

Book Title: Islandborn

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Introduction

Begin by asking students:

- Who was born here in this city?
- Do you know where your parents or grandparents were born?
- What is something special about where you or your family is from?

This is the story of a girl named Lola, who is from a place she doesn't remember. She learns about her heritage through the stories of people in her community. Today, we'll learn about her journey and think about the things that make each of us special.

Read and Discuss

Introduce vocabulary: shade (skin color), super (building superintendent), titanic

Possible discussion questions:

- What does Lola plan to do to learn about the island?
- What are some of the descriptions her neighbors and friends tell her about the island?
- How do the stories Lola hears bring her island to life, even though she's never been there?
- What do you think Lola means when she says "the Island is me?"

Activity

Create a classroom heritage mosaic

Have students think about where they are from. Consider, for example:

- What did the land look like where you are from?
- What foods did you eat, music did you listen to, etc?
- Are there symbols (such as a flag or flower) that could represent your heritage?

Hand each student a small construction paper square (4x4 or 6x6) to create a heritage tile. Students will decorate their paper with images that represent where they are from. Collect the tiles and assemble them on a posterboard with a title like "Our Heritage Mosaic".