

# Children's Books That Center the Black Experience

## African Folktales & Histories Pre-colonization

- *Anansi the Spider: A Tale from the Ashanti* by Gerald McDermott
- *Hands Around the Library: Protecting Egypt's Treasured Books* by Karen Leggett Abouraya, illustrated by Susan L. Roth
- *Head, Body, Legs: A Story from Liberia* by Won-Ldy Paye and Margaret H. Lippert, illustrated by Julie Paschkis
- *The Matatu* by Eric Walters, illustrated by Eva Campbell
- *Ostrich and Lark* by Marilyn Nelson, illustrated by the San Artists of the Kuru Art Project in Botswana
- *Sense Pass King: A Story from Cameroon* by Katrin Hyman Tchana, illustrated by Trina Schart Hyman
- *Why Mosquitoes Buzz in People's Ears: A West African Tale* by Verna Aardema, pictures by Leo and Diane Dillon
- *Why the Sky Is Far Away: A Nigerian Folktale* by Mary-Joan Gerson, illustrated by Carla Golembe
- *Zomo the Rabbit: A Trickster Tale from West Africa* by Gerald McDermott

## Brilliance, Beauty & Resistance of the African Diaspora

- *Africa Is My Home: A Child of the Amistad* by Monica Edinger, illustrated by Robert Byrd
- *Babu's Song* by Stephanie Stuve-Bodeen, illustrated by Aaron Boyd
- *Best Beekeeper of Lalibela: A Tale from Africa* by Cristina Kessler, illustrated by Leonard Jenkins
- *Blue: A History of the Color as Deep as the Sea and as Wide as the Sky* by Nana Ekua Brew-Hammond, illustrated by Daniel Minter
- *Bundle of Secrets: Savita Returns Home* by Mubina Hassanali Kirmani, illustrated by Tony Siema
- *Circle Unbroken* by Margot Theis Raven, illustrated by E. B. Lewis
- *Dave the Potter: Artist, Poet, Slave* by Laban Carrick Hill, illustrated by Bryan Collier
- *The Day Gogo Went to Vote* by Elinor Batezat Sisulu, illustrated by Sharon Wilson
- *Desmond and the Very Mean Word* by Desmond Tutu, illustrated by A. G. Ford
- *Follow Me Down to Nicodemus Town: Based on the History of the African American Pioneer Settlement* by A. LaFaye, illustrated by Nicole Tadgell
- *Freedom Soup* by Tami Charles, illustrated by Jacqueline Alcántara
- *Grandma Comes to Stay* by Ifeoma Onyefulu
- *H Is for Harlem* by Dinah Johnson, illustrated by April Harrison
- *Haiti: The First Black Republic* by Frantz Derenoncourt, Jr.
- *Henry's Freedom Box: A True Story from the Underground Railroad* by Ellen Levine, illustrated by Kadir Nelson
- *In The Time of the Drums* by Kim L. Siegelson, illustrated by Brian Pinkney
- *Indigo Dreaming* by Dinah Johnson, illustrated by Anna Cunha

- *Janjak and Freda Go to the Iron Market* by Elizabeth Turnbull, illustrated by Mark Jones
- *A Likkle Miss Lou: How Jamaican Poet Louise Bennett Coverley Found Her Voice* by Nadia Hohn, illustrated by Eugenie Fernandes
- *Love Twelve Miles Long* by Glenda Armand, illustrated by Colin Bootman
- *The Matatu* by Eric Walters, illustrated by Eva Campbell
- *Moses: When Harriet Tubman Led Her People to Freedom* by Carole Boston Weatherford, illustrated by Kadir Nelson
- *My Rows and Piles of Coins* by Tololwa M. Mollel, illustrated by E. B. Lewis
- *Nelson Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom* by Chris van Wyk, illustrated by Paddy Bouma
- *Never Caught: The Story of Ona Judge* by Erica Armstrong Dunbar and Kathleen Van Cleve
- *One Plastic Bag: Isatou Ceesay and the Recycling Women of the Gambia* by Miranda Paul, illustrated by Elizabeth Zunon
- *Show Way* by Jacqueline Woodson, illustrated by Hudson Talbott
- *Sojourner's Truth Step-Stomp Stride* by Andrea Davis Pinkney, illustrated by Brian Pinkney
- *Tap-Tap* by Karen Lynn Williams, illustrated by Catherine Stock
- *The Undeclared* by Kwame Alexander, illustrated by Kadir Nelson
- *Walking Home to Rosie Lee* by A. LaFaye, illustrated by Keith D. Shepherd

## **Latinx Folktales & Histories Pre-colonization**

- *Ancient Night* by David Bowles, illustrated by David Alvarez
- *The Bossy Gallito/El gallo de bodas: A Traditional Cuban Folktale* by Lucia M. Gonzalez, illustrated by Lulu Delacre
- *The Courage of the Little Hummingbird* by Leah Henderson, illustrated by Magaly Morales
- *Cuckoo/Cucú: A Mexican Folktale* by Lois Ehlert
- *Danza!* by Duncan Tonatiuh
- *The Dragon Slayer: Folktales from Latin America* by Jaime Hernandez
- *Feathered Serpent and the Five Suns: A Mesoamerican Creation Myth* by Duncan Tonatiuh
- *Jabuti the Tortoise: A Trickster Tale from the Amazon* by Gerald McDermott
- *Juan Bobo Goes to Work* by Marisa Montes, illustrated by Joe Cepeda
- *Just In Case: A Trickster Tale and Spanish Alphabet Book* by Yuyi Morales
- *A Land of Books: Dreams of Young Mexihcah Word Painters* by Duncan Tonatiuh
- *The Lizard and the Sun/La lagartija y el sol* by Alma Flor Ada
- *Love and Roast Chicken: A Trickster Tale from the Andes* by Barbara Knutson
- *Mariana and the Merchild: A Folk Tale from Chile* by Caroline Pitcher, illustrated by Jackie Morris
- *Martina the Beautiful Cockroach: A Cuban Folktale* by Carmen Agra Deedy
- *The Princess and the Warrior: A Tale of Two Volcanoes* by Duncan Tonatiuh
- *The Race of the Toad and Deer* by Pat Mora, illustrated by Domi

- *The Rooster Who Would Not Be Quiet!* by Carmen Agra Deedy, illustrated by Eugene Yelchin
- *Sharuko: El Arqueólogo Peruano Julio C. Tello/Peruvian Archaeologist Julio C. Tello* by Monica Brown, illustrated by Elisa Chavarri

## **Brilliance, Beauty, & Resistance of the Latinx Diaspora**

- *Areli Is a Dreamer: A True Story* by Areli Morales, a DACA Recipient by Areli Morales, illustrated by Luisa Uribe
- *Dreamers* by Yuyi Morales
- *Harvesting Hope: The Story of Cesar Chavez* by Kathleen Krull, illustrated by Yuyi Morales
- *Jovita Wore Pants: The Story of a Mexican Freedom Fighter* by Aida Salazar, illustrated by Molly Mendoza
- *Separate Is Never Equal: Sylvia Mendez and Her Family's Fight for Desegregation* by Duncan Tonatiuh

## **Translanguage**

- *The Barber's Cutting Edge* by Gwendolyn Battle-Lavert, illustrated by Raymond Holbert
- *Goin' Someplace Special* by Patricia C. McKissack, illustrated by Jerry Pinkney
- *Honey Baby Sugar Child* by Alice Faye Duncan, illustrated by Susan Keeter
- *Honey, I Love* by Eloise Greenfield, illustrated by Jan Spivey Gilchrist
- *Jambo Means Hello: Swahili Alphabet Book* by Muriel Feelings, illustrated by Tom Feelings
- *Jazz* by Walter Dean Myers, illustrated by Christopher Myers
- *Moja Means One: Swahili Counting Book*, by Muriel Feelings, illustrated by Tom Feelings
- "Mother to Son" by Langston Hughes (poem)
- *My Papi Has a Motorcycle* by Isabel Quintero, illustrated by Zeka Peña
- *Pecan Pie Baby* by Jacqueline Woodson, illustrated by Sophie Blackall
- *Sankofa: A Culinary Story of Resilience and Belonging* by Eric Adjepong, illustrated by Lala Watkins
- *Say Hello!* by Rachel Isadora
- *She Come Bringing Me That Baby Girl* by Eloise Greenfield, illustrated by John Steptoe
- *Sing to the Stars* by Mary Brigid Barrett, illustrated by Sandra Speidel
- *Stevie* by John Steptoe
- *What Is Given from the Heart* by Patricia McKissack, illustrated by April Harrison

## **Black & Brown Joy**

- *Baby Blessings: A Prayer for the Day You Are Born* by Deloris Johnson
- *Baby Goes to Market* by Atinuke, illustrated by Angela Brooksbank
- *Bedtime Bonnet* by Nancy Redd, illustrated by Nneka Myers
- *Bedtime for Sweet Creatures* by Nikki Grimes, illustrated by Elizabeth Zunon
- *Black Boy Joy: 17 Stories Celebrating Black Boyhood* by Kwame Mbalia
- *Black Magic* by Dinah Johnson, illustrated by R. Gregory Christie

- *Come On, Rain!* by Karen Hesse, illustrated by Jon J Muth
- *Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut* by Derrick Barnes, illustrated by Gordon C. James
- *Full, Full, Full of Love* by Trish Cooke, illustrated by Paul Howard
- *Hair Love* by Matthew A. Cherry, illustrated by Vashti Harrison
- *Hair Love ABC* by Matthew A. Cherry, illustrated by Vashti Harrison
- *He's Got the Whole World in His Hands* by Kadir Nelson
- *Hey Black Child* by Useni Eugene Perkins, illustrated by Bryan Collier
- *I Am Enough* by Grace Byers, illustrated by Keturah A. Bobo
- *I Am Every Good Thing* by Derrick Barnes, illustrated by Gordon C. James
- *I Am Perfectly Designed* by Karamo Brown and Jason "Rachel" Brown, illustrated by Anoosha Syed
- *Islandborn* by Junot Díaz, illustrated by Leo Espinosa
- *Jabari Jumps* by Gaia Cornwall
- *Keat's Neighborhood: An Ezra Jack Keats Treasury* by Ezra Jack Keats
- *The King of Kindergarten* by Derrick Barnes, illustrated by Vanessa Brantley-Newton
- *Kitchen Dance* by Maurie J. Manning
- *The Night Is Yours* by Abdul-Razak Zachariah, illustrated by Keturah A. Bobo
- *Peekaboo Bedime* by Rachel Isadora
- *Sing to the Moon* by Nansubuga Nagadya Isdahl, illustrated by Sandra Van Doorn
- *Sleep Well Siba & Saba* by Nansubuga Nagadya Isdahl, illustrated by Sandra Van Doorn
- *Thank You, Omu!* by Oge Mora
- *When Mama Braids My Hair* by Monique Duncan
- *Whose Knees Are These?* by Jabari Asim, illustrated by LeUyen Pham
- *Your Name Is a Song* by Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow, illustrated by Luisa Uribe

## **Black Queer**

- *Baby's First Words* by Stella Blackstone, illustrated by Christiane Engel
- *A Church for All* by Gayle E. Pitman, illustrated by Laure Fournier
- *It Feels Good to Be Yourself: A Book About Gender Identity* by Theresa Thorn, illustrated by Noah Grigni
- *Julián Is a Mermaid* by Jessica Love
- *Pink Is for Boys* by Robb Pearlman, illustrated by Eda Kaban
- *They, She, He: Easy as ABC* by Maya Christina Gonzalez
- *Umi and Uma: The Story of Two Mommies and a Baby* by Nyesha and Samantha Davis-Williams
- *When Aidan Became a Brother* by Kyle Lukoff, illustrated by Kaylani Juanita