



The Booklist Project



Focus: Culturally-Responsive Author Study
Booklist

Harriet Rohmer

Developed by: Holly Bubier

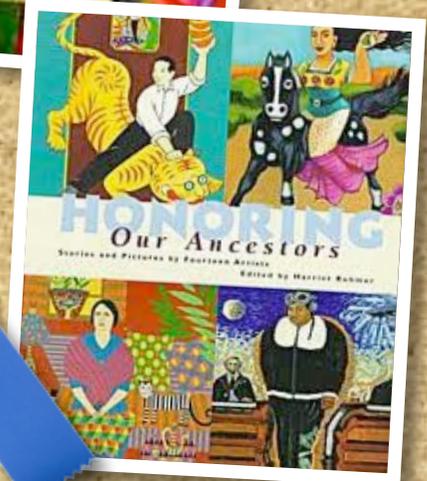
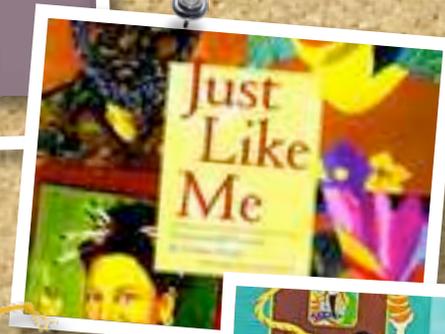
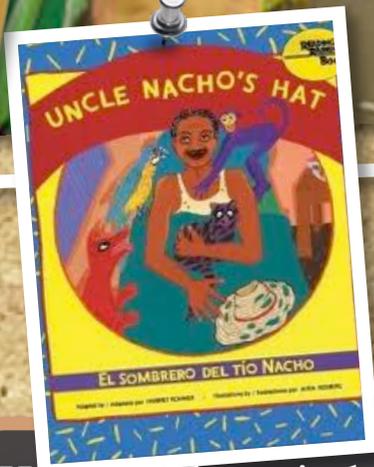
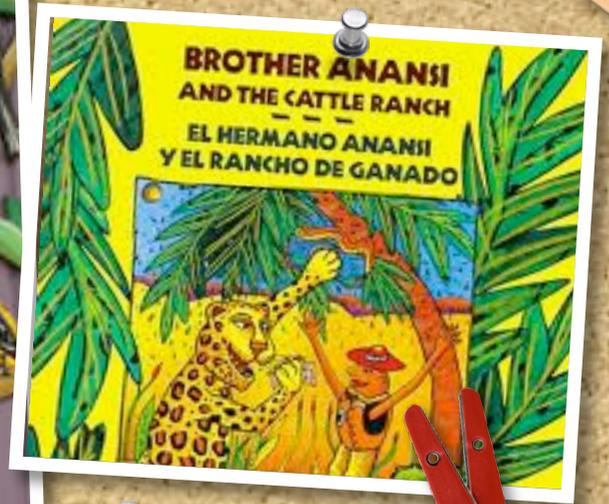
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Author Study: Harriet Rohmer

Holly Bubier

M. Ed In TESL program

4th-8th grade book list



Harriet Rohmer is the author of many wonderful Multicultural picture books



Harriet Rohmer has created bilingual and multicultural literature for children. Her works feature the cultures from minority groups and new immigrant communities found in the United States today!

Grades K-8

Bilingual Books

English/Spanish

1. Harriet, R. (1976). *How we came to the Fifth World*. San Francisco, CA: Children's Book Press.
[ISBN 0892390247]

WIDA level: Developing/Expanding

Interest level: K-3

An Aztec Myth of the creation of the world by the gods of earth, wind, fire and water. This myth can jump start an ELL classroom to share myths or folk tales from their culture. A Bilingual book that could really help bridge literacy for ESL newcomers.

Available in Audiobook.

2. *Uncle Nacho's hat (1989)*. (H. Rohmer, Trans.). San Francisco, CA: Children's Book Press.
[ISBN 089239112X]

WIDA level: Developing

Interest Level: 3-6

Tale from Nicaragua - Ambrosia helps her Uncle Nacho drop his bad habits with his old hat. A strong book for an ESL student or classroom when looking at Social Change, recycling and valuing our environment.

This book is about change and students could write about their big move or change in their life.

Available in Audiobook

Teaching activities:

<http://www.mirareisberg.com/teaching.html#honoring>

3. Rohmer, H. (1976). *Cuna Song*. San Francisco, CA: Children's Book Press.
[ISBN 0892390085]

WIDA LEVEL: Beginning - Developing

Interest Level: 3-6

Legends of the underwater life at Uncle Shark's house. Written in Spanish and English from the Panama Islands

4. Rohmer, H. (1987). *The invisible hunters*. San Francisco, CA: Children's Book Press.
[ISBN 084234109X]

WIDA Level Developing

Interest Level: 3-6

Stories from Central America, this myth tell of the strength of power and our job to care for the world around us.

Available in audiobook.

Can be used to teach ELLs chronological "story retelling" and finding understanding plot structure.

5. *Magic Windows* (1999). (H. Rohmer, Trans.). San Francisco, CA: Children's Book Press.
[ISBN 0892391839]

WIDA Level: Developing

Interest Level: 4-8

Mexican customs shown through the art of cut paper.

Teachers of ELLs could use this book to talk about cultural customs, holidays and decorations used in the book and students could bring forth their own traditional art and decor.

6. De Souza, J. (1989). *Brother Anansi and the cattle ranch*. (H. Rohmer, Trans.). San Francisco, CA: Children's Book Press.
[ISBN 0892391421]

WIDA Level: Developing

Interest Level: 3-6

Brother Anansi is a traditional folk-tale from West Africa. Here we see Brother Anansi show us the dangers of winning the lottery.

Available in Audiobook

Can be used to teach the genre of folk tale to students.

7. Rohmer, H. (1987) (*Mother scorpion country*). San Francisco, CA: Children's Book Press.
[ISBN: 0892390328]

WIDA Level: Developing

Interest Level: 2-4

Nicaraguan folk-tale telling how an Indian follows his wife to the spirit world. This book could work in an ESL classroom when students discuss death or following relatives to America. The story is filled with culture and traditions of the Nicaraguan Coast.

Lesson Plan incorporating the book:

www.yale.edu/ynhti/curriculum/units/2002/1/02.01.06.x.html

Multicultural Books

8. Rohmer, H. (1997). *Just like me*. San Francisco, CA: Children's Book Press.

Stories and Self Portraits by fourteen artists

[ISBN 089239149]

WIDA level: Developing/Expanding

Interest Level: 4-8

Artists from diverse communities -- shows students that artist come from communities just like theirs and they can be writers and artists "Just Like Me."

This would be excellent for ELLs to see that in America we too value art and literature from their culture. Each artist includes a photograph of themselves as a child and this would also help students see that they were once in their shoes. Students could then contribute as if they were a feature of the book.

This is a link to a teachers guide from the publisher on using this book in an ESL classroom.

A Google book.

<http://www.childrensbookpress.org/resources/teachers-guides>

9. Rohmer, H. (1999). *Honoring our ancestors*. San Francisco, CA: Children's Book Press. [ISBN 0892391588]

Stories and Pictures by fourteen artists.

WIDA level: Expanding-Bridging

Interest Level: 4-8

Fourteen artists dedicate paintings to their ancestors both family members and cultural characters.

Beautiful celebration of Syrian, Mexican, Australian, Native American, Chinese, West African and Puerto Rican cultures and heritage.

This would be a strong book for ELLs to think of their ancestors and share the people who mean so much to their own family and culture. This book could help encourage communication/ literacy in their home.

Teaching activities:

<http://www.mirareisberg.com/teaching.html#honoring>

http://www.sbceo.k12.ca.us/~impact2/TeachnetArchives/projects/jessica/jessica_rivera_traditions_04_05/celebratingtraditions.html

Mexican American Bilingual Books

10. Lomas Garza, C. (1996) *In my family*. (H. Rohmer, Trans.). San Francisco, CA: Children's Book Press.

[ISBN 0892391634]

Paintings and Stories

WIDA Level: Developing

Interest Level: K-6

Mexican American stories about living on the border of the United States and Mexico and the amazing cultural traditions that have developed. Fabulous Illustrations! This book would be great for ELLs for it shows them explicit illustrations of the

Mexican culture and customs and opens the opportunity to make connections to other cultures.

11. Lomas Garza, C. (2005) *Family pictures*. (H. Rohmer, (Trans.)). San Francisco, CA: Children's Book Press.

[ISBN 0892341081]

Paintings and Stories

WIDA Level: Developing

Interest Level: K-6

Vibrant Illustrations depict the community and family of a traditional Mexican American. The illustrations alone would be wonderful in an entering/beginning ESL classroom. Each painting has so much life and detail that it could encourage vocabulary lessons, used as a writing prompt or serve as a model for students to create their own "Family Pictures".

Teaching activities:

<http://www.readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/lesson-plans/family-traditions-class-book-941.html>

12. Rohmer, H. (1989). *Mr. Sugar came to town*. San Francisco, Ca: Children's Book Press.

ISBN 0802301413

WIDA Level: Beginning - Developing

Interest Level: K-4

Two kids get bribed with sugary treats and they see what happens to their teeth!

This book would be great for ELLs especially when learning about hygiene! This would be a great story for students to then act out with puppets or in a play. The story looks at decision making and showing students the consequences of their personal decisions in a cute fun way.

Teaching Activities:

<http://www.atozteacherstuff.com/pages/1883.shtml>

<http://cemonterey.ucdavis.edu/NoTB/SectionTwo.pdf>

Important Resources:

Children's Book Press

Many Voices, One World

www.childrensbookpress.org/

Harriet Rohmer

<http://www.harrietrohmer.com/>

Teaching activities

<http://www.mirareisberg.com/teaching.html#honoring>

Biography

Harriet Rohmer is a publisher, author, and the executive director of the nonprofit publishing organization Children's Book Press.

Living in San Francisco Harriet Rohmer saw the need for children to have reflections of their own race, ethnicity and culture in works of art and literature. The Children's Book Press works to make a difference in this world and to inspire and educate the multicultural children of our community.

Giving students culturally diverse literacy opportunities allows them to make connections to their own lives. Multicultural books give students a sense of motivation and possibility they are encouraged to make connections in their own lives and develop a connection and desire for reading.

REACH. INSPIRE. CONNECT.



The Booklist Project

A Project of the
M.Ed. In TESL Program,



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