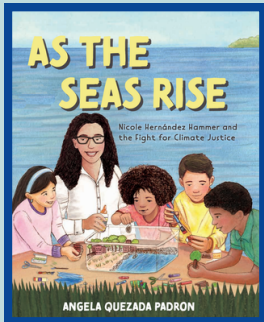


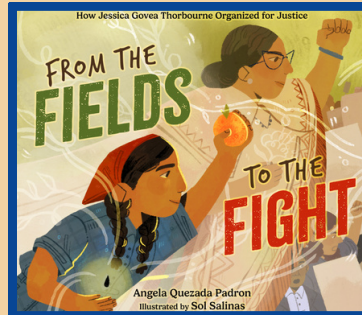
FOLLOWING A CALL TO ACTION

Authors often include a central idea, or lesson, they want the readers to learn. This is called the **author's message**. The message can be stated explicitly or implied in the text. Authors can also include a **call to action** as part of their message. This is meant to inspire readers and encourage them to think about what actions they can take to help others, take a stand, or have an impact on their community or the world.

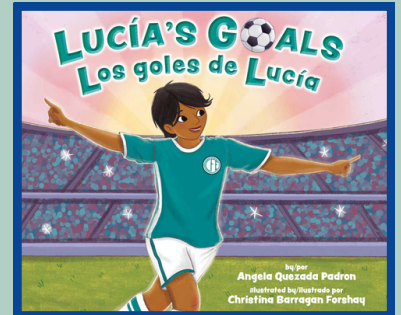
Here are three books that each have a strong author's message and call to action:



As the Seas Rise is a picture book biography about environmental scientist and climate activist Nicole Hernández Hammer and her message to empower and protect our communities by working together, including the smallest of us.



Fields to the Fight is an inspiring picture book biography about Jessica Govea Thorbourne, a Latina labor activist who worked alongside Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta to bring attention to the plight of migrant farmworkers. She showed that making a difference can start with just one child.



Lucia's Goals is a story about a young girl's determination to defy gender stereotypes and break through barriers. Lucia's story will inspire readers of all ages to take charge on and off the field to achieve their goals!

To determine the author's message and call to action in a text, students can follow these steps:

1.

Understand the Author's Purpose

- Is the author trying to inform, persuade, or entertain?

2.

Analyze the Text for Clues

- What are the characters doing?
- What are the important story details? How do they relate to each other and the book's topic?
- What patterns do you notice in the author's word choice and tone?
- What is the author's point of view? What details in the text support this point of view?

3.

Consider What the Author Wants You to Learn

- What do you think the author wants readers to learn or understand about life?
- How does the author inspire or encourage readers to take action?
- How can you state the author's message without using specific names or words from the text?

Angela Quezada Padron has been an elementary, bilingual/ESL, and art educator for over thirty years. She earned six college degrees, including an M.A. in Curriculum and Instruction and an Ed.S in Reading. In addition, Angela is a director of curriculum and instruction and a freelance developmental writer and editor for educational publishers. Angela has published seven picture books and over 20 educational texts, with more on the way! She is also the owner of [Dream Jar Publishing](http://DreamJarPublishing.com). Angela is an avid seashell collector, sports nut, aspiring recording artist, and admirer of nature. Learn more about her at www.angelapadron.com.

FOLLOWING A CALL TO ACTION

1. Author's Message

- What is the message or lesson the author is trying to express in the story?
- What is the call to action?

Brainstorm 2.

- What cause do you support?
- What injustice do you feel strongly about?
- What skills or talents can you use in this call to action?

3. Research

- What are some organizations that work to support this cause?
- What are some actions they are taking?

Plan 4.

- Who can you partner with?
- What materials or permissions do you need?
- What is the timeline?

5. Action

- What actions will you take?
- What is the outcome you hope to see?

Reflect 6.

- What will you do to follow up?
- What worked well?
- What would you change for next time?

