

A Children's Story of Immigration

Seasoned educators bring untold immigrant stories to light in groundbreaking new children's book

Sometimes by Hugo Ibarra and John Seidlitz

Children's literature is broadening its horizons with the publication of *Sometimes*, a story about a family immigrating to the U.S. Written by Texas elementary school teacher Hugo Ibarra and expert ELL educator John Seidlitz, *Sometimes* is based on first-hand stories from their students and parents as well as Ibarra's own experience immigrating to the U.S. at 25.

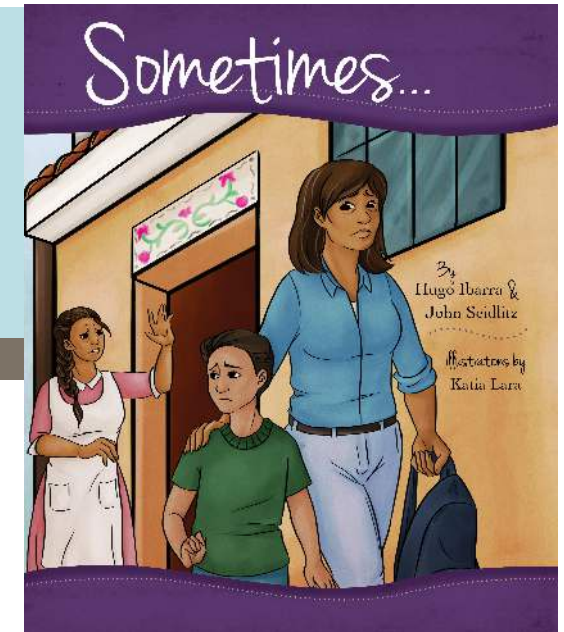
Published by Canter Press, the publisher of Seidlitz Education, the leading provider of staff development and training materials for teachers of English learners, *Sometimes* comes straight from those who know how to teach immigration best. English and Spanish language editions help start a timely conversation about immigration, emphasizing the importance of adult encouragement for children in a time of transition.

Written for 4-8 year olds, *Sometimes* follows the journey of Andrés and his sister, Clara, as they immigrate from Mexico to the United States. They see many strange sights for the first time -- the border filled with cars, a strange U.S. town -- and wonder why they had to leave their mother behind. As Andrés starts at a new school, he receives encouragement from a beloved teacher, buoying his hopes until he and his sister are finally reunited with their mother.

Teaching a valuable lesson about holding on to hope, the book shows the impact of the courage, strength and hope parents and teachers provide to help children through a time of uncertainty. A story of a family's close bond above all, *Sometimes* is relatable for any child.

About the Authors

John Seidlitz is founder and CEO of Seidlitz Education, a company that provides training and support to educators and leaders of English Language Learner programs across the state of Texas and beyond. John began his work with ELLs as a social studies teacher, after which he served as a program coordinator, and a regional education specialist. He has authored several books, including: 7 Steps to Developing a Language-Rich Interactive Classroom™ and Sheltered Instruction Plus: A Guide for Texas Teachers of English Learners. *Sometimes* is his first children's book.



BOOK DETAILS

Written by Hugo Ibarra
and John Seidlitz
Ages 4-8
January 2016
51 Pages

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PR **BY THE** BOOK

Hugo Ibarra immigrated to the United States when he was 25. After studying immigrant children for his thesis, he received a Masters of Education in Educational Leadership from The University of Texas at Tyler and began his career as a Bilingual Education Teacher in Longview, Texas. Ibarra is currently the an elementary school principal in Bryan, Texas. *Sometimes* is his first children's book.

Talking Points

- The important leadership role teachers play for children in transition (stable role model, offer encouragement, see an aspect of child's behavior that parents may not)
- Why all parents should discuss immigration with their kids (helps children understand America's history, prevents bullying by making the unfamiliar familiar)
- The respectful way to talk to your neighbors who immigrated (don't ask for their passports, don't assume what their native language is, offer help to navigate US culture)
- How teachers can learn more and train to help children in transition

About Canter Press

Canter Press is a broad-based publisher producing high-quality titles for educators and young readers. They specialize in the areas of educational literacy, young adult and children's literature, narrative nonfiction, and religion.

Founded in Texas, Canter Press publishes some of the nation's foremost authors and educational experts as well as emerging new authors. Consistently at the forefront of innovation, Canter Press is committed to providing unique reading experiences for adults and children alike.



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