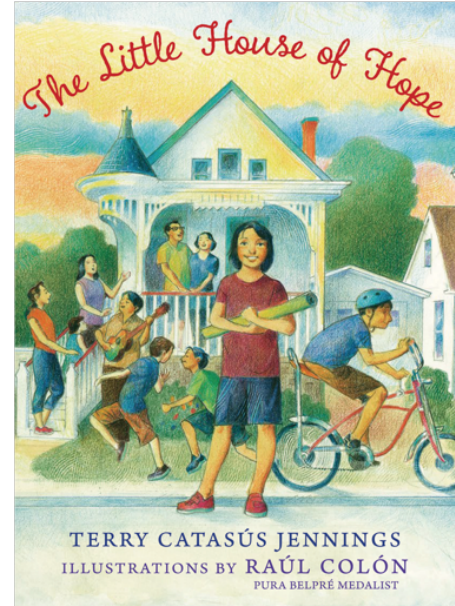


Dynamic Duo Activities



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These are two books that deal with immigrant communities. Why do people emigrate? What are the reasons they feel they have to leave their countries and come live in another? What happens once an immigrant is in a new country? Immigration is a universal experience. It really doesn't matter where you come from, and where you end up living, the issues of poverty, having to adapt to a new way of life, not knowing the language, are part of the immigrant experience and a helping hand can become a lifeline.

Activity 1: Ask students to reach back into their family's history.

Questions:

- Who was the first immigrant in your family?
- Why did that person come to the United States?
- What difficulties did they face after they arrived?
- Did anybody help them?

Activity 2: Ask students to put themselves in the immigrant's shoes, choose one or more of these topics and then write a story from the point of view of an immigrant or of a helper.

What would it be like to be an immigrant:

- What would you do:
 - If you didn't feel safe in your country?
 - If you didn't have food in your country?
- What would you miss the most if you had to leave your home for another country?
- How would you feel
 - If you had to leave loved ones behind?
 - If everyone around you were speaking a different language and you didn't understand any of it?
 - If people didn't feel you were as good as them only because you couldn't speak like them or didn't look like them?
 - If all the clothes you had were different than what the kids at your school wore?
- What could you do:
 - If you didn't have a place to sleep?
 - If your parents didn't have a job?
 - If you had to go spend time with strangers because your parents had to go to work and couldn't keep you?
- Now think about how you would feel
 - If someone gave you a friendly helping hand?
- What could you do:
 - If you met someone who was new to your community?
 - If you knew someone whose parents didn't have money to buy them toys?
 - If a friend felt sad because they missed their family?