Celebrate African American Heritage and Culture
with Penguin Young Readers Group

Books for all ages

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New titles from Penguin Young Readers Group
There are approximately 38 million African Americans in the United States according to the most recent census reports. While no longer the largest minority of the U.S. population, African Americans have contributed to the building of this country since the first moment they landed on American soil. African American history has influenced virtually every facet of our country's culture. While many are aware of prominent African American contributions to literature, sports, and the visual arts, many are less informed of other important contributions and innovations in fields like science and technology. African American literature is too valuable to be confined only to February, during Black History month. Librarians and educators should share African American literature with children and teens throughout the year with various lessons and discussions. Through a more constant exposure to African American history and experience, young people can begin to relate on a more personal level. The events of slavery, the Civil War, Reconstruction, and the Depression can take on a meaning through literature that history books often cannot provide.

One source for finding quality African American literature is perusing the winners of the prestigious Coretta Scott King Award. This award introduces the best in African American literature to children of all ages by honoring books by African American writers and illustrators. Since its inception in 1970, in remembrance of the life and works of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and named in honor of Mrs. Coretta Scott King for her courage and determination in the continual struggle for peace and justice, titles bearing the coveted Coretta Scott King medal promote understanding and appreciation of the culture of all peoples and their contributions to the African American culture from both historical and contemporary perspectives. For more information about the Coretta Scott King award please visit: www.ala.org.

There are many different ways to share African American literature with children and young adults. Today's young people should be encouraged to connect with books in a variety of ways as they learn to develop a love of literacy. Think about new and cutting edge ways to excite students about the books they are sharing.

BOOK REVIEWS AND/OR BOOKTALKS
Children and teens love to share their favorite books and stories. Student-written book reviews can be shared in class, in school newsletters and posted on school websites. Booktalks, short commercials that tease the audience and entice them to read a featured book, also make great classroom assignments.

CRAFT ACTIVITIES
Children of all ages love to use their creative juices and sometimes learn best from hands-on experience. Working on crafts in a classroom or holding a group reading activity will help excite kids about the books they are sharing. For example, the class can work on a quilt project after reading Jacqueline Woodson's "Show Way".

STORYTELLING AND READERS' THEATRE
Older students can take an African proverb or folktale and turn it into an extraordinary storytelling adventure to perform for a younger audience. Younger students can perform skits or readers' theatre performances while an instructor or older student narrates the story. Readers' theatre is an interpretive oral reading activity. Students use their voices, facial expressions and hand gestures to interpret characters in scripts or stories. Teachers and students may adapt favorite stories for readers' theatre through collaborative script-writing activities.

ORAL OR LIVING HISTORIES
Invite students to pair up with grandparents or older members of their community. Encourage these elders to share memories and stories of times during the dramatic social changes of the 1950's, 1960's and 1970's.

STORY SOUNDTRACKS
As with many cultures, music is an important part of African American culture. Have the class create a list of favorite songs that match the mood of a story or book. Older teens can create their own song lists through sharing CD's or via Internet sources.

FAMILY FEAST
Family dinners are an important social custom in many African American families. Feed the mind with books and feed the heart with a warm family get together by having each student bring in a favorite family food to share with the class.

Illustration © 2006 by Leonard Jenkins, from Champions on the Bench, by Carole Boston Weatherford
DIFFERENT GENRES

It is important to introduce a variety of literature to all students:

PROVERBS AND FOLKTALES
Children will enjoy the cautionary stories of trickster tales like *Anansi the Spider* and lyrical folktales like *Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain: A Nandi Tale* by Verna Aardema and *The Village that Vanished* by Ann Grifalconi. Timeless folktales, like *The Talking Eggs* by Robert San Souci, will make a good basis for a comparison study of multicultural versions of "Cinderella" stories.

HISTORICAL FICTION
Picture books can be an appealing way to bring history to life for students of all ages. *Freedom on the Menu: The Greensboro Sit-Ins* by Carole Boston Weatherford and *Mandela: From the Life of the South African Statesman* by Floyd Cooper use powerful texts to bring the lessons of history to students with compelling accuracy. *The Red Rose Box* by Brenda Woods brings home the lessons of the civil rights movement in a heartrending coming-of-age story.

CONTEMPORARY REALISTIC FICTION
Younger readers who are just beginning school and starting up new friendships will be able to relate to the story of *Matthew and Tilly* by Rebecca C. Jones. Listeners of all ages will join in the beat to *Violet’s Music* by Angela Johnson. Older readers learning to define their own identities will find *Hush* by Jacqueline Woodson a novel that “speaks” to them. Even the most cynical students will not be able to read *Emako Blue* by Brenda Woods without having an emotional reaction.

NONFICTION
From slave narratives to the civil rights movement, and from baseball to jazz and everything in between, readers of all ages will find heroic inspiration and motivation in the informational titles of *Long Journey Home: Stories from Black History* by Julius Lester, *Martin Luther King, Jr. and the March on Washington* by Frances E. Ruffin, *Negro Leagues: All-Black Baseball* by Laura Driscoll, and *Sophisticated Ladies: The Great Women of Jazz* by Leslie Gourse.

WRAPPING IT UP
Many African Americans can trace their roots and traditions to the cradle of civilization, ancient Africa. Both Africans and African Americans have a culture rich in folklore, history and celebration. When building a collection for African American students, it is important to include titles focusing on African culture and traditions as well as those in the United States.

While it is vital to the educational experience of African American children to expose them to quality literature featuring characters that reflect their experiences and illustrations of children who look just like they do, it’s just as important to remember that these books are not just for African American children, but also for children of all races. Every child can benefit from stories about cultures different from his own. For some children, reading is the only way to experience the world outside.

Kimberly A. Patton has been employed at the Lawrence Public Library, Kansas, for over fifteen years. In 1998, she became the Young Adult Specialist. She recently served on ALA/YALSA’s Quick Picks for Reluctant Readers Committee and the 2006 Coretta Scott King Book Award Jury. She reads A LOT!!!

Illustration © 2007 by Gordon C. James, from *A Song for Harlem*, by Patricia C. McKissack
A IS FOR AFRICA
Ifeoma Onyefulu
Stunning color photographs depict everyday life in Nigeria in this unusual ABC book. “Linked by text that not only describes the picture but also reveals something important about the African way of life.”—Booklist
pb: 978-0-14-056222-4 • $5.99 • 32 pp.
NCSS

ACROSS THE ALLEY
Richard Michelson
Illustrated by E. B. Lewis
From award-winning illustrator E. B. Lewis comes a remarkable tale of friendship between Jewish Abe and African American Willie who bond over a shared ancestry affected by racism. The “friendship of the boys lends hope for a future without racism. Lewis’ s watercolor illustrations are as beautiful as ever…a beautiful blend of story and art.”—Kirkus Reviews

AMAZING GRACE
Mary Hoffman
Illustrated by Caroline Binch
“Grace loves to play make-believe. When her teacher announces that the class will perform Peter Pan, Grace immediately wants to play the lead, even though she’s African-American and a girl. An enjoyable, uplifting story about a very determined young actress.”—School Library Journal ★
RR

ANGEL CITY
Tony Johnston
Illustrated by Carole Byard
Old man Joseph never imagined a family could start this way. But when he finds a Mexican baby abandoned on a lonely L.A. street, he vows to raise it as his own. Joseph keeps his promise and with time he realizes that even in the darkest barrier, there is love. “Johnston’s lyrical, free-verse narrative describes how Joseph, an African American…discovers a Mexican infant. Joseph seeks help from neighbors to unlock the mysteries of baby care and to learn Mexican songs and recipes while sharing the tales and flavors of his own heritage. Those seeking stories depicting nontraditional families or realistic tales of urban life will find a poignant portrait within these pages.”—School Library Journal
hc: 978-0-399-23405-7 • $15.99 • 40 pp.

ASHANTI TO ZULU: AFRICAN TRADITIONS
Margaret Musgrove
Illustrated by Leo & Diane Dillon
Artists Leo and Diane Dillon won their second consecutive Caldecott Medal for this stunning ABC of African culture. “Such an astute blend of aesthetics and information is admirable; the child’s eye will be rewarded many times over.”—Booklist ★
ALA, BG, CM, HB, NY

BABY LOVES JAZZ
Andy Blackman Hurwitz
Illustrated by Andrew Cunningham
Meet Duck Ellington, Miles the Crocodile, Ella Elephant and Charlie Bird—members of the funkiest jazz group around! Each book in the series highlights one of the cool “musicians” and exposes young children to jazz music while teaching them early concepts too.

CHARLIE BIRD COUNTS TO THE BEAT
b & cd: 978-0-8431-2086-8

DUCK ELLINGTON SWINGS THROUGH THE ZOO
b & cd: 978-0-8431-2083-7

ELLA ELEPHANT SCATS LIKE THAT
b & cd: 978-0-8431-2085-1

LOUIS LION SINGS GOOD NIGHT
b & cd: 978-0-8431-2192-6

MILES THE CROCODILE PLAYS THE COLORS OF JAZZ
b & cd: 978-0-8431-2084-4

NURSERY RHYME JAZZ
Illustrated by Brian Coldrick
b & cd: 978-0-8431-2195-7 • $8.99

ON THE ROAD
Illustrated by Teresa Lester
b & cd: 978-0-8431-2208-4 • $8.99

PHILLY JOE GIRAFFE’S JUNGLE JAZZ
b & cd: 978-0-8431-2193-3

AGES 3-8

ASHANTI TO ZULU: AFRICAN TRADITIONS
Margaret Musgrove
Illustrated by Leo & Diane Dillon
Artists Leo and Diane Dillon won their second consecutive Caldecott Medal for this stunning ABC of African culture. “Such an astute blend of aesthetics and information is admirable; the child’s eye will be rewarded many times over.”—Booklist ★
ALA, BG, CM, HB, NY
BESSIE SMITH AND THE NIGHT RIDERS
Sue Stauffacher
Illustrated by John Holyfield
When the great blues singer Bessie Smith comes to town, Emmarene sneaks under the tent and watches Bessie perform. Then the Night Riders arrive intending to burn down the tent. Bessie scares them off and resumes her show. From that night forward, Emmarene knows that she doesn’t have to take any mess from anyone. “This tale of courage would make a fine addition to units on the Civil Rights movement.” —School Library Journal

BLACK COWBOY, WILD HORSES: A TRUE STORY
Julius Lester
Illustrated by Jerry Pinkney
“One of every three cowboys who helped tame the Wild West was either Mexican or black. This is the true story of one of the latter, Bob Lemmons.…Lester and Pinkney’s manifest of love and respect for the West and cowboys of color, whose contributions have been too long overlooked, distinguish their latest collaboration.” —Booklist
BCCB, CCBC, IRA-TC, NCSS

BOUNDLESS GRACE
Mary Hoffman
Illustrated by Caroline Binch
The spunky and charming star of Amazing Grace visits her father in Africa, in this heartwarming sequel. “[A] universal story that is validating, uplifting, and bound to please.” —School Library Journal ★
BCCB, CCBC, IRA-TC, NCSS

THE BOY WHO DIDN’T BELIEVE IN SPRING
Lucille Clifton
Illustrated by Brinton Turkle
“Skeptical King Shabazz and his friend Tony Polito explore their city neighborhood to see if spring really exists. Brinton Turkle’s colorful pictures capture the delight of the two boys as they uncover evidence along the way.” —Library of Congress
pb: 978-0-14-054739-9 • $5.99 • 32 pp.
IRA-TC, NCSS

BRING THE RAIN TO KAPITI PLAIN:
A NANDI TALE
Verna Aardema
Illustrated by Beatriz Vidal
The story of how Ki-pat ingeniously brings rain to the arid Kapiti Plain. “Cumulative rhyming tale with the rhythm and repetition of The House that Jack Built.…Illustrations are stylized, simple, and dramatic.” —School Library Journal
pb: 978-0-14-054616-3 • $7.99 • 32 pp.
NCSS, RR

BROTHERS OF THE KNIGHT
Debbie Allen
Illustrated by Kadir Nelson
“This urban version of The Twelve Dancing Princesses is a strong picture book debut for both Allen and Nelson…Posed in theatrical arrangements and postures, Nelson’s exuberant figures fill his stage-like scene.” —Kirkus Reviews

CAMPY: THE STORY OF ROY CAMPANELLA
David A. Adler
Illustrated by Gordon C. James
Roy Campanella became the first African American catcher to integrate Major League baseball, but his career was cut short by a tragic car crash which left him paralyzed. “…Campy’s inspirational life story, less well known among today’s children than Robinson’s, deserves to be heard…” —Booklist

CARIBBEAN DREAM
Rachel Isadora
(Isadora’s pictures move and sway like a Caribbean breeze. The loveliness of the pictures works in tandem with the honed text; there are only three lines of text per page, but they overflow with meaning. A wonderful read-aloud for individuals or groups.” —Booklist
CCBC
CHAMPIONS ON THE BENCH: THE CANNON STREET YMCA ALL-STARS
Carole Boston Weatherford
Illustrated by Leonard Jenkins
Inspired by true events, this book tells the story of the first ever African American Little League Team to make it to the Little League World Series only to be faced by prejudice and discrimination. Told through the eyes of a young boy named Cleveland, this story will win the hearts of young readers and inspire them.


CHICKEN SUNDAY
Patricia Polacco
“This first-person narrative merges various traditions with the innocent acceptance of childhood. In this moving picture book, the hatred sometimes engendered by racial and religious differences is overpowered by the love of people who recognize their common humanity... here is a quiet, confident voice of hope.” —School Library Journal★

ALA, BCC, CCBC, IRA-CC

THE COLOR OF HOME
Mary Hoffman
Illustrated by Karin Littlewood
“Readers gain a realistic child’s perspective on what it is like to be forced to emigrate from a war-torn country. The sensitively told story also demonstrates the value of art therapy in helping children to make the transition to a new environment. A title that will spark classroom discussion.”

—The Horn Book

IRA-TC

COMING ON HOME SOON
Jacqueline Woodson
Illustrated by E. B. Lewis
“Woodson and Lewis tell a moving historical story of longing and separation. The setting here is the home front during WWII, and Ada Ruth’s mama leaves to find work in the city... The race, class, and gender struggle is part of the larger drama... but for Ada Ruth, it’s the waiting, quietly expressed in her simple, poetic first person narrative... Period and place are wonderfully specific; the yearning is timeless.” —Booklist★

ALA, BB, CH

CORDUROY
Don Freeman
“A winning, completely childlike picture book in which a stuffed bear waiting hopefully in a toy department finds a home with a little black girl. Endearing, brightly colored pictures.” —Booklist


CORNBROWS
Camille Yarbrough
Illustrated by Carole Byard
“Storytellin’ time is a daily affair... as the children sit to have their hair braided, they hear the regal history of cornrowing. Grammaw and Mama describe it as ancient and symbolic, a sign of clan, religion, or social status, and come slavery times, a sign of disgrace.” —Booklist

CSKA, NCSS

DANCING IN THE WINGS
Debbie Allen
Illustrated by Kadir Nelson
“Dancer-choreographer Allen joins forces again with Nelson in their second dance-themed picture book... Sassy is an appealing girl with attitude who learns to accept her less-than-perfect physical features and make the best of her talents.” —Kirkus Reviews

DAYDREAMERS
Eloise Greenfield
Illustrated by Tom Feelings
"Expressive portraits of Black young people—ranging from early innocent childhood to adolescence—are uncannily echoed by the sensitive words. The portrayals display a quiet, pensive vitality."—The Horn Book
ALA, CSKH, RR

THE DEAF MUSICIANS
Pete Seeger and Paul DuBois Jacobs
Illustrated by R. Gregory Christie
Poor Lee used to be a jazzman. But now he’s lost his hearing, and the bandleader had to let him go. After meeting Max, who used to play the sax, Lee decides to put together a sign language band. So who will listen to a deaf musician? Everyone! This is a jazzy tale about the power of music, overcoming obstacles, and all the different ways to hear the world.
Winner of the Schneider Family Award

EMEKA’S GIFT: AN AFRICAN COUNTING STORY
Ifeoma Onyefulu
As a young African boy travels to visit his grandmother, he passes through the market, where he sees lots of things Granny would like. Stunning photographs taken in Emeka’s southern Nigerian village illustrate this counting story. “A wonderful multidimensional story with universal appeal.”—School Library Journal

THE FISHERMAN AND HIS WIFE
The Brothers Grimm
Retold and illus. by Rachel Isadora
Caldecott-Honor winning artist Rachel Isadora brings another classic fairy tale to brilliant life with her stunning collages. Her pictures provide a wonderful new backdrop for this story of the kind fisherman and his greedy wife.

FLOSSIE AND THE FOX
Patricia McKissack
Illustrated by Rachel Isadora
“Flossie must get through the fox-haunted woods with a basket of eggs for Miz Viola. . . . The dialogue, and the comic suspense are almost as irresistible as Rachel Isadora’s joyful drawings . . . makes you purely glad all over.”—The New York Times Book Review

THE FORTUNE-TELLERS
Lloyd Alexander
Illustrated by Trina Schart Hyman
This original folk tale set in Cameroon is full of adventure and sly humor. Lloyd Alexander’s story of a young man visiting—and then becoming—the village fortune-teller is brought to vibrant life with some of Caldecott Medalist Hyman’s most memorable artwork. “A funny, playful story that evokes the irony of the human condition.”
—Booklist ★
ALA, BEC, BG, NCSS, SLJ

FREEDOM ON THE MENU: THE GREENSBORO SIT-INS
Carole Boston Weatherford
Illustrated by Jerome Lagarrigue
“Set in Greensboro, North Carolina, in 1960, this picture book tells a story of desegregation from the viewpoint of one little girl. . . . An author’s note gives background information about the events in Greensboro that year. Simple and straightforward, the first-person narrative relates events within the context of one close-knit family. . . . A handsome book for classroom reading, even for middle-grade students.”—Booklist
pb: 978-0-14-240894-0 • $5.99 • 32 pp.
NCSS

FREEDOM SCHOOL, YES!
Amy Littlesugar
Illustrated by Floyd Cooper
“A fictionalized account of events that took place during the 1964 Mississippi Summer Project in which more than 600 volunteers risked their lives to teach black children in the deep south. . . . Cooper draws faces with exquisite strength and real pain.”—School Library Journal

GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER: THE PEANUT WIZARD
A Smart About Scientists Book
Laura Driscoll
Illustrated by Jill Weber
George Washington Carver was born into slavery, but his dedication and unquenchable thirst for knowledge drove him to become a professor at a time when most institutions of higher learning were closed to blacks.
pb: 978-0-448-43243-4 • $5.99 • 32 pp.
AGES 3-8

GOOGLEs!
Ezra Jack Keats
“A well-loved character, a familiar childhood situation, and an urban setting are the components of this winning picture book, one of Keats’ best.” — Booklist
ALA, CH

GRANDPA’S FACE
Eloise Greenfield
Illustrated by Floyd Cooper
“Evocative text and striking pictures...rich visual images.”
— School Library Journal ★
“Poet Greenfield tells this warm family story with tenderness and grace...A treasure.” — Kirkus Reviews
ALA, NCSS, SLJ

HAIR FOR MAMA
Kelly A. Tinkham
Illustrated by Amy June Bates
“This is a beautifully written story about an African-American family dealing with cancer...The story ends on an optimistic note—after three months, Mama is clear[ed] of cancer and her hair begins to grow back. A simple, sensitive, and articulate look at an illness through the eyes of a child...” — School Library Journal

HEROES AND SHE-ROES:
POEMS OF AMAZING AND EVERYDAY HEROES
J. Patrick Lewis
Illustrated by Jim Cooke
“In this attractively illustrated collection, Lewis spotlights twenty-one famous individuals—Martin Luther King Jr., Rosa Parks, and Gandhi, but he also lauds those who are less well known...This is an important title that will inspire young people and perhaps encourage them to look more deeply into the lives of others as well as their own.” — School Library Journal
NCSS

HE’S GOT THE WHOLE WORLD IN HIS HANDS
Kadir Nelson
“Nelson’s vibrant signature illustrations...breathe new meaning and life into this favorite...spiritual. The simple, repetitious flow of the words and the refrain make this an excellent read-aloud choice as well as a sing-along favorite. A moving, artistic celebration of our world and the people who share in its splendors.”
— School Library Journal ★

THE HIRED HAND
Robert D. San Souci
Illustrated by Jerry Pinkney
“The HIRED HAND explores the danger associated with stealing someone’s magic...The story spins around a New Hand at a sawmill who returns youthfulness to an old man, and a miller’s son who tries unsuccessfully to duplicate that feat for profit...Libraries looking for African-American folktales should consider this title and bask in the splendor of its delivery.” — School Library Journal

HOT CITY
Barbara Joosse
Illustrated by R. Gregory Christie
“Two African-American siblings sit on the front stoop of their apartment building on a summer day wondering what to do for fun...This eloquently told story is boldly illustrated with evocative acrylic paintings...A few word-less spreads fluidly depict Mimi’s imaginary adventure as a fairy-tale princess.” — School Library Journal

I AM ROSA PARKS
A Puffin Easy-to-Read, Level 3
Rosa Parks with Jim Haskins
Illustrated by Wil Clay
“This brief autobiography introduces readers to Rosa Parks and the Montgomery bus boycott. The text is powerful, accessible to beginning readers, and succinctly covers the events surrounding the boycott. Best of all, Parks ends on a positive note with the desire that children will learn respect, not hate.” — School Library Journal
NCSS

I GET SO HUNGRY
Bebe Moore Campbell
Illustrated by Amy Bates
From a bestselling author comes a book about Nikki, a happy girl who can’t help but feel bad when a boy teases her about her weight. When she notices that her teacher has a snacking problem too, Nikki decides that, if they work together, they can both learn to be healthier and happier.
Available May 2008
I SAW YOUR FACE
Kwame Dawes
Illustrated by Tom Feelings
“Dawes begins this book with an introduction that is well worth reading in its entirety. This poem, written in response to [Feelings’s] drawings, is a moving tribute to [his] creativity and artistry. The verses take readers on a global journey through young black faces seen in Africa, North and South America, Europe, and the Caribbean... This is a unique purchase with wide appeal.”
—School Library Journal

JACKIE ROBINSON: HE LED THE WAY
April Jones Prince
Illustrated by Robert Casilla
An ALL ABOARD READING book: STATION STOP 2
In simple, engaging language, and with photographs, this book follows Jackie from childhood through his career as an MVP-award winning baseball player and a hero of the civil rights movement.

JAMBO MEANS HELLO:
A SWAHILI ALPHABET BOOK
Muriel Feelings
Illustrated by Tom Feelings
“The beautiful vision of African life in the text merely hints of the community breathtakingly captured in the illustrations...”
—The Horn Book
ALA, BG, CH, HC, IRA-CC, RR, SLJ

JOHN HENRY
Julius Lester
Illustrated by Jerry Pinkney
“Based on the popular black folk ballad about the contest between John Henry and the steam drill, this picture-book version is a tall tale and a heroic myth, a celebration of the human spirit...told with rhythm and wit, humor and exaggeration...”
—Booklist ★
ALA, CH, CCBC, HB, IRA-TC, NCTE

JUMP!
FROM THE LIFE OF MICHAEL JORDAN
Floyd Cooper
“Cooper...contributes both words and pictures to this stirring childhood profile of basketball legend Michael Jordan...[Children will appreciate this handsome tribute, which credits Jordan’s determination and support from others, more than his prodigious talents, for his glorious success.”
—Booklist
hc: 978-0-399-24230-4 • $15.99 • 40 pp.

KEAT’S NEIGHBORHOOD:
AN EZRA JACK KEATS TREASURY
With an Introduction by Anita Silvey
Ezra Jack Keats is widely acknowledged as one of the first people to feature realistic, friendly, multi-ethnic urban settings in his picture books. Now this beautiful collection brings together nine of his best-loved stories: Apt. 3, Goggles!, Hi, Car! A Letter to Amy, Louie’s Search, Peter’s Chair, Pet Show, The Snowy Day, and Whistle for Willie.
hc: 978-0-670-03586-1 • $27.00 • 128 pp.

KEISHA ANN CAN
Daniel Kirk
Keisha Ann is proud that she can ride the school bus, say the alphabet, share with friends and even help the teacher. As she zips happily through her day, she shows what fun learning and playing can be.
Available May 2008

A LETTER TO AMY
Ezra Jack Keats
“A master of ingenious collages, [Keats] has made brilliant variegated pictures...”
—The Horn Book

LITTLE CLIFF AND THE COLD PLACE
Clifton L. Taulbert
Illustrated by E. B. Lewis
“Lewis’s fresh watercolor illustrations are especially effective in evoking the loving relationship between the dignified African-American Poppa Joe and his great grandson. This sequel to the earlier “Little Cliff” titles stands well on its own.”
—School Library Journal

LITTLE CLIFF AND THE PORCH PEOPLE
Clifton L. Taulbert
Illustrated by E. B. Lewis
“Little Cliff is excited to be sent to Miz Callie’s to get special butter for his great-grandmother’s candied sweet potatoes. Every neighbor he encounters on the way gives Cliff a suggestion and extra ingredient for the ‘magic skillet.’ The old Mississippi setting is authentic, and Lewis’s illustrations add warmth to the simply told story.”
—The Horn Book
LITTLE CLIFF’S FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL
Clifton L. Taulbert
Illustrated by E. B. Lewis
“[F]lavored by dialect that is readily accessible to young readers…Lewis’s large watercolor paintings of the boy with downcast eyes, bowed head, and slumped shoulders speak volumes about his apprehensions. Children will recognize in Cliff’s reactions their own first-day jitters and will be comforted.” —School Library Journal

LOUIE
Ezra Jack Keats
“The harsh unloveliness of inner-city streets is forgotten in the brilliant paintings, which form a backdrop for a tender story of spontaneous unselfishness.” —The Horn Book

LUKE GOES TO BAT
Rachel Isadora
“Grandma takes [Luke] to see the great Jackie Robinson play. After Jackie strikes out twice before hitting a home run, Luke begins to understand that even the greatest players can’t always be perfect. . . . Children mastering new skills will easily relate to Luke’s frustration when early attempts bring failure, and they’ll be comforted by supportive Grandma.” —Booklist
hc: 978-0-399-23604-4  • $15.99  • 32 pp.

MANDELA: FROM THE LIFE OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN STATESMAN
Floyd Cooper
“Focuses on where Mandela came from and how his character was formed, his stubbornness and desire to ‘stand firm’ for what he believes.” —Kirkus Reviews
“The author’s obvious reverence for his subject shines through. —School Library Journal ★
JA, OP

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. AND THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON
An All Aboard Reading Book: Station Stop 2
Frances E. Ruffin
Illustrated by Stephen Marchesi and with photographs
“A good model for nonfiction picture books, this title uses numerous informative illustrations to supplement a spare but factual text…A must-purchase for both school and public libraries.” —School Library Journal

MATTHEW AND TILLY
Rebecca C. Jones
Illustrated by Beth Pack
Set in a diverse neighborhood, this story of friendship tells about two best pals who share everything—even making up after a quarrel. Rich oil paintings “linger in the mind long after they have been seen.” —School Library Journal

ME AND UNCLE ROMIE
Claire Hartfield
Illustrated by Jerome Lagarrigue
“This tribute to collage artist Romare Bearden is movingly executed in a fictionalized story of young James, who visits his aunt and uncle in New York while his parents adjust to the arrival of twins… Lagarrigue’s…collage artwork, like Bearden’s, possesses a real feel for the Harlem setting without actually being realistic… [A] fitting introduction to an American artist.” —Kirkus Reviews

MINTY: A STORY OF YOUNG HARRIET TUBMAN
Alan Schroeder
Illustrated by Jerry Pinkney
“A fictional extrapolation of a few facts about Harriet Tubman’s childhood…Told in rhythmic prose and colloquial dialogue, the plot…is rich with melodrama, suspense, pathos, and, of course, a powerful vision of freedom.” —Kirkus Reviews
ALA, CA, CSKA, IRA-CC, IRA-TC, JA

MOJA MEANS ONE: A SWAHILI COUNTING BOOK
Mariel Feelings
Illustrated by Tom Feelings
“Primarily a Swahili counting book, Moja Means One is also meant to be a gift of heritage, a glimpse at what is unique about East Africa.” —School Library Journal ★
pb: 978-0-14-054662-0  • $6.99  • 32 pp.
JA, CH, HB, SLJ

THE MOST PRECIOUS GIFT: A STORY OF THE NATIVITY
Marty Crisp
Illustrated by Floyd Cooper
“…a worthy entry in the long list of tales about bringing gifts to the Christ Child. This smoothly told story focuses on Amer, a kennel boy (and most probably a slave) for one of the Magi who are following the star to Bethlehem…The well-written text is full of rich language and dramatic moments.” —Kirkus Reviews H
hc: 978-0-399-24296-0  • $16.99  • 32 pp.
MR. LINCOLN’S WAY
Patricia Polacco
“This story is vintage Polacco—a multicultural neighborhood setting, a cast of believable characters (some larger than life), and a satisfying ending guaranteed to bring tears to even hard-boiled cynics…. An excellent choice for story hours, this should prompt some interesting discussions about bullies and their motivations.” —Booklist

MY BEST FRIEND
Mary Ann Rodman
Illustrated by E. B. Lewis
“This simple but powerful picture book speaks to the yearning outsider in every child. Consider it a first purchase for friendship-themed storytimes, bibliotherapy, and for its gorgeous, almost palpably liquid art.” —School Library Journal
SLJ, CZA, EJK, SLJ

MY MAN BLUE
Nikki Grimes
Illustrated by Jerome Lagarrigue
“In a simple, lyrical series of poems, Grimes speaks in the voice of Damon, a child in Harlem, whose ‘missing dad’s left a hole’ and who finds a mentor in Blue, who lost a son to the streets…. A great picture book for older readers.” —Booklist
★
BEC, BLLC

NEGRO LEAGUES: ALL-BLACK BASEBALL
A Smart About History Book
Laura Driscoll
Illustrated by Tracy Mitchell and with photographs
Emily learns about the Negro Leagues that were formed when black players were banned from major league teams. “The enthusiastic, clear delivery makes this entry in the Smart About History series a solid choice for middle-graders…. The vintage black-and-white photos are fascinating, and the lively artwork keeps to the spirit of the game without trivializing the racial inequity.” —The Horn Book
★
NCSS

THE NIGHTINGALE
Hans Christian Anderson
Adapted and illustrated by Jerry Pinkney
“(A) pleasing version of the classic, fresh in its interpretation but true to the spirit of the original…. Each double-page spread is illuminated by artwork that glows with rich colors and teens with lively details.” —Booklist ★
BEC, CCBC, NCTE, SLJ

THE OTHER SIDE
Jacqueline Woodson
Illustrated by E. B. Lewis
“(A) story of friendship across a racial divide. Clover, the young African-American narrator, lives beside a fence that segregates her town…. But one summer morning, Clover notices a girl on the other side. Both children are curious about one another, and as the summer stretches on, Clover and Annie work up the nerve to introduce themselves.”
—School Library Journal ★
BEC, CCBC, NCTE, SLJ

THE PATCHWORK QUILT
Valerie Flournoy
Illustrated by Jerry Pinkney
“The illustrations extend the characterizations in the story and give us something too seldom seen in children’s books: a strong, loving Black family—dressed handsomely, living in a beautiful home, and sharing in the happiness of family gatherings…. The story helps children see how a family’s history could indeed be told from reading a patchwork quilt.” —The Horn Book
★
CSKA

PEEKABOO BEDTIME
Rachel Isadora
This companion to the beloved Peekaboo Morning, by Caldecott Honor winner Rachel Isadora, takes children through the evening in the life of one little adorable toddler.
Available May 2008

PEEKABOO MORNING
Rachel Isadora
“In this sunny, beautifully illustrated game of hide-and-seek, a boisterous African American toddler peeks from under covers, around corners, and through the garden to find her mommy, daddy, grandparents, animals, and a friend…. an exuberant treat for the very young.”
—Booklist
hc: 978-0-399-23602-0 • $15.99 • 32 pp.
bd: 978-0-399-25153-5 • $7.99 • 32 pp.
Available May 2008
AGES 3–8

PERFECT TIMING: HOW ISAAC MURPHY BECAME ONE OF THE WORLD’S GREATEST JOCKEYS
Patsi B. Trollinger
Illustrated by Jerome Lagarrigue
“This picture book biography, Trollinger’s debut title, celebrates a legendary African American jockey…The straightforward text will read aloud well, and the subject will interest boys and girls alike. Lagarrigue’s elegant paintings wonderfully enhance the story.”—Booklist

PET SHOW!
Ezra Jack Keats
“The succinct, satisfying story is illustrated with vibrant, brilliantly colored paintings.”—Booklist

PETER’S CHAIR
Ezra Jack Keats
“A more charming or contemporary child than Peter…is hard to bring to mind.”—School Library Journal
RR

PETER’S NEIGHBORHOOD
EASY-TO-READ SERIES
Anastasia Suen
Illustrated by Allan Eitzen
Welcome to Peter’s Neighborhood! Based on Ezra Jack Keats’s beloved characters, this easy-to-read series follows the antics of Peter and his friends.
THE CLUBHOUSE, Level 2
pb: 978-0-14-250054-5 • hc: 978-0-670-03537-3
HAMSTER CHASE, Level 1
pb: 978-0-14-230134-0
LOOSE TOOTH, Level 2
pb: 978-0-14-250064-4 • hc: 978-0-670-03536-6
WILLIE’S BIRTHDAY, Level 2
hc: 978-0-670-88943-3

PINK AND SAY
Patricia Polacco
“The remarkable story, made even more extraordinary in its basis in actual events, raises questions about courage, war, family, and slavery. A not-to-be-missed tour de force.”—The Horn Book ★

A POCKET FOR CORDUROY
Don Freeman
This charming follow-up to Corduroy shares its entire warmth and gentle humor. Lovable Corduroy, with his quiet determination to find a pocket for his overalls, will appeal especially to young children, who know how important small things like a pocket can be.
b&: 978-0-14-095124-0 • $9.99
pb • SP: 978-0-14-055283-6 • $6.99 • 32 pp.
IRA-CC

THE PRINCESS AND THE PEA
Hans Christian Andersen
Illus. by Rachel Isadora
The classic story of a prince who finds an unlikely princess is made visually vibrant in its African setting, with each of the cast-aside princesses speaking a different African language. “An innovative interpretation of a timeless tale.”—Publishers Weekly

PRINCESS GRACE
Mary Hoffman
Illus. by Cornelius Van Wright & Ying-Hwa Hu
The beloved heroine of Amazing Grace is back! This year two girls will be selected as princesses in the town parade and Grace can’t wait to be one of them. When Grace asks her teacher for help making a costume, the entire class learns that there’s more to princesses than pink dresses and frills.

THE QUILT
Ann Jonas
A small African-American girl is overjoyed with the new patchwork quilt her parents have made. And as she sleeps, it comes alive, turning into a fantastical dreamscape she must enter in order to find her beloved stuffed dog. “It’s a book that captures and articulates a simple truth, and makes us feel affectionate towards it.”
—Christian Science Monitor
ALA

RABBIT MAKES A MONKEY OF LION: A SWAHILI TALE
Verna Aardema
Illustrated by Jerry Pinkney
“Expressive lines and warm watercolors evoke an East African landscape…they aptly reflect the story’s humor…Aardema’s retelling moves nicely, with a mix of description, colloquial explanations, and dialogue.”
—Kirkus Reviews
NCSS
SAM AND THE TIGERS
Julius Lester
Illustrated by Jerry Pinkney
“A sassy retelling of Little Black Sambo, set in the imaginary land of Sam-sam-samara, where animals are people, too, and all the humans are named Sam.”
—Kirkus Reviews
pb: 978-0-14-056288-0 • $6.99 • 40 pp.
ALA, BB, BEC, BL, NCSS, SLJ

THE SECRET OF THE STONES
Robert D. San Souci
Illustrated by James Ransome
“San Souci elaborates on a tale with roots in folklore from both Arkansas and Zaire…Children will be riveted by the tale’s suspense, its see-saw climax, and the scary conjurerman’s squishy demise.”
—Booklist
NCSS

SHOW WAY
Jacqueline Woodson
Illustrated by Hudson Talbott
“Show Ways are quilts with secret meanings—guides to freedom. In this beautiful volume, quilts are the connecting threads of the generations, from Soonie’s great-grandmother, sold away from her Virginia home as a girl of seven, to Soonie’s great-great-granddaughter Toshi, Woodson’s daughter. It’s a celebration of mothers….One of the most remarkable books of the year.”
—Kirkus Reviews ★
NH, ALA, BEC, BLLC, KBB, NCSS, NCTE

SING-ALONG SONG
JoAnn Early Macken
Illustrated by LeUyen Pham
“This bubbly tribute to the joys of music is narrated by an African-American boy who lives in an old Victorian house with his parents and baby sister….The bouncy, rhyming text invites a creative read-aloud interpretation with lots of sound effects on the animal sounds, which are emphasized with a creative type treatment.”
—Kirkus Reviews

SISTER ANNE’S HANDS
Marybeth Lorbiecki
Illustrated by K. Wendy Popp
A girl in a mostly white small town from 1960s America encounters a black teacher at her Catholic school. “With humor and understanding, Lorbiecki writes about a young girl’s coming to terms with racial differences and about the pain that ignorance can cause.”
—The Horn Book
CCBC, NCSS, NCTE

THE SNOWY DAY
Ezra Jack Keats
“In this book sparkling with atmosphere, a small boy experiences the joys of a snowy day. The vividly expressed text points out his new awareness.”
—The Horn Book
pb • SP: 978-0-14-054363-6 • $6.99 • 40 pp.
ALA, CM, RR

SOMETIMES MY MOMMY GETS ANGRY
Bebe Moore Campbell
Illustrated by E. B. Lewis
“Campbell addresses the frightening and depressing effects a parent’s mental illness can have on her child and subtly presents coping strategies for the youngsters. She deftly addresses the strengths of the family and the supportive help that can be found outside the family.”
—Kirkus Reviews
pb: 978-0-14-240359-4 • $5.99 • 32 pp.

STOMPIN’ AT THE SAVOY
Bebe Moore Campbell
Illustrated by Richard Yarde
“Nervous about her jazz recital dance, Mindy follows a magical talking drum to the Savoy Ballroom in 1920s Harlem, where she moves her happy feet to the loud, joyful music of the legendary bands…”
Booklist
hc: 978-0-399-24197-0 • $16.99 • 40 pp.

SUBWAY
Anastasia Suen
Illustrated by Karen Katz
“In brief, rhyming verses, an African-American child describes her ride on the subway, telling how she and her mother enter through a turnstile, board the train, transfer, and arrive at their final destination….The bright, bold artwork depicts each scene in a realistic manner from the child’s point of view.”
—School Library Journal

THE SUNDAY OUTING
Gloria Jean Pinkney
Illustrated by Jerry Pinkney
“In Back Home, Ernestine visited an aunt down South; this book explains how that journey came to happen. The author captures the family’s warm solidarity in a likable narrative…Jerry Pinkney’s splendid watercolors, too, richly evoke the early 1950s.”
—Kirkus Reviews ★
CCBC
THE TALKING EGGS
Robert D. San Souci
Illustrated by Jerry Pinkney
“Adapted from a Creole [Cinderella] folk tale, the story captures the flavor of the nineteenth-century South in its language and story line. The watercolors are chiefly responsible for the excellence of the book.”—The Horn Book
CH, CSKA

TANYA’S REUNION
Valerie Flournoy
Illustrated by Jerry Pinkney
“In the sequel to The Patchwork Quilt, Tanya is eager to go with her grandmother to a family reunion…the essence of the grandmother-grandchild relationship is nicely captured. The pencil-and-watercolor illustrations…are beautifully and lovingly detailed.”—Booklist
IRA-TC, NCSS

THANK YOU, WORLD
Alice B. McGinty
Illustrated by Wendy Anderson Hulperin
Eight very different kids, from eight different countries, all go about the same day and experience the same moments of happiness. Uplifting and visually rich, this book reminds us that the world isn’t as large as it seems.

TREE OF HOPE
Amy Littlesugar
Illustrated by Floyd Cooper
“[The golden days of the Harlem Renaissance of the 1920s have disappeared into the Great Depression.… A director, Mr. [Orson] Welles, arrives…there is to be a staging of Macbeth, and Florrie’ s fathers gets a part. An author’s note attests to the veracity of events in the story.…Cooper’s lush, oil-wash, full-page paintings pay mute tribute to the loss of luster and its regeneration in Harlem.”—Kirkus Reviews
NCSS

THE TWELVE DANCING PRINCESSES
Illustrated by Rachel Isadora
“…A good story, one that sits comfortably in this handsome new setting with its bright patterns and sun-drenched colors…It has the virtue of accessibility for beginning readers.”—The Horn Book Magazine

THE VILLAGE THAT VANISHED
Ann Grifalconi
Illustrated by Kadir Nelson
“Kadir Nelson’s large, handsome illustrations reflect the story’s gravity with their muted tones and stable compositions; a ground-level point of view enhances his characters’ dignity and stature, while meticulous cross-hatching brings out their humanity. Both trickster tale and historical fiction, this is a valuable and unusual addition to the literature about slavery.”—The Horn Book
JAH, NCSS

VIOLET’S MUSIC
Angela Johnson
Illustrated by Laura Huliska-Beith
“This is a jazzy story about an African-American girl who loves music….With an upbeat text that uses lots of sound words, this tale celebrates music as much as it applauds being true to what you love.”
—School Library Journal

WHISTLE FOR WILLIE
Ezra Jack Keats
“Mr. Keats’ s illustrations boldly, colorfully capture the child, his city world, and the shimmering heat of a summer’s day.”—The New York Times
pb • SP: 978-0-14-055766-4 • $5.99 • 32 pp.
ALA

WHO’S IN RABBIT’S HOUSE?: A MASAI TALE
Verna Aardema
Illustrated by Leo and Diane Dillon
Dramatic full-color illustrations tell this lively story of Rabbit and her mysterious houseguest. A skillfully told, hilarious companion to Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People’s Ears. “The Dillons’ rich design….is…vibrant; it’s another eye feast from these prizewinners.”—Booklist★
ALA, RR, SLJ

WHY MOSQUITOES BUZZ IN PEOPLE’S EARS
Verna Aardema
Illustrated by Leo and Diane Dillon
“Elegance has become the Dillons’ hallmark….Matching the art is Aardema’s uniquely onomatopoeic text….An impressive showpiece.”—Booklist★
pb • SP: 978-0-8037-2298-9 • $17.99 • 32 pp.
ALA, CM, IRA-CC, RR, SLJ
A SONG FOR HARLEM:
SCRAPS OF TIME #3
Patricia C. McKissack
Illustrated by Gordon C. James
“McKissack’s third offering in her Scraps of Time historical fiction for new readers examines the life of fictional Lilly Belle Turner in 1928 at the height of the Harlem Renaissance… for newcomers to the period, this will serve as a taste of this rich period in American history.”
—Kirkus Reviews

ABBY TAKES A STAND:
SCRAPS OF TIME #1
Patricia McKissack
Illustrated by Gordon C. James
“A rewarding tale that highlights a lesser-known aspect of America’s pioneer story. McKissack deftly weaves in details of the time, including Buffalo soldiers, the role of the church, and the rise of the Klan. This book is just right for beginning chapter book readers . . . .”
—School Library Journal

BARACK OBAMA: AN AMERICAN STORY
Roberta Edwards
Illustrated by Ken Call
Of mixed race and cultures, Barack Obama struggled for years with his identity. Having found his niche in public service, he has made history as the fifth African American U.S. senator ever to be elected. From Hawaii to Chicago to D.C., Obama’s life has been interesting and inspiring.

BEYOND MAYFIELD
Vaunda Micheaux Nelson
“It’s 1961, and narrator Meg is the only black student in her fourth-grade class, where her white teacher mistrusts her and air-raid drills unnerve her. After Lucky, a white neighbor, approaches Meg’s parents with his interest in the civil rights movement, they become unintentionally complicit in a tragedy that shakes the whole Mayfield community.”
—The Horn Book
hc: 978-0-399-23355-5 • $15.99 • 144 pp.

CHEVROLET SATURDAYS
Candy Dawson Boyd
“This affecting portrayal of a middle-class African-American family builds up a modicum of tension as Joey learns to come to terms with an unsympathetic teacher and his parents’ recent divorce.”
—The Horn Book
pb: 978-0-14-036859-8 • $5.99 • 176 pp.

CIVIL WAR A TO Z: A YOUNG READERS’ GUIDE TO OVER 100 PEOPLE, PLACES, AND POINTS OF IMPORTANCE
Norman Bolotin
“Bolotin provides an excellent overview of the people, places, events, and concepts on needs to know about the U.S. Civil War... Bolotin has a good eye for what students need to understand about the war and provides a great deal of information, skillfully whittled down to its most salient points.”
—Booklist
IRA-TC, NCSS

AMISTAD: A LONG ROAD TO FREEDOM
Walter Dean Myers
“With characteristic scholarship, clarity, insight, and compassion, Myers presents readers with the facts and the moral and historical significance of the Amistad episode... well-researched.”
—School Library Journal
BCCB, IRA-CC

AMISTAD: THE STORY OF A SLAVE SHIP
An All Aboard Reading Book: Station Stop 3
Patricia C. McKissack
Illustrated by Sanna Stanley
In Spanish, Amistad means friendship. It was also the name of a slave ship. In 1838, the Amistad took hundreds of kidnapped Africans on a long journey across the Atlantic, but the brave captives would not give up their freedom, taking over the ship so they could sail back to their homeland.

AWAY WEST:
SCRAPS OF TIME #2
Patricia McKissack
Illustrated by Gordon C. James
“A rewarding tale that highlights a lesser-known aspect of America’s pioneer story. McKissack deftly weaves in details of the time, including Buffalo soldiers, the role of the church, and the rise of the Klan. This book is just right for beginning chapter book readers . . . .”
—School Library Journal

NCSS
DARE TO DREAM: CORETTA SCOTT KING AND THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT
Angela Shelf Medearis
[A] concise, engaging biography for young readers. It charts the milestones in King's life from her early ambitions to be an opera singer through her marriage, her involvement in the civil rights movement, and her continuation of her husband's work after his death. Illustrated with soft pencil drawings as well as numerous black-and-white photographs. —Booklist
pb: 978-0-14-130202-7 • $4.99 • 64 pp.
CCBC

DRITA, MY HOMEGIRL
Jenny Lombard
“In alternating chapters, two fourth graders tell about the development of their unlikely friendship. More a tale of the power of love than of refugees, this first novel is imbued with the language and customs of Kosovo as well as the efforts of a family attempting to regain balance. Read it aloud to groups and let the conversations begin.” —School Library Journal ★
hc: 978-0-399-24380-6 • $15.99 • 112 pp.

ENCORE, GRACE!
Mary Hoffman
Illustrated by June Allan
“Confident, determined Grace is back in a new school year sporting lots of changes that challenge her comfort zone within her circle of friends and immediate family. Hoffman’s successful African-American protagonist provides a wonderful role model for today’s multicultural school community in this second volume of short, clear, event-filled chapters. Good discussion material as well as realistic early fiction for read-aloud sessions.” —Kirkus Reviews

FEATHERS
Jacqueline Woodson
“Frannie is discovering that change does not always come with a bang. Sometimes it can be as simple as a new student showing up at school. The Jesus Boy, as the class calls him, is faced with being the lone white youth in a black school…this book is dynamic as it speaks to real issues that teens face.” —VOYA

FROM SLAVE SHIP TO FREEDOM ROAD
Julius Lester
Illustrated by Rod Brown
“Brown’s brilliant and dramatic paintings of slaves and slavery in America are the attention-riveting basis for this picture book history. It asks African Americans to understand the experience and honor the strength of the ancestors. It asks whites to understand the price exacted by past domination and cruelty on the fabric of society today.” —School Library Journal ★
ALA-YA, BEC, IRA-TC, NCSS

GET ON OUT OF HERE, PHILIP HALL
Bette Greene
Beth Lambert’s got everything going for her—she’s the best student in her grade. She’s sure all of her dreams will come true. But that was before Philip Hall became Number One again. “The irrepressible Beth is as likable as before and just a bit wiser for her experience.” —Kirkus Reviews

THE FRIENDSHIP
Mildred D. Taylor
Illustrated by Max Ginsburg
Cassie Logan from Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry narrates the story of Tom Bee, a kind and heroic man who addresses a white storekeeper by his first name and the outrage and violence his action creates. “From its quiet beginning the tension grows relentlessly in this brief, carefully designed story.” —Kirkus Reviews ★
ALA, CSKA, BG, NCSS

THE GOLD CADILLAC
Mildred D. Taylor
Illustrated by Michael Hays
The South in 1950 proves to be no place for a Black family in a shiny new Cadillac. “Memorable for its economic portrayal of complicated emotions and the social climate that so threatened blacks in the South. The skillful integration of drama and history is admirable.” —Booklist
pb: 978-0-14-038963-0 • $4.99 • 48 pp.
CA, NCSS

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pb: 978-0-14-038963-0 • $4.99 • 48 pp.
CA, NCSS
HIP HOP KIDZ
Jasmine Beller
This compelling new series is to Hip Hop fans what the movie *Fame* was to the High School of Performing Arts. The series is aimed at boys and girls and is based on a real, revolutionary dance program that inspired kids and changed lives nationwide.


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#2 BUST A MOVE
978-0-448-44363-8

#3 FREAKY
978-0-448-44364-5

THE HUNDRED PENNY BOX
Sharon Bell Mathis
Illustrated by Leo and Diane Dillon

“A boy and his hundred-year-old great-great-aunt in... a quietly intense story, illustrated with sepia pictures that make dramatic use of chiaroscuro.” —The Horn Book


ALIA, NH, SLJ

JOURNEY TO THE BOTTOMLESS PIT: THE STORY OF STEPHEN BISHOP & MAMMOTH CAVE
Elizabeth Mitchell

“Embroidering the skimpy historical record with invented dialogue and details, Mitchell presents the story of this country’s first great cave explorer—a slave (until the last few years of his life) assigned to guide tourists visiting Kentucky’s Mammoth Cave...[T]his effectively raises the profile of an American who deserves to be better known, and also provides a tantalizing glimpse into an underground world that even now has not been fully explored.” —Kirkus Reviews


MISSISSIPPI BRIDGE
Mildred D. Taylor
Illustrated by Max Ginsburg

“Jeremy Simms witnesses a scene of injustice when a bus driver orders the black passengers off the bus from Jackson to make room for white passengers. Then, in the driving rain, disaster strikes, bringing a shocking end to the day’s drama. “Well written and thought provoking, this book will haunt readers and generate much discussion.” —School Library Journal

pb: 978-0-14-130817-3 • $4.99 • 64 pp.

MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE: VOICE OF BLACK HOPE
Milton Meltzer
Illustrated by Stephen Marchesi

Bethune fought the Ku Klux Klan, segregation, and race riots while starting the school that eventually became Bethune-Cookman Junior College. She later advised President Roosevelt and helped to open the doors of the government to blacks. Her quiet, persistent efforts come alive in this “affecting profile.” —Booklist

pb: 978-0-04-032219-4 • $4.99 • 64 pp.

MAYA ANGELOU: JOURNEY OF THE HEART
Jayne Pettit

Based in part on Angelou’s autobiography. “Pettit makes [Angelou’s] stirring story accessible... while retaining a strong sense of Angelou’s personal voice.” —Booklist


MAYFIELD CROSSING
Vaunda Micheaux Nelson
Cover Illustrated by Leonard Jenkins

“Jones, 1960, and... fourth-grader Meg narrates the story of the Mayfield children and their first encounter with racial prejudice. Always true to the child’s point of view, the story is so involving, and Nelson’s characters are so realistic, that the reader’s sympathies are thoroughly engaged... An accessible microcosm of racial issues and human relationships.” —Booklist ★

pb: 978-0-698-11930-7 • $5.99 • 96 pp.

MISSISSIPPI BRIDGE
Vaunda Micheaux Nelson
Cover Illustrated by Leonard Jenkins

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LONG JOURNEY HOME: STORIES FROM BLACK HISTORY
Julius Lester

Lester captures the essence of African-American history in six timeless stories about slavery that are based on historical fact. “[The stories] are brought vividly to life by Lester’s gifted storytelling. The book focuses on those individuals who, though less well known, played an important part in African-American history.” —The Horn Book


HB, NBA, SLJ

MISSISSIPPI BRIDGE
Mildred D. Taylor
Illustrated by Max Ginsburg

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pb: 978-0-698-11930-7 • $5.99 • 96 pp.

MISTER AND ME
Kimberly Willis Holt
Illustrated by Leonard Jenkins

“This down-to-earth story of an African-American family living in a 1940’s Louisiana milltown unfolds at a steady pace, drawing the reader along... Holt’s characters... introduce themselves as easily as neighbors proffering buttermilk pie.” —The Horn Book


CCBC
MY BLACK ME: A BEGINNING BOOK OF BLACK POETRY
Edited by Arnold Adoff
These fifty poems are a timeless expression of the black experience in America. The spirited voices of twenty-six African-American poets, from Langston Hughes to Sonia Sanchez, shine through in this classic collection. “There are notes of irony, lament, and bemusement here along with… pride and celebration.” —Kirkus Reviews
ALA, CCBC, IRA-CC, NCSS

THE OLD AFRICAN
Julius Lester
Illustrated by Jerry Pinkney
“Illustrated with Pinkney’s powerful illustrations, this picture book presents an unflinching account of the brutal history and a close-up of personal courage, told with a lyrical magical realism that draws on slave legend and the dream of freedom.... The triumph over oppression is in the unforgettable words and pictures of individual people and the connections between them.” —Booklist ★
NCSS

PHILIP HALL LIKES ME. I RECKON MAYBE.
Bette Greene
Illustrated by Charles Lilly
“Beth Lambert has a powerful crush on her classmate, Philip Hall—and an even stronger competitive streak. “Beth Lambert is an energetic and spirited young black girl whose spunk rings true from start to finish....It’s a fresh, humorous romp, full of the vitality of girls and boys growing up.” —School Library Journal
pb: 978-0-14-130312-3 • $5.99 • 144 pp.
ALA, NH

PORTRAITS OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN HEROES
Tonya Bolden
Paintings by Ansel Pitcairn
“In an informative introduction, the editor, artist, and author discuss the process used to select the inspirational African-Americans for these ‘studies in true grit’. Each essay includes a highlighted quotation to further illuminate each person’s particular philosophy. Pitcairn seems unerringly to have captured the souls of these remarkable people. A fascinating and unique collection.” —Kirkus Reviews
pb: 978-0-14-240473-7 • $11.99 • 96 pp.
hc: 978-0-525-47043-4 • $18.99 • 96 pp.

RABBLE ROUSERS: 20 WOMEN WHO MADE A DIFFERENCE
Cheryl Harness
From Sojourner Truth to Ann Lee, here are short, spirited profiles of twenty women who impacted life in America by speaking out against injustice and fighting for social improvements. “Harness writes with ease about her strong-willed subjects, and she has decorated her stories with a striking sepia-toned oval portrait of each woman, as well as highly detailed full-color scenes that reflect the time periods.” —Booklist
pb: 978-0-525-47035-9 • $17.99 • 64 pp.

THE REAL LUCKY CHARM
Charisse K. Richardson
Illustrated by Eric Velasquez
“Basketball-loving fans just beyond the easy-reader stage will find this to be the right mix of sports and life lessons as Mia learns that luck comes when you work hard and practice, not when you rub a charm. Extremely well-rendered pencil drawings bring Mia and her African American family solidly to life.” —Booklist
pb: 978-0-14-240431-7 • $4.99 • 96 pp.

THE REAL SLAM DUNK
Charisse K. Richardson
Illustrated by Kadir Nelson
“Marcus and Mia Robinson, genial elementary-school-aged twins, are excited about meeting fictional NBA star Jason Carter...[A] feel-good lesson for the youngest reader. Engaging cover and black-and-white interior art will draw many fans, especially those elusive boy readers. ...[T]he straightforward, accessible story will invite [readers] to stay for the end of the game.” —Kirkus Reviews

THE RED ROSE BOX
Brenda Woods
“A timeless universal tale of a young girl’s road to maturity. An impressive debut.” —Kirkus Reviews “Delicately and richly drawn. Provides more insight into the forces behind the civil rights movement than many novels...and it’s also a quietly touching story of a girl’s survival.” —Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books
pb: 978-0-14-250151-1 • $5.99 • 144 pp.
CSKH
REMEMBER THE BRIDGE: POEMS OF A PEOPLE
Carole Boston Weatherford
Illustrated with photographs
Twenty-nine original poems celebrate four hundred years in the history of African Americans. “From the slave trade to the Civil Rights movement, the author evokes imagined and actual individual experiences of the people—some famous, some not—in the historical black-and-white photos, drawings, and etchings.”—School Library Journal
hc: 978-0-399-23726-3 • $17.99 • 56 pp.
IRA-TC, NCSS

THE ROAD TO PARIS
Nikki Grimes
Paris has just moved in with the Lincoln family and isn’t thrilled to be in yet another foster home. She is having an especially hard time being separated from her brother and the only black girl in the neighborhood. “Grimes has created a real little girl whose growth is perfectly paced and believable...Paris’s story is touching and worth a place in most collections.”—Kirkus Reviews
hc: 978-0-399-24537-4 • $15.99 • 160 pp.
CSK

SIDEWALK STORY
Sharon Bell Mathis
Tanya and her family were being evicted. It didn’t matter if nobody else in the city cared; Lily Etta did. She knew what friendship was, and she wasn’t going to let her friend be thrown out without a fight. “An affecting, sensitive story.”—Booklist
pb: 978-0-14-032165-4 • $4.99 • 64 pp.

SONG OF THE TREES
Mildred D. Taylor
Illustrated by Jerry Pinkney
A moving story, based on a true incident in the author’s family, about a black family’s struggle to keep their property in the racially prejudiced South during the Depression. “The simple story has been written with great conviction and strength, and Cassie’s descriptions of the trees add a poetic touch.”—The Horn Book
pb: 978-0-14-250057-9 • $5.99 • 64 pp.

SOUl LOOKS BACK IN WONDER
Tom Feelings
“Thirteen distinguished poets, including Maya Angelou, Lucille Clifton, and Margaret Walker, provide words to compliment Feelings’ stunning art in this picture book anthology celebrating African-American culture and history...a very successful marriage of poetry and art.”—Booklist
pb: 978-0-14-056501-0 • $7.99 • 40 pp.
CSKA, JAH

STARRING GRACE
Mary Hoffman
Illustrated by Caroline Binch
“A favorite picture-book star appears in her first chapter book. With Grace’s lively imagination as fuel, she and friends, Aimee, Kester, Rai, and Maria find plenty of make-believe scenarios with which to while away the summer...Grace is as appealingly irrepressible as ever.”—The Horn Book
pb: 978-0-14-230022-0 • $4.99 • 96 pp.

THE TALES OF UNCLE REMUS: THE ADVENTURES OF BRER RABBIT
Retold by Julius Lester
Illustrated by Jerry Pinkney
“Lester has retold 48 of the folktales in standard English but with a strong feel for the dialect of the original stories...as lively as the originals with a liveliness of their own, as he incorporates modern allusions which never seem out of place.”
—School Library Journal ★
pb • PMC: 978-0-14-240720-2 • $5.99 • 160 pp.
ALA, CSK, NCSS

THEY LED THE WAY: 14 AMERICAN WOMEN
Johanna Johnston
Illustrated by Deanne Hollinger
The battle for equal rights began hundreds of years ago and there were many strong, influential women who fought hard for their freedom and for the freedom of others. From Harriet Beecher Stowe, who wrote a book that helped to abolish slavery, to Phillis Wheatley, America’s first African-American poet, these are the inspiring stories of women who changed a nation.

UNCLE REMUS: THE COMPLETE TALES
Retold by Julius Lester
Illustrated by Jerry Pinkney
Brer Rabbit is causing trouble again for his fellow creatures Brer Fox, Brer Wolf, and the rest in this omnibus edition of Uncle Remus stories.
hc: 978-0-8037-2451-8 • $35.00 • 688 pp.
THE WARM PLACE
Nancy Farmer
“The Warm Place is what young giraffe Ruva senses when she is headed in the right direction—back home to Africa and her mother. Captured by the evil Slope family and taken to a zoo, Ruva escapes and heads home. Farmer’s original characters and events successfully inhabit a formula at least as old as the Oz.”—The Horn Book
pb: 978-0-14-037956-3 • $5.99 • 160 pp.

THE WELL
Mildred D. Taylor
The Logan family shares their well water with all their neighbors, black and white alike. But David and Hammer find it hard to share with Charlie Simms, who torments them because they are black. Narrated by young David Logan, Cassie’s father in Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry. “A brief but compelling novel about prejudice and the saving power of human dignity.”—School Library Journal ★
pb: 978-0-14-038642-4 • $5.99 • 96 pp.
ALA, ALA-QP, IRA-TC, JA, NCSS, NCTE

WHO WAS HARRIET TUBMAN?
A Who Was…? Book
Yona Zeldis McDonough
Illustrated by Nancy Harrison
Born a slave in Maryland, Harriet Tubman knew first-hand what it meant to be someone’s property; she was whipped by owners and almost killed by an overseer. It was from other field hands that she first heard about the Underground Railroad, which she traveled by herself north of Philadelphia. Throughout her life and long after the Civil War brought an end to slavery, this amazing woman was proof of what just one person can do.

WHO WAS KING TUT?
A Who Was…? Book
Roberta Edwards
Illustrated by True Kelley
Cover Illustrated by Nancy Harrison
Ever since Howard Carter uncovered King Tutankhamun’s tomb in 1922, the young pharaoh has become a symbol of the wealth and mystery of ancient Egypt. This Who Was…? is complete with 100 black-and-white illustrations and explains the life and times of this ancient Egyptian ruler, covering the story of the tomb’s discovery, as well as myths and so-called mummy curses.

WHO WAS MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.?
A Who Was…? Book
Bonnie Bader
Illustrated by Elizabeth Wolf
Cover illustration by Nancy Harrison
With clearly written text that explains a tumultuous time in history and 80 black-and-white illustrations, this account celebrates the vision and legacy of the remarkable civil rights leader.

WHO WAS LOUIS ARMSTRONG?
A Who Was…? Book
Yona Zeldis McDonough
Illustrated by John O’Brien
Cover Illustrated by Nancy Harrison
It was a teacher at the Colored Waif’s Home who gave him a coronet, promoted him to band leader, and saw talent in the tough kid from the even tougher New Orleans neighborhood called Storyville. But it was Louis Armstrong’s own passion and genius that pushed jazz into new and exciting realms.

WHO WAS MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.?
AFTER TUPAC AND D FOSTER
Jacqueline Woodson

The day D Foster enters Neeka and her best friend’s lives, the world opens up for them. D comes from a world vastly different from theirs and though they are all crazy about Tupac’s rap music, D is the one who truly understands where he’s coming from. But then D leaves and the narrator realizes how deeply even the briefest connections can reach.


AMERICANS WHO TELL THE TRUTH
Robert Shetterly

“In tribute to this country’s proud tradition of protest, fine artist Shetterly has chosen fifty Americans who have stood up for what he calls ‘the promise of America,’ presenting them in a series of accurately painted portraits…[T]his gallery of writers, politicians, rabble-rousers, troublemakers, scientists, celebrities and activists will have a stirring cumulative effect…on children.” —Kirkus Reviews ★


IRA, NCSS

AMOS FORTUNE, FREE MAN
Elizabeth Yates

Illustrated by Nora S. Unwin

“After more than 40 years of servitude Amos was able to purchase his freedom and in time that of several others.….This is a sensitively written and moving story of a life dedicated to the fight for freedom and service to others.” —Booklist


ALA, NM

BETWEEN MADISON AND PALMETTO
Jacqueline Woodson

“In simple, delicately tuned language, each interaction is evoked in dialogue that explores the choices these thoughtful characters confront, while their close-knit community, made up of people who truly care about each other, comes nicely to life.” —Kirkus Reviews ★


ALA, ALA-YA

BIRD
Angela Johnson

“Bird confronts friendship, family, and human limitations in this poignant tale….Told through the alternating voices of Bird, Jay and Ethan, this moving journey follows three lonely people as they touch each other’s lives. A lovely and sad glimpse of individuals caring for one another in an imperfect world.” —Kirkus Reviews ★


ALA, ALA-YA

CALEB’S CHOICE
G. Clifton Wisler

In 1858 Texas, people are violently divided over a law that makes it a crime to help runaway slaves. When an escaped slave saves his life, Caleb knows he has a debt to repay. But will he risk his life to help two slaves escape? “Fast paced and filled with details that illuminate a less well-known escape route than the Underground Railroad.” —School Library Journal

pb: 978-0-14-038256-3 • $4.99 • 144 pp.

CHARLIE PIPPIN
Candy Dawson Boyd

“Chartreuse ‘Charlie’ Pippin is an 11-year-old black girl living in California. . . . Her decision to learn about the Vietnam War as a school report only leads to further conflict with her [Vietnam vet] father, who refuses to discuss the war. The domestic resolution is not so much a peace settlement as a cease-fire. A good novel about vital people and important issues.” —School Library Journal

pb: 978-0-14-032587-4 • $5.99 • 192 pp.

IRA-CC

DAILY LIFE ON A SOUTHERN PLANTATION 1853
Paul Erickson

“Through words and images, this book shows what life was like on a cotton plantation in Louisiana in 1853 from the point of view of both the landowner and the slaves….The bulk of the book gives children an hour-by-hour tour of the plantation, discussing what each group of people would be doing.” —School Library Journal

pb: 978-0-14-056668-0 • $7.99 • 48 pp.

NCSS

THE EAR, THE EYE AND THE ARM
Nancy Farmer

Zimbabwe, 2194. When General Matsika’s children sneak out on a forbidden adventure and disappear, he calls on Africa’s most unusual detectives. “[W]eaving African tribal heritage and lore into a rich tapestry featuring a witty projection of the future a nonstop adventure.” —Kirkus Reviews


ALA, ALA-YA, NH

THE PILL
Gail Stewart

“With heart-stopping intensity, Gail Stewart shows how one young girl navigates the personal and political worlds of the 1950s.” —School Library Journal

pb: 978-0-14-031403-7 • $6.99 • 256 pp.

ALA, ALA-YA

THE YANKEE TAPESTRY
Sara C. Glass

By George. That was all. He felt suddenly excited. There was a strange, dizzying feeling making him giddy, and he didn’t know what to do with it. It was like a new awareness, like the first time he heard the Yankee Tapestry. —School Library Journal


ALA, NCSS

THE YELLOW PANDORA
Suzanne Barchard

When Linda Finlay is adopted by a white family, she is thrust into a world of prejudice and hate. “A story of courage, love, and friendship.” —School Library Journal

pb: 978-0-14-038256-3 • $4.99 • 144 pp.

ALA, ALA-YA

EDGAR ALLAN
John Neufeld

This is the poignant, deeply moving story of a white family that adopts a black child. “This is not a novel about prejudice or race relations of brotherhood, or anything so simple. It is about parents and children,…love and failure…coming to terms with oneself and other….A work of art.” —The New York Times

pb: 978-0-14-130432-8 • $5.99 • 128 pp.

ALA
ESCAPE TO FREEDOM: A PLAY ABOUT THE LIFE OF YOUNG FREDERICK DOUGLASS
Ossie Davis
“The play has the kind of drawing power that could make it a frequently performed favorite.” —Booklist. “This play emphasizes Douglass’ proud determination…[and is] a natural choice for school and other group programs.” —Kirkus Reviews
pb: 978-0-14-034355-7 • $4.99 • 96 pp.
ALA, CSKA

FAST SAM, COOL CLYDE, AND STUFF
Walter Dean Myers
“ Myers explores the value and meaning of true friendship….The tone is alternately funny, sad, and sentimental, but it is always natural and appealing.” —School Library Journal
“A ‘Harlem Tom Sawyer’ that has delighted readers for over twenty years!” —The Horn Book
pb: 978-0-14-032613-0 • $5.99 • 192 pp.
ALA, IRA-CC

FREEDOM SONGS
Yvette Moore
“This historical novel that opens on Good Friday morning in 1963 is the story of the impact of the beginnings of the civil rights movement on a Brooklyn teenager with family roots in the South….Much of the story centers on how the kids struggle to achieve their goal and how that struggle changes them. The narrative resonates with the details and emotions of the times.” —School Library Journal
NCSS

FREEDOM’S CHILDREN: YOUNG CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVISTS TELL THEIR OWN STORIES
Ellen Levine
In this inspiring collection of true stories, thirty African-Americans who were children or teenagers in the 1950s and 1960s talk about what it was like to fight segregation. “Remarkable testimonials…A must for all collections.” —School Library Journal ★
pb: 978-0-698-11870-6 • $7.99 • 192 pp.
ALA-YA, BEC, NCSS, JA

A GIRL NAMED DISASTER
Nancy Farmer
Before her twelfth birthday, Nhamo learns that she must marry a cruel man with three other wives and decides to run away. “This wonderfully resourceful young woman is surrounded by an equally lively, colorful cast….As rewarding, and as challenging, as The Ear, The Eye and the Arm.” —Kirkus Reviews ★
ALA, ALA-YA, HB, NH, NBAH

JAZMIN’S NOTEBOOK
Nikki Grimes
“With exuberance, passion, perception, and wit, 14-year-old Jazmin Shelby fills her notebook with glimpses of her life, neighborhood, family, and dreams in Harlem in the 1960s. Her gritty determination to survive and succeed is inspiring and heartwarming.” —School Library Journal ★
BEC, CSKH

THE LAND
Mildred D. Taylor
“(T)he central conflict of Paul-Edward Logan’s life: his daddy and white brothers love him, but he can never be their equal….Pride causes Paul-Edward to leave his father’s land in Georgia…to Mississippi [where] he finds and struggles to buy the land that will sustain the Logan family for generations to come.” —Kirkus Reviews
BEC, BB, IRA-YA, NCTE, CSKA

LAST SUMMER WITH MAIZON
Jacqueline Woodson
“Eleven-year-old Margaret is devastated when her father dies and her best friend, Maizon, having won a scholarship to an exclusive boarding school, leaves her behind. With the help of several adults—all women—Margaret’s difficult season becomes a time of growth and self-discovery.” —The Horn Book
hc: 978-0-399-23755-3 • $17.99 • 112 pp.

HUSH
Jacqueline Woodson
“Twelve-year-old, [Evie Thomas’s] life is ripped apart when her policeman father testifies against his comrades in a racially motivated shooting, placing his family in jeopardy. Now they are living in a strange city in the Witness Protection Program. …[Readers] will come away with images and characters who are impossible to forget.” —School Library Journal
pb: 978-0-14-250049-1 • $5.99 • 192 pp.
hc: 978-0-399-23114-8 • $15.99 • 192 pp.
National Book Award Finalist, ALA-YA

JIP: HIS STORY
Katherine Paterson
Jip has been content to work on the town poor farm until the day Put arrives. He seems terrifying, but as the weeks pass, Jip sees him for who he truly is. When a menacing stranger comes to town, Jip turns to his new friend to help make sense of his past. “Readers will be talking and thinking about this book long after they finish the last chapter.” —School Library Journal ★
ALA, ALA-YA, BEC, NCTE, JA, SLJ, SO

THE LAND
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hc: 978-0-399-23755-3 • $17.99 • 112 pp.
LET THE CIRCLE BE UNBROKEN
Mildred D. Taylor
“This dramatic sequel to Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry is a powerful novel...capable of touching readers of any age. (It) has so much of what we need today: hard truth courageously told, deep love that binds and strengthens, dignity in the face of oppression, and warmth and humor rooted in compassion.'—The Christian Science Monitor
pb: 978-0-14-034892-7 • $7.99 • 400 pp.
ALA, ALA-YA, CSKA, NBA, NCSS

MY NAME IS SALLY LITTLE SONG
Brenda Woods
This story about a slave girl hidden among an Indian tribe delivers a breathtaking account of being caught between two worlds. “The action is fast, the journey fraught with danger; the details bring it home.”—Booklist
pb: 978-0-14-240943-5 • $5.99 • 192 pp
hc: 978-0-399-24312-7 • $15.99 • 176 pp.

LOCOMOTION
Jacqueline Woodson
“In a masterful use of voice, Woodson allows Lonnie’s poems to tell a complex story of loss and grief and to create a gritty, urban environment....Lonnie’s foster mother and the other minor characters are three-dimensional, making the boy’s world a convincingly real one.”—School Library Journal ★
pb: 978-0-14-240149-1 • $5.99 • 112 pp.
hc: 978-0-399-23113-1 • $15.99 • 128 pp.
National Book Award Finalist, CSKH, BG

OUR SECRET, SIRI AANG
Cristina Kessler
“Told from the viewpoint of a Masai girl in Kenya today, this novel brings close the painful conflict between the traditional and modern in a changing world. In the exciting opening scene Namelok, 12, witnesses the birth of a baby rhinoceros in the bush and vows to keep it secret to protect the animals from dangerous poachers....Kessler...writes with authority about both the wildlife and the cultural struggle”—Booklist ★

MAIZON AT BLUE HILL
Jacqueline Woodson
“In this sequel to Last Summer with Maizon, Maizon enrolls at Blue Hill, a private girls’ school some distance from her home. As a boarder and away from home for the first time, she feels misplaced, confused, and lonely, and as one of only five black students, she is constantly trying to fit in. Valuable reading for all.”—The Horn Book
pb: 978-0-698-11957-4 • $5.99 • 144 pp.
ALA

THE ROAD TO MEMPHIS
Mildred D. Taylor
“Continuing the saga of the Logan family, Cassie recounts harrowing events during late 1941....As in other Logan stories, the painful, authentic, vividly portrayed injustices follow one after another, each making its point....An engrossing, capably written picture of fine young people endeavoring to find the right way in a world that persistently wrongs them.”—Kirkus Reviews ★
ALA, ALA-YA, CSKA, IRA-TC, NCSS

MAKING IT HOME
Introduction by Beverly Naidoo
“Workers from the International Rescue Committee retell the stories of 18 of the millions of children who, because of war, have fled their homes....[T]heir stories demonstrate their resilience, their enjoyment of new friends, their willingness to work at school and to dream.”—Kirkus Reviews ★
pb: 978-0-14-240455-3 • $6.99 • 144 pp.

ROLL OF THUNDER, HEAR MY CRY
Mildred D. Taylor
“The vivid story of a black family whose warm ties to each other and their land give them strength to defy rural Southern racism during the Depression....Entirely through its own internal development, the novel shows the rich inner rewards of black pride, love, and independence despite the certainty of outer defeat.”—Booklist ★
ALA, BGH, HB, NM, NBA, NCSS

MIRACLE’S BOYS
Jacqueline Woodson
“A compelling novel about three brothers trying to help one another confront their personal demons....Woodson’s characterizations and dialogue are right on. The dynamics among the brothers are beautifully rendered....readers should find this story of tough, self-sufficient young men to be powerful and engaging.”—School Library Journal ★
pb: 978-0-698-11916-1 • $5.99 • 192 pp.
hc: 978-0-399-23113-1 • $15.99 • 192 pp.
ALA-YA, CSKA

MY NAME IS SALLY LITTLE SONG
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This story about a slave girl hidden among an Indian tribe delivers a breathtaking account of being caught between two worlds. “The action is fast, the journey fraught with danger; the details bring it home.”—Booklist
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hc: 978-0-399-24312-7 • $15.99 • 176 pp.

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pb: 978-0-14-240943-5 • $5.99 • 192 pp
hc: 978-0-399-24312-7 • $15.99 • 176 pp.
ROSA PARKS: MY STORY
Rosa Parks with Jim Haskins
“A remarkable story…a document of social significance, a taut drama told with candor.”
—The Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books
ALA, ALA-QP, ALA-YA

THE SHIMMERSHINE QUEENS
Camille Yarbrough
Angie learns about a new kind of dreaming…the kind the slaves used to do to keep up their courage. As Angie begins to find her inner strength, she gains respect for her African heritage. “A vivid depiction of the troubles facing students in inner-city schools. A brave book.”—Booklist ★
B.EC

SLAVERY TIME WHEN I WAS CHILLUN
Belinda Hurmence
“This disturbing collection of slave narratives raises as many questions about how we know history as it does about the atrocity of slavery and its aftermath. Hurmence has selected and edited 12 oral histories from more than 2,000 recorded in 1936 for the Works Progress Administration of the Library of Congress. . . . Her introduction . . . will stimulate class discussion.”—Booklist
pb: 978-0-399-23194-0 • $13.99 • 144 pp.
CW, NCSS

SOUND THE JUBILEE
Sandra Forrester
“Forrester writes about a community of runaway slaves who have found freedom on Roanoke Island during the Civil War. The story gives a vivid sense of the times.”—Booklist
pb: 978-0-14-037930-3 • $5.99 • 192 pp.
NCSS

SOPHISTICATED LADIES: THE GREAT WOMEN OF JAZZ
Leslie Gourse
Illustrated by Martin French
“Fourteen ‘sophisticated ladies’—singers of blues and jazz—are profiled in this fascinating collection of biographical sketches. . . . Gourse’s clear, well-pitched prose powerfully evokes the magic of each singer’s style and sound, and a discography of reissued CDs happily puts the actual music within the reader’s reach.”—VOYA
hc: 978-0-525-47198-1 • $19.99 • 64 pp.

THE STARPLACE
Vicki Grove
“Frannie’s life is tightly bounded by small-town conventions until the arrival of Celeste, the first black student at Quiver Junior High. . . . The account of Frannie’s emerging conscience, increasing awareness of history, and developing friendship with Celeste is compelling.”
—The Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books
SLJ

A STRONG RIGHT ARM: THE STORY OF MAMIE “PEANUT” JOHNSON
Michelle Y. Green
“This isn’t an autobiography, but the author, who obviously interviewed her subject extensively, wisely tells the story in the first person. Consequently, whereas some sports biographies are a rather dull catalog of accomplishments, this one is peppered with colorful language and filled with Johnson’s natural exuberance and love of life.”
—School Library Journal
CW, NCSS

THEY HAD A DREAM: THE CIVIL RIGHTS STRUGGLE FROM FREDERICK DOUGLASS TO MARCUS GARVEY TO MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. AND MALCOLM X
Jules Archer
“Eloquent, intelligent, and readable, Archer’s collective political biography of four great American leaders integrates their individual stories with a general history of the civil rights struggle from slavery to the 1960s.”—Booklist

TO BE A SLAVE
Julius Lester
Illustrated by Tom Feelings
“Julius Lester has assembled from the words of slaves and his own pointed but unobtrusive commentary one of the most powerful documents to appear in children’s literature.”—School Library Journal ★
hc: 978-0-8037-2347-4 • $20.00 • 168 pp.
 pb • PMC: 978-0-14-240386-0 • $5.99 • 176 pp.
ALA, HBH, NH

AGES 10 and UP
TRAPPED BETWEEN THE LASH AND THE GUN: A BOY’S JOURNEY
Arvela Whitmore
“Juxtaposing modern times and pre-Civil War days, Whitmore crafts a compelling story of a young boy’s struggle for identity in the face of peer pressure and lack of male guidance. Twelve-year-old Jordan Scott is determined to stay in ‘the hood’ rather than move to the suburbs…[when suddenly] Jordan finds himself flung back in time to a place where he can no longer take his personal freedom for granted.” —VOYA
pb: 978-0-14-130319-2 • $5.99 • 192 pp.
ALA-YA

TREMBLING EARTH
Kim Siegelson
“[T]his Civil War novel is told from the viewpoint of Hamp, 12, a poor white kid in the Okefenokee Swamp area, who, with his dog, tracks down a runaway [slave], Duff, for the bounty. But the two fight and bond, then Hamp helps Duff escape.…The survival adventure will draw kids, many of whom will want to talk about how Hamp overcomes his prejudice and learns the hard truth.” —Booklist ★
hc: 978-0-399-24021-8 • $17.99 • 176 pp.

UP CLOSE: ELLA FITZGERALD
Tanya Lee Stone
The First Lady of Song had a silky voice that crooned jazz standards for over fifty years. But who was the woman behind the name? This biography delivers several never-before-published details of this intensely private, legendary singer’s life.

WE BEAT THE STREET: HOW A FRIENDSHIP PACT LED TO SUCCESS
The Three Doctors (Drs. Sampson Davis, George Jenkins, and Rameck Hunt) with Sharon M. Draper
“What started out as three boys skipping class turned out to be ‘the most significant experience of our lives,’ says George Jenkins, who, together with Sampson Davis and Rameck Hunt, made a teenage pact to leave their impoverished New Jersey neighborhood, attend medical school, and become doctors…. All readers will be riveted by the profoundly inspirational stories and personal, intimate voices.” —Booklist
NCSS, VOYA Nonfiction Honor List

WON’T KNOW TILL I GET THERE
Walter Dean Myers
“A black teenager learns something about himself through interaction with a group of senior citizens and a thirteen-year-old delinquent whom his parents have taken into their home…. The story’s spark comes from Myers’ special knack at making his kids seem like real flesh-and-blood figures.” —Booklist ★
pb: 978-0-14-032612-3 • $5.99 • 192 pp.
NCSS

THE YOUNG LANDLORDS
Walter Dean Myers
Paul Williams and his friends in the Action Group want the derelict Stratford Arms cleaned up now. But once the building is turned over to the Group, they see what kind of mess they are really in. “The entrepreneurs are a likable bunch whose trial by fire offers food for thought between chuckles.” —Booklist
ALA, ALA-YA, CSKA
**BLACK AND WHITE**  
Paul Volponi  
Marcus and Eddie are best friends. Race has never been an issue: Marcus is black, Eddie is white, but it doesn’t matter. Until they start to pull stickups for extra pocket cash and the gun they’re using goes off. Now Marcus is going to jail and Eddie is going to college, even though Eddie is the one who fired the gun. “The plotting is tight, the action is swift, and the troubling outcome that finds Marcus headed to prison and Eddie off to college is, sadly all too believable.” —Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books  
★
  
ALA-YA, ALA-QP, IRA

**BLUE TIGHTS**  
Rita Williams-Garcia  
Joyce Collins is cut from the biggest ballet recital of the year and wonders if there is any place where she belongs. Joining an African dance troupe, Joyce awakens to her African-American heritage and the proud woman hidden inside her. “Readers will relate to Joyce’s mood swings, be swept along with her dancing exuberance, and applaud her final success and independence.” —School Library Journal  
  
*pb:* 978-0-14-038045-3 • $5.99 • 144 pp.

**BRONX MASQUERADE**  
Nikki Grimes  
“All of the [students], black, Latino, white, male, and female, talk about the unease and alienation endemic to their ages, and they do it in fresh and appealing voices. Rich and complex.” —Kirkus Reviews  
★  
“Readers will enjoy the lively, smart voices that talk bravely about real issues and secret fears. A fantastic choice.” —Booklist  
*pb:* 978-0-14-250189-4 • $5.99 • 176 pp.  
CSKA, ALA-YA, ALA-QP

**A COALITION OF LIONS**  
Elizabeth E. Wein  
With taut, evocative writing Elizabeth Wein transports the reader to sixth-century Africa, vividly capturing its sights, sounds and smells, and with them the lives of the Aksumite people. “A historical note unravels the complex interweaving of myth, history, and storytelling in Wein’s compelling Arthurian cycle.” —Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books  

**DANCER**  
Lori Hewett  
“After years of lessons, Stephanie is sure that she wants to be a ballet dancer, and is willing to do just about anything to reach her goal, even defying her parents’ wish that she drop dance and concentrate on getting into college… Hewett makes sound arguments on behalf of art, and for following one’s heart.” —Kirkus Reviews  
*pb:* 978-0-14-131085-5 • $5.99 • 224 pp.  
ALA-YA

**THE DEAR ONE**  
Jacqueline Woodson  
“The characterization are rich, warm, and memorable; Woodson draws a frank, realistic picture of a community of African-American women… This is a strong, original, and life-affirming book.” —Kirkus Reviews  
*pb:* 978-0-14-250190-0 • $6.99 • 160 pp.

**DURANGO STREET**  
Frank Bonham  
“Dismissed from forestry camp, 17-year-old Rufus Henry is admonished to stay out of trouble as he returns to Durango Street… A starkly realistic, convincing, well-written teen novel.” —School Library Journal  
*pb:* 978-0-14-130309-3 • $5.99 • 192 pp.  
ALA

**EMAKO BLUE**  
Brenda Woods  
“This short, accessible story packs a huge emotional punch with its depiction of innocence lost to random gang violence… With spare prose and ghetto slang, Woods targets her characters with pinpoint emotional accuracy, giving each a reality that should reach a diverse population of young readers. She provides abundant discussion topics and features short, easy chapters written with an honesty that should appeal even to highly reluctant readers.” —Kirkus Reviews  
*pb:* 978-0-14-240418-8 • $5.99 • 128 pp.  
*hc:* 978-0-399-24006-5 • $15.99 • 128 pp.  
ALA-QP, IRA, IRA-YA

**FAST TALK ON A SLOW TRACK**  
Rita Williams-Garcia  
“An unusual, affecting book, told from the point of view of a black teenage [whose] coming to terms with the possibility of failure, as well as his attitudes… make a novel that is very hard to put down.” —School Library Journal  
*pb:* 978-0-14-130231-7 • $6.99 • 192 pp.  
ALA-YA
FIRE FROM THE ROCK
Sharon M. Draper
Honor student Sylvia Patterson is chosen as one of the first black students to integrate the all-white high school in her town, but she is not sure she can go through with it. “With stirring complexity, Draper personalizes the civil rights struggle beyond slogans and politics…the surprising turn-around in the plot, as well as the shocking facts, will grab readers and raise the elemental issue: what would I have done?” —Booklist

GETTING AWAY WITH MURDER:
THE TRUE STORY OF THE EMMETT TILL CASE
Chris Crowe
The kidnapping and murder of Emmett Till is famous as a catalyst for the Civil Rights Movement. “Crowe’s powerful, terrifying account does justice to its subject in an unflinching, direct telling, bolstered by numerous archival photos and quotes from those who remember…” —Booklist

HARRIET BEECHER STOWE AND THE BEECHER PREACHERS
Jean Fritz
“With her usual respect for young readers, Fritz explores not only a life, but also a family, an era, and vitally important social movements…Librarians should not pass on this book just because they own the other…[biographies]. It has great appeal, and will be read for pleasure as well as for reports.” —School Library Journal ★
pb: 978-0-698-11660-3 • $5.99 • 144 pp.
hc: 978-0-399-22666-3 • $15.99 • 144 pp.
NCTE, CCBC

A HERO AIN’T NOTHIN’ BUT A SANDWICH
Alice Childress
“An unusually honest and forceful novel, told in trenchant language by an impressive variety of conflicted people who are involved with a thirteen-year-old heroin addict.” —Kirkus Reviews
“Packs honesty, immediacy, and humor into an exceptionally compelling story.” —Booklist
pb: 978-0-698-11854-6 • $5.99 • 128 pp.

THE HOUSE YOU PASS ON THE WAY
Jacqueline Woodson
“A provocative topic, treated with wisdom and sensitivity, with a strong secondary thread exploring some of the inner and outer effects of biracialism.” —Kirkus Reviews
pb: 978-0-14-250191-7 • $5.99 • 128 pp.

FLOATING UP
Jacqueline Woodson
“Dare to dream, and dare to believe that the future is yours for the taking, that you can be anything you want: a fairy godmother, a shaman, a rock star…This moving and magical story will ignite the imaginations of a million readers.” —School Library Journal ★
pb: 978-0-698-11849-8 • $5.99 • 144 pp.
hc: 978-0-399-24492-1 • $17.99 • 128 pp.

I HADN’T MEANT TO TELL YOU THIS
Jacqueline Woodson
“Jacqueline Woodson touches a nerve in this haunting tale of innocence lost and friendship gained…. This Coretta Scott King Award-winner provides a moving illustration of the bonds that exist among friends.”
—School Library Journal
pb: 978-0-142-40555-0 • $5.99 • 128 pp.

IF YOU COME SOFTLY
Jacqueline Woodson
“People stare when teenagers Miah and Ellie touch and hold hands in public. He is black. She is white. In alternating chapters, we learn about how they meet in their private high school and fall in love. Woodson confronts prejudice head-on.” —Booklist
pb: 978-0-698-11862-1 • $5.99 • 192 pp.
hc: 978-0-399-23112-4 • $16.99 • 192 pp.
ALA-YA, BB, BCCB, V

Lena
Jacqueline Woodson
“Soulful, wise and sometimes wrenching, this taut story never loses its grip on the reader.”
—Publishers Weekly ★
pb: 978-0-14-240616-8 • $5.99 • 144 pp.
hc: 978-0-399-24469-8 • $17.99 • 144 pp.

LIKE SISTERS ON THE HOMEFRONT
Rita Williams-Garcia
Gayle is a street-smart, smooth-talking fourteen-year-old who loves the beat and hum of the city. Her style has been a little cramped since she had a baby; she hasn’t been out with the sisters in a long time. “Among the most prominent African-American literary artists of the next generation.”
—The Horn Book ★
pb: 978-0-14-038561-8 • $5.99 • 176 pp.
ALA-QP, ALA-YA, BB, BEC, CSKH, HB, NCSS, SLJ

THE LION HUNTER
Elizabeth E. Wein
“This lyrical and complex tale of adventure and betrayal set in sixth-century Africa continues the story of 12-year-old Telemakos…the writing is powerful and the characters are strong and memorable. Telemakos is a fascinating character: intelligent, loving, deeply scarred, and yet almost almost extraordinarily brave.”
—School Library Journal ★
THE MIDDLE PASSAGE: WHITE SHIPS/BLACK CARGO
Tom Feelings
In this extraordinarily important work, Tom Feelings depicts the tragedy of Africans wrested from their villages and brought in chains to the Americas to be sold as slaves. A stunning memorial to the millions of Americans—and their descendants—who endured the Middle Passage. “A testimony not only to our capacity for evil, but also to the triumph of the spirit and of beauty.”—Booklist
hc: 978-0-8037-1804-3 • $75.00 • 80 pp.
ALA, ALA-YA, BB, CSKA, HB, IRA-TC, IRA-YA, JAH, SLJ

MISSISSIPPI TRIAL, 1955
Chris Crowe
“While visiting relatives in Mississippi, Emmett Till, 14, spoke “ugly” to a white woman and was subsequently tortured and murdered. Two men were arrested and tried for this heinous crime, but in spite of substantial evidence, were found not guilty…. This book belongs in all collections to show young readers the full range of American history.”—School Library Journal
pb: 978-0-14-250192-4 • $5.99 • 240 pp.
ALA-YA, IRA, NCSS

NAMES WILL NEVER HURT ME
Jaime Adoff
“There is an unsettling atmosphere at this Anytown, USA suburban high school—it is the one-year anniversary of a shooting death. The TV news crew is on hand to interview students, and the principal is on edge. The story is told through the eyes of four teenagers…. Writing in a free-verse, almost-poetic style, Adoff pulls off a young adult page-turner with literary ease.”—School Library Journal
pb: 978-0-14-240457-7 • $5.99 • 192 pp.

THE OPPOSITE OF LOVE
Helen Benedict
“A biracial teen living in a Pennsylvania town makes a difference by fostering an abandoned Hispanic child…. Mature language and realistic life situations lend verisimilitude to this compelling drama of a young woman’s brave stand against abuse and intolerance.”—Kirkus Reviews

ROOFTOP
Paul Volponi
“Here Volponi’s intimate, detailed story of the challenges facing poor, urban youth swells to encompass broader racial and political realities.…. This is a thoughtfully crafted…. story that knits together a high-interest plot, a readable narrative crackling with street slang, and complex personal and societal issues that teen readers will passionately engage.”—Booklist ★
ALA-QP, ALA-YA

SPELLBOUND
Janet McDonald
“McDonald wrote the acclaimed adult memoir Project Girl, and what’s great in this novel is the depiction of the grim reality of the neighborhood and the slick cliches of success. Best of all, she humanizes the individual people behind the stereotype of poor people who are ‘project trash.’”—Booklist ★
pb: 978-0-14-250193-1 • $5.99 • 144 pp.
ALA-YA

THE SUNBIRD
Elizabeth E. Wein
“The exotic culture and well-developed code of honor of the Aksumite court give this post-Arthurian/ancient Ethiopian fusion its striking flavor. With her thorough command of historic characters, a grand scope, and a swift-paced, heroic plot, Wein has laid out an appealing and sumptuous literary banquet.”—The Horn Book

TEACUP FULL OF ROSES
Sharon Bell Mathis
In this powerful novel, a sixteen-year-old black boy comes to terms with his family and with himself. “Stark and uncompromising, the brief, episodic novel explores the many facets of love and loyalty as it concentrates on a single tragic week in the lives of a black inner-city family.”—The Horn Book
pb: 978-0-14-032328-3 • $5.99 • 128 pp.
ALA
THIS STRANGE NEW FEELING: THREE LOVE STORIES FROM BLACK HISTORY
Julius Lester
Based on true stories, award winning author Julius Lester shares this compelling and emotional short story collection about love in the time of slavery.
CSK

UP CLOSE: OPRAH WINFREY
Ilene Cooper
Up Close goes behind the scenes to examine the successes and failures that have helped turn Oprah into a household name. “Ultimately readers are left with the impression of a remarkably determined and talented woman whose fame is equally matched by her loyalty and generosity.” —VOYA
pb: 978-0-14-241045-5 • $6.99 • 208 pp
hc: 978-0-670-06162-4 • $15.99 • 244 pp.
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Key to Awards

ALA: An American Library Association Notable Children's Book
ALA-QP: An American Library Association Quick Pick for Reluctant Young Readers
ALSC: An American Library Association Best Book for Young Adults
AP: A Children's Folklore Section of the American Folklore Society Aesop Prize Award Winner
BCC: A Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books Blue Ribbon Book
BCCB: A Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books Top 100 Books of the Year You’ve Got to Have in Your Library Collection
BCCB: A Booklist Editor's Choice Selection
BTA: A Boston Globe–Horn Book Award Winner
BTA: A Boston Globe–Horn Book Award Honor Book
BUI: A Book Links Lasting Connections Title
CA: A Children’s Award Winner
CCBC: A Child Study Children’s Book Committee Children’s Book of the Year
CM: A Caldecott Medal Winner
CR: A Caldecott Honor Book
CSA: A Coretta Scott King Award Winner
CSRA: A Coretta Scott King Honor Book
NCSS: A National Council for the Social Studies Carter G. Woodson Award Honor Book
NZCA: A Charlotte Zolotow Award Winner
EM: E. E. Smith Award Winner
HF: A Horn Book Fanfare Selection
HCC: An International Board on Books for Young People Hans Christian Andersen Award Winner for Illustration
HCA: An International Reading Association Children’s Book Award Winner
HCA: An International Reading Association-Children’s Book Council Children’s Choice Selection
HCB: An International Reading Association-Children’s Book Council Children’s Book Council Young Adult Choice Selection
HCE: An International Reading Association-Children’s Book Council Young Adult Choice
HCR: A Jane Addams Children’s Book Award Winner
HCRA: A Jane Addams Children’s Book Award Honor Book
HCRA: A Kirkus Reviews Editor’s Choice
HRA: A National Book Award Winner
HRAH: A National Book Award Finalist
NCSS: A National Council for the Social Studies Notable Social Studies Trade Books for Young People
NCSS: A National Council of Teachers of English Notable Children’s Book in the Language Arts Selection
NNA: A Newbery Medal Winner
NHA: A Newbery Honor Book
NYS: A New York Academy of Science Outstanding Science Trade Book
OP: A National Council of Teachers of English Obitus Pictus Award Winner for Nonfiction
RCB: A Reading Rainbow Feature Selection
SLJ: A School Library Journal Best Book of the Year
SO: A Scott O’Dell Award for Historical Fiction Winner
VSA: A Voice of Youth Advocates “Books in the Middle” Selection

And prices and availability subject to change without notice.