Immigration - Picture Books

Alliki. *Marianthe's Story One: Painted Words/Marianthe's Story Two: Spoken Memories*
Two separate stories in one book, the first telling of Mari’s starting school in a new land, and the second describing village life in her country before she and her family left in search of a better life.

Edwards, Pamela Duncan. *Barefoot: Escape On the Underground Railroad*
A group of animals help a runaway slave escape his pursuers.

Garay, Luis. *The Long Road*
When civil war breaks out in Jose and his mother’s small Latin American village, they flee across the border and slowly begin to make a new life for themselves.

Garland, Sherry. *The Lotus Seed*
A young Vietnamese girl saves a lotus seed and carries it with her everywhere to remember a brave emperor and homeland she must flee.

Hest, Amy. *When Jessie Came Across the Sea*
A thirteen-year-old Jewish orphan reluctantly leaves her grandmother and immigrates New York City, where she works for three years sewing lace and earning money to bring Grandmother to the United States.

Levine, Ellen. *I Hate English!*
Mel Mei, a young immigrant girl from Hong Kong, who arrives in New York’s Chinatown, learns that she can have the best of two worlds by learning to communicate in two languages.

Levinson, Riki. *Watch the Stars Come Out*
Grandma tells about her mama’s journey to America by boat, years ago. (Also contains behind the scenes information and activities.)
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Levitin, Sonia. *A Piece Of Home*
When Gregor and his family move from Russia to America, he takes with him a blanket to remind him of home.
McGugan, Jim. **Josepha: A Prairie Boy's Story**
Josepha, a newcomer to the Prairies, finds life difficult in school as he is past fourteen and trying to learn in primary row.

Polacco, Patricia. **The Butterfly**
During the Nazi occupation of France, Monique's mother hides a Jewish family in her basement and tries to help them escape to freedom.

Reynolds, Marilynn. **The New Land: A First Year on the Prairie**
The New Land takes the young reader through the first year of the author's family's adventure, from the long journey by boat, train and wagon to their own plot of land on the prairie, and through the task of finding water, building the homestead, ploughing the land and surviving their first winter.

Say, Allen. **Grandfather's Journey**
Through compelling reminiscences of his grandfather's life in America and Japan, Allen Say delivers a poignant account of his family's love for two countries and the strong and constant desire to be in both places at once.

Smucker, Barbara. **Selina and the Bear Paw Quilt**
When Selina and her Mennonite family just flee Pennsylvania in the 1860s due to the upcoming civil war, she is comforted by the Bear Paw quilt she made with her grandmother, that helps her maintain her memories.

Yee, Paul. **Ghost Train**
Choon-yi finally arrives in North America to be reunited with her father, who left China to work on the railroad, only to find that he was killed a week earlier when the side of a mountain collapsed on his crew. Choon-yi paints the fire-car her father and his fellow countrymen died for and it becomes a magical means to return the dead Chinese workers' spirits to their homeland.

This list is from [http://www.sd71.bc.ca/sd71/edulinks/immigrat/sheets/bibliog.pdf](http://www.sd71.bc.ca/sd71/edulinks/immigrat/sheets/bibliog.pdf)
Suggestions for Read-Aloud Books

**The Lotus Seed**
Author: Sherry Garland  
Illustrator: Tatsuro Kiuchi  
Genre: Realistic fiction

A young Vietnamese girl saves a lotus seed and carries it with her everywhere to remember a brave emperor and homeland she must flee.

**A Piece of Home**
Author: Sonia Levitin  
Illustrator: Juan Wijngaard  
Genre: Realistic fiction

Gregor decides to take his special blanket when his family leaves Russia to live in America, but he worries about his choice all during the journey.

**I Hate English!**
Author: Ellen Levine  
Illustrator: Steve Bjorkman  
Genre: Realistic fiction

Mei Mei, a young immigrant girl from Hong Kong, who arrives in New York’s Chinatown, learns that she can have the best of two worlds by learning to communicate two languages.

**Painted Words**
Author: Aliki  
Illustrator: Aliki  
Genre: Fiction

Two separate stories in one book, the first telling of Mari’s starting school in a new land, and the second describing village life in her country before she and her family left in search of a better life.