Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month Resources for Families

AAPI Heritage Month recognizes the contributions and influences that Asian Americans and Pacific Islander Americans have made to the history, culture and achievements of the United States. This year, it is especially important to support, celebrate and advocate for the AAPI community who have been experiencing an increase in anti-Asian bias and violence. So this year’s theme is “Stop AAPI Hate: Solidarity, Community, and Celebration”. The month of May was chosen as a way to commemorate the first wave of Japanese immigrants to the United States on May 7, 1843 and to also mark the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869. The majority of the workers who laid the tracks were Chinese immigrants. It is important to remember that members of the AAPI community come from East Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia, Western Asia, and the Pacific Islands of Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia. Each Asian country and Pacific Island nation has its own unique culture, language and traditions.

This resource was created in collaboration with Dobbs Ferry Public Library Children’s Librarian Gina Elbert, Springhurst Library Media Specialist Lauren Rodriguez, Dobbs Ferry Middle/High School Library Media Specialist Ellen Elsen, and Dobbs Ferry K-8 Literacy Coordinator Michelle Yang-Kaczmarek. Our hope is that these resources will help you to amplify, respect and make space for AAPI every single day, not just in May.

Booklist

Below is a list of published books written by AAPI authors and/or include AAPI characters. This is a sampling of what is available. You can access items marked with a blue dot (●) through the Dobbs Ferry school libraries and items marked with a yellow dot (〇) through the Dobbs Ferry Public Library. Please contact your librarians to put them on hold and/or learn more information about the formats in which these titles are available.

Picture Books

- Eyes that Kiss in the Corners by Joanna Ho ●●
- Ho’onani: Hula Warrior by Heather Gale ●
- Amy Wu and the Perfect Bao by Kat Zhang ●
- Amy Wu and the Patchwork Dragon by Kat Zhang ●
- Bee-Bim Bop! by Linda Sue Park ●
- Found and other title by Salina Yoon ●
- Lift by Minh Lê ●
- A Different Pond by Bao Phi ●●
- The Name Jar by Yangsook Choi ●●
- A Big Mooncake for Little Star by Grace Lin ●●
- How Honu the Turtle Got His Shell by Casey A. McGuire-Turcotte ●
- Dear Katie, the Volcano is a Girl by Jean Craighead George ●●
- The Sound of Silence by Katrina Goldsaito ●●
- Sunday Funday in Koreatown by Aram Kim ●
- Pool by Jihyeon Lee ●
- Camp Tiger by Susan Choi ●●
- The Cat Man of Alepo by Irene Latham and Karim Shamsi-Basha ●
- Ten Way to Hear Snow by Kathy Camper ●
- The Proudest Blue by Ibtihaj Muhammad and S.K. Ali ●●
- The Ocean Calls: a haenyeo mermaid story by Tina Cho ●
- Look! What Do You See?: an Art Puzzle of Book of American and Chinese Songs By Bing Xu ●
- Laxmi’s Mooch by Shelly Anand ●
- Fatima’s Great Outdoors by Ambreen Tariq ●
- The Nian Monster by Andrea Wang ●
• Bilal Cooks Daal by Aisha Saeed
• Drawn Together by Minh Lê
• Redwoods by Jason Chin
• The Most Beautiful Thing by Kao Kalia Yang
• The Boring Book by Shinsuke Yoshitake
• ‘Ohana Means Family by Ilima Loomis
• Brush of the Gods by Lenore Look and Meilo So

Easy Readers and Early Chapter Books
• Mindy Kim series by Lyla Lee
• Jasmine Toguchi series by Debbi Michiko Florence
• Diary of an Ice Princess series by Christina Soontornvat
• Nina Soni series by Kashmiri Sheth
• Yasmin series by Saadia Faruqi
• Sadiq series by Siman Nuurali
• Ruby Lu series by Lenore Look
• Alvin Ho series by Lenore Look
• Good Job, Kanini by Lisa Lee
• The Year of the … (Anna Wang series) by Andrea Cheng
• Book Uncle and Me by Uma Krishnaswami
• Ling and Ting Books by Grace Lin
• The Unicorn Rescue Society: The Secret of the Himalayas by Adam Gidwitz and Hena Khan
• Sherlock Sam series by A.J. Low

Elementary Nonfiction
• Shining Star: The Anna May Wong Story by Paul Yoo
• Maya Lin: Architect of Light and Lines by Jeanne Walker Harvey
• In the Night, Still Dark by Richard Lewis
• It Began With a Page: How Gyo Fujikawa Drew the Way by Kyo Maclear
• I Live in Tokyo by Mari Takabayashi
• Fauja Singh Keeps Going by Simran Jeet Singh
• You Should Meet: Duke Kahanamoku by Laurie Calkhoven
• Angel Island: Gateway to Gold Mountain by Russell Freedman
• Shark Lady: The True Story of How Eugenie Clark Became the Ocean’s Most Fearless Scientist by Jess Keating
• Fred Korematsu Speaks Up by Laura Atkins
• Dumpling Dreams: How Joyce Chen Brought the Dumpling from Beijing to Cambridge by Carrie Clickard
• Be Water, My Friend: The Early Years of Bruce Lee by Ken Mochizuki
• Sixteen Years in Sixteen Seconds: The Sammy Lee Story by Paula Yoo

Middle Grade Fiction and Graphic Novels
• Prairie Lotus by Linda Sue Park
• Other Words for Home by Jasmine Warga
• The Night Diary by Veera Hiranandani
• Front Desk and Three Keys by Kelly Yang
• Stand Up Yumi Chung! by Jessica Kim
• Amal Unbound by Aisha Saeed
• When You Trap a Tiger by Tae Keller
- Lalani of the Distant Sea by Erin Entrada Kelly
- The Best At It by Maulik Pancholy
- Inside Out and Back Again by Thanhha Lai
- A Single Shard by Linda Sue Park
- Kira-Kira by Cynthia Kadohata
- I’m OK by Patti Kim
- Amina’s Voice by Hena Kahn
- The Bridge Home by Padma Venkatraman
- A Place to Belong by Cythia Kadohata
- A Wish in the Dark by Christina Soontornvat
- Listen, Slowly by Thanhha Lai
- Planet Omar series by Zanib Mian
- Chinese-Born American by Gene Luen Yang
- Frazzled: Everyday Disasters and Impending Doom by Booki Vivat
- American as Paneer Pie by Supriya Kelkar
- The Year of the Dog by Grace Lin
- Blackbird Fly by Erin Entrada Kelly
- Peter Lee’s Notes from the Field by Angela Ahn
- A Thousand Questions by Saadia Faruqi
- The Breadwinner by Deborah Ellis
- Cilla Lee-Jenkins series by Susan Tan
- Kudo Kids series by Maia and Alex Shibutani
- Pandava series (Aru Shah series) by Roshani Chockshi
- Secret Coders series (graphic novels) by Greg Leun Yang
- This is Just a Test by Madelyn Rosenberg & Wendy Wan-Long Shang
- Dragon Pearl by Yoon Ha Lin
- Spirit Hunters and other titles by Ellen Oh
- The Science of Breakable Things by Tae Keller
- The School for Good and Evil series by Soman Chainani
- The Vanderbeeks series by Karina Yan
- Hello, Universe by Erin Entrada Kelly
- The House That Lou Built by Mae Respicio

**Elementary and Middle Grade Manga**

- Yotsuba&! by Kiyohiko Azuma
- Chi’s Sweet Home by Kanata Konami
- Fluffy Fluffy Cinnamoroll by Yumi Tsukirino
- Kingdom Hearts by Shiro Amano
- Pokémon Adventures by Hidenori Kusaka
- Splatoon by Sankichi Hinodeya
- Yuzu the Pet Vet by Mingo Ito

**Middle Grade Nonfiction**

- I Am Malala: How One Girl Stood Up for Education and Changed the World by Malala Yousafzai
- All Thirteen: The Incredible Cave Rescue of the Thai Boys' Soccer Team by Christina Soontornvat

**Young Adult Fiction**

- Parachutes by Kelly Yang
- We Are Not Free by Traci Chee
• When Dimple Met Rishi by Sandhya Menon
• Darius the Great is Not Okay by Adib Khorram
• Love from A to Z and other titles by S.K. Ali
• Internment by Samira Ahmed
• Butterfly Yellow by Thanhha Lai
• The Downstairs Girl by Stacey Lee
• Frankly in Love by David Yoon
• To All the Boys I’ve Loved Before series by Jenny Han
• An Ember in the Ashes by Sabaa Tahir
• Warcross by Marie Lu
• A Time to Dance by Padma Venkatraman
• This Time Will Be Different by Misa Sugiura
• The Astonishing Color of After by Emily X.R. Pan
• The Love and Lies of Rukhsana Ali by Sabina Khan
• American Panda by Gloria Chao
• Patron Saints of Nothing by Randy Ribay
• Last Night at the Telegraph Club by Malinda Lo
• A Very Large Expanse of Sea by Tahereh Mafi
• Under a Painted Sky by Stacey Lee
• We Hunt the Flame by Hafsah Faizal
• Wicked Fox by Kat Cho
• You Bring the Distant Near by Mitali Perkins
• Emergency Contact by Mary H.K. Choi
• Love, Hate, and Other Filters by Samira Ahmed
• Descendant of the Crane by June Hur
• The Forest of Stolen Girls by June Hur
• Boxers & Saints by Gene Luen Yang
• Trung Le Nguyen by Trung Le Nguyen
• Heart of the Samurai by Margi Preus

YA Manga
• Hunter x Hunter by Yoshihiro Togashi
• Naruto by Masashi Kishimoto
• Dragonball by Akira Toriyama
• Haikyu!! by Haruichi Furudate
• My Hero Academia by Kohei Horikoshi
• Little Witch Academia by Yoh Yoshinari
• Cells at Work! by Akane Shimzu
• Fruits Basket by Natsuki Takaya
• Snow White with the Red Hair by Sorata Akiduki

Young Adult Nonfiction
• Almost American Girl by Robin Ha
• They Called Us Enemy by George Takei
• Farewell to Manzanar by Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston
• Girl Code: Gaming, Going Viral, and Getting it Done by Andrea Gonzales and Sophie Hauser
• Diary of a Tokyo Teen: A Japanese-American Girl Travels to the Land of Trendy Fashion, High-Tech Toilets and Maid Cafes by Christine Marie Inzer
• Beyond the Gender Binary by Alok Vaid-Menon
More Booklists
- 30 Asian and 30 Asian American Children’s Books for Ages 0 to 18
- Books About AAPI Leaders: An Elementary AAPI Studies List
- Asian & Asian American Voices Booklist
- Social Justice Books - Asian Americans
- Award Winners from the Asian/Pacific-American Librarians Association
- 12 Manga for Kids, From Early to Middle Grade Readers
- 14 Kid-Friendly Manga That Aren’t About Pokemon
- Manga for Middle Schoolers

Resources
- 30 Revolutionary Asians and Pacific Islanders to Celebrate for AAPI Heritage Month
- Asian Americans in the People’s History of the United States
- Asian American K-12 Education Curriculum
- Asian American Racial Justice Toolkit
- Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center - We Are Not a Stereotype: Breaking Down Asian Pacific American Bias
- Racial Justice at Sesame Street in Communities
- Talking about Race: The Lees at Sesame Street in Communities
- Asian American and Pacific Islander Resource Library at American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychology
- Resources for API Families from PFLAG and NQAPIA (The National Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance)
- Resources for AAP LGBTQ+ Communities from It Gets Better
- Asian Pacific Americans with Disabilities: Our Stories, Our Lives from Disability Visibility Project
- “Anti-Racism for Kids: An Age-by-Age Guide to Fighting Hate” from Parents magazine
- Westchester Association of Chinese Americans
- Asian-American Anti-Racism Resources: For AAPI and Allies from Town of New Castle, NY, Council on Race and Equity
- PBS NewsHour - The Long History of Racism Against Asian Americans in the U.S.
- NYC Human Rights Stop Asian Hate
- Asian American Federation provides safety resources, in collaboration with experts from the Center for Anti-Violence Education, to teach targeted individuals how to de-escalate threatening situations and defend themselves in the event of anti-Asian violence. Flyers are available in five Asian languages.