

## VA READS Picture Book Selections 2024-2025

**Sari-Sari Summers.** By Lynnor Bontigao. Candlewick. ISBN: 9781536226140. Nora loves spending summers in the Philippines with her grandmother at her sari-sari store. But when a heat wave strikes, no one comes to shop at the store and Nora worries she won't get to spend the rest of the summer there.

**Little Red Riding Hood and the Dragon.** By Ying Chang Compestine. Harry N. Abrams Publishing. ISBN: 9781419737282. In this fractured fairy tale, Little Red knows kung fu and when she heads off to her grandmother's house she comes face to face with a dragon!

**Wepa.** By J de laVega. Lil' Libros. ISBN: 9781948066549. In this bilingual book, everyone has an opinion about Mia's behavior but her abuela says she just has too much wepa. Mia's wepa is her fire and energy, (also known as ADHD) and Mia finds the perfect place to release her wepa.

**Cooler Than Lemonade: A Story about Great Ideas and How They Happen.** By Harshita Jerath. Sourcebooks Jabberwocky. ISBN: 9781728254296. Eva ends up in a lemonade stand war with her neighbor Jake. Jake keeps coming up with bigger and better ideas to outdo her and Eva worries she will be out of business until she discovers a way for them both to succeed.

**Not a Monster.** By Claudia Guadalupe Martínez. Charlesbridge. ISBN: 9781623543037. Learn about the characteristics of the axolotl, the Aztec origin myth about them, and the way pollution is affecting their natural habitat in the canals of Xochimilco, Mexico City.

**The Boy Who Tried to Shrink His Name.** By Sandhya Parappukkaran. Harry N. Abrams Publisher. ISBN: 9781419761584. Zimdalamashkermishkada trips over his long name and shrinks it down to Zim but a new friend gives him the confidence to proudly embrace his full name.

**The Tree of Hope: The Miraculous Rescue of Puerto Rico's Beloved Banyan.** By Anna Orenstein-Cardona. Beaming Books. ISBN: 9781506484099. The true story of a beloved banyan tree and a community that fought to save it in the wake of Hurricane Maria.

**Letter for Bob.** By Kim Rogers. Heartdrum. ISBN: 9780063044555. As the family is traveling to trade in their car, Katie remembers all the memories they made in it.

**Ramen for Everyone.** By Patricia Tanumihardja. Atheneum Books for Young Readers. ISBN: 9781665904353. After watching his dad make ramen, Hiro is inspired to make his own perfect bowl. After a series of mishaps, Hiro learns that every person's bowl of ramen is unique.

**Nell Plants a Tree.** By Anne Wynter. Balzer + Bray. ISBN: 9780062865779. Inspired by the pecan trees of the author's childhood, this is a story about a tree, the connection between generations, mindfulness and a way to show how small acts have far reaching consequences.