Hispanic Heritage Month 2010 Recommended Reading List

Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated nationwide and begins on September 15, the anniversary of independence for five Latin American countries – Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. Mexico achieved independence on September 16th and Chile on September 18th. Hispanic Heritage Month has been celebrated in the United States since 1974, when President Gerald Ford issued a Presidential Proclamation extending Hispanic Heritage Week into a month-long observation.

This recommended reading list provides a variety of suggested books by grade level for children of all ages, as well as a selection of suggested books for adult reading. Reading is a priority in Florida’s public schools and among the community groups and volunteer organizations that support them. This recommended reading list serves that goal while increasing students’ interest in the many aspects and contributions of Hispanic culture to the state of Florida.

Elementary (Pre K–2)

Doña Flor          Pat Mora
My Mexico           Tony Johnston
Salsa Stories       Lulu Delacre
Abuela             Arthur Dorros
Gathering the Sun   AlmaFlor Ada
Moon Rope           Lois Ehlert
Pablo's Tree        Pat Mora
Chato's Kitchen     Gary Soto
Yagua Days          Cruz Martel
Xochtil and the Flowers   Jorge Argueta
New Shoes for Silvia  Johanna Hurwitz
The Spirit of Tío Fernando Janice Levy
Hispanic Scientists: Ellen Ochoa, Carlos A. Ramirez,
Eloy Rodriguez, Lydia Villa-Komaroff, Maria Elena Zavala  Jetty St. John
I Am Latino: The Beauty of Me   Sandra Pinkney

Elementary (3–5)

Family Pictures         Carmen Lomas Garza
Extraordinary Hispanic Americans   Susan Sinnott
The Bossy Gallito        Lucia Gonzalez
Love to Mamá: A Tribute to Mothers  Pat Mora
Calling the Doves/El Encanto De Las Palomas   Juan Felipe Herrera
Family Pictures         Carmen Lomas Garza
Iguanas in the Snow and other Winter Poems  Francisco X. Alarcón
Under the Royal Palms: a Childhood in Cuba     Alma Flor Ada
Learning About Determination From the Life of Gloria Estefan  Meanne Stazzabosco
Ivan Rodriguez          Tony DeMarco
Emiliano Zapata: Revolutionary and Champion of Poor Farmers  R. Conrad Stein
Middle School (6–8)

César Chávez: A Voice for Farmworkers  Bárbara C. Cruz
When I was a Boy Neruda Called Me Policarpo  Poli Délano
Cool Salsa: Bilingual Poems on Growing Up Latino in the United States  Lori Carlson, Editor
Crossing the Wire  Will Hobbs
Breaking Through  Francisco Jiménez
Under the Same Sky  Cynthia DeFelice
Struggling to Become an American  Robin Santos Doak
The Color of My Words  Lynn Joseph
Wachale! Poetry and Prose about Growing Up Latino in America  Ilan Stavans, Editor
Extraordinary Hispanic Americans  Susan Sinnott
Baseball in April and Other Stories  Gary Soto
Call Me Maria: a Novel  Judith Ortiz Cofer
Hispanic, Female and Young: An Anthology  Edited by Phyllis Tashlik
My Daughter, My Son, the Eagle, the Dove: An Aztec Chant  Ana Castillo
Cuba 15  Nancy Osa
Becoming Naomi León  Pam Muñoz Ryan
The Tree is Older than You Are  Edited by Naomi Shihab Nye
Petty Crimes  Gary Soto
Flight to Freedom  Ana Veciana–Suárez
Among the Volcanoes  Omar S. Castañeda

High School (9–12)

Journey of the Sparrows  Fran Leeper Buss
Jesse  Gary Soto
Yo!  Julia Alvarez
El Bronx Remembered  Nicholasa Mohr
Laughing Out Loud, I Fly: Poems in English and Spanish  Juan Felipe Herrera
How the García Girls Lost their Accents  Julia Alvarez
Bless Me, Ultima  Rudolfo Anaya
When I Was Puerto Rican  Esmeralda Santiago
Red Hot Salsa: Bilingual Poems on Being Young and Latino in the United States  Lori Marie Carlson
The Shadow of the Wind: A Novel  Carlos Ruiz Zafón translated by Lucia Graves
One Hundred Years of Solitude  Gabriel García Márquez
American Chica  Maria Arana
Taking Sides  Gary Soto
Before We Were Free  Julia Alvarez
Riding Low on the Streets of Gold: Latino Literature for Young Adults  Edited, with an introduction Judith Ortiz Cofer
Growing Up Inside the Sanctuary of My Imagination  Nicholasa Mohr
Curse of the Chupa Cabra  Rudolfo Anaya
Accidental Love  Gary Soto
The Importance of a Piece of Paper: Stories  Jimmy Santiago Baca
Crazy Loco  David Talbot Rice
Adult Reading

_Hunger of Memory: The Education of Richard Rodriguez_ Richard Rodriguez
_The Line of the Sun_ Judith Ortiz Cofer
_Empress of the Splendid Season_ O’scar Hijuelos
_In the Time of the Butterflies: A Novel_ Julia Alvarez
_Never Through Miami_ Robert Quesada
_Down These Mean Streets_ Piri Thomas
_Our House in the Last World_ O’scar Hijuelos
_The Mambo Kings Play Songs of Love_ O’scar Hijuelos
_Collected Fictions_ Jorge Luis Borges, translated by Andrew Hurley
_Shadow without a Name_ Ignacio Padilla, translated by Peter R. Bush & Anne McCleane
_By the Lake of Sleeping Children: The Secret Life of the Mexican Border_ Luis Alberto Urrea

Source: [http://www.justreadfamilies.org/Reading/HHM.asp](http://www.justreadfamilies.org/Reading/HHM.asp)