

Alma and How She Got Her Name

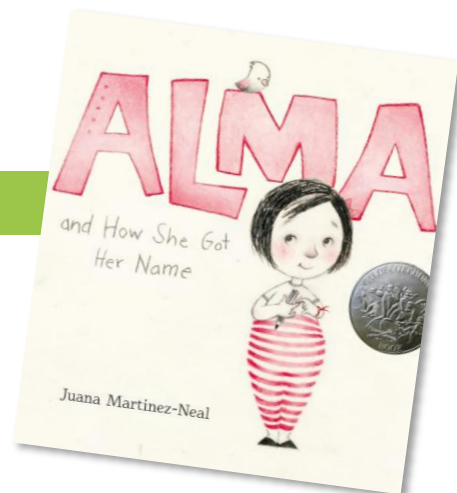
READ ALOUD GUIDE

Themes: Hispanic Heritage, Being Yourself

Book Brief: Alma Sofia Esperanza José Pura Candela has six names, and she wonders how a small person like her ended up with such a big name. As she learns about her family and their stories, Alma starts to think her name might be just right for her, and she looks forward to sharing her own story one day.

Author:
Juana Martinez-Neal

Illustrator:
Juana Martinez-Neal



BEFORE READING

The Cover: Have students make predictions about the story based on the cover.

The Pictures: Take a brief picture walk and ask students what they notice about Alma.

Prior Knowledge: People are sometimes named after a prior relative or something meaningful to their parents. Ask students, "Do you know the meaning behind your name?"

Vocabulary: Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying [Vocabulary Guide](#).

Purpose for Reading: "As we read today listen for how or who Alma was named after."

DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- How is Alma like each of her ancestors? Describe each one.

AFTER READING

Our Purpose: In the beginning, Alma did not like her long name. How did learning about her name change her mind?

Extending Our Thinking: Alma learned the story behind her name. Using [RIF's Writing Template](#), have students tell the story behind their name just like Alma.

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more about the topic by reading other books with similar themes, structure, characters, or content.