

BOOKLIST Grades 6–8

menstruation for fans of *The Care and Keeping of You*.

SANTAT, DAN
A First Time for Everything

Illus. by the author
FIRST SECOND, 2023
9781626724150
A graphic novel memoir about a middle-school trip to Europe and the first experiences that change Dan over the course of the trip.

STEVENS-HOLSEY, ROSITA, AND TERRY CATASÚS JENNINGS

Pauli Murray: The Life of a Pioneering Feminist and Civil Rights Activist

Illus. by Ashanti Fortson
YELLOW JACKET, 2022
9781499812510
Told in verse, this is a stirring biography of the queer civil rights and women's rights activist Pauli Murray.

TANG, BETTY C.
Parachute Kids

Illus. by the author
GRAPHIX, 2023
9781338832693
Can three siblings get along on their own as they navigate being immigrants in America? Left to their own devices while their parents are back in Taiwan learning hard lessons and how resilient they are as they try to fit into everyday life.

THOMAS, AIDEN
The Sunbearer Trials

FEIWEL & FRIENDS, 2022
9781250822130
Every ten years, the children of the gods of Reino del Sol compete in a high-stakes contest to become the Sunbearer, the champion that relights the Sun Stones that keep the apocalypse at bay. LGBTQ+ representation features throughout.

WILLIAMS, YOHURU, AND MICHAEL G. LONG
Call Him Jack: The Story of Jackie Robinson, Black Freedom Fighter

FARRAR, STRAUS AND GIROUX, 2022
9780374389956
A fresh new look at Jackie Robinson's life as an activist as well as an athlete. This biography includes many photos as well as a time line and "extra-innings" facts.

ZOBOI, IBI
Star Child: A Biographical Constellation of Octavia Estelle Butler

DUTTON, 2022
9780399187384
Presented with a mixture of verse and prose, this is a powerful biography of science fiction author Octavia E. Butler.

Día

El día de los niños/
El día de los libros
(Children's Day/Book Day)
is a celebration of children and wonderful books. Día honors the cultures and languages of all children.

dia.ala.org

This **DÍA BOOKLIST** was created by the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association (ALA).

Titles on this list were selected by members of ALSCL's Quicklists Consulting Committee.

For more booklists, please visit ala.org/alsc/booklists.



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Each Story
MATTERS
Every Child
COUNTS



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ALEMAN, DANIEL
Brighter than the Sun

LITTLE, BROWN, 2023
9780316704472
A teen girl struggles to balance her life between attending school in San Diego and her family life in Tijuana.

ALSTON, B. B.
Amari and the Night Brothers

BALZER + BRAY, 2021
9780062975164
Amari ends up in a magical school while she searches for her brother who was after magical criminals. This has a diverse cast of characters and offers an excellent opportunity to discuss racism and discrimination.

BAPTIST, KELLY J.
The Swag Is in the Socks

CROWN, 2021
9780593380895
Xavier Moon wants to follow his family's legacy to join the elite Scepter League, and step one is upping his sock game.

BIRD, JAMES
The Second Chance of Benjamin Waterfalls

FEIWEL & FRIENDS, 2022
9781250811561
After Benny ends up in front of a judge for shoplifting one too many times, he is sent to live with his Ojibwe father, whom he hasn't seen in years, at a "boot camp."

**BOWLES, DAVID, AND
GUADALUPE GARCÍA
MCCALL**

**Secret of the
Moon Conch**

BLOOMSBURY, 2023
9781547609895
Set in both Mexico today and the Aztec city of Tenochtitlan in the 1500s, this book blends history, fantasy, modern-day immigration, and a long-distance romance like no other, as two teens connect across time through a conch shell.

COHEN, EMILY BOWEN
Two Tribes

Illus. by the author
HEARTDRUM, 2023
9780062983589
In a story inspired by Muscogee-Jewish writer and artist Cohen's experiences, tween Mia lives with her Jewish mom and stepfather but is eager to connect with her Indigenous family. So she runs away to Tulsa, Oklahoma, to visit her father and her extended family—and, in the process, learns more about herself.

COHEN, TZIPORAH
No Vacancy

GROUNDWOOD, 2020
9781773064109
Jewish Miriam and Catholic Kate become friends when Miriam's family moves from Manhattan to a small town in upstate New York after buying a run-down motel.

ESTRELA, JOANA
Pardalita

Illus. by the author
LEVINE QUERIDO, 2023
9781646142552
Evocative of Marjane Satrapi's *Persepolis*, this graphic novel follows a Portuguese girl as she navigates adolescence. *Also available in Portuguese.*

FARUQI, REEM
Call Me Adnan

HARPER, 2023
9780063284944
Adnan can't wait to spend Eid with his family and participate in a table tennis tournament, until a tragic event changes his life forever in this novel in verse.

GILES, CHRYSTAL D.
Not an Easy Win

RANDOM HOUSE, 2023
9780593175217
After he gets expelled for fighting, Lawrence spends time with his neighbor at the local rec center and learns to play chess. The patience and skills learned, along with befriending the kids at the after-school club, help Lawrence see things in a new way.

GINO, ALEX
Alice Austen Lived Here

SCHOLASTIC, 2022
9781358733891
Through a school project, Sam and their nonbinary friend, TJ, challenge a history-class bias and encourage their fellow classmates to celebrate LGBTQ+ history.

**GONZALEZ, CHRISTINA
DIAZ**

The Bluest Sky

KNOPF, 2022
9780593372791
Through Héctor, a Cuban boy whose father has been exiled, author Gonzalez describes the Mariel boatlift and the consequences it had for Cuban families and identity.

JOHNSON, ANNA ROSE
The Star that Always Stays

HOLIDAY HOUSE, 2022
9780823450404
Set in 1914, this historical coming-of-age story follows Norvia, an Ojibwe girl who begins life in a new city where she must tackle all of the changes this brings for her and her family.

KING, A. S.
Attack of the Black Rectangles

SCHOLASTIC, 2022
9781338680522
Mac Delaney values the truth—so when he finds words blacked out in Jane Yolen's *The Devil's Arithmetic*, he and his friends join in a journey to find out the truth and fight censorship.

LEVI, LIA
Just a Girl: A True Story of World War II

Illus. by Jess Mason
HARPER, 2022
9780063065086
An illustrated memoir about a Jewish girl living in Italy during WWII. *Also available in Italian.*

LIM, REBECCA
Tiger Daughter

DELACORTE, 2023
9780593648971
Two Chinese Australian friends deal with family tragedy, parental expectations, racism, sexism, isolation, and misfortune, all while preparing for an entrance exam to a selective school that seems their only hope for a better future.

**LOCKE, KATHERINE,
AND NICOLE MELLEBY,
EDITORS**

**This Is Our Rainbow:
16 Stories of Her, Him,
Them, and Us**

KNOPF, 2021
9780593303948
An LGBTQA+ anthology with a variety of stories across genres, including realistic, fantasy, historical fiction, and science fiction, that explores and centers queer young people's lives.

MARTÍN, PEDRO
Mexikid

Illus. by the author
DIAL, 2023
9780593462287
Hilarious and poignant, this graphic memoir relates the adventures of Pedro and his rambunctious family of eleven traveling to Jalisco, Mexico, in a Winnebago to bring his Mexican Revolution era grandfather home to live with them in California.

MENDEZ, JASMINNE
Aniana del Mar Jumps In

DIAL, 2023
9780593531815
Aniana hides her love of swimming from her mother, who lost her young brother to drowning during a hurricane. When her juvenile idiopathic arthritis flares up and becomes too much for her to handle on her own, she must confront her mother's fears and demons in order to get what she needs to heal. *Also available in Spanish.*

RIVERA, LILLIAM
Barely Floating

KOKILA, 2023
9780593323120
Going against her parents' wishes, spunky Nat secretly joins the L.A. Mermaids synchronized swimming team, but she struggles with balancing school, friendships, and keeping her newfound passion a secret.

**SALAZAR, AIDA, AND
YAMILE SAIED MÉNDEZ,
EDITORS**

**Calling the Moon: 16
Period Stories from
BIPOC Authors**

CANDLEWICK, 2023
9781536216349
An inclusive collection of poems and stories about

