Books for ECE professionals:

Little kids, big worries by Alice Sterling Honig
Many stresses exist for children in our complex society. This book explores the issue of children's stress and gives advice on how to recognize and influence children's stress levels.

Fifty early childhood strategies for working and communicating with diverse families by Janet Gonzalez-Mena
A guide to developing culturally sensitive relationships with diverse families.

Practice in building bridges by Intisar Shareef and Janet Gonzalez-Mena
Creating authentic, equitable relationships with people unlike ourselves, including colleagues and families of young children.

Child health across cultures: the health, well-being and special needs of children from diverse backgrounds by Judith A. Colbert.
A handbook for supporting children’s health and well-being inclusive of all cultures.

Supporting the settlement of young immigrant children & their families: a guide for early childhood educators by Julie Dotsch
A guide to help caregivers ease the transition for newcomer children and their families.

Welcoming newcomer children: the settlement of young immigrants and refugees by Judith A. Colbert
A handbook for welcoming children and their families to Canadian programs.
Books about refugee and newcomer children:

*A piece of home* by Sonia Levitin
A Russian immigrant child comes to understand the importance of the blanket he has brought with him to his new home.

*From far away* by Robert Munsch
A classic Canadian story about one girl’s experience as a newcomer.

*Four feet, two sandals* by Karen Lynn Williams and Khadra Mohammed
Two girls in a refugee camp each claim one sandal of a donated pair. Together they solve the problem of having four feet and two sandals and are reminded that friendship is what is most important.

*The whispering cloth* by Peggy Deitz Shea
A young girl in a Thai refugee camp in the mid-70s finds the story within herself to create her own pa'ndau (embroidered tapestry).

*Sami and the time of troubles* by Florence Perry Heide
A ten-year-old Lebanese boy goes to school, helps with chores, plays with friends, all the while living in a basement shelter vulnerable to bombing and street fighting.

*The long road* by Luis Garay
The story of one boy's escape from Nicaragua during the civil war to a new country far away.
Books to support Refugee Families in Early Childhood Programs

Petar’s song by Pratima Mitchell
Petar loves music, but when war breaks out and his family flees without his father, he can’t play his violin anymore. Then one day a song of peace comes into his head.

The colour of home by Mary Hoffmann
The story of a refugee child from Somalia who struggles to adjust to life and school in his new country.

Additional titles to consider (some available at the WELL):

Linguistically appropriate practice: a guide for working with young immigrant children by Roma Chumak-Horbatsch
This book provides a convincing argument for the importance of children’s home languages and the benefits of dual- and multi-language learning.

The swirling hijaab by Na’ima bint Robert
An endearing story about the way a young Muslim girl feels about the hijab, or headscarf, that her mother wears.

My friend Jamal by Anna McQuinn
Joseph and his Somali friend Jamal enjoy a friendship that transcends cultural differences.

Jamela’s dress by Niki Daly
Jamela gets into her mother’s dress material for a wedding and things go wrong, but there’s a happy ending for Kwela Jamela African Queen!
Handa’s hen by Eileen Brown
Handa and her friend Akeyo find two fluttery butterflies round the hen house, three stripy mice under the grain store, four little lizards behind the pots... but where is Grandma’s black hen? Available in 21 dual language editions.

A is for Africa by Ifeoma Onyefulu
The photographs were taken in Nigeria but the images pictured represent the warm family ties and traditional village life found throughout this vast, colourful continent.

Faith by Maya Ajmera, Magda Nakassis, and Cynthia Pon
Celebrate faith around the world in its many expressions.

Gervelie’s journey: a refugee diary by Anthony Robinson and Annemarie Young
Gervelie was born in the Republic of Congo. When fighting broke out in her home city of Brazzaville, her family had to flee to safety.

Jaha and Jamil went down the hill: an African Mother Goose by Virginia Kroll
Mother Goose went on a trip to Africa far away. She wrote about the people there, who live and work and play.

We all went on safari: a counting journey through Tanzania by Laurie Krebs
Learn to count in Swahili and discover all kinds of African animals with this children’s safari through the grasslands of Tanzania.
Welcome to the world baby by Na’ima bint Robert
When Tariq brings in some dates to celebrate the new baby in his family, his class decides to learn how different families welcome babies into the world. Available in 26 dual language editions.

The wheels on the bus / Row, row, row your boat / Heads, shoulders, knees and toes illustrated by Annie Kubler
Illustrated versions of the classic children’s song is available in 19 dual language editions.

Arabic: languages of the world by Daniel Nunn
This book examines the language: where it is spoken, who speaks it, and includes introductions on how to say key phrases in Arabic.

Tom and Sofia start school by Henriette Barkow and Priscilla Lamont
The first day of school is an enormous step for every child. Available in 26 dual language editions.

Brown Bear, Brown Bear, what do you see? By Bill Martin, Jr
Exuberantly coloured artwork and favourite animals make this rhythmic story the perfect introduction to looking and learning about colours. Available in 17 dual language editions.

I took the moon for a walk by Carolyn Curtis and Alison Jay
In a magical adventure, a little boy walks across a rural landscape, the moon beside him, with the neighborhood dogs supplying a choir. Available in 24 dual language editions.
Books to support Refugee Families in Early Childhood Programs

_Samira’s Eid_ by Nasreen Aktar and Enebor Attard
Today is the festival of Eid. The sighting of the new moon starts a day of celebration for Samira and her family. Available in 8 dual language editions.

_Dear Zoo_ by Rod Campbell
What’s the perfect gift from the zoo? Look under the flaps to see the animals the zoo sends . . . Available in 11 dual language editions.

_Walking through the jungle_ by Julie Lacome
Join this fearless young explorer as she discovers the different animals and terrains of the world – and makes it home for supper, safe and sound. Available in 19 dual language editions.

_My daddy is a giant_ by Carl Norac
He might sneeze like a hurricane and make the ground shake when he runs, but his daddy is a gentle giant. Available in 31 dual language editions.

_Keeping up with Cheetah_ by Lindsay Camp
Cheetah wants a friend who will laugh at his jokes, but can also run fast. Available in 28 dual language editions.

_The wobbly wobbly tooth_ by David Mills
Li wibbled and wobbled his loose tooth until it came out. What should he do with it? Available in 23 dual language editions.