

## KIDS´ BOOKS BOLIVIA FULL BOOK LIST

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**ALL BOOKS ARE BILINGUAL IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH, WITH SOME TRILINGUAL BOOKS, IN NATIVE LANGUAGES.**

**BOOKS ARE LISTED IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER**

TITLE/ 3 <sup>rd</sup> language (if applicable)	TOPIC	DESCRIPTION
And the River Danced	Culture in the lowlands of Bolivia	Mózora is a little girl who was born in the Amazon’s Indigenous Territory of Isiboro Sécore, but she was raised in the highlands of La Paz. Her ethnic identity as a <i>colla</i> is challenged while visiting her grandpa in the Mojeño village of Gundonovia. This story chronicles the issue of the declining language and cultural practices of Amazonian cultures.
Bread Soup <i>Quechua</i>	Customs and traditional recipes	Where does food come from? How do you make meals from scratch? Why do some foods become special expressions of spiritual values? Iriz goes to see her aunt in the Bolivian countryside for Good Friday and learns about gardens, cooking, and community. <i>Sopa de Pan</i> is a tale that brings us back to our roots in Mother Earth.
Camila and the Dancing Dreams	Cultural identity, folkloric dance	Camila only wants to dance ballet like all her other friends. She doesn’t understand why her mom is making her dance folkloric dance. Until one day, Camila has a dream that changes everything.
Confronting the Giant <i>Quechua</i>	Discrimination and identity	<i>Confronting the Giant</i> is the story of Félix, a boy who has just moved to the city from his home in the countryside. Félix is nervous about going to a new school where it seems like he is the only student who speaks Quechua at home, but he finds comfort (and even an adventure!) in his imagination. When he realizes he has a special talent, Félix begins to understand the value of his culture and in turn, helps his classmates recognize the valuable diversity that they all contribute to their community.
Esperanza	Urban migration	<i>Esperanza</i> is a true story based on the childhood memories of Esperanza, a Bolivian girl who grew up in the rural village of Tambillo and emigrated as an adolescent to Cochabamba, the fourth largest city in her country. The book portrays endearing scenes of life, culture and tradition in rural Bolivia as well as how it feels for one woman to leave from and return to her childhood home.
Follow Me! <i>Aymara</i>	Children workers	David works hard all day, trying to make enough money to support his sick grandma. One day he is forced to follow a group of bullies into petty crime. The next day he is invited to follow a new friend to a world he thought was only possible in dreams...
Freckles	Animal trafficking	For her birthday, a little girl in Bolivia is promised a pet. Her father takes her to the animal market—but while there, they come face to face with the tragic world of

		animal trafficking. Confronted with a choice between right and wrong, she makes a big decision that helps a small friend along the way.
Girl in the Sky	Arts and culture, youth experiences in Bolivia	Celeste is a young Bolivian girl who feels stuck and afraid. She overcomes her fear after discovering a group of kids practicing aerial circus arts. She learns how to dance in the air and sees her world is bigger than she ever imagined. Based on the experience of a real social circus youth program in Quillacollo, Bolivia, <i>Performing Life</i> , this story portrays how young Bolivians are gaining confidence and dreaming of a brighter future.
I Always Dreamed of Having a Store <i>Aymara</i>	Urban migration	Lucy migrates from the small Aymara community of Tocoli to the bustling capital city of La Paz to sell goods in the street. She struggles as a street market vendor — and rejoices when she accomplishes her dream of owning a real store. Lucy’s life as an indigenous storekeeper helps us understand the importance of balancing work, play, and rest in order to live a healthy life.
I Don’t Know Either <i>Quechua</i>	Women and labor movements	Casimira Rodríguez was the first indigenous woman to become Minister of Justice in Bolivia. Her inspiring story begins when she leaves her rural community at the age of thirteen to be a household worker for a large family in the city, then surprisingly unfolds into a life-long struggle to improve human rights in Bolivian society, specifically for women who clean houses. It’s a story that transcends cultural boundaries — and provides hope for everyone working to make the world a better place.
If the Moon Doesn’t Shine	Women’s Health	Wara lives in Cochabamba and loves to sit at her window and watch the moon. One night, the moon doesn’t appear, and Wara travels to the night sky to see what is wrong and help the moon get her light back. After their adventure in the universe, Wara and Mother Moon learn about how important it is to take care of their health and ask for help when they need it.
Luis and Me	Mental illness	Carlos becomes friends with an artist named Luis. Sometimes Luis acts strangely; because of this, other people call him a “crazy person.” This book follows Carlos as he tries to better understand his new friend.
My Mommy is Not in Bolivia with Me	International migration	<i>My Mommy Is Not in Bolivia with Me</i> explores the experiences of a ten-year old girl, Ana, whose mother is living in Spain so that she can earn money to send back to her husband and children in Cochabamba, Bolivia. The book introduces basic coping strategies for children who are separated from their parents, and weaves into the story colorful aspects of Bolivian culture. It also includes a section for older audiences discussing external migration and its effects on Bolivian children and families. <i>My Mommy Is Not in Bolivia with Me</i> promotes cultural understanding, international awareness, and positive coping strategies.

My Quinoa Grows: It is my Past, it is my Future	Traditional agriculture	<i>My Quinoa: It Is My Past, It Is My Future</i> is the endearing story of a curious and sensitive young Bolivian boy whose grandfather is teaching him how to grow quinoa the traditional way and at the same time teaching him to value his culture, heritage, and natural environment. The book includes Bolivian quinoa recipes and a section for older audiences discussing the impact of globalization on quinoa, the ancient grain of the Incas.
My Shawl, My Village, and My Heart	Culture and traditions of the Chiquitania	Ana is finally old enough to weave her own shawl. She and her mother travel through the village, gathering the materials they need to create Ana's shawl. Ana struggles to find inspiration in the colors for her shawl. But after exploring her village with new eyes, she finds something that sparks her imagination.
<i>Our Casa Grande</i> (in publication process)	Biodiversity	<i>Our Casa Grande</i> is the story of Esperanza and her family. After moving to a new place, Esperanza's father has plans to cut down the trees on their land so they can grow corn. However, the Jaguar, ruler of the forest, comes to visit Esperanza. He takes her on an adventure to teach her about the important balance of nature, so that her family can learn new ways to use the resources of the forest: the <i>Casa Grande</i> —of all the creatures who live there.
Outside the Cave	Animal trafficking	Rosita is a bat who lives in a cave at the base of the Cordillera Real. When her family is captured by two men, Rosita goes on a long journey looking for them. Along the way, she meets some animals who have interesting ideas about bats. It is a story about the myths surrounding bats in Bolivia and the reality of bat trafficking within the country.
Remembering my Grandpa* (currently out of inventory) <i>Quechua</i>	All Saints Day	This story is told through the eyes of Juancito, a young boy who can't remember how to smile after the death of his beloved grandpa. He wakes up on the first of November to the celebration of Todos Santos (All Saints' Day or Day of the Dead), a holiday during which friends and family gather to celebrate the life of their loved ones. Through celebrating this holiday and learning about its rituals, Juancito makes peace with the passing of his grandpa.
Sing to the Seeds: Bolivian Recipes	Recipes	How about a tasty trip through the cuisine of Bolivia without ever leaving your kitchen? This book begins with illustrated tales about traditional dishes from each of Bolivia's nine departments, followed by recipes for each dish. Create and taste the unique flavors of one of the most culturally and geographically diverse countries in Latin America.
Take me to Carnival <i>Quechua</i> (in publication process)	Bolivian life and customs – traditions of Mizque	<i>Take Me to Carnival</i> is a story filled with magic, history, and tradition. Emilia is nervous about playing the <i>charango</i> in her school's folkloric concert, but suddenly, she twirls back in time to a celebration of Carnival in her village, Mizque. On her Carnival adventure, Emilia becomes proud of her identity and learns to overcome

		her fears and honor her village. Based on oral histories of Mizque’s Carnival traditions, this story illustrates the power of music and memory to remind us where we come from.
The Biggest Laugh in the World (currently out of inventory)	Nursing homes	<i>The Biggest Laugh in the World</i> is the story of a young Bolivian boy who accompanies his mother one day to her job at a public nursing home in Cochabamba. He befriends an elderly woman who lives there and they begin a mission to get Don Alfonso, the surliest and quietest man at the home, to laugh. Along the way, the young boy learns about the often lonely and difficult lives of elderly Bolivian citizens living in public homes, and what he as a child can do to help.
The Brother, the Sister, and the Cow Aymara	Life in the altiplano	An Aymara brother and sister are searching for their lost cow near Lake Titicaca in the Bolivian altiplano. Throughout their quest, they encounter fantastical places, people, and things you could never have imagined. This book cleverly explores growing up in the midst of two conflicting forces—an indigenous culture and a globalizing world—and how it shapes the identities and perceptions of Aymara children.
The Fabric I am Made Of	Art as a means of expression	A young girl grapples with feelings of uncertainty, fear, and loneliness in an increasingly big and complicated world. However, when she learns about the artists throughout history and in her community who have used their passion to overcome their own obstacles, she begins to understand how to use her own artistic talents to transform her pain into something beautiful.
The Honey is Ours!	The Water War	When a little bee asks why he can’t have another drop of honey, his grandmother tells him the story of the war. In this hive, every bee works together to make the honey, without the help of strangers. But all of that changes when a mysterious Queen Bee arrives with her own agenda. This story is inspired by the events of the Cochabamba Water War, with lessons on privatization and community resilience that people (and bees) of all ages can understand.
The House We Imagined Quechua	Ecological construction	A little bear named Lucía gets lost and finds children who want to build a playhouse in the forest. She shows them how to use natural and recycled materials for the building. This story supports the construction of ecological houses in Bolivia.
The Magical Bunny Quechua	Domestic workers, and workers’ rights	Valentina, a domestic worker, her daughter, and their magical stuffed bunny, navigate the consequences of labor exploitation, the importance of standing up for yourself, and the value in doing your best. This book, a tool for discussing labor rights and exploitation, allows readers to develop an understanding of the reality of some domestic workers.
The Spirit of the Miners	Labor movements	<i>Spirit of the Miners</i> follows the story of Rafael, a young boy from Llallagua, a small mining town in Siglo XX, Bolivia. Rafael finds himself in the face of

		disappointment after losing an important soccer game, but discovers important lessons about perseverance and determination in the stories of his grandfather, a former miner and labor movement leader. This book is based on the true history of labor movements in Bolivian mining centers.
Unplugged <i>Quechua</i>	Adventure and fantasy in Bolivia, uncovered through the magical world in books	A normal day at the library turns peculiar when the students' computer games crash, and the children are whisked away on a fast-paced adventure that springs to life from between the pages of a book. Suddenly, they are exploring their country of Bolivia in ways they never had before, discovering the magic of its history, geography, and biodiversity, encountering danger all the while! Will the students make it safely back to the library? How far will their imaginations take them?
Until the Mirror Smiled Back at Me	Afro-Bolivian culture	What do you see in the mirror? Mariela sees pride and beauty in her identity as a young Afro-Bolivian girl, as a princess guides her through the daily hardships of discrimination and inequality. This book leaves readers with a feel for what it means to be of African descent in Bolivia — and promises empowerment for children of all ethnic backgrounds.
Violeta and the Magic Fruits	Environmental justice	When Violeta's friends are turned into trash zombies by a mysterious pollution cloud, Violeta is faced with the challenge of saving her friends. Caught in the middle of the zombie chaos, Violeta must figure out why this has happened, and learns that the solution lies within the delicious, magical fruits that she grows in her garden. This story is a fantastical journey that draws attention to the reciprocal relationship between humans and the natural environment, and how if we don't learn to care for our Mother Earth, the consequences could be destructive.
We are the Children of the Island of the Sun <i>Aymara</i>	Life on the Island of the Sun	Learn about the life of a young girl from Bolivia's Lake Titicaca on a sacred island named Island of the Sun. This story offers a rare glimpse into the Andean worldview and its relationship to Mother Earth, as seen in all aspects of daily life: harvesting potatoes, talking to the ancestors who live in the sacred mountains, measuring age according to the agricultural cycle, observing sacred rituals, and more.
What Happened to Chita? <i>Quechua</i>	Climate change	Can you figure out what's wrong with poor, sick Chita? Global climate change is affecting Bolivia's altiplano, and in this poignant book a girl struggles to understand why her sheep, Chita, is suffering. As her mother explains the environmental reasons behind Chita's poor health, the girl learns about global warming in Bolivia. By weaving together the experiences of the girl, little Chita, and Mother Earth, you will gain a deeper understanding of climate change and become inspired to think of ways to help our planet.
What the Liqi Liqi Knew <i>Quechua</i>	Traditional agriculture	A Bolivian girl named Carmen launches a mission to improve her family's potato harvest so that her parents

		can return home from working in the city. With the help of a talkative Liq'i Liq'i bird, Carmen learns the natural signs her ancestors used in the past to predict and manage disruptive weather events affecting the harvest. This charming story affirms the value of rural Bolivian culture, as well as the ingenuity of individuals seeking to improve their lives.
What's that Thing on Wheels?	Uses for the bicycle	Siblings Sam and Alex want to have a picnic in the park on Pedestrian Day. But their mom doesn't know how to transport Alex, who uses a wheelchair, and all the supplies. So their grandpa takes Sam to the market, where Sam begins to see all the fantastical bicycles that exist in the world and is inspired to create the perfect bike for their family. This story shows the infinite possibilities that bikes can offer if we just open our imaginations.
When the Trash Overflows	Environment	In <i>When the Trash Overflows</i> , a dumpster in Cochabamba, Bolivia comes alive, talks, and learns about waste, cleanliness and recycling with his little friend Lupita!
Where to Bugs Go When it Rains?	Uses for Bamboo, sustainable construction	Alfredo is a stick bug who is from the rainforest. When he is taken from his home to the city of Cochabamba, he learns how to use bamboo, his favorite plant, as he adapts to his new city life. He is challenged when he encounters some mean neighbors who are not familiar with Alfredo's way of life. This story is a portrayal of the conflict between traditional and new forms of sustainable construction in Bolivia. The story also serves to reveal the incredible qualities of bamboo.
Wilma <i>Quechua</i>	The education of indigenous women	What is it like to be an indigenous woman from the countryside attending a university in the big city? Wilma describes the real-life experiences of a young Quechua woman who determines to wear her traditional dress despite her fears of rejection at college. Readers learn about the pride Wilma has for her culture, as well as of her journey from the countryside to university life. The story shows that students from different cultures may be greeted with acceptance by their peers — and do not need to change who they are.