

## Children & Young Adult Literature Resources: Black History Month

### [Pies From Nowhere: How Georgia Gilmore Sustained the Montgomery Bus Boycott](#)

Dee Romito

K through 4th; Reading Age 6-9

Beautifully illustrated story of behind the scenes organizing during the Montgomery bus boycott.

### [We Are Your Children Too: Black Students, White Supremacists and the Battle for American Schools in Prince Edward County, Virginia](#)

P. O'Connell Pearson

5th to 9th; Reading Age 10-14

This “detailed, fascinating” (Booklist, starred review) nonfiction middle grade book explores a deeply troubling chapter in American history that is still playing out today: the strange case of Prince Edward County, Virginia, the only place in the United States to ever formally deny its citizens a public education, and the students who pushed back.

### [Lift Every Voice and Change: A Sound Book: A Celebration of Black Leaders and the Words that Inspire Generations \(Original Series\)](#)

Charnaie Gordon (Author), Aeron Cargill (Illustrator)

2nd - 7th grade

The voices chosen represent an equal number of men and women, historical and modern figures, across a variety of disciplines. Some are household names and others may very well be introduced to children for the first time! Inspire the next generation of leading voices by inviting them to listen to and learn from the Black leaders of yesterday and today.

### [Some Places More than Others](#)

Renee Watson

4th-6th grade

From Newbery Honor- and Coretta Scott King Author Award-winning, New York Times bestselling author Renée Watson comes a heartwarming and inspiring novel for middle schoolers about finding deep roots and exploring the past, the present, and the places that make us who we are.

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### Harlem at Four

Michael Datcher (Author) Frank Morrison (Illustrator)

Ages 4-8

A stunning picture book comprising two incredible stories—the first part chronicles the adventures of a four-year-old Black girl named Harlem, while the second part describes the history of Harlem the neighborhood. From a New York Times bestselling author and a critically acclaimed illustrator.

### The Secret Garden of George Washington Carver

Gene Barretta (Author), Frank Morrison (Illustrator)

2nd – 7th grade

You may know that adult George Washington Carver was able to speak up and share his deep knowledge of the natural world, but did you know that as a sickly child he kept a magical secret garden in the woods? His garden became his classroom, and he experimented and observed the plants through the seasons. Follow his life in this beautifully illustrated text, from the secret garden to speaking in front of the U.S. Congress!

### The ABCs of Black History

Rio Cortez (Author) Lauren Semmer (Illustrator)

K+

B is for Beautiful, Brave, and Bright! And for a Book that takes a Bold journey through the alphabet of Black history and culture.

### Because Claudette

Tracey Baptiste (Author) Tonya Engel (Illustrator)

Ages 6-8

From NYT bestselling author Tracey Baptiste comes a singular picture book that is both a biography about Claudette Colvin, the teen whose activism launched the Montgomery bus boycott, and a celebration of collective action.

### Dear Black Child

Rahma Rodaah (Author), Lydia Mba (Illustrator)

PreK-3rd grade

An inspiring love letter to Black children from all cultures, this book is a celebration of their beauty, joy, and resilience.

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### [There Was a Party for Langston](#)

Jason Reynolds (Author) Jerome Pumphrey (Illustrator), Jarrett Pumphrey (Illustrator)  
PreK-3

New York Times bestselling and award-winning author Jason Reynolds's debut picture book is a snappy, joyous ode to Word King, literary genius, and glass-ceiling smasher Langston Hughes and the luminaries he inspired.

### [I am Every Good Thing](#)

Derrick Barnes (Author) Gordon C. James (Illustrator)  
PreK-2

An upbeat, empowering, important picture book from the team that created the award-winning *Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut*.

### [Black Heroes: A Black History Book for Kids: 51 Inspiring People from Ancient Africa to Modern-Day U.S.A. \(People and Events in History\)](#)

Alisha Norwood  
4th-6th grade

You're invited to meet ancient rulers, brilliant scientists, legendary musicians, and civil rights activists—all in the same book! *Black Heroes: A Black History Book for Kids* introduces you to 51 Black leaders and role models from both historical and modern times. This collection of Black history biographies for kids features inspirational stories of trailblazers from the United States, Egypt, Britain, and more.

### [The Beautiful Struggle](#)

Ta-Nehisi Coates  
Ages 12-17

An exceptional father-son story from the National Book Award-winning author of *Between the World and Me* about the reality that tests us, the myths that sustain us, and the love that saves us.

### **You Come From Greatness**

Sarah Chinakwe (Author), Ken Daley (Illustrator)

Ages 3-7

A young boy learns that he is walking in the footsteps of greatness through a vibrant, lyrical retelling of Black history—both a love letter to Black children and an anthem empowering them to know their worth.

### **I am Ruby Bridges**

Ruby Bridges (Author) Nikkolas Smith (Illustrator)

Ages 4-8

Ruby Bridges tells her story as never before and shares the events of the momentous day in 1960 when Ruby became the first Black child to integrate the all-white William Franz Elementary as a six year old little girl -- a personal and intimate look through a child's lens at a landmark moment in our Civil Rights history.

