HMH Into Reading Embraces Culturally Responsive Texts

HMH Into Reading™ was designed to be inclusive and culturally relevant. HMH® is dedicated to creating content that reflects our diverse world and provides learners with opportunities to see themselves as such content has the power to motivate learners and foster positive self-concept. Equally integral is our commitment to providing valuable opportunities for learners to acquire knowledge about experiences and cultures that are different from their own, and to do so through content that is free of bias or stereotypes.

Building a Diverse Collection of Literature

When choosing texts for inclusion in the program, HMH engaged in careful research to ensure that the literature was inclusive and authentic, incorporating input from internal specialists and the program authorship team. HMH also consulted a wide variety of third-party resources, including children's literature blogs, book reviews, and current book award lists, to build a literature collection that is balanced and of exceptional quality. Below is a sample of some of the diverse, award-winning texts from each grade level.

**Kindergarten**

- **A Bucket of Blessings** by Kabir Sehgal (Américas Book Award)
- **Last Stop on Market Street** by Matt de la Peña, illustrated by Christian Robinson (Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor Book, Caldecott Honor Book®, Newbery® Medal)
- **I Am René, the Boy (Soy René el niño)** by René Colato Lainez (bilingual; International Latino Book Award winner)
- **I Know the River Loves Me (Yo sé que el río me ama)** by Maya Christina Gonzalez (bilingual; International Latino Award – Best Picture Book, Américas Award Honorable Mention)
- **Jabari Jumps** by Gaia Cornwall (Charlotte Zolotow Award)
- **Quinito’s Neighborhood (El vecindario de Quinito)** by Ina Cumpiano (bilingual)

Award-winning book
Grade 1

- Blackout by John Rocco (Caldecott Honor Book)
- The Grasshopper & the Ants by Jerry Pinkney (Coretta Scott King-Virginia Hamilton Award for Lifetime Achievement)
- Handmade by Guadalupe Rodríguez
- If You Plant a Seed by Kadir Nelson (Coretta Scott King Award–winning author/illustrator)
- Joaquín’s Zoo by Pablo Bernasconi
- Pelé, King of Soccer (Pelé, El rey del fútbol) by Monica Brown (bilingual)
- Suki’s Kimono by Chieri Uegaki (Ezra Jack Keats Award–winning author)

Grade 2

- Big Red Lollipop by Rukhsana Khan (Charlotte Zolotow Award)
- Drum, Dream Girl: How One Girl’s Courage Changed Music by Margarita Engle, illustrated by Rafael López (Pura Belpre Illustrator award)
- Pepita and the Bully by Ofelia Dumas Lachtman
- A Perfect Season for Dreaming (Un tiempo perfecto para soñar) by Benjamin Alire Sáenz (bilingual)
- Trombone Shorty by Troy "Trombone Shorty" Andrews, illustrated by Bryan Collier (Caldecott Honor Book, Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award)
- Water Rolls, Water Rises by Pat Mora
- The William Hoy Story: How a Deaf Baseball Player Changed the Game by Nancy Churnin (2017 Storytelling World Resource Award Honor Book)

Grade 3

- Dear Primo: A Letter to My Cousin by Duncan Tonatiuh (Pura Belpre Illustrator Award Honor Book)
- Farmer Will Allen and the Growing Table by Jacqueline Briggs Martin (ALA Notable Children’s Book)
- Marisol McDonald Doesn’t Match by Monica Brown, illustrated by Sara Palacios (Tejas Star Book Award, International Latino Book Award, Pura Belpre Honor for Illustration)
- One Plastic Bag by Miranda Paul (Junior Library Guild selection, Eureka! Honor Award)
- The Storyteller’s Candle by Lucía M. González
- The Upside Down Boy by Juan Felipe Herrera
Grade 4

- “In the Days of King Adobe” from Watch Out for Clever Women! by Joe Hayes
- The Game of Silence by Louise Erdrich (Scott O’Dell Award for Historical Fiction)
- My Diary from Here to There by Amada Irma Pérez (Pura Belpré Honor)
- Thunder Rose by Jerdine Nolen (Coretta Scott King Honor Book)
- Yes! We Are Latinos: Poems and Prose About the Latino Experience by Alma Flor Ada and F. Isabel Campoy

Grade 5

- Elisa’s Diary by Doris Luisa Oronoz
- The Good Garden: How One Family Went from Hunger to Having Enough by Katie Smith Milway (RA Notable Book for a Global Society, Bank Street CBC Best Children’s Book of the Year, DeBary Children’s Science Book Award)
- A Movie in My Pillow by Jorge Argueta
- “Mr. Linden’s Library” by Walter Dean Myers from The Chronicles of Harris Burdick: Fourteen Amazing Authors Tell the Tales by Chris Van Allsburg (Coretta Scott King Award winning author)
- Parrots Over Puerto Rico by Susan L. Roth and Cindy Trumbore (Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Medal)
- Play, Louis, Play! by Muriel Harris Weinstein, illustrated by Frank Morrison (Coretta Scott King Illustrator Award)

Ensuring Balanced Content

HMH used school enrollment data from both the United States Census Bureau® and from Simba Information’s PreK–12 Enrollment & Demographics reports to ensure that the representation in HMH Into Reading reflects children’s real-world experience. HMH also looked at future school enrollment predictions so that the products are representative of the classrooms and students they will serve for the life of the program. This data helped to inform choices in literature, imagery, and other instructional content.
A Vision for

Student Growth

To learn more about HMH Into Reading, please visit
hmhco.com/intoreading