

**Katy Independent School District  
Spanish Suggested Summer Reading List**

**Authors in Spanish**

Alma Flor Ada  
Jorge Argueta  
Ginger Foglesong Guy  
Joe Hayes  
Pat Mora  
Yuyi Morales  
Pam Munoz Ryan  
Gary Soto

**English Authors in Translation**

Eric Carle  
Lauren Childs  
Beverly Cleary  
Andrew Clements  
Roald Dahl  
Patricia MacLachlan  
Megan McDonald  
Mary Pope Osborne  
Barbara Park  
Patricia Polacco  
Lemony Snicket  
Laura Ingalls Wilder

**Suggested Titles**

*Butterflies on Carmen Street = Mariposas en la calle Carmen* by Monica Brown. Carmen learns about Monarch butterflies in class and receives her own caterpillar. Her grandfather shares with her the story of the butterflies he remembers from his hometown in Mexico. (grades K-5)

*Carlos and the Skunk = Carlos y el zorrillo* by Jan Romero Stevens. Despite his friend Gloria's warnings, Carlos decides he wants to catch the local skunk, nicknamed "Dos Dedos," in order to impress her. But when Carlos gets sprayed by the skunk, his best efforts to get rid of the odor lead to an embarrassing situation at church and a satisfying ending in which Carlos saves face. Jan Romero Stevens has written several bilingual books about Carlos, a boy who lives in New Mexico. (grades 3-5)

*Counting Ovejas* by Sara Weeks. One night a little boy starts to count sheep because he can't fall asleep. He has to find different ways to get them out of his room before he can finally go to sleep. (grades K-2)

*Family Pictures = Cuadros de familia* by Carmen Lomas Garza. Each picture tells a story of the author's childhood in Kingsville, Texas, on the Mexican border, highlighting the many cultural traditions that helped form her identity as a Hispanic American. From picking nopal cacti to making tamales to celebrating a quinceanera, this bilingual book is a perfect marriage of illustration and text. (grades K-5)

*Ghost Fever = Mal de fantasma* by Joe Hayes. In this bilingual story, the Padilla family moves into a haunted house. Before Elena (the oldest daughter) stays at the house, her grandmother gives her advice about ghosts. Elena finds out what the ghost wants and helps the ghost. (grades 3-5)

*Growing Up With Tamales = Los tamales de Ana* by Gwendolyn Zepeda. Ana wants to be older like her sister who gets to do things Ana can't, like mixing the dough for tamales or driving Mami's car. Ana dreams of what life will be like as she gets older and gets to own her own tamale factory, when she will even let her older sister work for her! (grades K-5)

*Harvesting Hope: The Story of Cesar Chavez = Cosechando esperanza: la historia de Cesar Chavez* by Kathleen Krull. This picture-book biography tells the inspiring life story of Cesar Chavez, the founder of the United Farm Workers union who worked his way up from the California fruit orchards to become one of our nation's greatest human rights leaders. (grades 3-5)

*How Tia Lola Came to Visit Stay = Cuando tia Lola vino de visita a quedarse* by Julia Alvarez. Miguel, whose family has just moved from New York to Vermont, finds out that his Tia Lola, from the Dominican Republic, will be visiting for a while to help his mother. At first Miguel worries that Tia Lola will embarrass him as he tries to make new friends, but he soon learns to appreciate her colorful personality and her special Dominican treats. (grades 3-5)

*The Pot That Juan Built = Vasija que Juan fabrico* by Nancy Andrews-Goebel. Beautiful illustrations and a musical rhyming text blend together to tell the true story of Juan Quezada, a master potter in Mata Ortiz, Mexico, who uses ingredients from the land to make beautiful pots that are valued as works of art. (grades 3-5)

*Rooster = Gallo* by Jorge Luján. A bilingual poem in which a blue rooster starts the day by opening his beak and the new day begins. At night he eats the stars to clear the sky for the new day. (grades K-2)

*Si, Puedes* by Jorge Posada. Young Jorge Posada is encouraged by his father to learn to switch-hit. Jorge uses his new skill to hit a double to win the big game. Posada later plays in the big leagues. (grades 3-5)

*Super Oscar* by Oscar De La Hoya. A bilingual story about Oscar, the dreamer, who forgets to deliver lists for the neighborhood picnic. In steps Super Oscar, who uses his super strength to push carts full of groceries and whip up everything needed to save the picnic. (grades K-2)

*What Can You Do with a Rebozo? = Que puedes hacer con una rebozo?* by Carmen Tafolla. The colorful artwork in this book helps illustrate the many uses of a *rebozo*, or shawl. This bilingual book celebrates a Mexican tradition through poetry and pictures. The author has also written a companion book, *What Can You Do with a Paleta? / Que puedes hacer con una paleta?* (grades K-2)