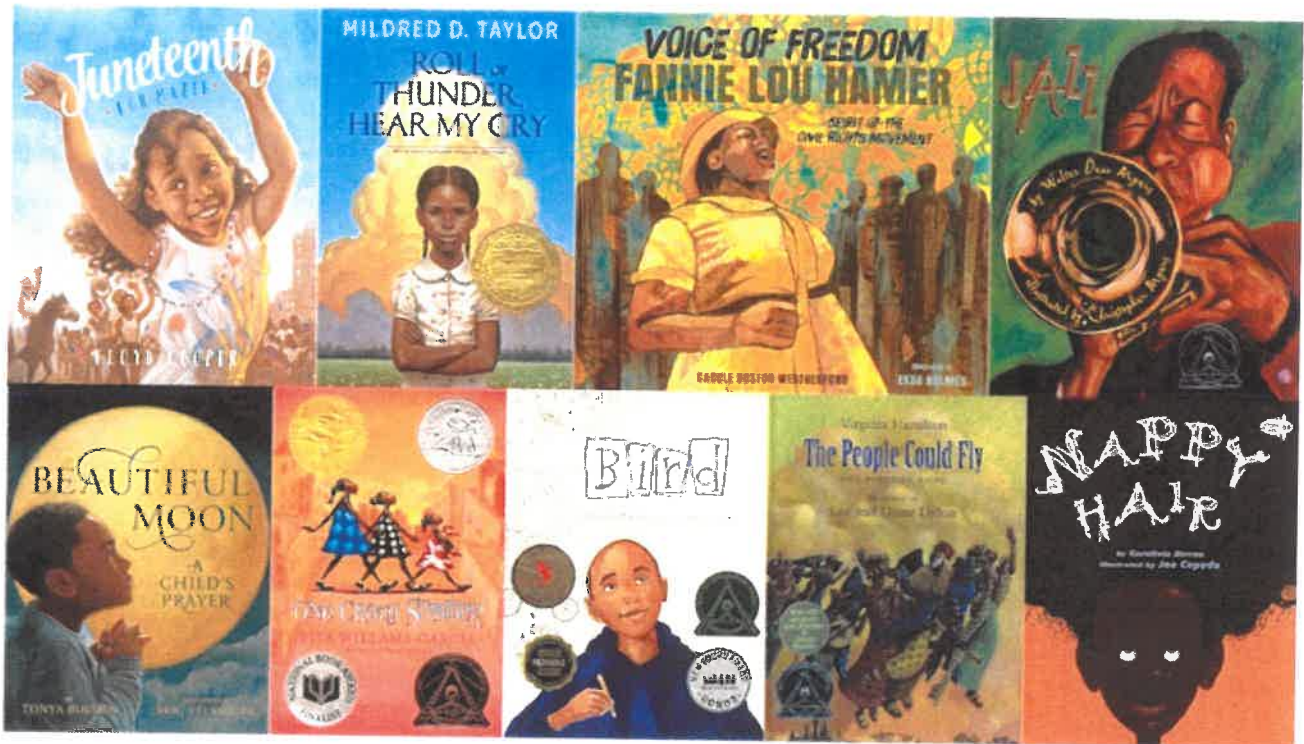


# Expanding African American Stories in the Classroom Using Contemporary Children's Literature

## Booklists & Handouts



J-Lynn Van Pelt, Director of Reading Friendship Public Charter School

Teoshi Edwards, Reading Specialist Woodridge International PreK-8  
Academy NE DC

Chanda Key-Curry, Reading Specialist Armstrong Academy NW DC

## Elementary African American Authors and Books

1. A is for Activist by Innosanto Nagara
2. Afro-Bets 1-2-3 Book by Cheryl Willis Hudson
3. Amazing Grace by Mary Hoffman
4. Anna Carries Water by Olive Senior
5. As Brave As You, The Boy in the Black Suit, by Jason Reynolds
6. Ashanti to Zulu: African Traditions by Margaret Musgrove
7. Aya: The Secrets Come Out: Volume Three by Marguerite Aboutet
8. Baby Says by John Steptoe
9. Bad News For Outlaws: The Remarkable Life Of Bass Reeves, Deputy U. S. Marshal by Vaunda Micheaux Nelson
10. Beautiful Moon by Tonya Bolden
11. Bird by Zetta Elliott
12. Jamal's Busy Day by Wade Hudson,
13. Boonoonoonous Hair by Olive Senior
14. Bright Eyes, Brown Skin by Cheryl Willis Hudson
15. Bronzeville Boys And Girls by Gwendolyn Brooks
16. Brothers In Hope by Mary Williams
17. Chocolate Me! by Taye Diggs
18. Clayton Byrd Goes Underground by Rita Williams-Garcia
19. Coretta Scott, Ellington was not a Street by Ntozake Shange
20. Cornrows by Camille Yarbrough
21. Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut by Derrick Barnes
22. Daddy Calls Me Man by Angela Johnson
23. Daddy is a Monster ... Sometimes by John Steptoe
24. Dancing In The Wings by Debbie Allen
25. Daydreamers by Eloise Greenfield
26. Don't Let Auntie Mabel Bless the Table by Vanessa Brantley-Newton
27. Everett Anderson's Goodbye by Lucille Clifton
28. Furqan's First Flat Top – El Primer Corte de Mesita de Furqan by Robert Liu-Trujillo
29. Gone Crazy in Alabama by Rita Williams-Garcia
30. Grandma's Records by Eric Velasquez
31. Grandpa, Is Everything Black Bad? by Sandy Lynne Holman
32. Hair Dance! by Dinah Johnson
33. Harlem's Little Blackbird by Renée Watson



34. Her Stories: African American Folktales, Fairy Tales, And True Tales by Virginia Hamilton
35. How the Leopard Got His Claws by Chinua Achebe
36. I Am Loved by Nikki Giovanni
37. I Am Mixed by Garcelle Beauvais
38. If I Only Had a Horn: Young Louis Armstrong by Roxane Orgill
39. Jazz by Walter Dean Myers
40. Jump Back, Honey: The Poems of Paul Laurence Dunbar by Paul Laurence Dunbar
41. Juneteenth for Mazie by Floyd Cooper
42. Just an Overnight Guest by Eleanora E. Tate
43. Just Us Women by Jeannette Caines
44. Kevin And His Dad by Irene Smalls
45. Kids Book of Wisdom: Quotes from the African American Tradition by Cheryl Willis Hudson and Wade Hudson
46. Little Lion Goes to School by Kellie Magnus
47. Major Taylor, Champion Cyclist by Lesa Cline-Ransome
48. Make A Joyful Sound: Poems for Children by African-American Poets by Deborah Shink
49. March Book One by John Lewis and Andrew Aydin
50. March Book Three by John Lewis and Andrew Aydin
51. Maritcha: A Nineteenth-Century American Girl by Tonya Bolden
52. Martin's Big Words: The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. by Doreen Rappaport
53. Max and the Tag-Along Moon by Floyd Cooper
54. Max Paints the House by Ken Wilson-Max
55. Me & Neesie (reillustrated) by Eloise Greenfield
56. Mirandy and Brother Wind by Patricia C. Mckissack
57. Mommy's Khimar by Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow
58. Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters: An African Tale by John Steptoe
59. My Brother Charlie by Holly Robinson Peete
60. My First Trip to Africa by Atlantis T. Browder
61. One Love by Cedella Marley
62. Our Children Can Soar: A Celebration Of Rosa, Barack, And The Pioneers Of Change by Michelle Cook
63. Peeny Butter Fudge by Toni Morrison and Slade Morrison
64. Please, Baby, Please by Spike Lee and Tonya Lewis Lee
65. Poet: The Remarkable Story of George Moses Horton by Don Tate
66. Poetry for Young People: Langston Hughes by Langston Hughes
67. Precious and the Boo Hag by Patricia C. Mckissack
68. Rice & Rocks by Sandra L. Richards
69. Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred D. Taylor
70. Salt in His Shoes: Michael Jordan in Pursuit of a Dream by Deloris Jordan and Roslyn M. Jordan
71. Harlem's Little Blackbird: The Story of Florence Mills by Renee Watson



72. We March, Art from her Heart, Underground, Did I tell you I love you today? ,  
Home Made Love, Fishing Day by Shane W. Evans
73. He's got the Whole in his hands, If you Plant a Seed by Kadir Nelson
74. Pretty Brown face, Boycott Blues: How Rosa Parks Inspired a Nation by Andrea  
Davis Pinkney
75. Pop Pop and Me and a Recipe, My Nana and Me, Jonathan and His Mommy by  
Irene Smalls
76. Imani's Mom, Grandma's Tiny House, A Different Pond by Janay Brown Wood
77. Skin Again, Homemade Love, Happy to be Nappy by Belle Hooks
78. Who's Knees are these? By Jabari Asim



## African-American Authors and Books for Upper Grade Levels



***Catching the Moon* by Crystal Hubbard**

***Gettin' Through Thursday* by Melrose Cooper  
Illustrated by Nneka Bennett**

***Joshua's Masai Mask* by Dakari Hru  
Illustrated by Anna Rich**

***Poems in the Attic* by Nikki Grimes  
Illustrated by Elizabeth Zunon**

***DeShawn Days* by Tony Medina  
Illustrated by R. Gregory Christie**

***Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut* by Derrick Barnes  
Illustrated by Gordon C. James**

***As Brave As You* by Jason Reynolds**

***Don't Let Auntie Mabel Bless the Table* by Vanessa Brantley-Newton  
Illustrated by Vanessa Brantley-Newton**

***The Skin I'm In* by Sharon G. Flake**

***Darnell Rock Reporting* by Walter Dean Myers**

***November Blues* by Sharon M. Draper**

***The Backyard Animal Show* by Sharon M. Draper**

*Indigo Blume and the Garden City* by Kwame Alexander

*He Said, She Said* by Kwame Alexander

*Ghost* (Track Book 1) by Jason Reynolds

*Patina* (Track Book 2) by Jason Reynolds

*Sunny* (Track Book 3) by Jason Reynolds

*Lu* (Track Book 4) by Jason Reynolds

*Dork Diaries* by Rachel Renee Russell

*Akata Warrior* by Nnedi Okorafor

*Akata Witch* by Nnedi Okorafor

*If You Come Softly* by Jacqueline Woodson

*Toning The Sweep* by Angela Johnson

*Nelson Beats the Odds* by Ronnie Sidney

# African American Poets

Adedjouma, Davida.

**The Palm of My Heart: Poetry by African American Children.**

Altman, Susan and Susan Lechner.

**Followers of the North Star: Rhymes about African American Heroes, Heroines, and Historical Times.**

Brooks, Gwendolyn.

**Bronzeville Boys and Girls.**

Bryan, Ashley.

**Ashley Bryan's ABC of African-American Poetry.**

Dawes, Kwame.

**I Saw Your Face.**

English, Karen.

**Speak to Me: (and I Will Listen Between the Lines).**

Giovanni, Nikki (ed).

**Hip Hop Speaks to Children: a Celebration of Poetry with a Beat.**

Giovanni, Nikki (ed).

**Shimmy Shimmy Shimmy like My Sister Kate: Looking at the Harlem Renaissance Through poems.**

Giovanni, Nikki.

**Spin a Soft Black Song: Poems for Children.**

Greenfield, Eloise.

**Angels.**

Grimes, Nikki.

**When Gorilla Goes Walking.**

Hughes, Langston.

**The Dream Keeper and Other Poems.**

Hughes, Langston.

**The Negro Speaks of Rivers.**

Lewis, J. Patrick.

**Freedom like Sunlight: Praisesongs for Black Americans.**

Medina, Tony.

**DeShawn Days**

Muse, Daphne (compiler).

**The Entrance Place of Wonders: Poems of the Harlem Renaissance.**



Myers, Walter Dean.

**Here in Harlem: Poems in Many Voices.**

Newton, Vanessa.

**Let Freedom Sing.**

Okutoro, Lydia Omolala.

**Quiet Storm: Voices of Young Black Poets.**

Rochelle, Belinda (compiler).

**Words with Wings: a Treasury of African-American Poetry and Art.**

Shange, Ntozake.

**We Troubled the Waters: Poems.**

Thomas, Joyce Carol.

**Brown Honey in Broomwheat Tea: Poems.**