://www.colorincolorado.org/read/meet/mora/>

Wikipedia http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pat_Mora

Booklist:

1) Mora, P. (2001) *The Bakery Lady/La señora de la panadería*. Houston, Texas: Piñata Books [ISBN-13: 978-1558853430]



“The Bakery Lady” is a bilingual book that tells the story about a little girl named Monica who loves to help out in her grandparents’ bakery. She dreams of becoming a baker one day. The feast of the Three Kings approaches and Monica decides that she wants to host the party. In order to decide who is going to be the person to host the traditional party, they eat a piece of a loaf of bread that has a small doll hidden in the bread. Monica ended up with the doll in her piece of bread just as she had hoped and she wanted to make everything on her own for the party. Her family comes together to help Monica make the food for the party. ESL students can relate to this book if they celebrate the traditional feast of the Three Kings. They can relate to the food that is made the event, such as lemon cookies, tamales, and bread.

WIDA Level: Expanding and Up

Reading Level: Grade level 3.2

Interest Level: Ages 4-8

Formats the book is available:

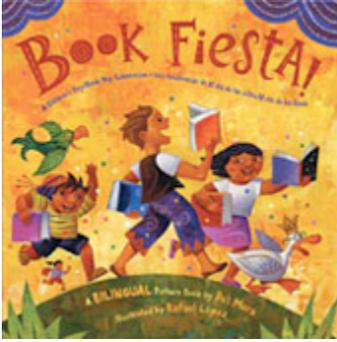
Available in print - Bilingual

Available on the Google e-bookstore

2) Mora, P. (2009) *Book Fiesta!: Celebrate Children’s Day/Book Day; Celebramos El día de los libros* Harper Collins Publisher [ISBN-13: 978-0061288772]

Book preview available on Amazon

http://www.amazon.com/Book-Fiesta-Celebrate-Childrens-Celebremos/dp/0061288772/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1317211827&sr=1-1#reader_0061288772



In this bilingual story, Pat Mora talks about the celebration of “El día de los niños” and adding books to that celebration. This is a bilingual book that talks about children celebrating “Book Day” by reading books in all different places that include great illustrations of them in the various settings. It also talks about children reading books in different languages such as English, Spanish, Chinese, and Navajo. At the end of the book there is a letter about why she created “Book Day” and where different celebrations are held on this day. She also includes some suggestions on how you can celebrate Children’s Day/Book Day for parents, schools, libraries, museums, and bookstores. English Language Learners may already know about this celebration because of their culture and if not then it is a good way to teach them about this day and incorporate bilingual books and books in the students’ native languages.

Classroom Activities:

<http://www.colorincolorado.org/calendar/celebrations/dia/>

WIDA Level: Entering and up

Reading Level: Could not obtain an accurate reading level.

Interest Level: Ages 4-8

Formats the book is available:

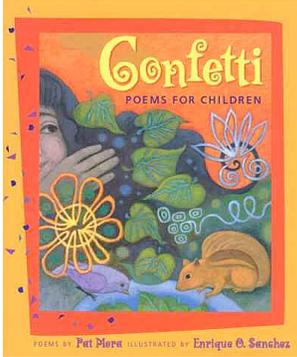
Available in print – Bilingual book

Arabic Edition also available

3) Mora. P. (1999) *Confetti: Poems for Children* New York: Lee and Low Books Inc [ISBN-13: 978-1880000854]

Book preview available on Amazon

http://www.amazon.com/Confetti-Poems-Children-Pat-Mora/dp/1880000857/ref=sr_1_2?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1317212100&sr=1-2#reader_1880000857



This book is in English and it is a book of poems that comes from the perspective of a Mexican-American child. The poems describe the nature and landscape of the Southwest. It also describes experiences from the culture of the Mexican-American child. There are many Spanish words that are interwoven in the poems and they are all translated in the glossary at the end of the book.

Classroom Activities:

http://www.leeandlow.com/p/confetti_tg.mhtml

WIDA Level: Beginning/Developing and Up

Reading Level: Grade3 / Guided Reading Level: N

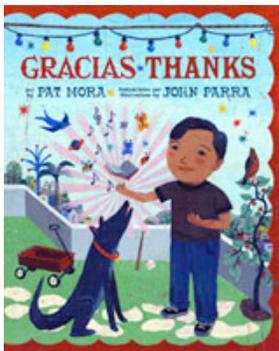
Interest Level: Grades K-4

Formats the book is available:

Available in print in English

Spanish edition also available

4) Mora. P. (2009) *Gracias=Thanks*. New York: Lee & Low Books Inc [ISBN-13: 978-1600602580]



This bilingual book is about a boy who talks about all of the things that he is thankful for in his life such as the fun times that he has at the beach, for his abuelita who winks and gives him a dollar when no one is looking, and for his old pajamas because they are so soft. ESL students can relate to this book because they probably have their own “abeulitas” and the characters in the book are all multi-cultural.

WIDA Level: Beginning and Up

Reading Level: Grade 2/ Guided Reading Level J

Interest Level: K-4

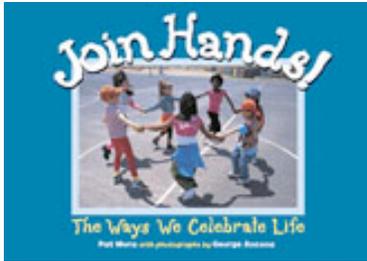
Formats the book is available:

Available in print - Bilingual

5) Mora. P. (2008) *Join Hands. Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge Publishing* [ISBN-13: 978-1580892025]

Book Preview available on Amazon

http://www.amazon.com/Join-Hands-Pat-Mora/dp/1580892027/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1317212167&sr=1-1



This book is a pantoum, which is a repeating form written in four-line stanza. This book is about children having fun in a variety of ways, dressing up, having ice skating, dancing, and playing with each other.

WIDA Level: Entering and Up

Reading Level: Could not obtain reading level

Interest Level: Ages 4-8

Formats the book is available:

Available in print in English

Discussion and Activity Guide:

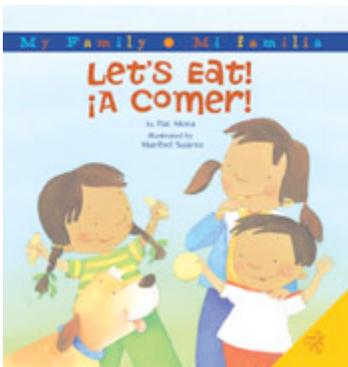
<http://www.teachervision.fen.com/literature-guide/printable/61537.html>

http://www.charlesbridge.com/client/client_pdfs/downloadables/joinhands.pdf

6) Mora. P. (2008) *Let's Eat!; A Comer!.* Harper Collins Publishers [ISBN-13: 978-0060850388]

Book Preview available on Amazon

http://www.amazon.com/Lets-Eat-Comer-My-Family/dp/0060850388/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1317212231&sr=1-1



This is a bilingual book about a family who gathers to eat dinner together, including the grandmother. They eat a traditional Mexican meal that includes beans, chili, grated cheese, tortillas, and a salad. One of the young girls is very

appreciative of all of the food that they have and asks if they are rich because of all of the food. English Language Learners can probably relate to this story, gathering together with their family to eat dinner. They are also very familiar with the food that this family is eating and they probably do have grandparents that live at home with them.

WIDA Level: Entering/Beginning and Up

Reading Level: Could not obtain reading level

Interest Level: Ages 4-8

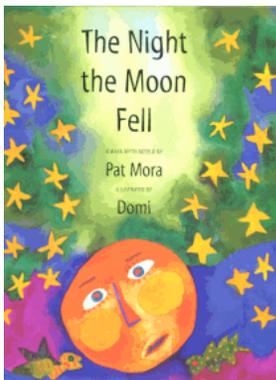
Formats the book is available:

Available in print - Bilingual

7) Mora. P. (2009) *The Night the Moon Fell*. Groundwood Books [ISBN-13: 978-0888999382]

Book preview available on Amazon

http://www.amazon.com/Night-Moon-Fell-Maya-Myth/dp/0888999380/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1317212271&sr=1-1#reader_0888999380



This book is about a Mayan legend, where the moon falls from the sky and broke into pieces into the ocean. The fish then offered to help the moon and become friends with her. The moon was very sad and lonely, so the fish tried to cheer her up by making her laugh. The fish helped the moon pick up the moon's pieces while the moon rolled into herself. Luna needed a part of herself and then she told the fish that she needed a part of them. The fish smoothed out Luna's roundness. Luna then became round and whole again with the help of the fish. Luna asked her new friends, the fish to join her into the sky and they did. ESL students can relate to their book if they have ever heard about this Mayan legend. There are also a few Spanish phrases that are used in the book.

WIDA Level: Expanding/Bridging and Up

Reading Level: Grade Level 2.4

Interest Level: Ages 4-8

Formats the book is available:

Available in print in English

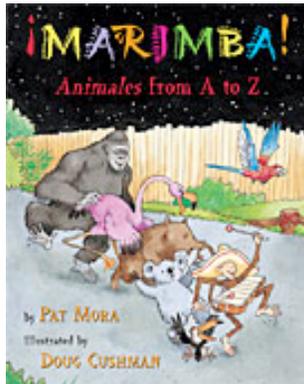
Spanish edition also available

Korean edition also available

8) Mora. P. (2006) *Marimba! Animales from A to Z*. Clarion Books [ISBN-13: 978-0618194537]

Book Preview is available on Amazon

http://www.amazon.com/Marimba-Animales-Z-Pat-Mora/dp/0618194533/ref=sr_1_8?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1317212325&sr=1-8#reader_0618194533



This book is an alphabet book that includes both Spanish and English animal names. The book also includes rhyming verses. English Language Learners can relate to this book because of all of the different animal names that are in Spanish. There are also different things that the animals did that relate to the Hispanic culture, such as “rumba and salsa.” There are also

some Spanish phrases which are included: “Pronto!” In the back of the book there is a translation and pronunciation guide for each of the animals in the book.

WIDA Level: Entering/Beginning and Up

Reading Level: Could not obtain the correct reading level because of the Spanish integrated into the story

Interest Level: Ages 4-8

Formats the book is available:

Available in print

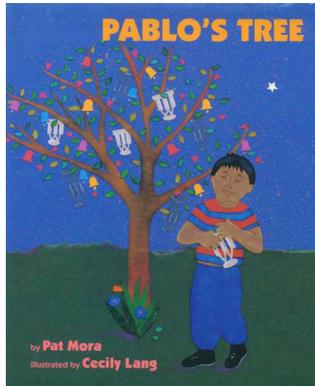
Available on Google e-bookstore

Kindle edition available

9) Mora. P. (1994) *Pablo’s Tree*. New York: MacMillan Publishing Company [ISBN-13: 978-0027674019]

Book Preview available on Amazon

http://www.amazon.com/Pablos-Tree-Pat-Mora/dp/0027674010/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1317212383&sr=1-1



This story is about a boy named Pablo who stays at his grandfather's house the night after his birthday and they have a tradition where his grandfather will have a tree decorated for Pablo. Pablo is excited to go to his grandfather's house. Pablo's grandfather bought the tree when his mother adopted him and then he planted it when she brought him home, so

every year he grew and grew with the tree. Every year Pablo's grandfather decorates the tree with different things for Pablo. ESL students can relate to this book because the child in the story calls his abuelito, "lito", which many Hispanics tend to shorten names similar to this. They can also relate to this story because there are some Spanish words and phrases intertwined into the story.

WIDA Level: Developing and Up

Reading Level: Grade 2.1

Interest Level: Ages 4-8

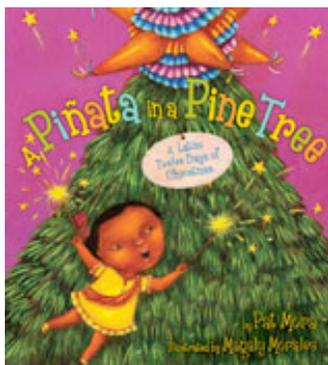
Formats the book is available:

Available in print - English

10) Mora. P. (2009) *A Piñata in a Pine Tree*. Clarion Books [ISBN-13: 978-0618841981]

Book preview available on Amazon

http://www.amazon.com/Pinata-Pine-Tree-Latino-Christmas/dp/0618841989/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1317212427&sr=1-1#reader_0618841989



This bilingual book is different rendition of the Twelve Days of Christmas, with Latin inspired gifts rather than the

traditional gifts. Most of the book is in Spanish, but there is some English incorporated throughout the story. In the back of the book there is a glossary and pronunciation guide along with the music to the song “A Piñata in a Pine Tree.” English Language Learners can relate to this story through the Latin inspired gifts throughout the story, including burritos bailando, lunitas cantando, etc. Also, most of the book is in Spanish so if they are literate in their native language they can probably read the story.

WIDA Level: Entering and Up

Reading Level: Could not obtain the correct reading level because of the Spanish integrated into the story

Interest Level: Ages 4-8

Formats the book is available:

Available in print - Bilingual

Teacher Resources:

Official Author website: <http://www.patmora.com>

There are ideas for lessons and activities for many of her books.

There is also a list of the places that she is speaking and any appearances that she will be making for 2011.

Colorín Colorado Interview Series with Pat Mora

<http://www.patmora.com/video.htm>

Webcast of Pat reading at the 2010 National Book Festival

http://www.loc.gov/today/cyberlc/feature_wdesc.php?rec=4999

Pat reads her poem "Sisters" from *Dizzy in Your Eyes*, recorded by Sylvia Vardell at the 2010 NCTE conference

<http://poetryforchildren.blogspot.com/2010/12/poet-readings.html>

“Meet the Author” Interview with Pat Mora on Colorín Colorado

<http://www.colorincolorado.org/read/meet/mora/>

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The Booklist Project

A Project of the
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