## **Jessica Hernandez**

## Corpus Christi, Texas



Jessica is in her eighth year of teaching. She never thought she'd teach kindergarten but fell into this grade through chance. Now it is her favorite grade yet. She teaches at Oak Park Special Emphasis School in Corpus Christi, TX and says it is so amazing to be one of the first teachers to cultivate the love of stories and reading in students.

Jessica gained a love reading from her mother, Dolores, who came to the United States as a child. Her mothers' upbringing instilled an appreciation for education. She would take jessica an dher sisters to libraries and bookstores weekly. They would read every night and encourage them to value the education they were given.

Jessica believes it is important for students to see themselves in the books they read. She wants to promote the mindset of

acceptance equality through reading. She is so gratefrul for the Book Love Foundation's generous gift to her classroom that weill help her continue this journey.