

"BOOK DESERT" BOOK DRIVE

A Listing of Recommended African American Children's Literature

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Please note that I define African American children's literature as books that are written by *and* about African Americans.

Note from Rachel Klingelhofer: This list has been edited to include only the selections for "primary" grades.

Fiction

- Barber, Barbara E. (1996). Saturday at the New You. Illus. by Anna Rich. New York: Lee & Low. (Primary)
- Caines, Jeannette. (1982). Just Us Women. Illus. by Pat Cummings. New York: Harper & Row. (Primary)
- Clifton, Lucille. (1983). Everett Anderson's Goodbye. Illus. by Ann Grifalconi. New York: Henry Holt. (Primary)
- Crews, Donald. (1991). Bigmama's. New York: Greenwillow. (Primary)
- Crews, Donald. (1992). Shortcut. New York: Greenwillow. (Primary)
- Cummings, Pat. (1991). Clean Your Room, Harvey Moon!. New York: Simon & Schuster. (Primary)
- Curtis, Gavin. 1998). The Bat Boy & His Violin. Illus. by E.B. Lewis. New York: Simon & Schuster. (Primary/Intermediate)
- Grimes, Nikki. (2009). Make Way for Dymonde Daniel. Illus. by R. Gregory Christie. New York: Putnam. (Primary)
- Grimes, Nikki. (2009). Rich: A Dymonde Daniel Book. Illus. by R. Gregory Christie. New York: Putnam. (Primary)
- Harrington, Janice. (2007). The Chicken-Chasing Queen of Lamar County. Illus. by Shelley Jackson. New York: Farrar Straus & Giroux. (Primary)
- Johnson, Angela. (1990). Do Like Kyla. Illus. by James Ransome. New York: Orchard. (Primary)
- Johnson, Angela. (1993). When I Am Old With You. New York: Orchard. (Primary)
- Johnson, Angela. (1998). Julius. Illus. by Dav Pilkey. New York: Orchard. (Primary)
- Lee, Spike & Lee, Tonya Lewis. (2005). Please, Puppy, Please. Illus. by Kadir Nelson. New York: Simon & Schuster. (Primary)
- McKissack, Patricia. (1986). Flossie and the Fox. Illus. by Rachel Isadora. New York: Dial. (Primary)
- McKissack, Patricia. (1988). Mirandy and Brother Wind. Illus. by Jerry Pinkney. New York: Alfred A. Knopf. (Primary)
- McKissack, Patricia. (2007). The All-I'll-Ever-Want Christmas Doll. Illus. by Jerry Pinkney. New York: Schartz & Wade. (Primary)
- Mitchell, Margaree King. (1993). Uncle Jed's Barbershop. Illus. by James Ransome. New York: Simon & Schuster. (Primary/Intermediate)
- Nolen, Jerdine. (2003). Big Jabe. Illus. by Kadir Nelson. New York: Amistad. (Primary/Intermediate)
- Nolen, Jerdine. (2003). Thunder Rose. Illus. by Kadir Nelson. San Diego, CA: Harcourt. (Primary/Intermediate)
- Nolen, Jerdine. (2005). Hewitt Anderson's Great Big Life. Illus. by Kadir Nelson. New York: Simon & Schuster. (Primary/Intermediate)
- Pinkney, Brian. (1994). Max Found Two Sticks. New York: Aladdin. (Primary)
- Pinkney, Brian. (1995). Jojo's Flying Side Kick. New York: Simon & Schuster. (Primary)
- Pinkney, Brian. (1997). The Adventures of Sparrowboy. New York: Simon & Schuster. (Primary)
- Richardson, Charisse. K. (2005). The Real Slam Dunk. Illus. by Kadir Nelson. New York: Puffin. (Primary)
- Ringgold, Faith. (1991). Tar Beach. New York: Crown/Random House. (Primary/Intermediate)
- Steptoe, John. (1969). Stevie. New York: HarperCollins. (Primary)
- Tarpley, Natasha. (1997). I Love My Hair. Illus. by E.B. Lewis. Boston, MA: Little, Brown & Company. (Primary)
- Tarpley, Natasha. (2002). Bippity Bop Barbershop. Illus. by E.B. Lewis. Boston, MA: Little Brown & Company. (Primary)
- Taulbert, Clifton. (1999). Little Cliff and the Porch People. Illus. by E. B. Lewis. New York: Dial. (Primary)
- Taulbert, Clifton. (2002). Little Cliff and the Cold Place. Illus. by E.B. Lewis. New York: Dial. (Primary)
- Wesley, Valerie Wilson. (2005). Willimena Rules: 23 Ways to Mess Up Valentine's Day. New York: Jump at the Sun. (Primary/Intermediate)
- Wesley, Valerie Wilson. (2007). Willimena Rules: How to Face Up to the Class Bully. New York: Jump at the Sun. (Primary/Intermediate)

- Woodson, Jacqueline. (2002). Visiting Day. Illus. by James Ransome. New York: Scholastic. (Primary/Intermediate)
- Woodson, Jacqueline. (2004). Coming on Home Soon. Illus. by E.B. Lewis. New York: Putnam. (Primary)
- Wyeth, Sharon Dennis. (1998). Something Beautiful. Illus. by Chris Soentpiet. New York: Doubleday. (Primary)

Non-Fiction

- Cline-Ransome, Lesa. (2000). Satchel Paige. Illus. by James Ransome. New York: Simon & Schuster. (Primary/Intermediate)
- Pinkney, Andrea Davis. (1997). Bill Pickett: Rodeo-Ridin' Cowboy. Illus. by Brian Pinkney. San Diego, CA: Harcourt. (Primary/Intermediate)
- Pinkney, Andrea Davis. (1998). Duke Ellington. Illus. by Brian Pinkney. New York: Hyperion. (Primary/Intermediate)
- Pinkney, Andrea Davis. (2002). Ella Fitzgerald: The Tale of a Vocal Virtuosa. Illus. by Brian Pinkney. New York: Hyperion. (Primary/Intermediate)
- Pinkney, Andrea Davis. (2013). Martin & Mahalia: His Words, Her Song. Illus. by Brian Pinkney. New York: Little, Brown. (Primary/Intermediate)
- Smith, Charles. R. (2015). 28 Days: Moments in Black History That Changed the World. Illus. by Shane W. Evans. New York: Roaring Brook Press. (Primary/Intermediate)
- Weatherford, Carole Boston. (2006). Moses: When Harriet Tubman Led Her People to Freedom. Illus. by Kadir Nelson. New York: Jump at the Sun/Hyperion. (Primary/Intermediate)
- Weatherford, Carole Boston. (2008). Before John Was a Jazz Giant: A Song of John Coltrane. Illus. by Sean Qualls. New York: Henry Holt. (Primary)

Poetry

- Bryan, Ashley. (1992). Sing to the Sun. New York: HarperCollins. (Primary/Intermediate)
- Forman, Ruth. (2007). Young Cornrows Callin Out the Moon. Illus. by Cbabi Bayoc. New York: Children's Book Press. (Primary/Intermediate)
- Greenfield, Eloise. (1977). Honey, I Love. Illus. by Leo & Diane Dillon. New York: HarperCollins. (Primary/Intermediate)
- Greenfield, Eloise. (1988). Nathaniel Talking. Illus. by Jan Spivey Gilchrist. New York: Black Butterfly Children's Books. (Primary/Intermediate)
- Greenfield, Eloise. (2011). The Great Migration: Journey to the North. Illus. by Jan Spivey Gilchrist. New York: HarperCollins. (Primary/Intermediate)
- Grimes, Nikki. (1994). Meet Danitra Brown. Illus. by Floyd Cooper. New York: HarperCollins. (Primary)
- Hughes, Langston. (1994). The Dream Keeper and Other Poems. Illus. by Brian Pinkney. New York: Scholastic. (Primary/Intermediate)
- Hughes, Langston. (2009). My People. Photo-Illus. by Charles R. Smith, Jr. New York: Atheneum. (Primary/Intermediate)
- Hughes, Langston. (2012). I, Too, Am America. Illus. by Bryan Collier. New York: Simon & Schuster. (Primary/Intermediate)
- Medina, Tony. (2001). Deshawn Days. Illus. by R. Gregory Christie. New York: Lee & Low. (Primary)
- Myers, Walter Dean. (1993). Brown Angels: An Album of Pictures and Verse. New York: HarperCollins. (Primary/Intermediate)
- Shange, Ntozake. (2004). Ellington Was Not a Street. Illus. by Kadir Nelson. New York: Simon & Schuster. (Primary/Intermediate)
- Step toe, Javaka. (Ed.). (1997). In Daddy's Arms I am Tall: African Americans Celebrating Fathers. New York: Lee and Low. (Primary/Intermediate)
- Thomas, Joyce Carol. (2002). Crowning Glory: Hair a Gift Wrapped Ribboned Curled Tied. Illus. by Brenda Joysmith. New York: HarperCollins. (Primary/Intermediate)
- Weatherford, Carole Boston. (2006). Dear Mr. Rosenwald. Illus. by R. Gregory Christie. New York: Scholastic. (Primary/Intermediate)

An Award Given to Authors and Illustrators of African American Children's Literature

The Coretta Scott King Book Award was established in 1969 and the first award was presented in 1970. Here's the website so that you may access previous and current winners of the CSK Book Award: www.ala.org/csk