

### *Fiona's Lace*

Polacco, P. (2014). *Fiona's lace* (First ed.).

An anecdote handpicked from a family and culture as intricate as lace itself, *Fiona's Lace* is a story of crossing borders while still finding home within the heart of family. Centering around an Irish family that immigrates across an ocean from Ireland to Chicago, this story gives the reader a glimpse of the stages of immigration, including the long journey, adjustments, and cultural changes that are often faced. Additionally, the Hughes's journey from Glen Kerry to 120 Dekonen st. in Chicago serves as a heartfelt educator to young readers about the causes and effects of migrating from one place to another, giving students a broader and more in depth understanding of the immigration process.

Through weaving together the timeline of these Irish immigrants' journey as well as the causes, challenges, and effects of this process, this book serves as an excellent tool to relay important geography concepts within the classroom. Particularly, it demonstrates both push and pull factors for migrating from one place to another. For example, the Hughes' family decided to migrate after considering the push factor of the mill closing in Glen Kerry resulting in financial losses for themselves personally and many others in their local community. The family also considered the pull factor to bring them to Chicago, after hearing of employment opportunities in the Chicago area. Other pull factors may have included rumors and ideas of a wealthier and easier lifestyle in America, a common idea that circulated during this time period.

Overall this book focuses on important aspects of migration both cultural and financial, and gives readers a more in depth understanding of this concept and process through a memorable and touching account.

Resources:

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/explore/countries/ireland/#ireland-dublin.jpg>

[http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/immigration/young\\_immigrants/index.htm](http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/immigration/young_immigrants/index.htm)

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/immigration/webcast.htm>

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/immigration/tour/>

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/immigration/immigration%5Fdata/>

<http://www.patriciapolacco.com/#books>

<http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/contributor/patricia-polacco>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mr4t1sgXAA4>