

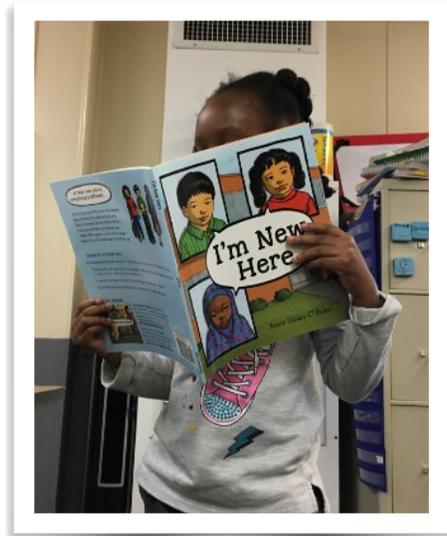
# i'm your neighbor books

## Welcoming Library

### I'm Your Neighbor Books

Read to Welcome. Read to Belong.

Seeking to reverse negative narratives about immigration and to build a nation where we all belong, the nonprofit I'm Your Neighbor Books shares and builds conversations around children's books that depict immigrant and new generation families. Research shows that meeting one another on the page builds the welcoming skills of long-term Americans and creates a crucial sense of belonging for New Arrivals and their New Generations.



### Welcoming Library

Curated Collection & Conversation

Our signature project is the **Welcoming Library**, a curated 30-book, all-ages picture book collection that powerfully and uniquely depicts global, modern migration and the generations that build their lives in a new home. Each book contains a unique set of discussion questions written by I'm Your Neighbor Books and their cultural advisors. The ready-to-use questions, affixed to the endpapers, deepen the reader's social emotional response—building welcoming skills and increasing feelings of belonging. Here is a sample discussion question from the picture book **In My Mosque**:



Many Muslim women wear head scarves. They cover for many reasons including love for their religion, community, family, and themselves. Those scarves go by many names and vary in style by what the women believe, where they were raised, and even by what colors they like. Islam is not the only religion or culture where people cover their hair. Do you know someone who wears clothing or jewelry that is a symbol of what they love and respect? Does something you wear tell a story of where you were born or where your ancestors were born?

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## Welcoming Library

### Welcoming Library

On the Move Between Locations

The **Welcoming Library** is not only a collection of 30 books and their companion discussion questions, it is a collection that is uniquely transported and shared. It comes with a pop-up tabletop book display topped with a multilingual banner that invites the audience to “Read to Welcome. Read to Belong.” This wooden display is engineered to break down into component parts, pack into a provided tote, and be moved between school or library district locations for temporary loan along with the 30 books. The books and the collection’s mobility create discovery of this new cultural genre and start new conversations about who belongs in this diverse America.



### Welcoming Library

Cost & Grant Support

The **Welcoming Library** is available to purchase for **\$2500**. I’m Your Neighbor provides a [grant document](#) with sample language, images, outcomes, and budgets to share with potential donors and grant organizations. We can even provide you with a customized online fundraiser.

### Welcoming Library

Components

Each Welcoming Library includes:

- **30 Acclaimed Picture Books** featuring the experiences of modern-day immigrants, refugees, and/or 1st–through–3rd generation families from non-European countries. The collection is curated to best match your local or regional communities.
- **Unique Culturally Vetted Discussion Questions** affixed to the back end papers of each book to allow any reader to have an in-depth, informed conversation about commonalities, differences, welcoming, and belonging, regardless of the reader’s experience with such conversations.

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- **Book Processing** that highlights the mission of the collection, including a cover sticker with the phrase “I’m Your Neighbor” written in 10 languages, a spine label, a custom bookplate with room for you to thank your sponsors, and mylar book covers.
- **Pop-up Display Unit with Banner** which adapts to any space to both highlight the books and draw attention to the mission. The handmade wooden display disassembles for packing and shipping between locations.
- **Two Totes** to move or ship books, the display, and all support materials between your locations.
- **Online Toolkit** to assist each Welcoming Library host with set-up, circulation, marketing, programming, and educational opportunities.
- **New Discussion Questions** as we release them so you can add to and evolve your book collection over time.
- **Ongoing** innovations and national marketing.

## Welcoming Library

### Further Exploration

Have questions about the project or want to share the project with your team?

- Watch and share the Welcoming Library video:



- Request a four-week loan of a sample Welcoming Library.
- Reach out to Welcoming Library Project Manager Pam Remy at [premy@imyourneighborbooks.org](mailto:premy@imyourneighborbooks.org) or 207-613-1619.