

Stories matter. Stories shape the way children see the world, themselves, and others. Assumptions about race begin at a very young age so we must begin conversations early. The stories we share with children can be powerful tools for starting important conversations about race and dismantling oppression. Sharing stories leads the learning and change that begins in our own minds and hearts. Books are mirrors that reflect our own experiences and windows into seeing the lives of others. At Make Way for Books, we work to share books that highlight diverse perspectives and voices; books that celebrate culture, race, and identity; books that build empathy and understanding; and books that empower children to see themselves and others in empowering ways.

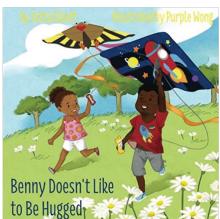
All children should see themselves and their stories represented in the pages of the books they read from a young age. We are sharing this book list of stories to share with young children. This is not an exhaustive list; it is a starting point to amplify the voices and stories created by authors and illustrators who are Black, Indigenous, and People of Color. Books featured in this list are developmentally-appropriate for children ages 0-8.

To change our world, we must begin with the children who are our future.



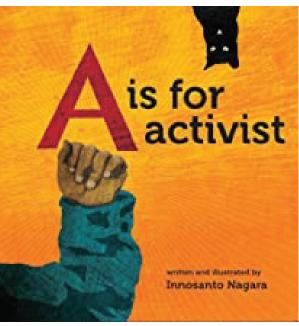


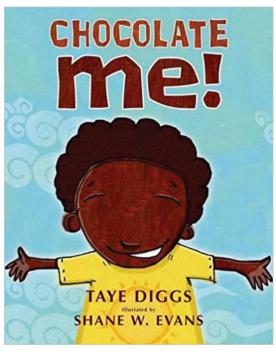


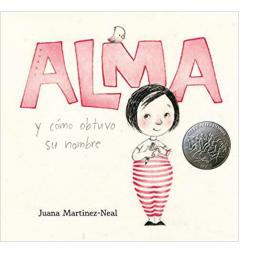


a kids book about racism

by Jelani Memory

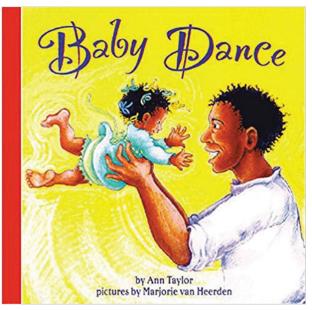


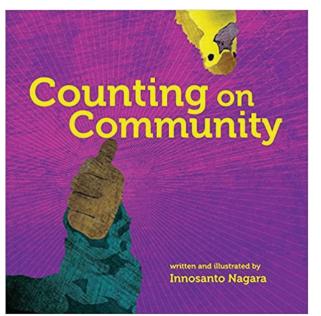


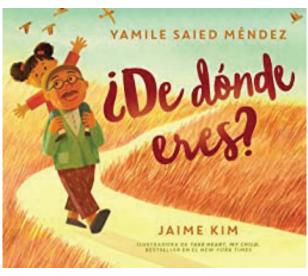


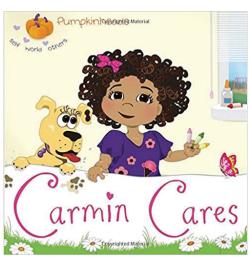


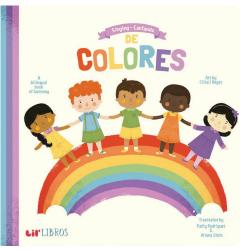


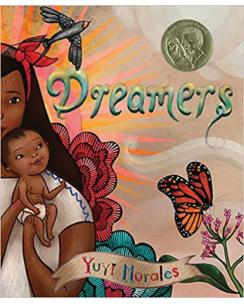


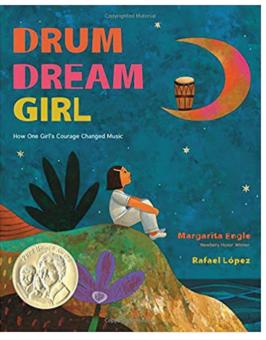




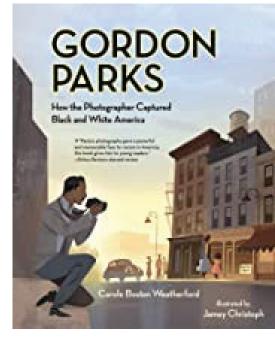




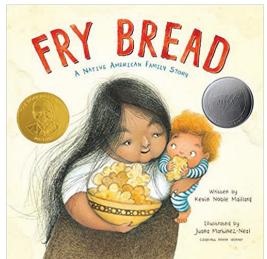


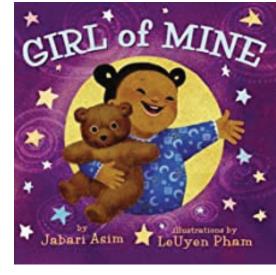


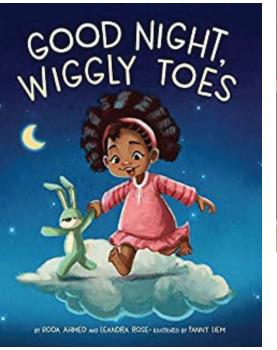


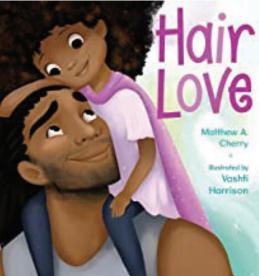


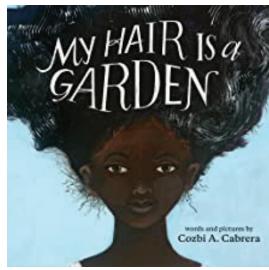




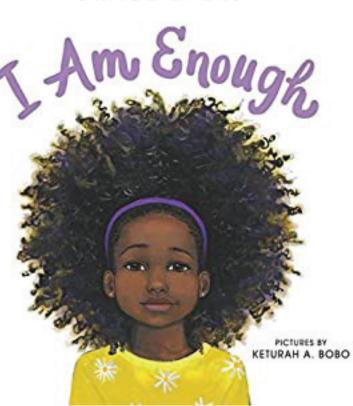


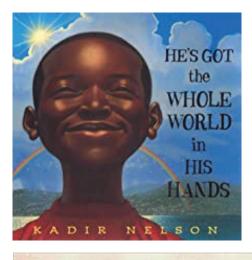




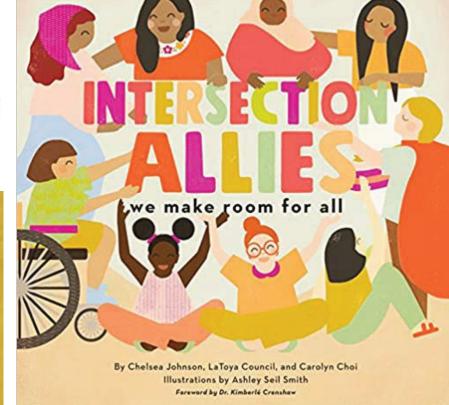


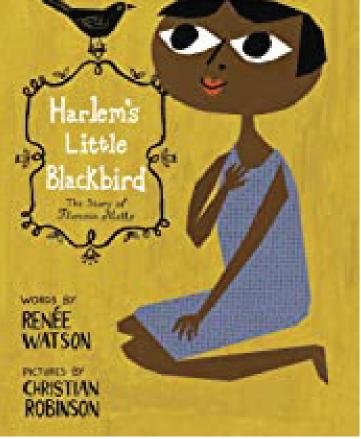
GRACE BYERS

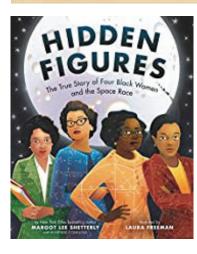






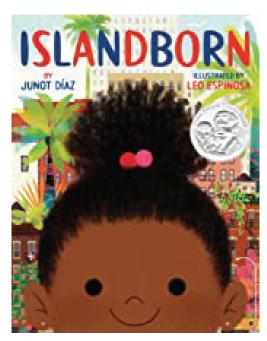


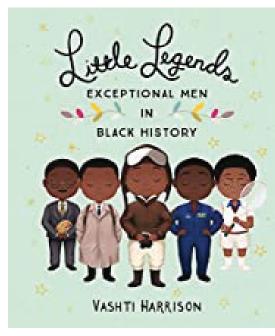


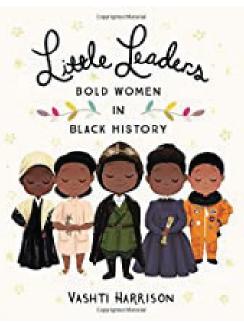


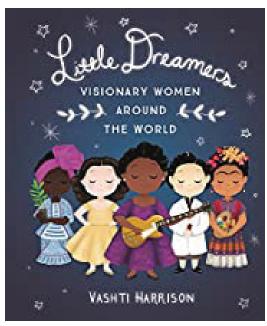


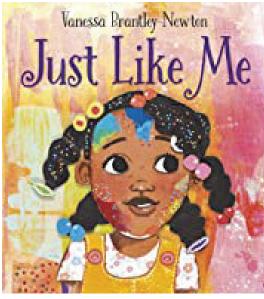








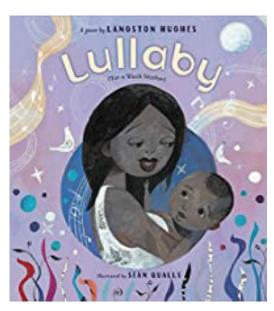


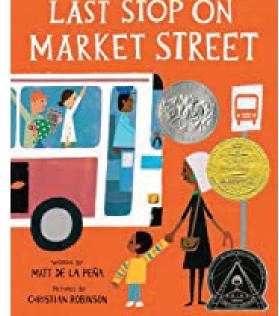


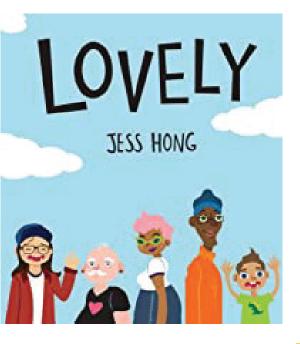


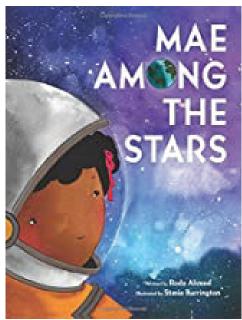


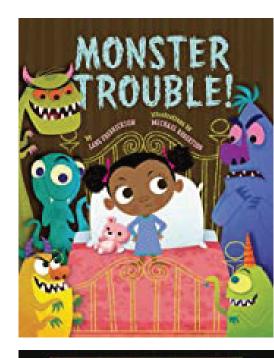
Mary-Anne Hampton o Hani du Toit o Christian Jaggers

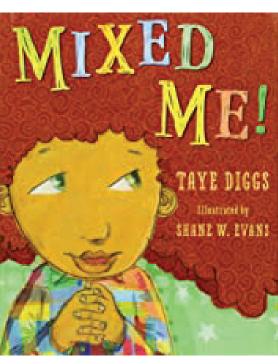




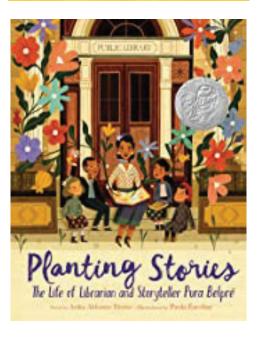


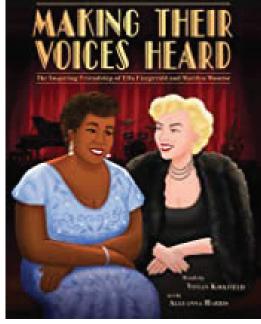




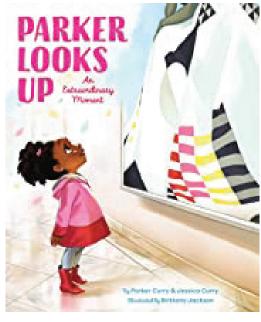




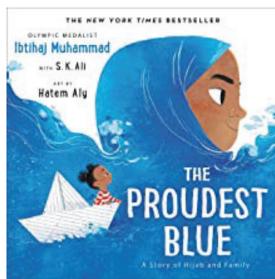




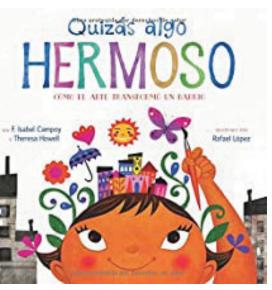


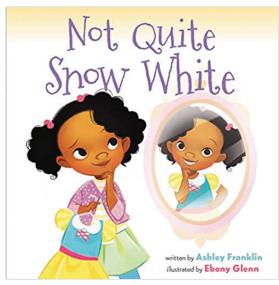




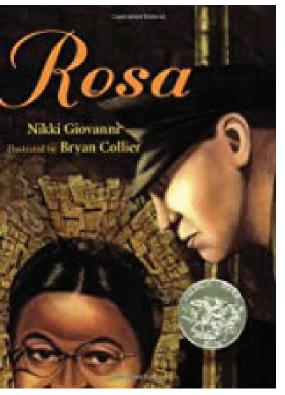


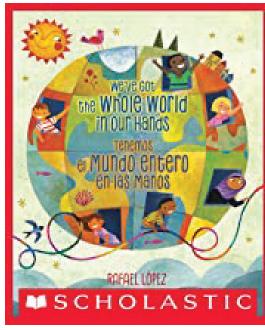


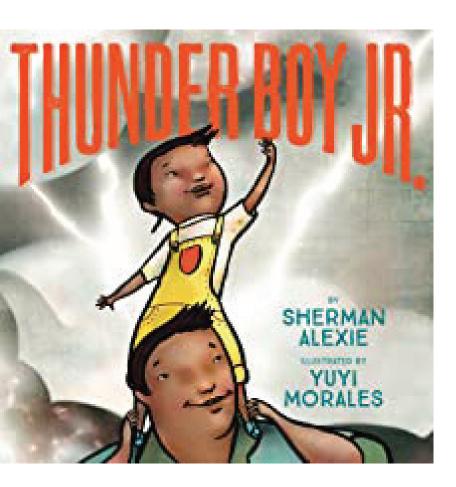




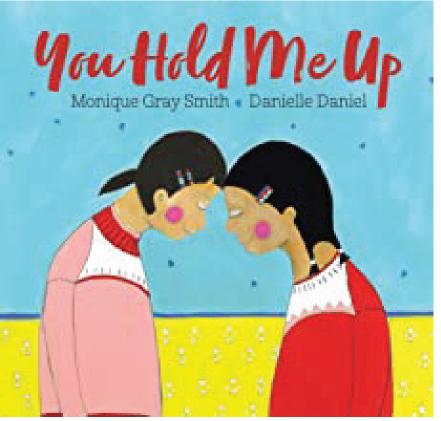


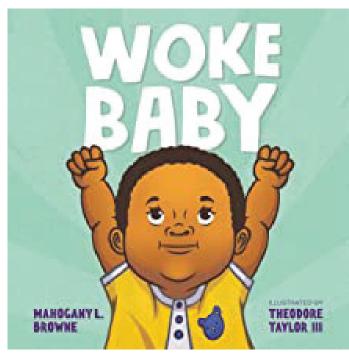














A is for Activist written by Innosanto Nagara and illustrated by Innosanto Nagara

A is for Awesome written by Eva Chen and illustrated by Derek Desierto

A Kids Book About Racism written and illustrated by Jelani Memory

All Around Us / Por todo nuestro alrededor written by Xelena González and illustrated by Adriana M. Garcia

Alma and How She Got Her Name / Alma y cómo obtuvo su nombre written and illustrated by Juana Martinez-Neal

Baby Dance written by Ann Taylor and illustrated Marjorie van Heerden

Baby Loves Aerospace Engineering! written by Ruth Sprio and illustrated by Irene Chan

Benny Doesn't Like to Be Hugged written by Zetta Elliot and illustrated by Purple Wong

Carmin Cares written and illustrated by Karen Kilpatrick

Chocolate Me! written by Taye Diggs and illustrated by Shane W. Evans

Coretta Scott written by Ntozake Shange and illustrated by Kadir Nelson

Counting on Community written and illustrated Innosanto Nagara

¿De Dónde Eres? / Where Are You From? by Yamile Méndez Saied

Don't Touch My Hair! written and illustrated by Sharee Miller

Dream Big, Little One written and illustrated by Vashti Harrison

Dreamers/Soñadores written and illustrated by Yuyi Morales

Drum Dream Girl: How One Girl's Courage Changed Music written by Margarita Engle and illustrated by Rafael López

El día en que descubres quién eres/The Day You Begin written by Jacqueline Woodson and illustrated by Rafael López

Follow Your Dreams, Little One written and illustrated by Vashti Harrison

Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story written by Kevin Noble Maillard and illustrated by Juana Martinez-Neal

Girl of Mine written by Jabari Asim and illustrated by LeUyen Pham

Good Night, Wiggly Toes written by Leandra Rose and Roda Ahmed and illustrated by Fanny Liem

Gordon Parks: How the Photographer Captured Black and White America written by Carole Boston Weatherford

and illustrated by Christoph, Jamey

Hair Love written by Matthew A. Cherry and illustrated by Vashti Harrison

Harlem's Little Blackbird: The Story of Florence Mills written by Renée Watson and illustrated by Christian Robinson

He's Got the Whole World in His Hands written and illustrated by Kadir Nelson

Hidden Figures: The True Story of Four Black Women and the Space Race written by Margot Lee Shetterly and

illustrated by Laura Freeman

Honeysmoke: A Tale of Finding Your Color written by Monique Fields and illustrated by Yesenia Moises

I Am Enough written by Grace Byers and illustrated by Keturah A. Bobo

I Got the Rhythm written by Connie Schofield-Morrison and illustrated by Frank Morrison



Intersection Allies: We Make Room for All written by Carolyn Choi and Chelsea Johnson and illustrated

by Ashley Seil Smith

Islandborn/Lola written by Junot Diaz and illustrated by Leo Espinosa

Just Like Me written and illustrated by Vanessa Brantley-Newton

Justo como yo / Just Like Me written by Hani du Toit and illustrated by Mary-Anne Hampton

Last Stop on Market Street written by Matt de la Peña and illustrated by Christian Robinson

Let the Children March written by Monica Clark-Robinson and illustrated by Frank Morrison

Little Dreamers: Visionary Women Around the World written and illustrated by Vashti Harrison

Little Leaders: Bold Women in Back History written and illustrated by Vashti Harrison

Little Legends: Exceptional Men in Black History written and illustrated by Vashti Harrison with Kwesi Johnson

Lovely written and illustrated by Jess Hong

Lullaby (For a Black Mother) written by Langston Hughes and illustrated by Sean Qualls

Mae Among the Stars written by Roda Ahmed and illustrated by Stasia Burrington

Making Their Voices Heard: The Inspiring Friendship of Ella Fitzgerald and Marilyn Monroe written by Vivian

Kirkfield and illustrated by Alleanna Harris

Maybe Something Beautiful/Quizás algo hermoso written by Isabel Campoy and Theresa Howell and illustrated

by Rafael López

Mixed Me! written by Taye Diggs and illustrated by Shane W. Evans

Monster Trouble! written by Lane Fredrickson and illustrated by Michael Robertson

My Hair is a Garden written and illustrated by Cozbi A. Cabrera

My Heart Fills With Happiness/Mi corazón se llena de alegría written by Monique Gray Smith and illustrated

by Julie Flett

Not Quite Snow White written by Ashley Franklin and illustrated by Ebony Glenn

Our Grandparents: A Global Album by Cynthia Pon, Maya Ajmera, and Sheila Kinkade

Parker Looks Up: An Extraordinary Moment written by Jessica Curry and Parker Curry and illustrated

by Brittany Jackson

Planting Stories: The Life of Librarian and Storyteller Pura Belpré written by Anika Aldamuy Denise and illustrated by

Paola Escobar

Please, **Baby**, **Please** written by Spike Lee and Tonya Lewis Lee and illustrated by Kadir Nelson

Rain! written by Linda Ashman and illustrated by Christian Robinson

Rosa written by Nikki Giovanni and illustrated by Bryan Collier

Singing - Cantando De Colores written by Patty Rodriguez and illustrated by Citlali Reyes



Sulwe written by Lupita Nyong'o and illustrated by Vashti Harrison

Thank You, Omu! written and illustrated by Oge Mora

The King of Kindergarten written by Derrick Barnes and illustrated by Vanessa Brantley-Newton

The Proudest Blue: A Story of Hijab and Family written by Ibtihaj Muhammad and S.K. Ali and illustrated by Hatem Aly

Thunder Boy, Jr. written by Sherman Alexie and illustrated by Yuyi Morales

Tenemos el mundo entero en las manos / We've Got the Whole World in Our Hands written and illustrated

by Rafael Lopéz

Woke Baby written by Mahogany L. Browne and illustrated by Theodore Taylor III

You Hold Me Up written by Monique Gray Smith and illustrated by Danielle Daniel