

BOOK Nook

Sep

CHILDREN'S READS

2026

TITLES RELATED TO MATTERS OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION

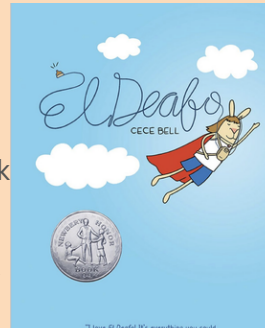
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL



Spanish is the Language of My Family

By Michael Genhart

As a boy studies for his school's Spanish spelling bee, his grandmother helps him practice and shares how she was once only allowed to speak English in school inspiring him to study even harder and embrace their shared heritage. The story celebrates intergenerational pride in language, family, and heritage.



El Deafo

By Cece Bell

El Deafo is a 2014 Newbery Honor-winning, semi-autobiographical graphic novel following young Cece as she loses her hearing to meningitis, gets a bulky hearing aid called a Phonic Ear, and imagines her device as a superpower called "El Deafo" to navigate school and friendship.

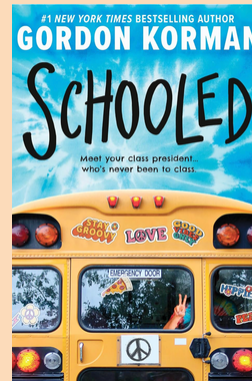
MIDDLE
SCHOOL



The Other Half of Happy

By Rebecca Balcarcel

Quijana grapples with being half Guatemalan and half American, navigating her father's expectations, a new crush, and worry over her ailing grandmother and distant brother all while figuring out how the pieces of her identity fit together.

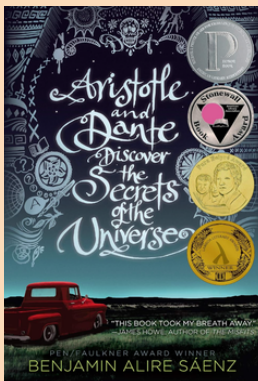


Schooled

By Gordon Korman

A homeschooled boy raised on a commune is thrust into public middle school and, as a prank, gets elected class president, but the joke turns into a heartwarming story about belonging and not judging people who are different.

HIGH
SCHOOL



Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe

By Benjamin Alire Sáenz

Two Mexican American teens, Ari and Dante, form an unexpected friendship one summer helping them each uncover truths about identity, family, and belonging. This lyrical, award-winning novel is a tender coming-of-age story about self-discovery, family, and friendship.



You're Welcome, Universe

By Whitney Gardner

Julia, a Deaf teen and street artist, gets expelled from her Deaf school after covering up a slur with her own graffiti landing her in a mainstream hearing high school as its only Deaf student. As she navigates a clueless interpreter, unaware teachers, and a secret graffiti war, Julia finds her voice through art in this authentic, well-researched portrayal of Deaf culture and identity.

