

Holidays for Different Communities

ACTION Child Trauma Program at the University of New Mexico

Picture Book List Collaboration With CARRE

Based on the collections from [MaiStoryBook](#)

Title	Link	Bio
Winter Solstice Wish	Bookshop	On the shortest day of the year (arrival of the winter solstice), a community gathers on the beach to stretch the light, building a bonfire of hope. An ode to human connection and hope of renewal.
The Shortest Day: Celebrating the Winter Solstice	Bookshop	This book highlights the science, history and cultural significance of the Winter Solstice across different cultures and how many holiday traditions today are rooted in historical winter solstice celebrations.
Weiwei's Winter Solstice	Bookshop	Highlighting the customs and traditions of an important Chinese holiday (Dongzhi), Weiwei's family has moved to a new place that is nothing like home. However Dongzhi celebrates togetherness, nourishment and finding light in the darkness and through celebrations, Weiwei begins to notice the beauty in her new home and how she can embrace the new season.
When this World Was New	Bookshop	Story following Danilito adjusting to his new life in the U.S. after leaving the Caribbean (Winter Season).

<p>Malaika's Winter Carnival</p>	<p>Bookshop</p>	<p>Malaika moves from the Caribbean to snowy Canada, sensing adjustment isn't easy especially celebrating Carnival. After connecting over a call with Grandma, Malaika starts to see the good things about her new home and family.</p>
<p>Leo Learns About All Saints' Day: A Gentle Children's Story About Love, Light, and Remembering Those We Hold Dear</p>	<p>Bookshop</p>	<p>All Saints Day (Holiday about celebrating those passed).</p>
<p>Jada's First Christmas Without You: A Gentle Christmas Story Helping Children Cope With Grief, Death and Loss</p>	<p>Bookshop</p>	<p>Jada, with the support of family, friends and her teacher, learns it's okay to feel sad and miss someone she loves deeply during Christmas and the holidays.</p>
<p>Charlotte and the Nutcracker: The True Story of a Girl Who Made Ballet History</p>	<p>Bookshop</p>	<p>Based off <i>The Nutcracker</i>, a true-life story of 12-year-old ballerina Charlotte Nebres, the first Black dancer to play Marie in the New York City's Ballet production, with the support of her Trinidadian and Filipino family.</p>
<p>Yoon and the Christmas Mitten</p>	<p>Amazon</p>	<p>Navigating holiday traditions and making sense of Christmas as a Korean family in the U.S., as told by Yoon. The author has also written another book about acclimating to a new language, which can be found here.</p>
<p>Daddy Christmas and Hanukkah Mama</p>	<p>Bookshop</p>	<p>Selina Alko's joyous celebration of blended families will make the perfect holiday gift for the many Americans who celebrate both Christmas and Hanukkah.</p>

Oy, Santa!: Or, There's a Latke to Learn about Hanukkah	Bookshop	Fun, timely story about respecting differences and building bridges between traditions. Jewish, bi-racial Oliver Overstreet teaches Santa that Christmas and Hanukkah are not related—at all! With a friendly nod to Muslims who also don't celebrate Christmas.
Latkes for Santa Claus	Bookshop	Anna is excited to leave a treat for Santa that blends her family's Christmas and Hanukkah traditions.
Queen of the Hanukkah Dosas	Macmillan	A picture book about a family's tradition of making Hanukkah dosas and how this brings together the best of her mother's Indian upbringing and her father's Jewish religion.
Eight Sweet Nights, A Festival of Lights: A Hanukkah Story	Bookshop	Picture book celebrating Hanukkah and the traditions surrounding the holiday!
A Dragon Called Spark: A Hanukkah Story	Bookshop	After moving, Eva finds comfort in her imaginary dragon Spark. After wishing for a Hanukkah miracle, a new friendship, shared Hanukkah traditions and imagination/magic allow her to feel at home again.
Lost and Found Hanukkah	Bookshop	After Nate's menorah is lost during a family's move, the search for a new one isn't going well while missing his menorah and old home. A trip to a local shop with his dads results in something else lost, Kugel the cat. In his search, he discovers like in the story of Hanukkah, everything in the new home can be right again too.

The Not-Quite-Perfect Passover	Bookshop	Ruby and her family host the first Passover seder in their family this year and she wants everything perfect. However, nothing goes as planned. So how can Ruby still enjoy the holiday?
Where is Poppy?	Bookshop	A young child navigates grief during Passover.
Easter Eggs and Matzo Balls	Bookshop	Michael, who celebrates Easter, wants to incorporate his stepsister's Anna Passover traditions.
Welcoming Elijah	Bookshop	Story follows a young boy celebrating Passover, united with a stray kitten.
'Twas Nochebuena	Bookshop	Follow a family as they prepare to host a night filled with laughter, love, and Latino tradition. 'Twas Nochebuena and all through our casa, every creature was kneading tamale masa...
Too Many Tamales	Bookshop	Modern classic that celebrates the tradition of tamales and family bonding during Christmas time (Also available in Spanish).
The Giving Flower	Bookshop	Lyrical picture book of the story of the Poinsettia flower and holiday traditions they inspire. This has inspired Mexican Christmas symbols.
May Your Life Be Deliciosa	Bookshop	Picture book based on the Mexican holiday tradition of making Tamales, Rosie learns her abuela's recipe that touches on family, traditions, food and connection to cultural identities, and storytelling.
Carlos, Light the Farolito	Amazon	Carlos must overcome shyness when he is expected to play his grandfather's

		part in the traditional Mexican Christmas pageant (Las Posadas).
Between Us and Abuela: A Family Story from the Border (The "Between" Books)	Bookshop	A unique holiday story about love overcoming the border fences between Mexico and the United States from a National Book Award nominee. For the few minutes they can share together along the fence, Maria and her brother plan to exchange stories and Christmas gifts with the grandmother they haven't seen in years.
Dreams of Green: A Three Kings' Day Story	Bookshop	On Día de los Reyes, Lucía and her family find ways to celebrate their Puerto Rican heritage in snowy Ohio.
Areli is a dreamer: A True Story by Areli Morales, a DACA Recipient	Bookshop	When Areli was just a baby, her mama and papa moved from Mexico to New York with her brother, Alex, to make a better life for the family--and when she was in kindergarten, they sent for her, too. This is a moving story--one that resonates with millions of immigrants who make up the fabric of our country--about one girl living in two worlds, a girl whose DACA application was eventually approved and who is now living her American dream.
Home Is a Heartbeat	Bookshop	With lyrical prose and warm illustrations, this love letter to multigenerational and multifamily households will have readers listening for a heartbeat in their own homes.

Bringing In the New Year (Read to a Child!)	Bookshop	This exuberant story follows a Chinese American family as they prepare for the Lunar New Year (Ages 2-4).
Two New Years	Bookshop	This warm and welcoming New Year celebration invites readers to learn about Rosh Hashanah and Lunar New Year traditions and to reflect on the rich blends of cultures and traditions in their own lives.
Let's Celebrate Korean New Year!	Bookshop	Set during the Lunar New Year, this picture book follows two sisters helping their family prepare with cherished traditions.
Mai's Áo Dài	Bookshop	Picture book focused on embracing your heritage and multigenerational traditions, centered around Tet, the Vietnamese Lunar New Year.
Sparkles for Sunny: A Lunar New Year Story	Bookshop	Sunny navigates upholding her family's rules while staying true to herself during the Lunar New Year celebrations.
Freedom Soup	Bookshop	A New Years Tale celebrating Haitian culture and traditions, following a family making a traditional New Year's soup.
One Diwali Day: Festivals of the World	Bookshop	Story following Ronak's love for Diwali but this holiday, he is missing his older sister and wanting to make sure she is part of the celebrations.
Our Favorite Day of the Year	Bookshop	In this charming story of friendship and celebrating differences, young readers can discover how entering a new friendship with an open mind and sharing parts of

		yourself brings people together. And the calendar of holidays at the end of the book will delight children as they identify special events they can celebrate with friends throughout the year.
Happy All-adays!	Bookshop	All Season's Greetings and Happy ALL-adays! Learn how different families celebrate the winter season with this holiday card-inspired board book that captures the meaning of Christmas, Chanukah, Kwanzaa, and more!
We Celebrate the Light	Bookshop	A celebration of seven different winter holidays observed in the U.S. and traditions that unite them all.
Let's Celebrate! Special Days Around the World	Barefoot Books	Children's book showcasing 13 holidays from around the world; Featured holidays: Japan, China, New Zealand, Peru, Brazil, Sweden, Iran, U.S., Nigeria, Russia, Egypt, Mexico and India.
Winter Tales: Stories and Folktales from Around the World	Bookshop	Storybook collection of winter-themed folktales and fairytales from around the world.
Together for Kwanzaa	Bookshop	Kayla wants to see her older brother Khari come home so they can celebrate Kwanzaa as a family but Khari is stuck at college during a blizzard. This story also explains the principles of Kwanzaa and more details about the holiday.
The Kwanzaa Story: Celebrating Culture through Community	Bookshop	Through the story of Alliah and teaching her children about the roots and origin of Kwanzaa including the Civil

		Rights Movement and its traditions as both a family and community holiday.
Once Upon a Kwanzaa	Bookshop	Celebrating the beauty, faith, and traditions of the African-American community and broader Black Diaspora.
We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga	Charlesbridge	Following the annual celebrations and experiences of the Cherokee Nation.
Powwow Day	Bookshop	Even though River is experiencing an illness that prevents her from joining in the ceremonial dances around Powwow Day, with the love and support of family and friends, her sadness turns to gratitude watching their dances. Celebrates the way in which traditions strengthen the community.
An Anishinaabe Christmas	Bookshop	Picture book showcasing Christmas traditions for the Anishinaabe culture.
The Gift of Ramadan	Bookshop	The story of Sophia participating in Ramadan, acknowledging the different ways to celebrate (multigenerational family story).
Zahra's Blessing: A Ramadan Story	Bookshop	Zahra learns important lessons of sharing and caring during Ramadan, while supporting and befriending a child who is an asylum seeker.
Dear Muslim Child: Building Self-Esteem and Resilience	Bookshop	An inspirational picture book encouraging Muslim children from all over the world to celebrate their faith and traditions.

<p>Lailah's Lunchbox: A Ramadan Story</p>	<p>Bookshop</p>	<p>Lailah learns, with the help of the school librarian and her teacher, how to practice her beliefs comfortably (and how to make new friends who respect her beliefs) in a new country (new life in the U.S.).</p>
<p>A Golden Eid: Festivals of the World</p>	<p>Bookshop</p>	<p>Hafsa is getting ready to celebrate Eid with her family, but when her father starts to give away the food they have prepared to their neighbors, she is worried there will not be anything left.</p>
<p>Abdullah's Bear Needs a Name!</p>	<p>Bookshop</p>	<p>One of Abdullah's Eid presents is a teddy bear, one that used to belong to his dad. While trying to guess the name of the teddy bear, Abdullah's hears a family story from Pakistan which helps Abdullah to realize maybe the bear has name from his culture.</p>
<p>Amira's Picture Day</p>	<p>Bookshop</p>	<p>Amira is excited about staying home to celebrate Eid, but it is also school picture day. How can she do both?</p>
<p>The Eidi Bag</p>	<p>Bookshop</p>	<p>Celebrating Eid in her new country, Sarah is excited to collect money in her Eidi bag as she did in Pakistan. But no one pays attention and she is disappointed, thinking this Eid is not as she imagined. With her friends and family, she finds new ways to celebrate Eid while still missing her home country.</p>

<p>The House Without Lights: A glowing celebration of joy, warmth, and home</p>	<p>Bookshop</p>	<p>“House” seeks to shine seeing all of its neighbors winter holiday lights. When Huda and her family moves in, House thinks its time to sparkle has come. House learns that every family celebrates joy and togetherness in their own way, no matter the season.</p>
<p>Birds on Wishbone Street</p>	<p>Bookshop</p>	<p>Sami, a Syrian refugee, recently moves next to Moe. Both share a love of birds and Sami, using experience taking care of pigeons in Syria, helps rescue a bird in the cold which helps Sami feel more at home. Neighborly kindness and a bird that needs their help allows Sami to feel more settled with new friend Moe.</p>
<p>Ten Ways to Hear Snow</p>	<p>Bookshop</p>	<p>This story follows Lina and a trip to her Grandma’s. Along the way walking past snowmen and icy sidewalks, Lina notices ten ways to pay attention to what might have otherwise gone unnoticed. Follows an Arab American family.</p>
<p>Celebrate Nowruz! A Persian New Year Holiday to Honor Spring</p>	<p>Bookshop</p>	<p>Story following Ariana to prepare for the Nowruz holiday with her family.</p>
<p>Welcome, Uncle Nowruz!: A Persian New Year’s Story</p>	<p>Bookshop</p>	<p>Nane Sarma waits for Uncle Nowruz who announces the beginning of Spring, celebrating with her grandchildren.</p>
<p>Easter in Ramallah</p>	<p>Bookshop</p>	<p>A story celebrating the friendship and traditions among Palestinian Christian and Muslim Families.</p>

<p>Crack Goes the Cascaron: An Eggcellent Not-Just-for-Easter Shellebration!</p>	<p>Bookshop</p>	<p>Toti celebrates Easter, figuring out who will be reigning champ of Cascarones (bilingual story).</p>
<p>Marie's Magic Eggs: How Marie Procai Kept the Ukrainian Art of Pysanky Alive</p>	<p>Bookshop</p>	<p>Inspiring story of a woman who kept alive the Ukrainian act of pysanky Easter eggs and bringing it to the U.S.</p>