

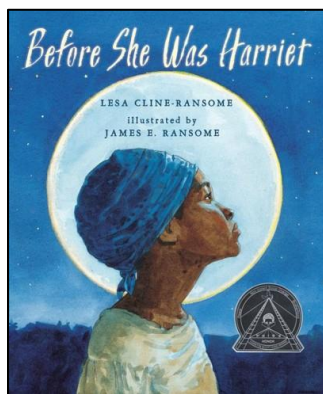
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CHILDREN'S BOOKSLIST

Black History

Books for Toddlers & Pre-K

Learn about Black history all year long with these books about the events, culture, hardships, triumphs and daily lives of Black Americans.



Before She Was Harriet: The Story of Harriet Tubman

by Lesa Cline-Ransome; illustrated by James E. Ransome

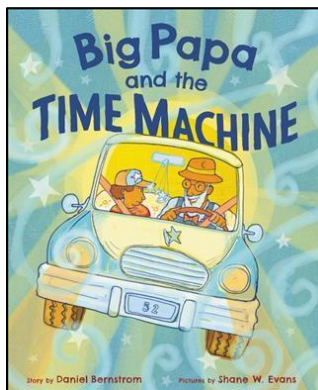
Picture Book Biography (2017)
JB Tubman

In this lush and lyrical biography, an evocative poem and opulent watercolors come together to honor a woman of humble origins whose courage and compassion make her

larger than life.

Also available as a Hoopla E-Video.

Suggested for ages 4-8



Big Papa and the Time Machine

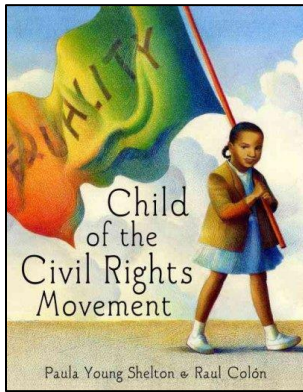
by Daniel Bernstrom; illustrated by Shane W. Evans

Picture Book (2020)
P Bernstrom

When a little boy is feeling afraid to go to school one day, his grandfather, Big Papa, takes him away in his time machine, a 1952 Ford, back to all of the times when he was scared of something life was handing him.

Suggested for ages 4-8





Child of the Civil Rights Movement

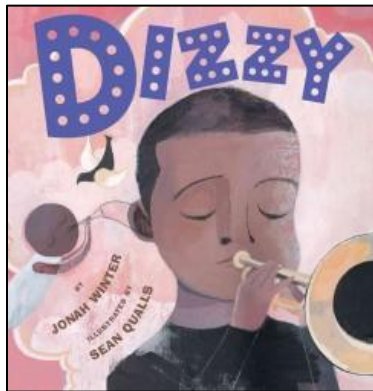
by Paula Young Shelton; illustrated by Raul Colón

Nonfiction Picture Book (2010)

J323.1 Shelton

Paula Young Shelton shares her memories of the civil rights movement and her involvement in the historic march from Selma to Montgomery.

Suggested for ages 4-8



Dizzy

by Jonah Winter; illustrated by Sean Qualls

Picture Book Biography (2006)

JB Gillespie

Breaking all the rules of jazz, Dizzy Gillespie found a way to make his mark in music using his instincts and talents in order to survive a difficult childhood and become one of the most famous musicians of his time.

Suggested for ages 4-8



Dream Big, Little One

by Vashti Harrison

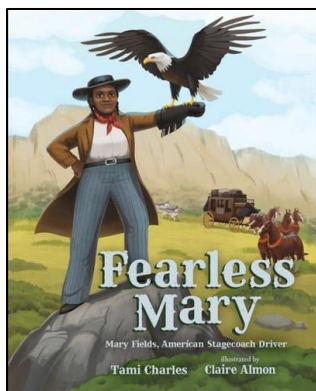
Board Book (2018)

Toddler Harrison

Learn about trailblazing women in black history whose actions and beliefs changed the world.

Suggested for ages 1-4





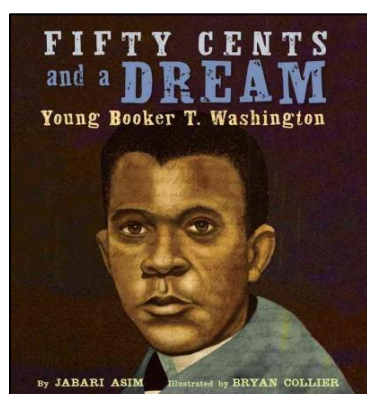
Fearless Mary: Mary Fields, American Stagecoach Driver

by Tami Charles; illustrated by Claire Almon

Picture Book Biography (2019)
JB Fields

The true story of Mary Fields, aka “Stagecoach Mary,” a trailblazing African American woman who helped settle the American West.

Suggested for ages 4-8



Fifty Cents and a Dream: Young Booker T. Washington

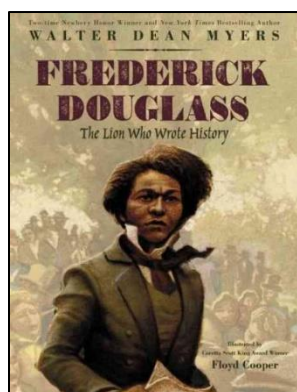
by Jabari Asim; illustrated by Bryan Collier

Picture Book Biography (2012)
JB Washington

Born into slavery, young Booker T. Washington could only dream of learning to read and write. After emancipation, Booker began a five-hundred-mile journey, mostly on foot, to

Hampton Institute, taking his first of many steps toward a college degree. When he arrived, he had just fifty cents in his pocket and a dream about to come true.

Suggested for ages 4-8



Frederick Douglass: The Lion Who Wrote History

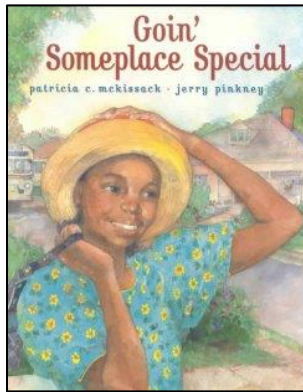
by Walter Dean Myers; illustrated by Floyd Cooper

Picture Book Biography (2017)
JB Douglass

Frederick Douglass was a self-educated slave in the South who grew up to become an icon. He was a leader of the abolitionist movement, a celebrated writer, an esteemed speaker, and a social reformer, proving that, as he said, “Once you learn to read, you will be forever free.”

Suggested for ages 4-8





Goin' Someplace Special

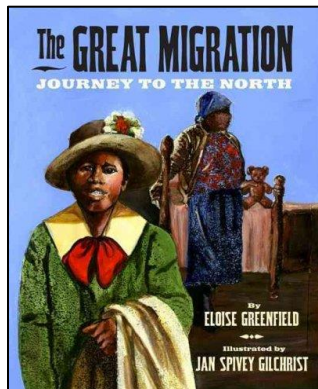
by Patricia C. McKissack; illustrated by Jerry Pinkney

Picture Book (2001)

P* McKissack

In segregated 1950s Nashville, a young African American girl braves a series of indignities and obstacles to get to one of the few integrated places in town: the public library.

Suggested for ages 4-8



The Great Migration: Journey to the North

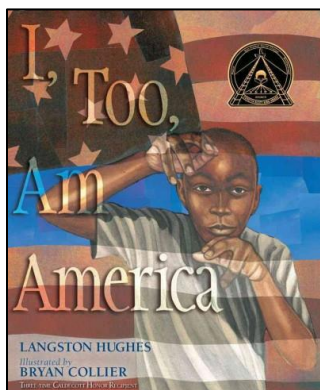
by Eloise Greenfield; illustrated by Jan Spivey Gilchrist

Poetry Picture Book (2011)

J811.54 Greenfield

This collection of poems and collage artwork depicts the experiences of African American families who found the courage to leave their homes behind and move away from the South to make better lives for themselves in the northern states.

Suggested for ages 4-10



I, Too, Am America

by Langston Hughes; illustrated by Bryan Collier

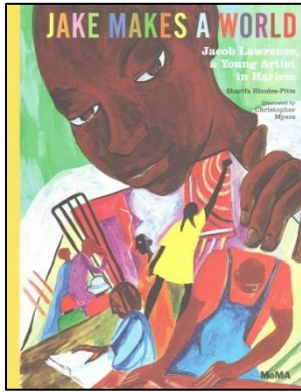
Poetry Picture Book (2012)

J811.52 Hughes

Presents the popular poem by one of the central figures of the Harlem Renaissance, highlighting the courage and dignity of the African American Pullman porters in the early twentieth century.

Suggested for ages 4-8





Jake Makes a World: Jacob Lawrence, A Young Artist in Harlem

by Sharifa Rhodes-Pitts; illustrated by Christopher Myers

Picture Book Biography (2015)
JB Lawrence

Follow the creative adventures of the young Jacob Lawrence as he finds inspiration in the vibrant colors and characters of his community in Harlem. From his mother's apartment, through the streets and to the art studio where he goes each day after school to transform his everyday world on an epic scale, Jake takes readers on an enchanting journey through the bustling sights and sounds of his neighborhood.

Suggested for ages 3-7



Mae Among the Stars

by Roda Ahmed; illustrated by Stasia Burrington

Picture Book (2018)
P Ahmed

Mae wanted to be an astronaut. She dreamed of dancing in space. She imagined herself surrounded by billions of stars, floating, gliding, and discovering. Her parents encouraged her, saying, "If you believe it, and work hard for it, anything is possible." This encouragement, along with Mae's own curiosity, intelligence, and determination, paved the way for her to become the first African American woman to travel in space.

Suggested for ages 4-8



Meet Miss Fancy

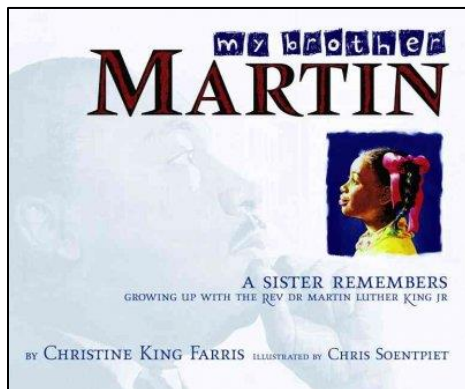
by Irene Latham; illustrated by John Holyfield

Picture Book (2019)
P Latham

Young Frank wants nothing more than to pet Miss Fancy, a retired circus elephant that has moved into his local zoo, but black people are not allowed in, so Frank tries to come up with a plan to meet the friendly elephant.

Suggested for ages 4-8





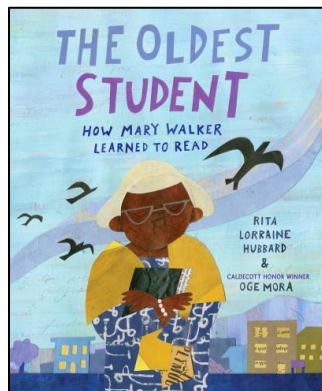
My Brother Martin: A Sister Remembers Growing Up with the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

by Christine King Farris;
illustrated by Chris Soentpiet

Picture Book Biography (2003)
JB King

Discover the early life of Martin Luther King, Jr., as seen through the eyes of his older sister.

Suggested for all ages



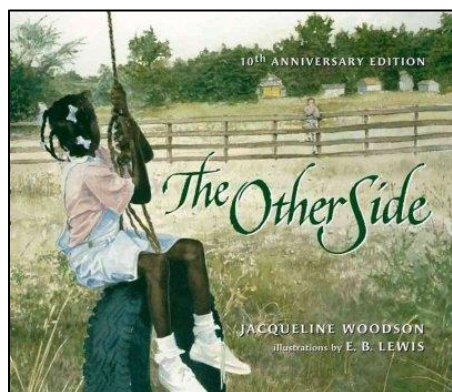
The Oldest Student: How Mary Walker Learned to Read

by Rita Lorraine Hubbard; illustrated by Oge Mora

Picture Book Biography (2020)
JB Walker

A picture book biography sharing the inspiring and incredible true story of the nation's oldest student, Mary Walker, who learned to read at the age of 116.

Suggested for ages 4-8



The Other Side

by Jacqueline Woodson; illustrated by E. B. Lewis

Picture Book (2001)
P Woodson

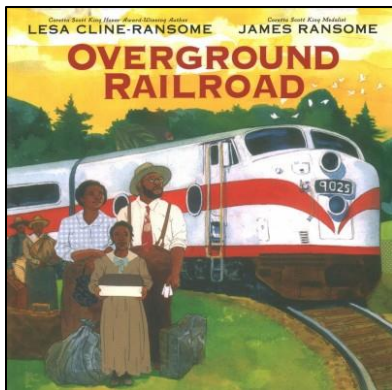
Aware of the fence that separates the black part of town from the white part, Clover is curious when a white girl suddenly comes around and sits on the fence day after day, so she decides to take the

initiative and make a friend despite the consequences of breaking the strict rules that everyone lives by.

Also available as a Hoopla E-Audiobook & Hoopla E-Video.

Suggested for ages 4-10





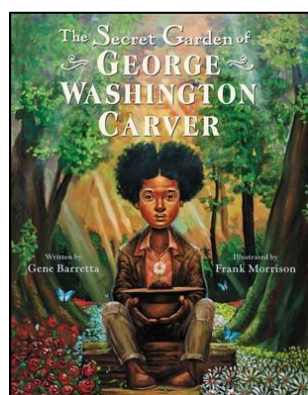
Overground Railroad

by Lesa Cline-Ransome;
illustrated by James Ransome

Picture Book (2020)
P* Cline-Ransome

A girl named Ruth Ann tells the story of her family's train journey from North Carolina to New York City as part of the Great Migration.

Suggested for ages 4-8



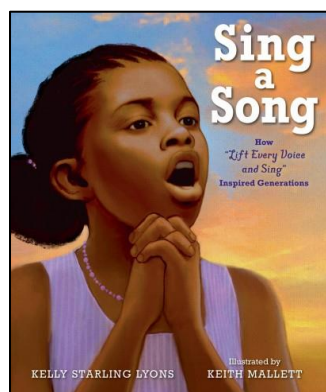
The Secret Garden of George Washington Carver

by Gene Barretta; illustrated by Frank Morrison

Picture Book Biography (2020)
JB Carver

A picture book account inspired by George Washington Carver's secret childhood garden describes how his experiences with growing things helped him develop a love of nature that shaped his adult achievements as a botanist, scientist and inventor.

Suggested for ages 4-8



Sing a Song: How "Lift Every Voice and Sing" Inspired Generations

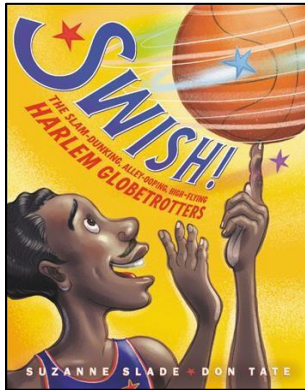
by Kelly Starling Lyons; illustrated by Keith Mallett

Picture Book (2019)
P Lyons

This stirring picture book follows a family through five generations as each is inspired by "Lift Every Voice and Sing," a song written in 1900 to honor Abraham Lincoln.

Suggested for ages 4-8





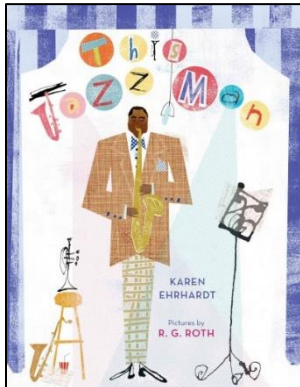
Swish! : The Slam-Dunking, Alley-Ooping, High-Flying Harlem Globetrotters

by Suzanne Slade; illustrated by Don Tate

Nonfiction Picture Book (2020)
J796.323 Slade

In this book you will find one-finger ball-spinning, rapid-fire mini-dribbling, and a ricochet head shot! You will find skilled athletes, expert players, and electrifying performers, all rolled into one! You will find nonstop, give-it-all-you've-got, out-to-win-it, sky's-the-limit BASKETBALL!

Suggested for ages 4-8



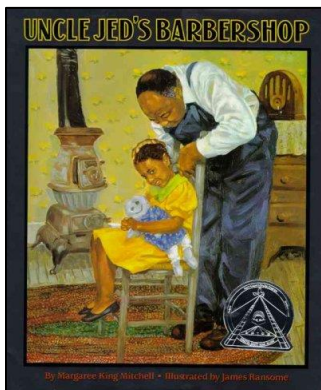
This Jazz Man

by Karen Ehrhardt; illustrated by R. G. Roth

Picture Book (2006)
P Ehrhardt

In this toe-tapping jazz tribute, the traditional "This Old Man" gets a swinging makeover, and some of the era's best musicians take center stage. The tuneful text and vibrant illustrations bop, slide, and shimmy in this playful introduction to nine jazz giants.

Suggested for ages 3-6



Uncle Jed's Barbershop

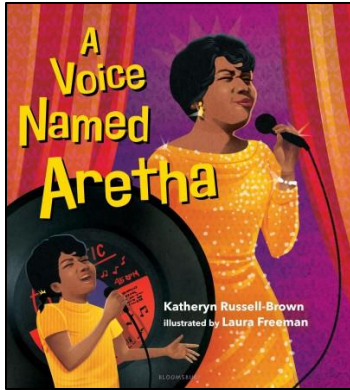
by Margaree King Mitchell; illustrated by James Ransome

Picture Book (1993)
P* Mitchell

Despite serious obstacles and setbacks Sarah Jean's Uncle Jed, the only Black barber in the county, pursues his dream of saving enough money to open his own barbershop.

Suggested for ages 4-8





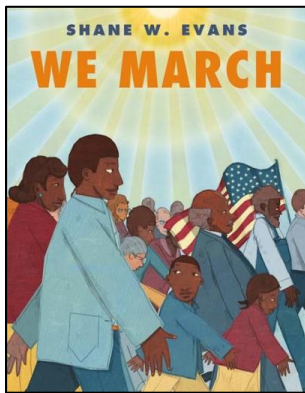
A Voice Named Aretha

by Kathryn Russell-Brown; illustrated by Laura Freeman

Picture Book Biography (2020)
JB Franklin

In this vibrant biography of a true artistic and social icon, young readers learn how Aretha's talent, intelligence, and perseverance made her a star who will shine on for generations to come.

Suggested for ages 4-8



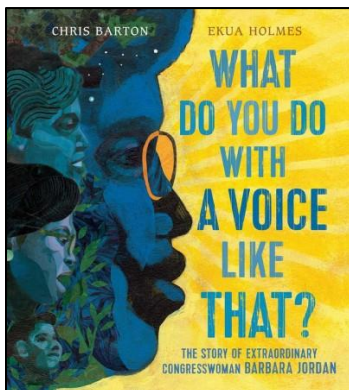
We March

by Shane W. Evans

Picture Book (2012)
P Evans

We March tells the story of the 1963 March on Washington from the perspective of a child whose family marched that day. They rise early in the morning, meet with others at their church to pray and paint signs, and travel by bus to Washington. They walk, and sing, and finally stand together to listen to Dr. King's "I Have a Dream" speech. With minimalist text and compelling illustrations, the thrill of the day is brought to life for even the youngest reader to experience.

Suggested for ages 3-7



What Do You Do with a Voice Like That? : The Story of Extraordinary Congresswoman Barbara Jordan

by Chris Barton; illustrated by Ekua Holmes

Picture Book Biography (2018)
JB Jordan

A picture book about the remarkable congresswoman Barbara Jordan, a lawyer, educator, politician and civil rights leader whose big, bold, confident voice and whose struggles, mission and perseverance in the face of adversity continue to inspire today.

Suggested for ages 4-8



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