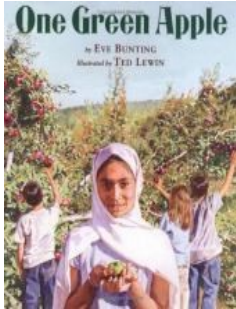


America:

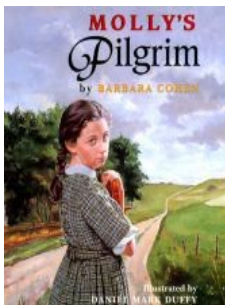
From Coming to America to Becoming an American



Bunting, E. One Green Apple. Farah feels alone, even when surrounded by her classmates. She listens and nods but doesn't speak. It's hard being the new kid in school, especially when you're from another country and don't know the language. Then, on a field trip to an apple orchard, Farah discovers there are lots of things that sound the same as they did at home, from dogs crunching their food to the ripple of friendly laughter. As she helps the class make apple cider, Farah connects with the other students and begins to feel that she belongs. j 304.8 Bunting



Bunting, E. A Picnic in October. A contemporary Italian-American family living in New York City makes its annual pilgrimage to Liberty Island to celebrate the birthday of the Statue of Liberty: Mike thinks a picnic in blustery October is just plain dumb, and he's embarrassed by his grandparents' unflagging enthusiasm for this outing. But when Mike observes a family of new Americans who have also come to pay their respects to Lady Liberty, he gains insight into this symbol of freedom--and his Italian grandparents' gratitude at arriving in the United States. j 304.8 Bunting



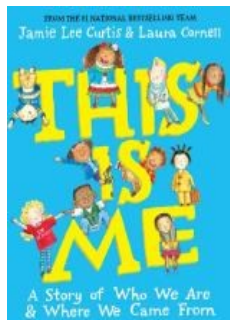
Cohen, B. Molly's Pilgrim. As Molly nears her first Thanksgiving in the New World, she doesn't find much to be thankful for. Her classmates giggle at her accent and make fun of her unfamiliarity with American ways. And Molly's mother only makes things worse when she creates a doll for Molly's school Thanksgiving project that looks more like a Russian refugee than a New England Pilgrim. But the tiny modern-day pilgrim just might help Molly to find a place for herself in America. j 304.8 Cohen



Couric, K. The Brand New Kid. Everyone remembers feeling excited and nervous each fall on the first day of school. But this year, there's not only a new teacher to meet, but a brand new kid as well. Lazlo S. Gasky doesn't look or speak quite like the other kids, and no one is sure what to make of him. But when one girl realizes how tough it is for Lazlo, she reaches out, and after school one day they share an afternoon of soccer, strudel, and chess. Besides making a new friend, she and Lazlo teach their classmates an important lesson about accepting people who are different...and in getting to know Lazlo, the kids learn that people aren't that different from each other after all. jP Couric

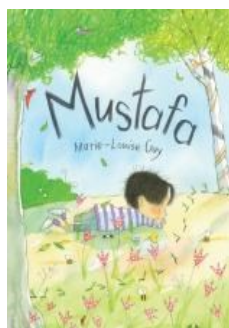
America:

From Coming to America to Becoming an American

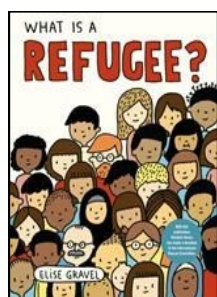


Curtis, J. This Is Me: A Story Of Who We Are & Where We Came From. In *This Is Me* a teacher tells her class about her great-grandmother's dislocating journey from home to a new country with nothing but a small suitcase to bring along. And she asks: What would you pack? What are the things you love best? What says "This is me!" This is a book to read again and again, imagining the lives of the different characters, finding new details in the art, thinking about what it would be like to move someplace completely different.

jP Curtis

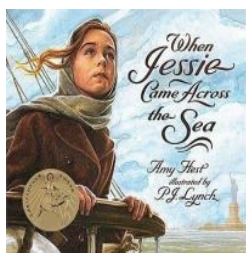


Gay, M. Mustafa. Mustafa and his family traveled a long way to reach their new home. Some nights Mustafa dreams about the country he used to live in, and he wakes up not knowing where he is. Then his mother takes him out to the balcony to see the moon — the same moon as in their old country. In the park, Mustafa sees ants and caterpillars and bees — they are the same, too. He encounters a "girl-with-a-cat," who says something in a language that he can't understand. He watches an old lady feeding birds and other children playing, but he is always looking in from the outside and he feels that he is invisible. But one day, the girl-with-the-cat beckons to him, and Mustafa begins to become part of his new world. jP Gay



Gravel, E. What is a Refugee? This picture book simply and graphically introduces the term 'refugee' to curious young children and helps them better understand the world in which they live. It answers questions like: who are refugees, why they are called that, why they need to leave their country and why they are sometimes not welcome in their new country. This is the perfect tool to introduce an important and timely topic to children.

j 304.8 Gravel



Hest, A. When Jessie Came Across The Sea. In the early 20th Century 13-year-old Jessie reluctantly leaves the poor village in Eastern Europe where she lived with her grandmother and immigrates to New York City. Her skill as a lacemaker insures her success in the dressmaker's shop where she goes to work. Jessie's reunion with her grandmother, whose ticket she has purchased with money saved during years of hard work, is the poignant conclusion to this tale, and faithfully holds a mirror to the milestone event for millions of turn-of-the-century immigrants. j 304.6 Hest

America:

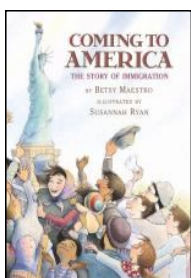
From Coming to America to Becoming an American



Hoobler, D. We Are Americans: Voices Of The Immigrant Experience. From the first human residents of North America, to the mass of Europeans in the 1800's, to today's modern Americans, each group has made significant and lasting contributions to the ever changing culture of the United States. Through letters, diaries, and oral histories, WE ARE AMERICANS profiles the often challenging but ultimately rewarding experiences of US immigrants during the last 20,000 years. j 304.8 Hoobler



Ikegami, A. Friends. A girl from a faraway place begins her first day at school. She doesn't speak the language and she looks different. She just doesn't fit in. But one day, she makes an unexpected friend—a squirrel! Then a rabbit joins them. Soon the girl's fuzzy woodland friends are followed by human ones and school becomes more fun! When a surprising new student joins the class, the girl and her new friends know just how to make him feel at home. jP Ikegami



Maestro, B. Coming To America: The Story Of Immigration. Combining warm prose with child-friendly watercolor illustrations, this book is an introduction to the history of immigration from thousands of years ago through the present, focusing on why different groups of people came to America and how they became a part of our national heritage. A celebration of America's rich diversity as a nation of immigrants,. j 304.873 Maestro



Mora, P. I Pledge Allegiance. Libby's great aunt, Lobo, is from Mexico, but the United States has been her home for many years, and she wants to become a U.S. citizen. At the end of the week, Lobo will say the Pledge of Allegiance at a special ceremony. Libby is also learning the Pledge this week, at school—at the end of the week, she will stand up in front of everyone and lead the class in the Pledge. Libby and Lobo practice together—asking questions and sharing stories and memories—until they both stand tall and proud, with their hands over their hearts. jP Mora

America:

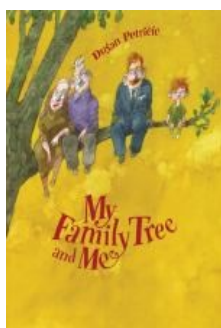
From Coming to America to Becoming an American



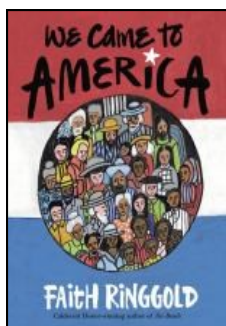
Osborne, L. This Land Is Our Land: The History Of American Immigration. American attitudes toward immigrants are paradoxical. On the one hand, we see our country as a haven for the poor and oppressed, on the other hand, we set boundaries and restrictions on who may come to this country and whether they may stay as citizens. This book explores the way government policy and popular responses to immigrant groups evolved throughout U.S. history, particularly between 1800 and 1965. The book concludes with a summary of events up to contemporary times, as immigration again becomes a hot-button issue. j 304.8 Osborne



Perkins, M. Home Is In Between Shanti misses the warm monsoon rains in India. Now in America, she watches fall leaves fly past her feet. Still, her family's apartment feels like a village: Mama cooking *luchi*, funny stories in Bangla, and Baba's big laugh. But outside, everything is different – trick-or-treating, ballet class, and English books. Back and forth, Shanti trudges between her two worlds. She remembers her village and learns her new town. She watches Bollywood movies at home and Hollywood movies with her friends. She is Indian. She is also American. How should she define home?



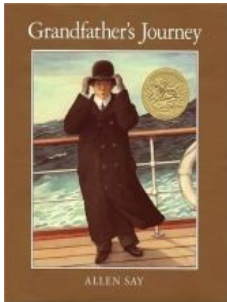
Petricic, D. My Family Tree and Me. This unique book uses two stories in one to explore a small boy's family tree: the boy tells the family story of his father's side starting from the front of the book, and that of his mother's side starting from the back of the book. Four previous generations are introduced for each, from his great-great-grandparents to his parents. The grand finale in the center of the book reveals the boy's entire extended family, shown in one drawing with all the members from both sides identified by their relationship to him. Of particular interest is the cultural diversity of the boy's family, which includes European and Asian ancestors. j 929.1 Petricic



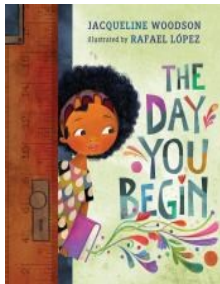
Ringgold, F. We Came To America. From the Native Americans who first called this land their home, to the millions of people who have flocked to its shores ever since, America is a country rich in diversity. Some of our ancestors were driven by dreams and hope. Others came in chains, or were escaping poverty or persecution. No matter what brought them here, each person embodied a unique gift—their art and music, their determination and grit, their stories and their culture. And together they forever shaped the country we all call home. j 304.8 Ringgold

America:

From Coming to America to Becoming an American



Say, A. Grandfather's Journey. The immigrant experience has rarely been so poignantly evoked as in this autobiographical reminiscence describes his grandfather's journey to America and the feelings of being torn between love for his native Japan and California. Missing one place while in the other, the grandfather is always longing to be where he isn't. The grandson inherits his grandfather's love of travel, and like him, longs to be in both places at the same time. J 304.8 Say



Woodson, J. The Day You Begin. There are many reasons to feel different. Maybe it's how you look or talk, or where you're from; maybe it's what you eat, or something just as random. It's not easy to take those first steps into a place where nobody really knows you yet, but somehow you do it. The lyrical text and dazzling art remind us that we all feel like outsiders sometimes-and how brave it is that we go forth anyway. And that sometimes, when we reach out and begin to share our stories, others will be happy to meet us halfway.

jP Woodson