All year long, Chico’s family moves up and down the state of California to pick fruits and vegetables. Every September, Chico starts a new school. Often, the other kids pick on him—maybe because he’s always new, or maybe because he speaks Spanish sometimes. But third grade promises to be different.

* How To Make an Apple Pie and See the World by Marjorie Priceman. (Dragonfly Books/Alfred A. Knopf, 1996. Paperback.)
Since the market is closed, the reader is led around the world to gather the ingredients for making an apple pie.

Hugo, Maria, and Sarita enjoy spending time with their grandparents on a summer night sitting on the porch enjoying icy cold watermelon while the grandparents tell stories.

The Hatseller and the Monkeys by Baba Wague Diakite. (Scholastic, 2000. Paperback.)
A West African version of the beloved folktale about a peddler whose hats are stolen by monkeys. Hurrying to a festival, BaMusa does not take time to eat breakfast. When he takes a nap beneath a tree, playful monkeys steal his wares. After being showered with mangos, the man has a snack and figures out how to get his hats back.

Set in West Africa, the shrewd Market Lady notices that all the village children are waiting for sweet fruit to fall from the tree. So, she nets the fruit for herself and becomes quite wealthy.

Drawn from all parts of Africa, these stories convey the fierce sense of justice inherent in African people, their powers of patience and endurance, and their supreme ability as storytellers.

Tingo Tango Mango Tree by Marcia Vaughan. (Silver Burdett, 1995. Paperback.)
Sombala Bombala Rombala Roh, an iguana, finds a mango seed, secretly plants it, and lovingly tends it as it grows. When she tries to pick the beautiful mango, it will not pull free. She seeks help from the flamingo, promising one bite as a reward, but the mango will not be picked.

* recommended other books to use