

Multicultural Chapter Books for Middle Grade Readers

All titles are located in the JF section of the children's room unless noted otherwise.

Alexander ***Ambassador***

Appointed Earth's ambassador to the universe, twelve year-old Gabe Fuentes faces two sets of "alien" problems when he discovers his parents are illegal aliens and face deportation in addition to the Earth facing mass extinction from a destructive alien force.

Cheng ***Year of the Book***

A young Chinese American girl navigates relationships with family, friends and her fourth-grade classroom, and finds a true best friend.

Draper ***Sassy: Little Sister is Not My Name***

Fashion-savvy Sassy does not like being the smallest student in her fourth-grade class, until a family emergency calls for a pint-sized hero.

English ***Nikki and Deja***

When an arrogant new girl comes to school, third-graders and best friends Nikki and Deja decide to form a club that would exclude her but the results not what they expected.

Fletcher ***Shadow Spinner***

When Marjan, a thirteen year-old crippled girl, joins the Sultan's harem in ancient Persia, she gathers for Shahrazad the stories which will save the queen's life.

Grimes ***Make way for Dyamonde Daniel***

Spunky third-grader Dyamonde Daniel misses her old neighborhood, but when she befriends a boy named Free, another new student at school, she finally starts to feel at home.

Han ***Clara Lee and the Apple Pie Dream***

Korean American fourth-grader Clara Lee longs to be Little Miss Apple Pie, and when her luck seems suddenly to change for the better, she overcome her fear of public speaking and enters the competition.

Johnson ***The Great Greene Heist***

After the last disaster, Jackson Greene is letting go of his reputation as a prankster at Maplewood Middle school, but when it looks like Keith Sinclair may steal the election for school president from Jackson's former best friend Gabriela, he assembles a team to make sure Keith does not succeed.

Jules ***Sofia Martinez: My Family Adventure***

In this compilation of four separately published books, Sofia Martinez, her sister and her cousins cope with the everyday problems of a happy Hispanic American family.

Jules ***Zapato Power: Freddie Ramos Takes Off***

Freddie finds a mysterious package outside his apartment containing sneakers that allow him to run faster than a train, and inspire him to perform heroic deeds.

Lin ***The Year of the Dog***

Frustrated at her seeming lack of talent for anything, a young Taiwanese American girl sets out to apply the lessons of the Chinese Year of the Dog, those of making best friends and finding oneself, to her own life.

Look ***Alvin Ho, Allergic to Girls, School and Other Scary Things***

A young Asian American boy in Concord, Massachusetts, who loves superheroes and come from a long line of brave Chinese farmer-warriors, wants to make friends, but first he must overcome his fear of everything.

Lord ***In the Year of the Boar and Jackie Robinson***

In 1947, a Chinese child comes to Brooklyn where she becomes Americanized at school, in her apartment building, and by her love for baseball.

Montijo ***The Gumazing Gum Girl! Chews Your Destiny***

When Mom issues a no-gum rule, Gabby Gomez sneaks a piece of special bubble gum that turns her into a superhero.

Patterson ***Public School Superhero***

In Kenny Wright's active imagination, he's a world famous superhero, but in the real world he's a sixth grade "grandma's boy" whose struggles to fit in at his Washington D.C. inner city school will put his grades and family loyalty to the test

Perkins ***Rickshaw Girl***

In her Bangladesh village, ten-year-old Naima excels at painting, but to help her impoverished family, she would have to be a boy—or disguise herself as one.

Ryan ***Esperanza Rising***

Esperanza and her mother are forced to leave their life of wealth and privilege in Mexico to go work in the labor camps of Southern California, where they must adapt to the harsh circumstances facing Mexican farm workers on the eve of the Great Depression.

Salisbury ***Calvin Coconut, Trouble Magnet***

Nine year-old Calvin catches the attention of the school bully on the day before he starts fourth grade, while at home, the unfriendly, fifteen year-old daughter of his mother's best friend has taken over his room.

Thomson ***Keena Ford and the Secret Journal Mix-Up***

Keena Ford chronicles her many mishaps as she begins second grade.

Van Draanen ***The Gecko & Sticky: Sinister Substitute***

Seventh-grader Dave Sanchez and his talking gecko sidekick Sticky decide they must rescue an odious science teacher who has been kidnapped by the even more villainous Damien Black, who is masquerading as a substitute teacher in order to steal Dave's magic Aztec armband.

Warner ***EllRay Jakes is a Rock Star!***

Eight year-old EllRay Jakes decides to "borrow" his father's crystals to impress his classmates, but his plan to return the crystals before his father notices goes awry.

Wells (JM) ***Eddie Red Undercover: Mystery on Museum Mile***

Sixth-grader Edmund Xavier Lonnot, codename "Eddie Red," has a photographic memory and talent for drawing anything he sees. When the NYPD is stumped by a mastermind art thief, Eddie becomes their secret weapon to solve the case.

Dougherty (JE) *Emily's Pictures*

Emily would like to be able to draw, but her trees look like mashed potatoes and her houses like ketchup bottles until she tries something different.

Edwards (JE) *Pa Lia's First Day*

On the first day of second grade at her new school, Pa Lia Vang discovers that things are not as bad as she had feared

Lin (JE) *Ling & Ting*

Ling and Ting are identical twins that people think are exactly the same, but time and again they prove to be different.

McKay (JE) *Lulu and the Duck in the Park*

A young girl who loves animals brings an abandoned duck egg to school, even though her teacher has banned her from bringing animals to school ever again

Kline (JE) *Song Lee and the Hamster Hunt*

When Song Lee's hamster escapes from its cage in room 2B, the students in South School become involved in the search for him.

