Cuba

*Digital Resources and Children’s Books*

*Updated 4/2020*

**Kid-Friendly Videos:**

Images of Cuba: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bt8BSu9RrSA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bt8BSu9RrSA)

Introduction to Cuba (3rd-12th): [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=io8wXRXDh](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=io8wXRXDh)

An American Travels to Cuba (7th-12th): [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_mag1yWVoJo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_mag1yWVoJo)

Instruments in Cuban Music: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PxPG-xKn4U](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PxPG-xKn4U)

Cuban Folk Dance performed in Portugal: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1neM4GyWVpo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1neM4GyWVpo)

Why Rooster Greets the Sun: A Cuban Folktale (K-5th): [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-QFFazuOeCo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-QFFazuOeCo)

Attending a Baseball Game in Cuba (3rd-12th): [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b6iNRepRcj8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b6iNRepRcj8)

Dominoes, A Favorite Cuban Pastime: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RJpXG8U_PSc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RJpXG8U_PSc)

Dominoes, How to Play: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qe85xWLRhts](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qe85xWLRhts)

The Cars of Cuba: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZJPqe1baowA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZJPqe1baowA)

Coco Taxis in Havana: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qxkmns8tYbU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qxkmns8tYbU)
Websites:


Afro-Cuban Instruments (K-12th) [https://www.libertyparkmusic.com/cuban-music-instrument-clave/](https://www.libertyparkmusic.com/cuban-music-instrument-clave/)


Cuban Tobacco Industry: [https://www.cubancigarwebsite.com/cigar/production](https://www.cubancigarwebsite.com/cigar/production)

History and Staples of Cuban Cuisine: [https://www.thespruceeats.com/cuban-food-profile-2137859](https://www.thespruceeats.com/cuban-food-profile-2137859)


Lesson Plans:

Cuba with Lesson Planet: [https://www.lessonplanet.com/lesson-plans/cuba--2/all](https://www.lessonplanet.com/lesson-plans/cuba--2/all)

US Trade Embargo on Cuba: [https://www.pbs.org/now/classroom/cuba.html](https://www.pbs.org/now/classroom/cuba.html)

Cuba Theme Unit: [https://www.edhelper.com/geography/Cuba.htm](https://www.edhelper.com/geography/Cuba.htm)

Fidel Castro Teacher Resources: [https://www.lessonplanet.com/lesson-plans/fidel-castro/all](https://www.lessonplanet.com/lesson-plans/fidel-castro/all)

How to play the Cuban Guajira Guitar: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3VLnBd9dTdY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3VLnBd9dTdY)

How to do the Cuban Salsa: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TGpAiZybWHU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TGpAiZybWHU)
### Children’s Books:

| Title: Martina the Beautiful Cockroach: A Cuban Folktale  
| Author: Carmen Agra Deedy  
| Grade: PreK-2nd  
| Publisher: PeachTree  
| ISBN: 1561453994  
| **Summary:** Martina the beautiful cockroach doesn't know coffee beans about love and marriage. That's where her Cuban family comes in. While some of the Cucarachas offer her gifts to make her more attractive, only Abuela, her grandmother, gives her something really useful: un consejo increíble, some shocking advice. Martina is skeptical of her Abuela's unorthodox suggestion, but when suitor after suitor fails the Coffee Test, she wonders if a little green cockroach can ever find true love. Soon, only the gardener Pérez, a tiny brown mouse, is left. But what will happen when Martina offers him café cubano? After reading this sweet and witty retelling of the Cuban folktale, you'll never look at a cockroach the same way again. |

| Title: Rooly and Flora’s Reunion: A Story of Cuba  
| Author: Raul Martinez  
| Grade: K-3rd  
| Publisher: Soundprints Corp  
| ISBN: 159249658X  
| **Summary:** Rooly can't wait for his family reunion in Havana, Cuba. His aunts, uncles, and cousins have many exciting things planned for his visit, including a day at the beach, a delicious feast, and dancing. But best of all, Rooly gets to spend the day with his favorite cousin, Flora! Rooly and Flora's Reunion gives readers a fun and unique insight of a different culture, and a sense of what life might be like for a child growing up in Cuba. An audiobook is also included. |

| Title: Baila, Nana, Baila / Dance, Nana, Dance: Cuban Folktales in English and Spanish  
| Author: Joe Hayes  
| Grade: 3rd-8th  
| Publisher: Turtleback Books  
| ISBN: 060637678X  
| **Summary:** A collection of Cuban folktales in English and Spanish. |
| Title: The Bossy Gallito: A Traditional Cuban Folktale  
Author: Lucis M. Gonzalez  
Grade: K-3rd  
Publisher: Turtleback Books  
ISBN: 0613166116  
Summary: In this cumulative Cuban folktale, a bossy rooster dirties his beak when he eats a kernel of corn and must find a way to clean it before his parrot uncle’s wedding. Includes a glossary of Spanish words and information about the different birds in the story. |
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| Title: Adeladia: A Cuban Cinderella  
Author: Ana Monnar & Nancy Michuad  
Grade: 4th-8th  
Publisher: Readers are Leaders  
ISBN: 9780980039719  
Summary: On the island of Cuba lived two sisters named Adelaida and Marisol. Although identical twins in appearance, their personalities were as different as night and day. Adelaida was noble and loved to help others. She understood that the situation at home was not easy. On the other hand, Marisol believed that the world revolved around her. Will the sisters’ actions affect their fate? |
| Title: The Poet Slave of Cuba  
Author: Margarita Engle  
Grade: 7th-12th  
Publisher: Macmillian  
ISBN: 0312659288  
Summary: Born into the household of a wealthy slave owner in Cuba in 1797, Juan Francisco Manzano spent his early years by the side of a woman who made him call her Mama, even though he had a mama of his own. Denied an education, young Juan still showed an exceptional talent for poetry. His verses reflect the beauty of his world, but they also expose its hideous cruelty. Powerful, haunting poems and breathtaking illustrations create a portrait of a life in which even the pain of slavery could not extinguish the capacity for hope. |
Title: Cuba 15
Author: Nanacy Osa
Grade: 10th-12th
Publisher: Delacorte Books for Young Readers
ISBN: 9780307433268
Summary: Violet Paz has just turned fifteen, a pivotal birthday in the eyes of her Cuban grandmother. Fifteen is the age when a girl enters womanhood, traditionally celebrating the occasion with a quinceañero. But while Violet is half Cuban, she’s also half Polish, and more importantly, she feels 100% American. When Violet begrudgingly accepts Abuela’s plans for a quinceañero—and as she begins to ask questions about her Cuban roots—cultures and feelings collide. All Violet knows is that she’s got to form her own opinions, after all, a quince girl is supposed to embrace responsibility—and to Violet that includes understanding the Cuban heritage that binds her to a homeland she’s never seen.