The Booklist Project

Focus: Lulu Delacre
Grades: K-8
Developed by: Brooke Harrall
SU I 2012
Lulu Delacre: Author and Illustrator

- Lulu Delacre grew up in Puerto Rico. Her parents were from Argentina and her grandmother was from Uruguay. Her earliest memory of drawing is from when she was only five years old, laying on the floor of her grandmother’s bedroom floor and she remembers vividly the fact that her grandmother never once threw away a piece of her “art.” Lulu has dedicated her life and career to creating multicultural books for children in order for them to connect to the books that they read. In her books, she shares her own culture with authenticity. She hopes her bilingual books encourage parents to share the gift of literacy with their children and also, help to foster respectful relationships among all children of all cultural backgrounds.

- Visit www.luludelacre.com for information on her works, planning a visit with Lulu, testimonials, contact information and so much more!

- Visit www.scholastic.com for a variety of lesson plans which include Ms. Delacre’s books.
Golden Tales: Myths, Legends, and Folktales from Latin America

- This is a book of twelve classic tales, which span thirteen Latin American countries. Lulu Delacre strives to share tales of the native cultures of these countries, who were conquered by Spain, with vivid oil painting illustrations. She focuses on the evolution of their race, religion and language and how they came into their own. English language learners will learn about the myths and traditions carried on by the cultures of their native lands.
- Reading level: 6.3
- WIDA: Expanding Read Aloud = Developing
- A CCBC Choices Book
- Available in Spanish
- Website for Latin American Folklore: http://americanfolklore.net/folklore/2010/07/central_american_folklore.html
- Myths from Around the World (Scholastic) http://teacher.scholastic.com/writewit/mff/myths.htm


ISBN-10: 0606212159
Rafi and Rosi

Rafi and Rosi are siblings, who are Puerto Rican Coquí tree frogs. The Coquí treee frogs are a cultural symbol in Puerto Rico that date back to the native Taíno tribes of the land. They are featured in popular Puerto Rican art, poems and songs and are the national symbol for anything Puerto Rican. Rafi and Rosi find themselves on an adventure to find Rafi’s pet hermit crab. Lulu Delacre includes Spanish vocabulary sprinkled throughout the adventure of these siblings for English language learners to enjoy! Her colorful illustrations will guide students to success in reading comprehension.

- Reading level: 2.1
- WIDA: Beginning
- Available in Spanish
- A Junior Library Guild selection
- Lulu Delacre describes “How Rafi and Rosi were born.” (video and transcript) http://www.colorincolorado.org/read/meet/delacre/


ISBN-10: 0-89239-222-3
Rafi and Rosi: Carnival

• Rosi are siblings, who are Puerto Rican Coquí tree frogs. In this story, Rafi and Rosi are preparing to celebrate Puerto Rico’s magical holiday of Carnival and each of them have plans for each other! English language learners will find delight in the traditions of Carnival and the Spanish vocabulary that Lulu Delacre includes in her story of these mischievous siblings!
• Reading level: 2.8
• WIDA: Beginning/Developing
• A Junior Library Guild selection
• Available in English and Spanish
• Lulu Delacre reads an excerpt from “Rafi and Rosi: Carnival!” (Video and Transcript)
http://www.colorincolorado.org/read/meet/delacre/


ISBN-10: 0-89239-222-3
Ramon secretly creates his own vejigante mask for holiday of Carnival in order to pull pranks throughout the twenty eight days of celebration. When the day arrives, a goat ruins the hard work Ramon has put into his mask. Lulu Delacre writes and illustrates this story about how Ramon’s family and community come together to help make his dream of celebration come true. English language learners will find delight in the bilingual pages of this beautifully written and illustrated story of dedication and perseverance.

• Reading level: 2.9
• WIDA: Beginning

Read Aloud = Developing
• Includes Spanish and English text
• Includes instructions to create your own Vejigante
• A 1993 Américas Award
• An American Bookseller Pick of the Lists
• An NCTE Notable Children’s Trade Book in the Language Arts
• Lesson Plan: History of Vejigante character, introduces students to carnival in Puerto Rico and Vejigante masks.


ISBN-10: 0590457764
Salsa Stories


ISBN-10: 0590631187
Señor Cat’s Romance

Señor Cat’s Romance is a collection of some of the most beloved Latin American folktales for children. Ms. Gonzales includes stories of Spanish, African and Indigenous tribe origin and Ms. Delacre illustrates this book, making it a great book to use as for a Read Aloud. English language learners will enjoy reading some of the folk tales that they grew up listening to.

Each story is followed by a section called “something about the story”, which includes information about the history and variations of the story and in most cases, where the story originated.

There is also a glossary which includes the Spanish words included in each story.

Available in Spanish.

Reading level: 2

WIDA: Bridging Read Aloud: Reaching

Lessons on South America:
http://www.ckcolorado.org/units/2nd_grade/2_samerica.pdf

Cuban Stories, Folktales, Fairytales and more!
http://www.story-lovers.com/listscubafolklore.html


ISBN-10: 0439278635
This is the story of New York City’s first Latina librarian, Pura Belpré, and how she brought Puerto Rico to the big city. Ms. Belpré began working in the New York public library in 1921 and she saw the library as a place to bring the community together. She strove to make a connection between the importance of literacy and language, specifically the Spanish language of Latino families. Hildamar and Santiago are missing the warm weather of Puerto Rico right before Three King’s Day when Pura Belpré comes to their school to share her love of the library. She brings stories of Puerto Rico to life and instills in the children the importance of valuing their heritage. English learners will connect to the emotions felt by Hildamar and Santiago, as well as the special holiday of Three King’s Day.

This is a bilingual storybook.

Reading Level: 3.9

WIDA: Developing

Available as an audio book.

A Pura Belpré Honor Book for both text and illustration- This award is presented to a Latino/Latina writer whose work best portrays, affirms and celebrates the cultural experience in an outstanding work of literature for children and youth. (http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/belpremedal/)

An ALA Notable

An Américas honor Award

Lucía Gonzalez talks about “Pura Belpré: A visionary” http://www.colorincolorado.org/read/meet/gonzalez/


Lucía Gonzalez reads and excerpt from The Storyteller’s Candle http://www.colorincolorado.org/read/meet/gonzalez/

Childrens Book Review: The Storyteller’s Candle/La Velita de los Cuentos http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iPtYZOscCMU


ISBN-10: 0892392223
Shake it, Morena!
And other folklore from Puerto Rico

- Shake it, Morena! is filled with folklore of Puerto Rico, including a rich mixture of songs, games and riddles. The stories follow a young girl through a typical school day and each selection includes a cultural explanation, as well as an explanation to clarify the Puerto Rican Spanish.
- This book includes music to accompany the songs.
- This book would be a great way to include the parents of young English language learners in a fun day of literacy!
- Reading level: 4.3
- WIDA: Developing
- The Story behind the Story: Carmen T. Bernier-Grand on Shake it, Morena and other Folktale from Puerto Rico
  [http://www.cynthialeitichsmith.com/lit_resource/authors/stories_behind/storygrand.html](http://www.cynthialeitichsmith.com/lit_resource/authors/stories_behind/storygrand.html)


**ISBN-10:** 0761319107
Arrorró mi niño: Latino Lullabies and Gentle Games

- This book includes oil-wash illustrations which accompany fifteen lullabies, nursery rhymes and finger plays. Ms. Delacre includes relatable settings from the city to the countryside as well as different caregivers for each child including mothers, fathers and grandparents. She has chosen selections from fourteen different countries in order instill in children “a love for two cultures and two languages.”
- This is a bilingual storybook and CD.
- Available as an audio book.
- reading Level: 2
- WIDA: High Developing +
- A 2006 Pura Belpré Honor Book for illustration.
- Featured as a Reading with Mom Book: http://www.colorincolorado.org/read/forkids/mothers/


**ISBN-10**: 1584301597
Arroz con leche: Popular songs and rhymes from Latin America

• Arroz con leche is a bilingual nursery rhyme picture book, which is filled traditional Latin American songs and rhymes. The vividly illustrated pages convey the joy felt by the children, who are a part of each story.
• Available on audio cassette.
• Reading Level: 3
• WIDA: Developing +
• El Día de los Niños/El Día de los Libros: Songs and Rhymes
  [https://www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/projects/ninos/songsrhymes.html](https://www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/projects/ninos/songsrhymes.html)


ISBN-10: 0590600354
The Booklist Project
A Project of the M.Ed. In TESL Program,
Feinstein School of Education and Human Development
Rhode Island College

For Further Information, Contact:
Nancy Cloud, Ed.D., Director
ncloud@ric.edu
Rhode Island College
600 Mt. Pleasant Avenue
Providence, RI 02908