

Book Recommendations for Young Learners from Dayton Metro Library

Books featuring African American lead characters and/or focused on diversity and social-emotional health (alphabetical by title)



























Board Books

Baby Botanist by Laura Gehl (2019) Baby's First Words by Stella Blackstone (2017) Bath! Bath! Bath! by Douglas Florian (2018) Bitty Brown Babe by Deborah Lefalle (2019) Dream Big, Little One by Vashti Harrison (2018) Global Baby Boys by Maya Ajmera (2014) I Can Dream by Betsy Snyder (2018) I Love Science by Allison Wortche (2019) Leo Gets a Checkup by Anna McQuinn (2018) Love Makes a Family by Sophie Beer (2018)

Rosa Loves Dinosaurs by Jessica Spanyol (2018)

Rosa Plays Ball by Jessica Spanyol (2018) Rosa Rides her Scooter by Jessica Spanyol

Toesy Toes by Sarah Yi-Mei Tsiang (2018) What Do I Feel? / Que siento? by Annie Kubler (2015), bilingual: Spanish and English Where Do Pants Go? By Rebecca Van Slyke (2019)

Whose Knees are These? by Jabari Asim (2019)

Early Readers

Apple Picking Day! by Candice Ranson (2016) Garden Day! by Candice Ranson (2019) Get a Hit, Mo! (Mo Jackson) by David A. Adler (2016)

I Am a Super Girl! by Kelly Greenawalt (2019)

Kick It, Mo! by David A. Adler (2018)

Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse: Passport to Reading by Rory Keane (2018)

Snow Day! by Candice Ransom (2018)

Picture Books

A Beach Tail by Karen Lynn Williams (2010) (PreK-1st)

A Boy Like You by Frank Murphy (2019) (K-2nd) All Are Welcome by Alexandra Penfold (2018) (PreK-2nd)

All Different Now: Juneteenth, the First Day of Freedom by Angela Johnson (2014) (2nd-3rd)

Around the Table that Grandad Built by Melanie Heuiser Hill (2019) (PreK-2nd)

Astro Girl by Ken Wilson-Max (2017) (PreK-K)

B is for Baby by Atinuke (2019) (PreK-K)

Be a Maker by Katey Howes (2019) (PreK-1st)

Bea's Bees by Katherine Pryor (2019) (1st-3rd)

Bilal Cooks Daal by Aisha Saeed (2019) (PreK-)

Brave Ballerina: The Story of Janet Collins by Michelle Meadows (2019) (PreK-2nd)

Carmela Full of Wishes by Matt de la Peña (2018) (PreK-2nd)

Cece Loves Science by Kimberly Derting (2018) (K-3rd)

Common Threads: Adam's Day at the Market by Huda Essa (2019) (PreK)

Cool Cuts by Mechal Renee Roe (2020) (PreK-1st)

Daniel's Good Day by Micha Archer (2019) (PreK-K)

Fairy Science by Ashley Spires (2019) (K-2nd)

Fearless Mary: Mary Fields, American Stagecoach Driver by Tami Charles (2019) (PreK-3rd)

The Best Kind of Bear by Greg Gormley (2019)

The Big Bed by Bunmi Laditan (2018) (PreK-K)

The Big Five by Bella Makatini (2019) (PreK-K)

The End of Something Wonderful by Stephanie Lucianovic (2019) (1st-3rd)































Picture Books (continued)

Five Minutes: (That's a Lot of Time) (No, It's Not) (Yes, It Is) by Liz Garton Scanlon (2019) (PreK-1st)

Georgia's Terrific, Colorific Experiment by Zoe Persico (2019) (K-3rd)

Going Down Home with Daddy by Kelly Starling Lyons (2019) (PreK-2nd)

Granddaddy's Turn: A Journey to the Ballot Box by Michael S. Bandy (2019) (2nd -3rd)

Grandpa's Stories by Joseph Coelho (2019) (PreK-3rd)

Hair, It's a Family Affair! by Mylo Freeman (2019) (PreK-2nd)

Hair Love by Matthew Cherry (2019) (PreK-3rd)

Hammering for Freedom by Rita Lorraine Hubbard (2018) (1st-3rd)

Hands Up! by Breanna J. McDaniel (2019) (PreK-3rd)

Harriet Gets Carried Away by Jessie Sima (2019) (PreK)

Henry's Freedom Box: A True Story from the Underground Railroad by Ellen Levine (2007) (2nd-3rd)

Hey, Wall: A Story of Art and Community by Susan Verde (2018) (K-3)

Hide and Seek by Polly Noakes (2019) (PreK-K)

The Hike by Alison Farrell (2019) (PreK-K)

Home is a Window by Stephanie Parsley Ledyard (2019) (PreK-3rd)

How to Read a Book by Kwame Alexander (2019) (K-3rd)

How to Take Care of Your Dinosaur by Jason Cockcroft (2019) (PreK-1st)

I Am Perfectly Designed by Karamo Brown (2019) (PreK-2nd)

I Can Write the World by Joshunda Sanders (2019) (K-3rd)

I Used To Be Famous by Tara Luebbe and Becky Cattie (2019) (PreK-1st)

Ice Breaker by Rose Viña (2019) (PreK-2nd)

I'm a Brilliant Little Black Boy! by Joshua Drummond (2016) (PreK-2nd)

If Sharks Disappeared by Lily Williams (2017) (K-2nd)

Izzy Gizmo by Pip Jones (2018) (PreK-2nd)

The King of Kindergarten by Derrick Barnes (2019) (PreK-K)

The Little Red Stroller by Joshua Furst (2019) (PreK-K)

Lola Goes to School by Anna McQuinn (2019) (PreK)

Look Up With Me by Neil Degrasse Tyson (2019) (PreK-2nd)

Loretta's Gift by Pat Zietlow Miller (2018) (PreK-1st)

Love You Head to Toe by Ashley Barron (2019) (PreK)

Lovely by Jess Hong (2017) (PreK-2nd)

M is for Melanin by Tiffany Rose (2019) (PreK-K)

Max Speed by Stephen Shaskan (2019) (PreK-K)

Mira's Curly Hair by Maryam Al Serkal (2019) (PreK-1st)

Missing Daddy by Mariame Kaba (2019) (PreK-1st)

My Hair by Hannah Lee (2019) (PreK-1st)

My Mama is a Mechanic by Doug Cenko (2019) (PreK)

My Mommy Medicine by Edwidge Danticat (2019) (PreK)

The Night is Yours by Abdul-Razak Zachariah (2019) (PreK-2nd)

Nighttime Symphony by Timbaland (2019) (PreK)

Not Quite Snow White by Ashley Franklin (2019) (1st-2nd)

Octopus Stew by Eric Velasquez (2019) (K-2nd)

Off & Away by Cale Atkinson (2018) (PreK-2nd)

The One Day House by Julia Durango (2017) (1st-3rd)

Parker Looks Up by Parker Curry (2019) (PreK-1st)

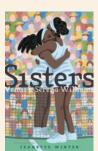
The Proudest Blue by Ibtihaj Muhammad (2019) (K-3rd)

Remarkably You by Pat Zietlow Miller (2019) (PreK-1st)





























Picture Books (continued)

Right This Very Minute by Lisl H. Detlefsen (K-1st)

Rocket Says Look Up! by Nathan Bryon (2019) (K-2nd)

Ruby Finds A Worry by Tom Percival (2019) (PreK-2nd)

Saturday by Oge Mora (2019) (PreK-1st)

Sing a Song by Kelly Starling Lyons (2019) (1st-3rd)

Sisters: Venus & Serena Williams by Jeanette Winter (2019) (K-3rd)

Small World by Ishta Mercurio (2019) (PreK-2nd)

Some Days by Karen Kaufman Orloff (2019) (PreK-K)

A Squiggly Story by Andrew Larsen (2016) (PreK-2nd)

Sulwe by Lupita Nyong'o (2019) (PreK-2nd)

Tallulah the Tooth Fairy CEO by Dr. Tamara Pizzoli (2019) (1st-3rd)

Thank You, Omu! by Oge Mora (2018) (PreK-2nd)

Thinker: My Puppy Poet and Me by Eloise Greenfield (2019) (1st-3rd)

Twins by Mike Ciccotello (2019) (PreK-1st)

Tyaja Uses the THiNK Test by Linda Ryden (2019) (K-3rd)

Undefeated by Kwame Alexander (2019) (2nd - 3rd)

Wallpaper by Thao Lam (2018) (PreK-2nd)

Want to Play Trucks? by Ann Stott (2018) (PreK-K)

When Aidan Became a Brother by Kyle Lukoff (2019) (PreK-2nd)

When Grandma Gives You a Lemon Tree by Jamie L.B. Deenihan (2019) (PreK-1st)

You and Me and Home Sweet Home by George Ella Lyon (2009) (1st-3rd)