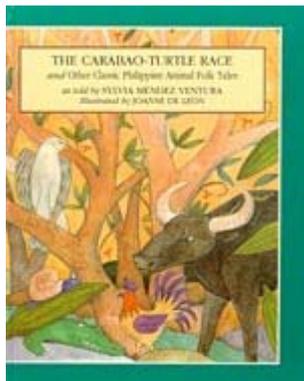
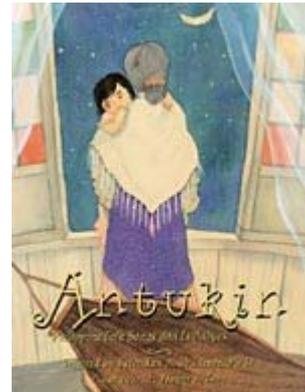


Philippine Children's Books

IJsselstein, Tuesday, 18 June 2002 (updated: Monday, 4 June 2007)

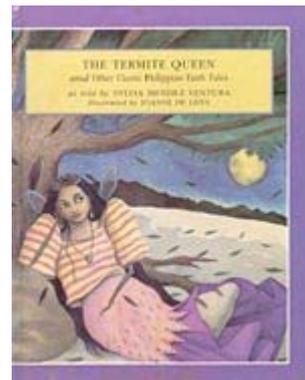
When you're raising your children outside the Philippines it is often difficult to give them some feeling of the Filipino culture. Even in the Philippines, it is sometimes difficult to find nice Filipino children books among the large number of American children books available in most shops. Here we have selected a number nice Filipino children books. Unfortunately, most of these are not available outside the Philippines, and even in the Philippines you'll need some luck to find them.

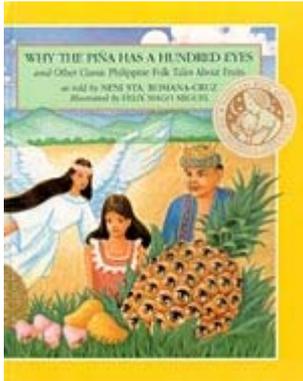
Antukin, Philippine Folk Songs and Lullabies, selected by *Felicidad A. Prudente*, and illustrated by *Joanne de León* is a nice collection of folk songs from around the Philippines. The collections is arranged by region, and includes a number of lesser known tribal songs, from the Kalingga, well known Tagalog songs, such as *Bahay Kubo*, songs from the Visayas and Mindanao. All songs are accompanied by a single staff, so you can easily play the melody on a piano, and is profusely illustrated - an excellent full page color plate on every is facing each page. A real gem to have. Published by Tahanan Books for Young Readers, P.O. Box 9079, MCS Mailing Center, 1299 Makati City, ISBN 971-630-095-6, distributed by Bookmark.



The Carabao-Turtle Race, and Other Classic Philippine Animal Folk Tales as told by *Sylvia Mendez Ventura* and illustrated by *Joanne de León*, contains eight age-old animal tales, popular in the Philippines. All stories have been taken from **Filipino Popular Tales**, edited by *Dean S. Fansler* (The full text of this book is available on this site!), and have been extended and retold, such that they make excellent bed-time stories for children. The books are nicely illustrated with numerous black & white drawings. Published by Tahanan Books for Young Readers, Makati City, ISBN 971-630-024-7, distributed by Bookmark.

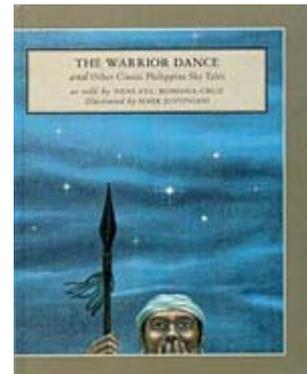
The Termite Queen, and Other Classic Philippine Earth Tales as told by *Sylvia Mendez Ventura* and illustrated by *Joanne de León*, contains eight old folk tales related to earth. Nicely illustrated in black & white. Published by Tahanan Books for Young Readers, Makati City, ISBN 971-630-084-0, distributed by Bookmark.



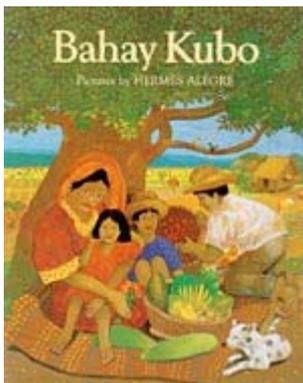


Why the Piña has a Hundred Eyes, and Other Classic Philippine Folk Tales About Fruits as told by *Neni Sta. Romana-Cruz* and illustrated by *Felix Mago Miguel* is a nicely illustrated book with eight stories retold from various sources. Winner of the National Book Award for Children's Literature. Published by Tahanan Books for Young Readers, Makati City, ISBN 971-630-026-3, distributed by Bookmark.

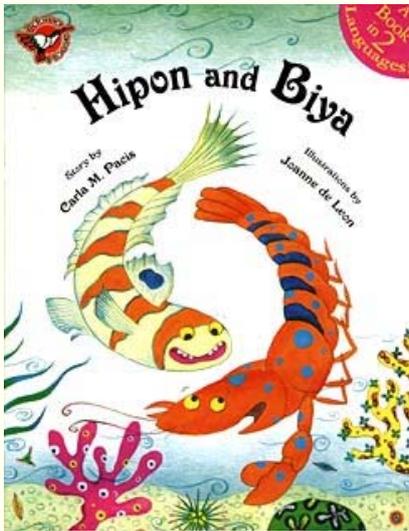
The Warrior Dance, and Other Classic Philippine Sky Tales as told by *Neni Sta. Romana-Cruz* and illustrated by *Mark Juitiniani* is another collection of eight stories, retold from various sources. Again, nicely illustrated with black & white drawings. Published by Tahanan Books for Young Readers, Makati City, ISBN 971-630-069-7, distributed by Bookmark.



Bahay Kubo illustrated by *Hermés Alégré* contains the well known Tagalog song, with each line on a page, with a very nice paintings in a naive art style to clarify the meaning. Published by Tahanan Books for Young Readers, Makati City, ISBN 971-630-008-5, distributed by Bookmark.

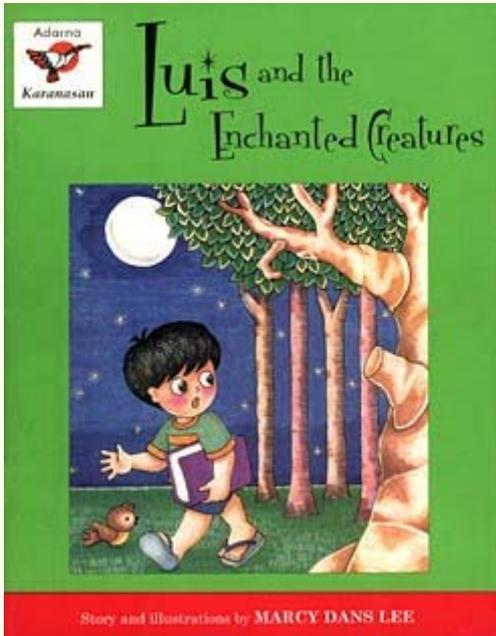


We have selected a few more children's books. Most of these books, or similar books can be obtained from bookstores in the Philippines.



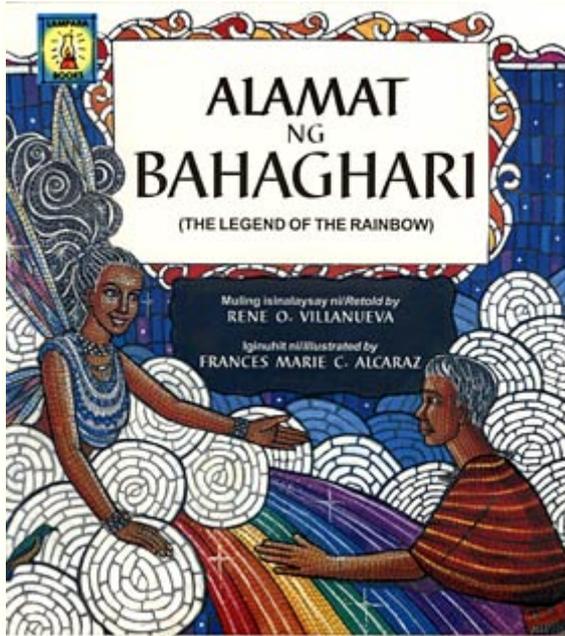
Hipon and Biya.

Hipon and Biya (Shrimps and Goby Fish) as told by Carla M. Pacis and illustrated by Joanne de Leon. This colorful illustrated story books tell us about two different sea creatures that are and helping each other. Hipon has such poor eyesight that he can't see clearly the incoming predators. With the help of Biya (volunteering to be Hipon's body guard), he was able to escape from harm. Hipon provides Biya with food and shelter, while Biya gives Hipon the protection he needs. With this amazing partnership shows us that no matter how different two creatures may be, they can still find ways to help each other out and live together happily ever after. Written in both Tagalog and English. Published by [Adarna House](#), Quezon City. ISBN 9789715082389.



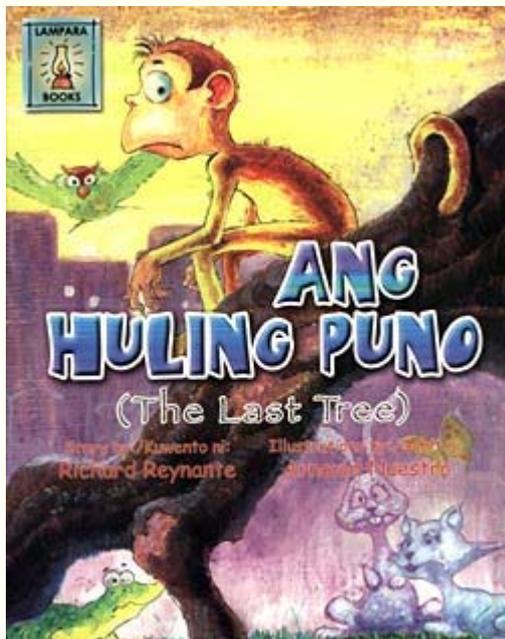
Luis and the Enchanted Creatures.

Luis and the Enchanted Creatures as told and illustrated by Marcy Dans Lee. This colorful illustrated story book contains the well-known Filipino mythological creatures such as Kapre, Tikbalang, Tiyanak, Nuno (dwarf), Aswang, and Batibat (a snake-like creature that lives in trees). A boy named Luis has a strange adventure with these mythological creatures in a different light. These creatures appear not as bad and hideous monsters, but as lovable and funny characters in a neighborhood with the most seemingly dangerous turning to be the weakest and most vulnerable. This story is ideal for children who have a great fear of the mythological creatures that have found a permanent niche in the Filipino consciousness. Written in English only. Published by [Adarna House](#), Quezon City. ISBN 9789715082617.



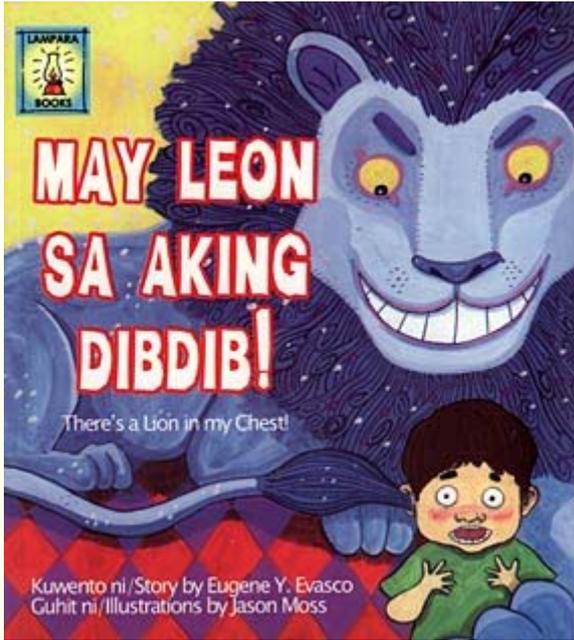
Alamat ng Bahaghari.

Alamat ng Bahaghari (The Legend of the Rainbows) retold by Rene O. Villanueva and Awardwinning children's book illustrator Frances Marie C. Alcaraz with her mesmerizing mosaic drawings in the book. This is an popular Igorot Folktale from Northern parts of the Philippines about the legend of the rainbows. A charming story depicting a man's great love for his wife and son. Written in Tagalog and English. Published by [Lampara Publishing House](#), Manila, Philippines. ISBN 9715180221.



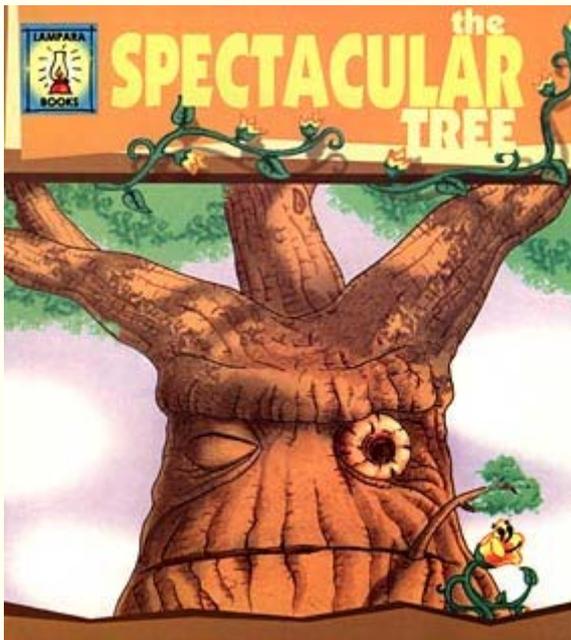
Ang Huling Puno.

Ang Huling Puno (The Last Tree) as told by Richard Reynante and illustrated by Arnould Nuestro. A colorful comic-like book. This story is about the last tree in the city where Animals lives and children are happily playing around. This tree is plan to be cut down and build a huge building on it. To prevent them from cutting the tree, the animals and children are working together and come up with a plan. This story is motivating children to keep their role as a guardians of nature and as environmentalists. Written in Tagalog and English. Published by [Lampara Publishing House](#), Manila, Philippines.



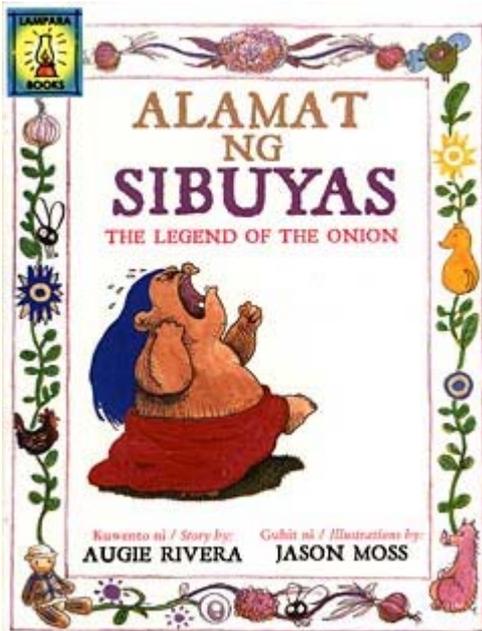
May Leon sa aking Dibdib.

May Leon sa aking Dibdib (There is a Lion in my chest) as told as by Award-winning writer Eugene Y. Evasco and illustrated by Jason Moss. This story is about a boy having asthma that sound like a growling lion. Written in Tagalog and English. Published by Lampara Publishing House, Manila. ISBN 9715180469.



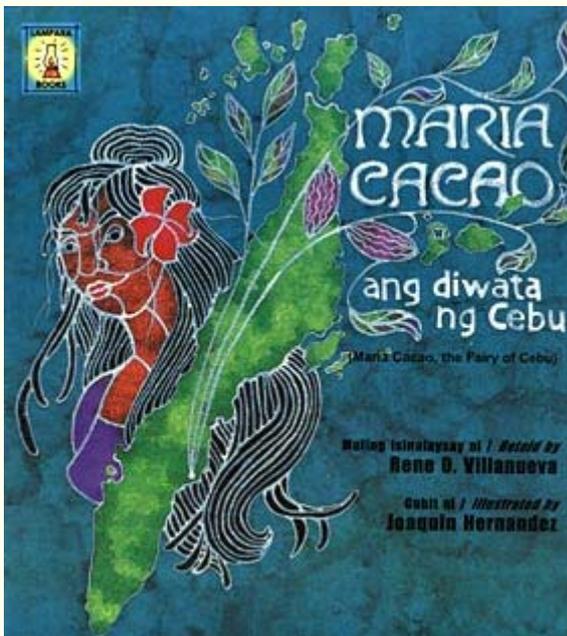
The Spectacular Tree.

The Spectacular Tree as told and illustrated by Robert Gunnar Magnuson. This story is about the young climbing plant who wanted to grow as tall as Acacia tree but he is not growing straight up to the sky. With his help we was able to make the hopeless Acacia tree into an spectacular tree! Written in English and Tagalog. Published by Lampara Publishing House, Manila. ISBN 9716098405.

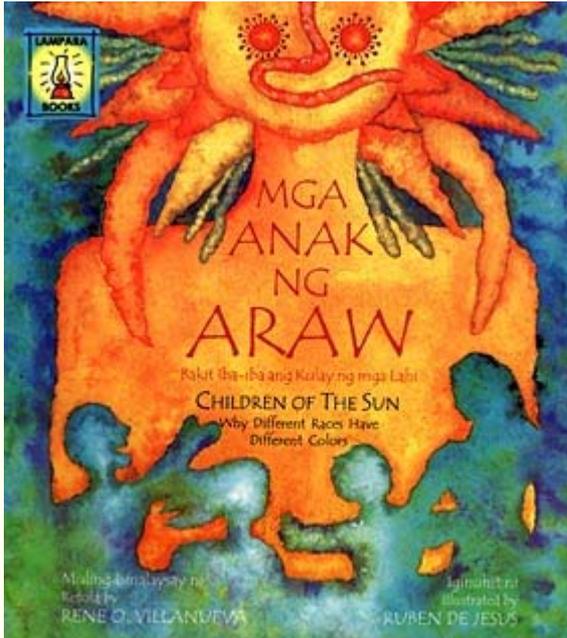


Alamat ng Sibuyas.

Alamat ng Sibuyas (Legend of the Onion) as told by Award-winning children's book writer Augie Rivera and illustrated by Award-winning children's book illustrator Jason Moss with comic like illustrations. This book contains the story of a naughty little girl named Sibuyan who always faked her cry whole day and night whenever she did not get her desires fulfilled, or just wanted to be noticed. But she is punished by a goddess. Written in Tagalog and English. Published by Lampara Publishing House, Manila. ISBN 971518006.

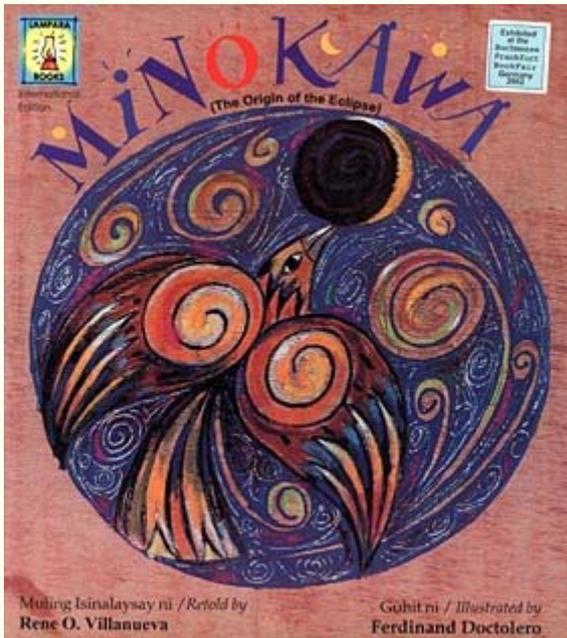


Maria Cacao.



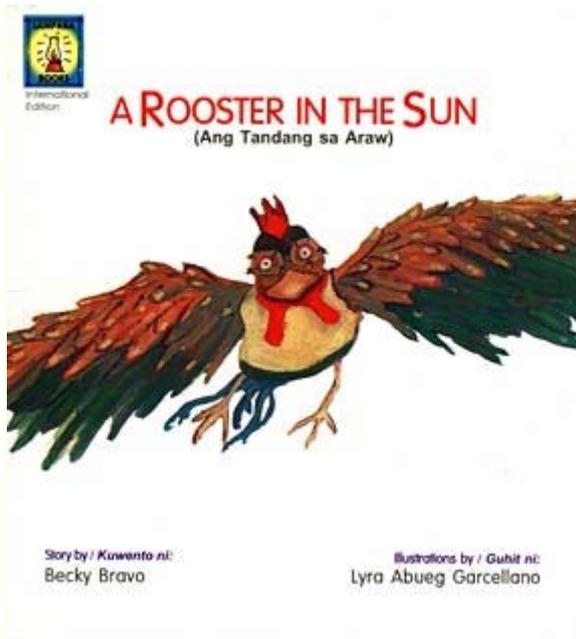
Mga Anak ng Araw.

Mga Anak ng Araw. Bakit iba-iba ang Kulay ng mga Lahi (Children of the Sun. Why different races have different Colors) as retold by Rene O. Villanueva and illustrated by Ruben de Jesus. This is the story about Bathala who created a man and woman but forgotten to give them color. Mother sun gave them colors. Written in Tagalog and English. Published by Lampara Publishing House, Manila. ISBN 9715180094.



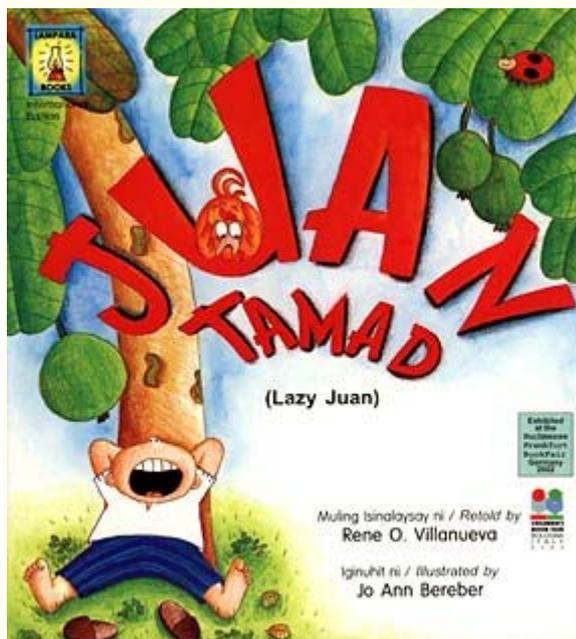
Minokawa.

Minokawa (The Origin of the Eclipse) as retold by Rene O. Villanueva and illustrated by Ferdinand Doctolero. This fantastic Bagobo tale from the Southern part of the Philippines tell us about the legend of the Eclipse. A giant bird Minokawa who lives in outer space is devouring the sun and the moon, and trying to do the same with the earth. But the Bagobo people stop him from doing that. Written in Tagalog and English. Published by Lampara Publishing House, Manila. ISBN 971518023X.



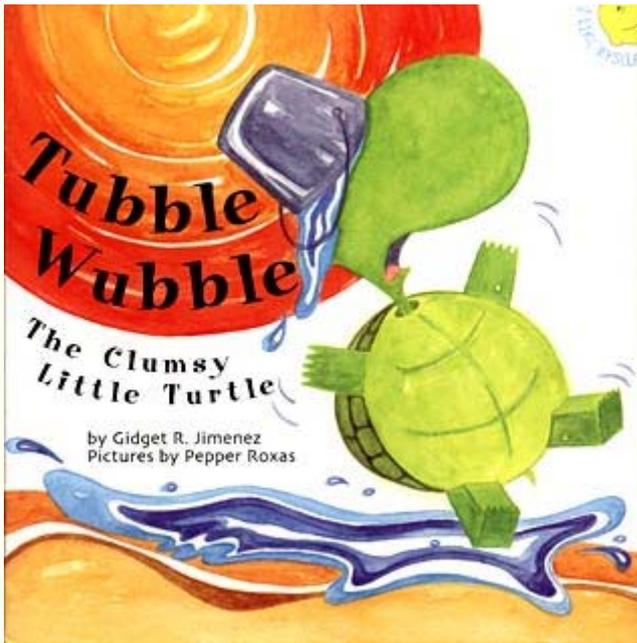
Ang Tandang sa Araw.

Ang Tandang sa Araw (A Rooster in the Sun) as told by Becky Bravo and illustrated with vivid oil paintings by Lyra Abueg Garcellano. This story tells us why roosters crow at sunrise, and why can't they fly like other birds. Written in English and Tagalog. Published by Lampara Publishing House, Manila. ISBN 9715180310.



Juan Tamad.

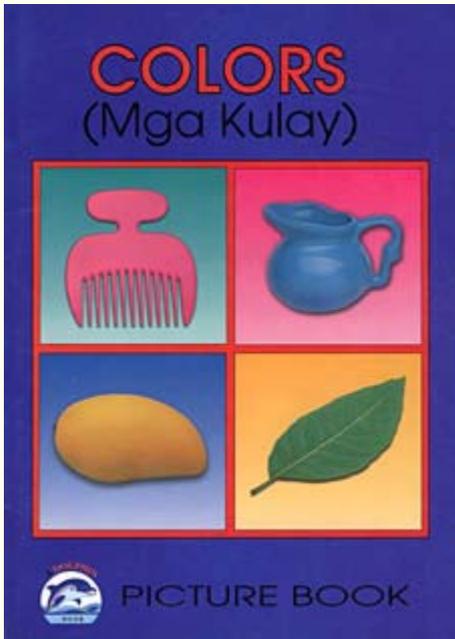
Juan Tamad (Lazy Juan) as retold by Rene O. Villanueva and illustrated by Jo Ann Bereber. This is one of the most popular folk characters in the Philippines. This is a story about the very lazy boy named Juan, whenever his mother ask him to do something he think of an excuses. Written in Tagalog and English. Published by Lampara Publishing House, Manila. ISBN 9715180361.



Tubble Wubble.

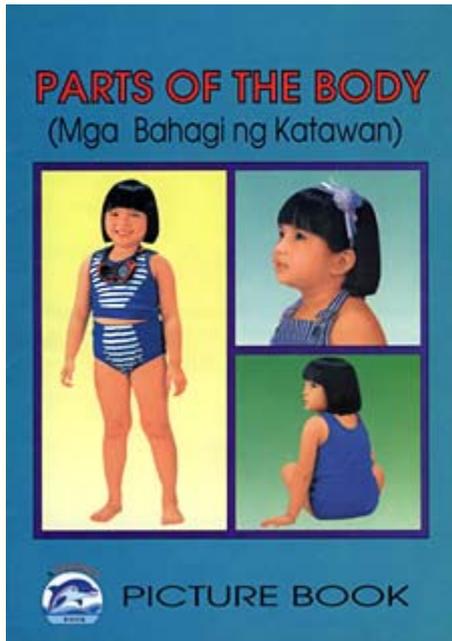
Tubble Wubble. The Clumsy Little Turtle “An I-Like-Myself “book as told by Gidget R. Jimenez and illustrated by Isabel “Pepper” Roxas. This book contain the story of a turtle named Tubble Wubble who is always in trouble but at the end, he finally do the right thing. Written in English only. Published by Tahanan Books for Young Readers, Makati City. ISBN 9789716300994.

For the youngest

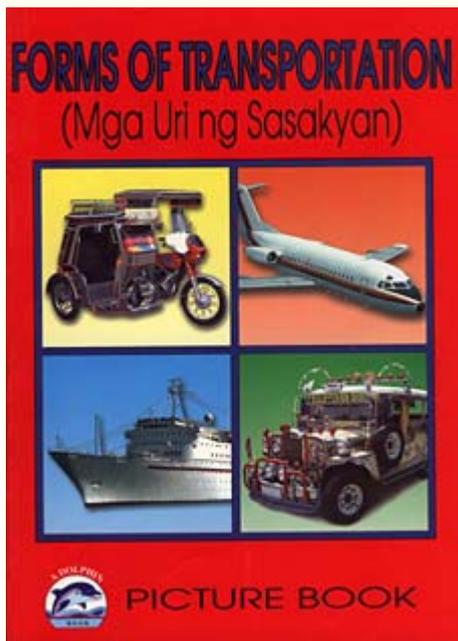


For the youngest children, plenty of plastic laminated books can be found in most book stores. We list a short selection.

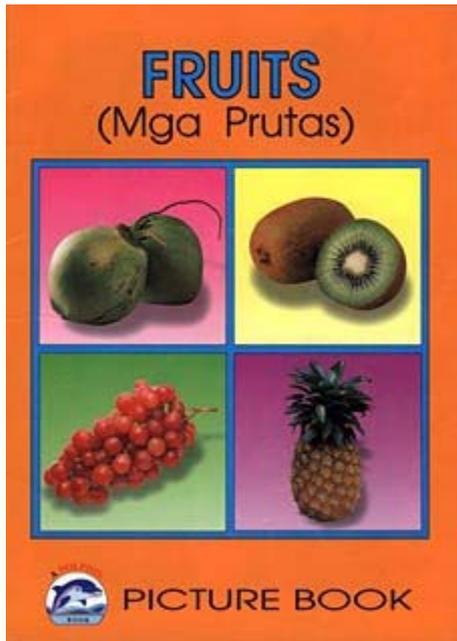
Colors (Mga Kulay) This colorful picture book helps children to learn and identify colors in English and in Tagalog. Published by Sterling Paper Products, Makati City.



Parts of the Body (Mga Bahagi ng Katawan) This Picture books helps children to learn and identify our body parts in English and in Tagalog. Published by Sterling Paper Products, Makati City.



Forms of Transportation (Mga Uri ng Sasakyan) This colorful picture book helps children to learn and identify various types of transportation, as they can be found in the Philippines, in English and in Tagalog. Published by Sterling Paper Products, Makati City.



Fruits (mga Prutas) This colorful picture book helps children to learn and identify different variety of Philippine Fruits. They will learn naming fruits in English as well as in Tagalog. Published by Sterling Paper Products, Makati City.

Rodelyn Gallo

Ref.: <http://www.bohol.ph/article37.html>