



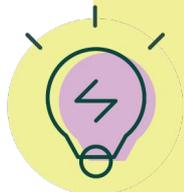
**RAICES**

**FAMILY GUIDE**

RESOURCES TO FOSTER EMPATHY AND COMPASSION AROUND IMMIGRATION

**As one RAICES community, we envision a compassionate society where all people have the right to migrate and human rights are guaranteed.**

WE INVITE FAMILIES LIKE YOURS TO BEGIN CONVERSATIONS AROUND IMMIGRATION.



↳ ***Family Learn & Lucha*** facilitates an opportunity for parents and children to learn together. Through impactful conversations about the US immigration system and stories from directly impacted communities, your family can turn knowledge into a movement, y luchar!

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE RESOURCES REFERENCED IN THIS DOCUMENTED ARE SUGGESTED ONLY. RAICES MAKES NO CLAIMS TO RIGHTS.

ARE YOU PREPARING FOR YOUR FAMILY'S FIRST DISCUSSION ON IMMIGRATION?  
 You might feel overwhelmed, but that's okay.  
**WE'RE HERE TO HELP!**

## BEFORE YOU BEGIN

- Familiarize yourself with important terms in the [glossary](#).
- Reflect upon your knowledge about immigration and identify what you do and don't feel confident discussing.
- Review the resources that we have provided throughout this guide.

### ➤ PART 1

*Read and discuss suggested books as a family, with options for all ages.*

### ➤ PART 2

*Learn about the inner workings of the US immigration system and one of the biggest policy challenges facing immigrants today.*

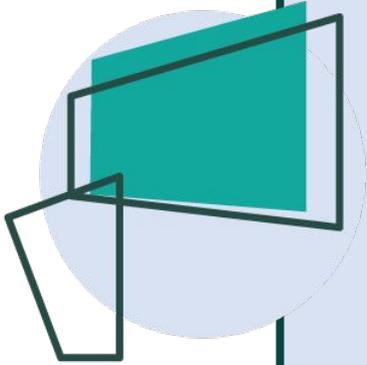
## PART 1

**At RAICES, knowledge is power.**

Read and discuss suggested books as a family, with options for all ages. In support of Black Owned Bookstore, we suggest you take a look at this [list](#).

This section provides staff picks appropriate for the elementary, middle, and high school levels, along with discussion questions and links to additional resources..

**PARENTAL ADVISORY:** Discussion prompts are adapted based upon age level. If your children reflect a range of ages, default to the elementary school questions in group settings.

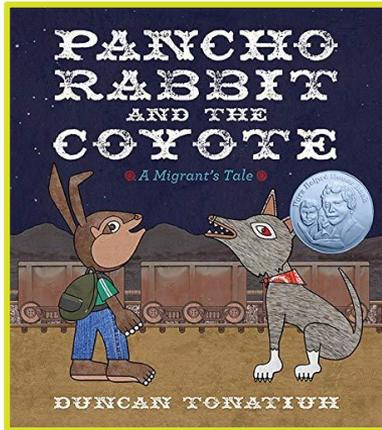


# elementary school

Age Recommendation: 6–10

## ***Pancho Rabbit and the Coyote:*** ***A Migrant's Tale*** by Duncan Tonatiuh

*Pancho awaits his papa's return. Papa traveled north two years ago to find work in veggie fields to earn money for his family. When Papa does not return, Pancho sets out to find him.*



### ↳ **Let's Think, *before we read.***

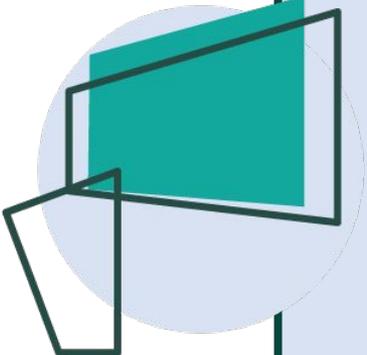
1. Have you ever heard of the word immigration? What do you think it means?
2. What are you wondering about as you look at the cover and back of the book? What would you like to learn by reading?
3. Let's watch this [short video](#) about immigration.

### ↳ **Let's Talk, *after we read.***

1. Now that we've finished the book, what do you think immigration means?
2. How did this story make you feel?
3. What would you do if you had a friend going through this experience?

### ↳ ***discussion resources***

1. [Where To Start When Talking About Immigration](#)
2. [Let's Talk: Facilitating Critical Conversations With Students](#)
3. [19 Books for Kids About Immigrant in America](#)



## Let's ACT!

Pancho Rabbit was brave for putting family first and searching for his dad. In real life, there are people who do the same thing as Pancho did to join their families again.

Write a letter to Pancho Rabbit and let him know that you read his story. Share with him what you have learned and discussed with your family.

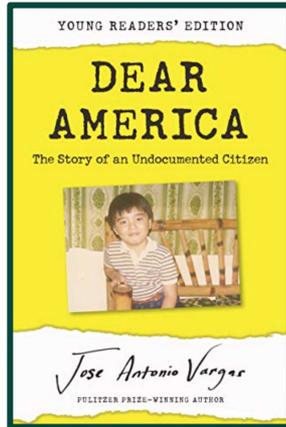
Send the letter our way to receive a special thank you for beginning this conversation with your family!

# *middle school*

Age Recommendation: 10–14

## **Dear America: The Story of an Undocumented Citizen** by Jose Antonio Vargas

*Jose was only 12 years old when he was brought to the US. He didn't know it, but he was sent illegally. When he applied for a learner's permit, he learned the truth, and he spent nearly 12 years keeping his immigration status a secret. [Young Readers' Edition]*



### ↳ **Let's Think, *before you read.***

1. Have you ever heard of the word immigration? What do you think it means?
2. Have you ever heard of an undocumented citizen? Met an undocumented citizen? What would you like to learn by reading?
3. Let's watch this [short video](#) about immigration.

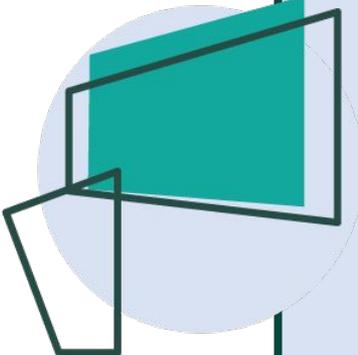
### ↳ **Let's Talk, *after you read.***

1. Now that we've finished the book, what do you think immigration means?
2. You have heard from the author, an undocumented citizen, what does it mean to be undocumented?
3. What would you do if you had a friend going through this experience?

### ↳ ***discussion resources***

1. [Let's Talk: Facilitating Critical Conversations With Students](#)
2. [19 Books for Kids About Immigrant in America](#)

## Let's ACT!



- Jose tells his story of being undocumented in the U.S. He opens up as a writer about his fear of his future, knowing that he could be deported.

- There are an estimate of 10.5 million brothers and sisters undocumented in the U.S. that live with this same fear.

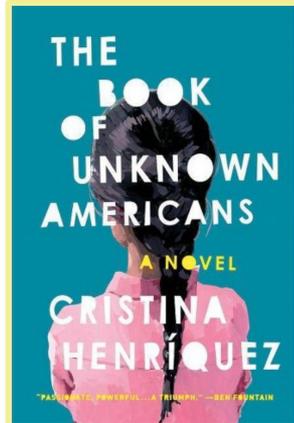
Text or message a close friend recommending the book. Share the takeaways you had while reading. Once your friend has finished up, set up a zoom chat and discuss what you learned!

# high school

Age Recommendation: 14–18

## **The Book of Unknown Americans: A Novel** by Cristina Henriquez

*A boy and a girl fall in love. Two families' hopes collide with destiny. Their stories reveal a new definition of what it means to be American. Woven throughout are the testimonials of men and women who have come to the US from all over Latin America.*



### ▶ **Let's Think, *before you read.***

1. Have you ever heard of the word immigration? What do you think it means?
2. Have you ever felt different from your peers or family?
3. What would you like to learn by reading this book?

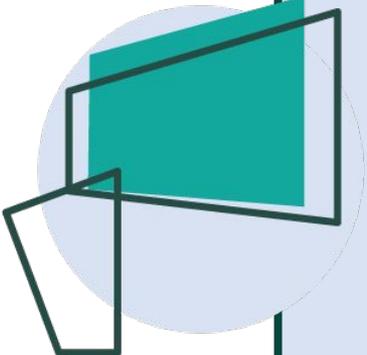
### ▶ **Let's Talk, *after you read.***

1. Now that we've finished the book, what do you think immigration means?
2. Maribel felt different due to a life-altering incident. How did her experience make you feel?
3. What would you do if you had a friend going through this experience?

### ▶ ***discussion resources***

1. [History of Immigration \[Video Series\]](#)
2. [How the U.S. Immigration System Works](#)

## Let's ACT!



The *Book of Unknown Americans* is a story of families searching for a sense of belonging. This story also describes the vast reasons why people immigrate to the U.S.

Watch [Elizabeth Gutierrez's TED](#) talk explaining the flaws in narratives that simplify the immigrant experience. Invite a friend to join you in watching along and start a conversation about what you've learned.

# *introduction to immigration*

Age Recommendation: 14+

## IMMIGRATION 101 A WEBINAR



### ↳ **Let's Think, *before you watch.***

1. How are immigrants described in the news?
2. When has your family had to make a tough decision?
3. What does immigration look like in your community? Is the immigration system fair and just?

### ↳ **Let's Talk, *after you watch.***

1. What are 3 new things you learned about immigration?
2. If you could change anything about immigration right now, what would that change be?
3. What can we do as a family to support migrant families?

### ↳ ***discussion resources***

1. [How US Involvement in Central America Led to a Border Crisis](#)
2. [Refugees and Migrants](#)

# *migrant protection protocols*

Age Recommendation: 14+



## ↳ **Let's Think, *before you watch.***

1. Do you believe the US has a fair asylum process?
2. What thoughts come to mind when you think of an asylum seeker?

## ↳ **Let's Talk, *after you watch.***

1. What emotions did you see expressed in the video?
2. Knowing about MPP now, what changes, if any, do you believe should happen next?

# *mpp: trapped under protocols*

Age Recommendation: 14+



## ▶ **Let's Think, *before you watch.***

1. Think of a time you had to fill out a very important document like a job application or driving permit.
2. How would you have felt if it wasn't in the language you speak?

## ▶ **Let's Talk, *after you watch.***

“Rosy” provides evidence in Spanish. US Immigration courts require that asylum applications and evidence only be in English.

1. Do you believe that this process truly gives asylum seekers a fair opportunity to apply for asylum and make a life in the US?
2. How could the US make this process more fair?

**ASYLUM-SEEKER:** Brother or sister who flees his or her homeland to request sanctuary in another country but has yet to be processed.

**IMMIGRANT:** Migrant community member who moves from a country to another, typically for permanent residence.

**REFUGEE:** Migrant brother or sister forced to leave a country due to war or natural disaster. S/he has gone through the asylum process and is in receipt of legal recognition, protection, and material assistance from the government.

**UNDOCUMENTED INDIVIDUAL:** Community member who does not have legal status in the US.

**MIXED-STATUS FAMILY:** Family whose members are of different citizenship or immigration statuses.

**COYOTE:** *Colloquial, Mexican-Spanish.* Individual who smuggles people across the US-Mexico border.



**DEPORT:** To expel a migrant community member from a country, typically on the grounds of undocumented status.

**LUCHAR:** *Spanish.* To fight or to struggle for something, usually through organized movements.



**MIGRANT PROTECTION PROTOCOLS (MPP):** Policy mandating that undocumented brothers and sisters seeking entry to the US from Mexico wait or be returned to Mexico for the duration of immigration proceedings.

**DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS (DACA):** Policy making undocumented community members brought to the US as children eligible for a renewable two-year period of deferred action from deportation and a work permit.



## Don't stop now. It's time to *luchar!*



**DOWNLOAD** [Families Belong Together: Color Without Borders.](#)



**PARTICIPATE** in our [#Families4Families campaign](#) to stop Family Separation 2.0.



**FOLLOW** us on social media (@RAICESTEXAS) for the latest news and actions.

**WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOUR FAMILY IN ACTION!**

**EMAIL US** pictures, feedback, and ideas for how to improve this guide.