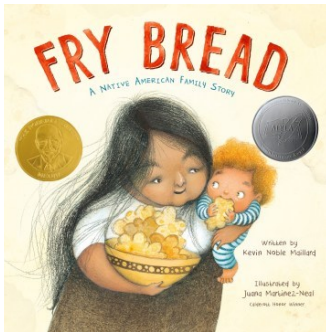


# Diverse Characters-Primary

## Indigenous

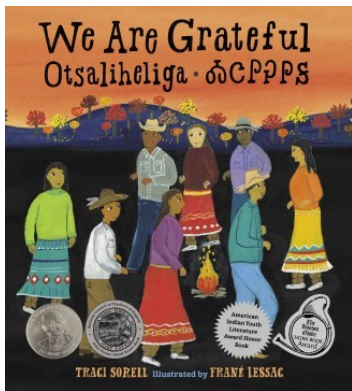
Compiled by Joan Pearce



### Fry Bread

by Kevin Noble Maillard, c2016 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.6)

"Told in powerful verse by debut author Kevin Noble Maillard, *Fry Bread* is an evocative story about family, history, culture, and traditions, new and old." - Pub.



### We Are Grateful

by Traci Sorell, c2018 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.3)

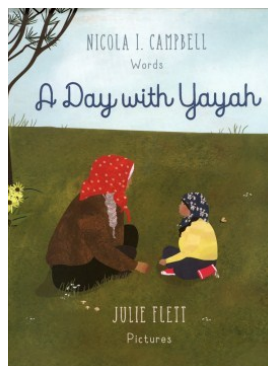
"The word otsaliheliga (oh-jah-LEE-hay-lee-gah) is used by members of the Cherokee Nation to express gratitude. Beginning in the fall with the new year and ending in summer, follow a full Cherokee year of celebrations and experiences. Written by a citizen of the Cherokee Nation, this look at one group of Native Americans is appended with a glossary and the complete Cherokee syllabary, originally created by Sequoyah." - Follett



### Birdsong

By Julie Flett, c2020 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.0)

"When a young girl moves to her new home far away from the sea, she feels lonely and out of place. But soon she meets an elderly woman next door, who shares her love of nature and art. As the seasons change, can the girl navigate the failing health of her new friend?" - Pub.



### A Day With Yayah

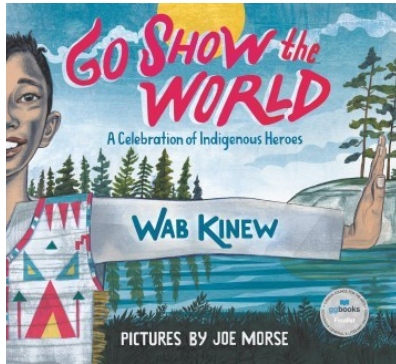
by Nicola Campbell, c2018 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.5)

"Set in the Nicola Valley, British Columbia, in Canada's westernmost province, a First Nations family goes on an outing to forage for herbs and mushrooms. A grandmother passes down her knowledge of plant life and the natural world to her young grandchildren." - Pub.

# Diverse Characters-Primary

## Indigenous

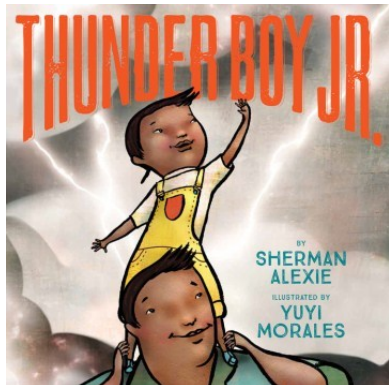
Compiled by Joan Pearce



### Go Show the World

by Wab Kinew, c2018 (IL: K-3, RL: 1.6)

"...Go Show the World showcases a diverse group of Indigenous people in the US and Canada, both the more well known and the not- so-widely recognized. Individually, their stories, though briefly touched on, are inspiring; collectively, they empower the reader with this message: "We are people who matter, yes, it's true; now let's show the world what people who matter can do." - Pub.



### Thunder Boy Jr.

by Sherman Alexie, c2016 (IL: K-3, RL: 1.6)

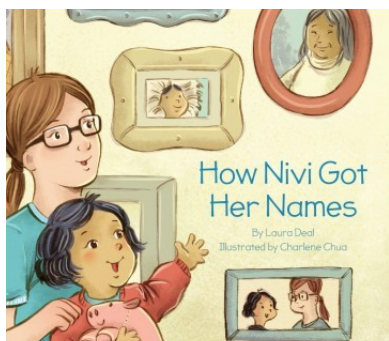
"Thunder Boy Jr. wants a normal name...one that's all his own. Dad is known as Big Thunder, but Little Thunder doesn't want to share a name." - Pub.



### We Are Water Protectors

by Carol Lindstrom, c2020 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.3)

"Water is the first medicine. It affects and connects us all...When a black snake threatens to destroy the Earth and poison her people's water, one young water protector takes a stand to defend Earth's most sacred resource." - OCLC



### How Nivi Got Her Names

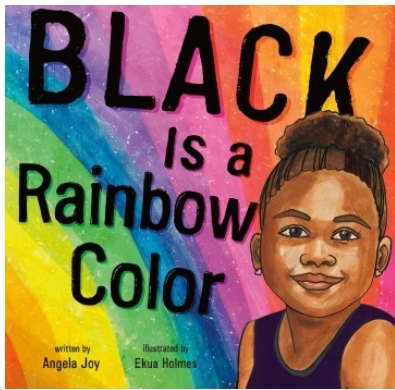
by Laura Deal, c2016 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.1)

"Nivi has always known that her names were special, but she does not know where they came from. So, one sunny afternoon, Nivi decides to ask her mom how she got her names. The stories of the people Nivi is named after lead her to an understanding of traditional Inuit naming practices and knowledge of what those practices mean to Inuit." - Pub.

# Diverse Characters-Primary

## African American

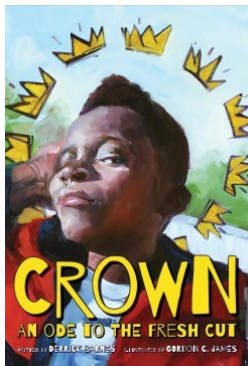
Compiled by Joan Pearce



### Black is a Rainbow Color

by Angela Joy, c2020 (IL: K-3, RL: 1.8)

"A child reflects on the meaning of being Black in this anthem about a people, a culture, a history, and a legacy that lives on." - Pub.

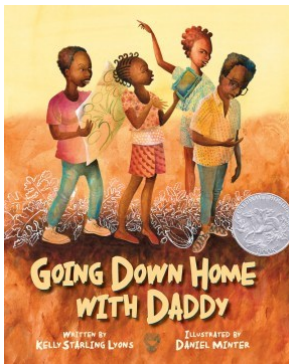


### Crown: An Ode to a Fresh Cut

by Derrick Barnes, c2017 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.3)

"Celebrates the magnificent feeling that comes from walking out of a barber shop with newly-cut hair."

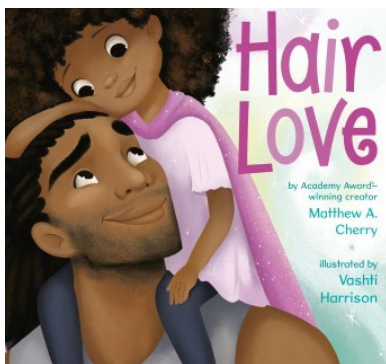
- Follett



### Going Down Home With Daddy

by Kelly Starling Lyons, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.3)

"Down home is Granny's house. Down home is where Lil' Alan and his parents and sister will join great-grandparents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins. Down home is where Lil' Alan will hear stories of the ancestors and visit the land that has meant so much to all of them. And down home is where all of the children will find their special way to pay tribute to family history. All the kids have to decide on what tribute to share, but what will Lil' Alan do?" - Pub.



### Hair Love

by Matthew A. Cherry, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.1)

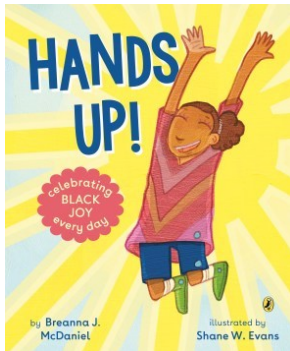
"A little girl's daddy steps in to help her arrange her curly, coiling, wild hair into styles that allow her to be her natural, beautiful self." - Follett



# Diverse Characters-Primary

## African American

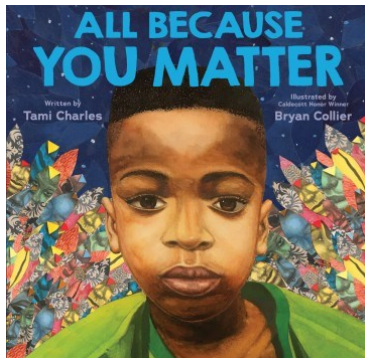
Compiled by Joan Pearce



### Hands Up!

by Breanna J. McDaniel, c2020 (IL: K-3, RL: 1.0)

"A young Black girl lifts her baby hands up to greet the sun, reaches her hands up for a book on a high shelf, and raises her hands up in praise at a church service. She stretches her hands up high like a plane's wings and whizzes down a hill so fast on her bike with her hands way up. As she grows, she lives through everyday moments of joy, love, and sadness. And when she gets a little older, she joins together with her family and her community in a protest march, where they lift their hands up together in resistance and strength." - Pub.



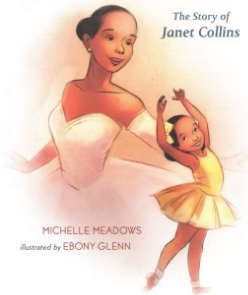
### All Because You Matter

by Tami Charles, c2020 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.0)

"This powerful, rhythmic lullaby reassures readers that their matter and their worth is never diminished, no matter the circumstance: through the joy and wonder of their first steps and first laughter, through the hardship of adolescent struggles and the pain and heartbreak of current events, they always have, and always will, matter." - Pub.

### Brave Ballerina

The Story of Janet Collins



### Brave Ballerina

by Michelle Meadows, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 1.9)

"An illustrated biography of the life of ballet dancer, choreographer, and teacher, Janet Collins." - Follett

### BROWN

THE MANY SHADES OF LOVE



### Brown

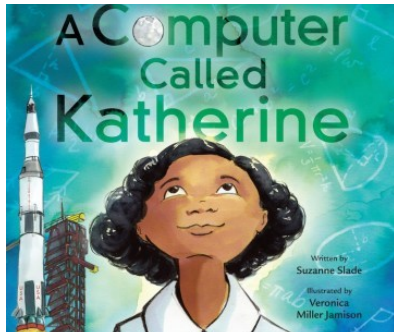
by Nancy James, c2020 (IL: K-3, RL: 1.7)

"Celebrating all the beautiful browns in one child's colorful family. Mama's brown is chocolate, clear, dark, and sweet. Daddy's brown is autumn leaf, or like a field of wheat. Granny's brown is like honey, and Papa's like caramel. In this loving and lovely ode to the color brown, a boy describes the many beautiful hues of his family, including his own—gingerbread." - Pub.

# Diverse Characters-Primary

## African American

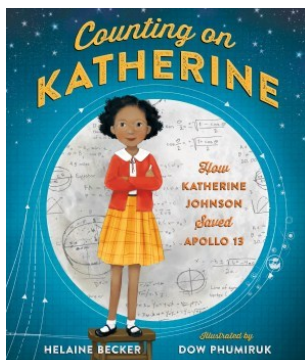
Compiled by Joan Pearce



### A Computer Called Katherine

by Suzanne Slade, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 4.3)

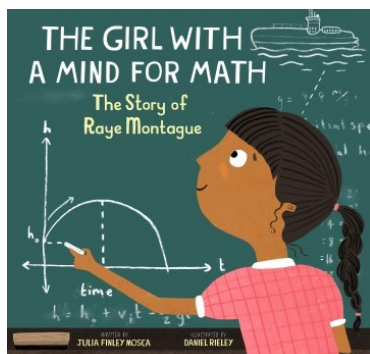
"Katherine knew it was wrong that African Americans didn't have the same rights as others...She knew it was wrong that people thought women could only be teachers or nurses...And she proved everyone wrong...eventually joining NASA, where her calculations helped pioneer America's first manned flight into space, its first manned orbit of Earth, and the world's first trip to the moon!" - Pub.



### Counting on Katherine: How Katherine Johnson Saved Apollo 13

by Helaine Becker, c2018 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.3)

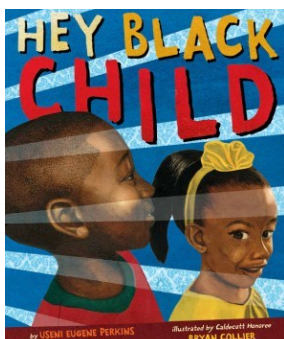
"Boundless, curious, and excited by calculations, young Katherine longed to know as much as she could about math, about the universe. From Katherine's early beginnings as a gifted student to her heroic accomplishments as a prominent mathematician at NASA, this is the story of a ground-breaking American icon who not only calculated the course of moon landings but, in turn, saved lives." - Pub.



### The Girl With a Mind for Math: The Story of Raye Montague

by Julia Finley Mosca, c2018 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.1)

"A brief rhyming account of the childhood and work of United States Naval Engineer, Raye Montague who had to deal with prejudices and racial inequality to create the first computer generated rough draft of a U.S. Naval ship and also was the first female program manager of ships in the United States Navy." - Follett



### Hey Black Child

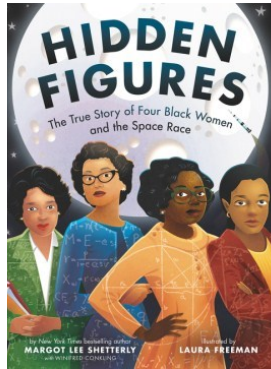
by Useni Eugene Perkins, c2017 (IL: K-3, RL: 1.6)

"This lyrical, empowering poem celebrates black children and seeks to inspire all young people to dream big and achieve their goals." - Pub.

# Diverse Characters-Primary

## African American

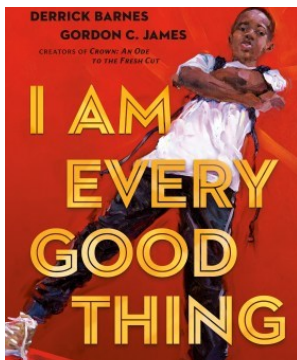
Compiled by Joan Pearce



### Hidden Figures: The True Story of Four Black Women and the Space Race

by Margot Lee Shetterly, c2018 (IL: K-3, RL: 4.5)

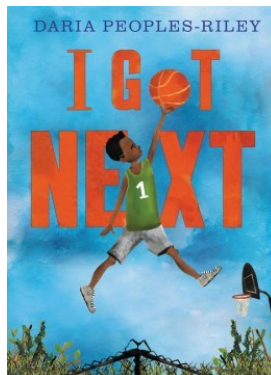
"This book brings to life the stories of Dorothy Vaughan, Mary Jackson, Katherine Johnson, and Christine Darden, four African-American women who lived through the civil rights era, the Space Race, the Cold War, and the movement for gender equality, and whose work forever changed the face of NASA and the country." - Follett



### I Am Every Good Thing

by Derrick Barnes, c2020 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.6)

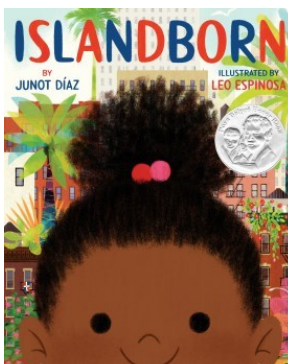
"The confident Black narrator of this book is proud of everything that makes him who he is. He's got big plans, and no doubt he'll see them through—as he's creative, adventurous, smart, funny, and a good friend. Sometimes he falls, but he always gets back up...So slow down and really look and listen, when somebody tells you—and shows you—who they are. There are superheroes in our midst." - Pub.



### I Got Next

by Daria Peoples-Riley, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 0.8)

"A young basketball player practices on the playground, preparing for an upcoming pickup game while his shadow urges him to play hard and leave his heart on the court. As the boy dribbles and weaves, shoots and scores, his shadow gives him the encouragement he needs to overcome pregame jitters and join the competition." - Pub.



### Islandborn

by Junot Díaz, c2018 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.5)

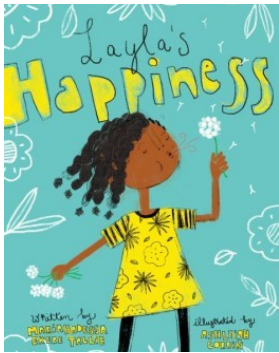
"Lola was just a baby when her family left the Island, so when she has to draw it for a school assignment, she asks her family, friends, and neighbors about their memories of her homeland...and in the process, comes up with a new way of understanding her own heritage." - Follett



# Diverse Characters-Primary

## African American

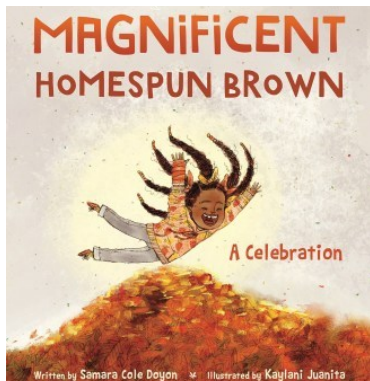
Compiled by Joan Pearce



### Layla's Happiness

By Mariahadessa Ekere Tallie, c2018 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.8)

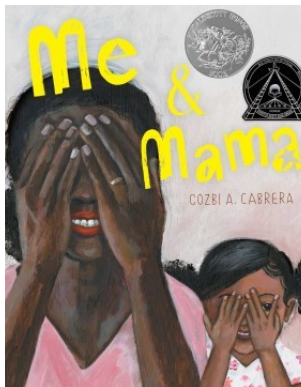
"Seven-year-old Layla divulges many things that make her happy, especially her family and their community garden." - Pub.



### Magnificent Homespun Brown

by Samara Cole Doyon, c2020 (IL: K-3, RL: 6.0)

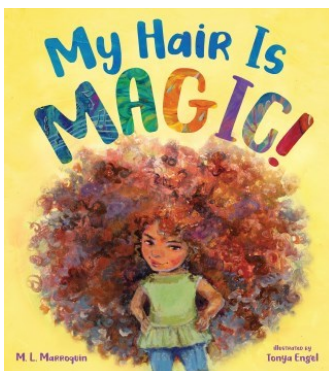
"Joyful young narrators celebrate feeling at home in one's own skin" - OCLC



### Me and Mama

by Cozbi A. Cabrera, c2020 (IL: K-3, RL: 1.8)

"Mama's love is brighter than the sun, even on the rainiest of days. This celebration of a mother-daughter relationship is perfect for sharing with little ones!" - Pub.



### My Hair Is Magic

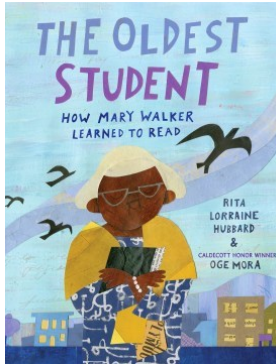
by M.L. Marroquin, c2020 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.0)

"A little girl proclaims the wonders of her natural hair." - Pub.

# Diverse Characters-Primary

## African American

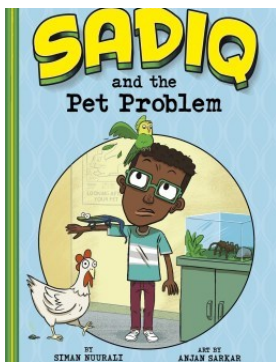
Compiled by Joan Pearce



### The Oldest Student: How Mary Walker Learned to Read

By Rita Lorraine Hubbard, c2020 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.5)

In 1848, Mary Walker was born into slavery. At age 15, she was freed, and by age 20, she was married and had her first child...And at 116, she learned to read...the inspirational story of Mary Walker, a woman whose long life spanned from the Civil War to the Civil Rights Movement, and who—with perseverance and dedication—proved that you're never too old to learn." - Pub.



### Sadiq and the Pet Problem

by Siman Nuurali, c2020 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.9)  
(chapter book)

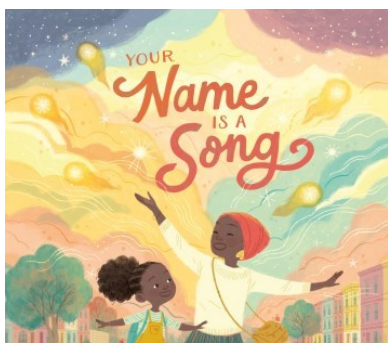
"Sadiq's third grade class has no classroom pet! Not only that, but Sadiq has never had a pet of his own. So Sadiq gathers some classmates to help him solve this problem. What kind of pet would be perfect for their class? A lizard? A bunny? A parakeet? Soon it's up to Sadiq and friends to convince their teacher and classmates that they have found the perfect pet match." - Pub.



### Sulwe

by Lupita Nyong, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.2)

"When five-year-old Sulwe's classmates make fun of her dark skin, she tries lightening herself to no avail, but her encounter with a shooting star helps her understand there is beauty in every shade." - Follett



### Your Name is a Song

by Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow, c2020 (IL: K-3, RL: 1.6)

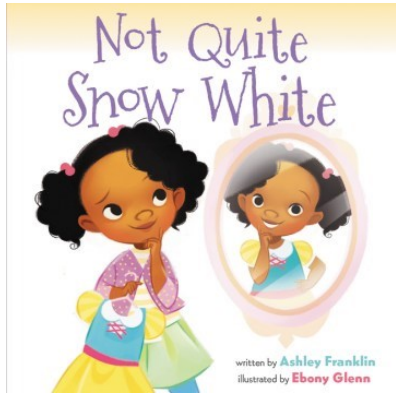
"Frustrated by a day full of teachers and classmates mispronouncing her beautiful name, a little girl tells her mother she never wants to go back to school. In response, the girl's mother teachers her about the musicality of African, Asian, Black-American, Latinx, and Middle Eastern names on their lyrical walk home through the city. Empowered by this new-found understanding, the young girl is ready to return the next day to share her knowledge with her class." - Pub.



# Diverse Characters-Primary

## African American

Compiled by Joan Pearce



### Not Quite Snow White

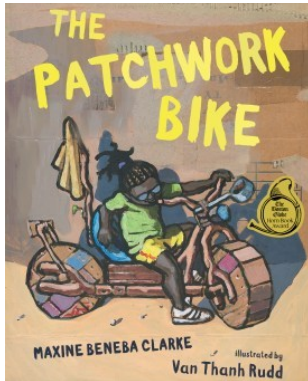
by Ashely Franklin, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.7)

"Once upon a time, there was a girl who wanted nothing more than to play Snow White in her school's musical. Excitedly, Tameika dances and sings her way through the halls. But on the day of the auditions, she overhears some kids suggesting that she is not princess material. Tamika suddenly doesn't feel quite right enough to play a perfectly poised princess." - *Follett*

# Diverse Characters-Picture Books

## African

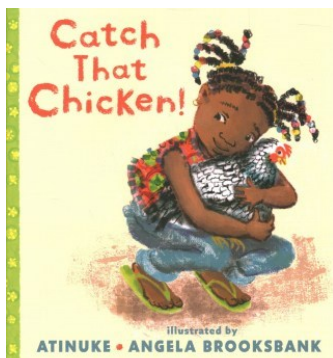
Compiled by Joan Pearce



### The Patchwork Bike

by Maxine Beneba Clarke, c2018 (IL: K-3, RL: 1.8)

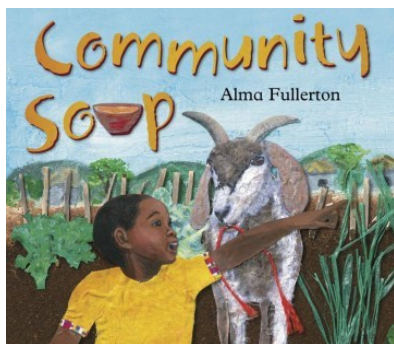
"When you live in a village at the edge of the no-go desert, you need to make your own fun. That's when you and your brothers get inventive and build a bike from scratch, using everyday items...The end result is a spectacular bike, perfect for whooping and laughing as you bumpetty bump over sand hills, past your fed-up mum and right through your mud-for-walls home." - Pub.



### Catch That Chicken

by Atinuke, c2020 (IL: K-3)

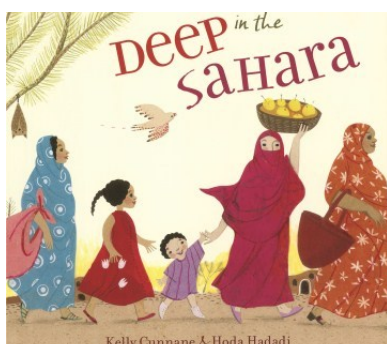
"Fast, brave Lami is the best chicken catcher in her West African village, until the day she chases one up the baobab tree and falls. While she cannot catch chickens with a sore ankle, there may be another way to catch that chicken." - Pub.



### Community Soup

by Alma Fullerton, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 1.4)

"In a garden outside a Kenyan schoolhouse, the children work together to harvest the vegetables they have grown and make them into a soup for everyone to share, but Kioni's goats have followed her to school today and they are trying to eat all the vegetables." - Follett



### Deep in the Sahara

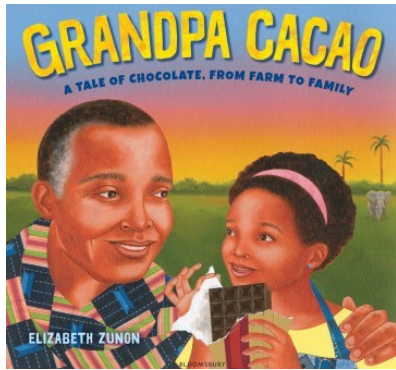
by Kelly Cunnane, c2013 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.7)

"An Arab girl of the Sahara who wants to wear a malafa, the veiled dress worn by her mother and older sister, learns that the garment represents beauty, mystery, tradition, belonging, and faith." - Follett

# Diverse Characters-Picture Books

## African

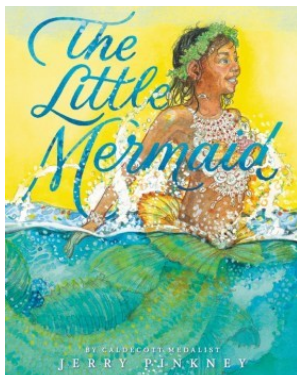
Compiled by Joan Pearce



### Grandpa Cacao: A Tale of Chocolate, From Farm to Family

by Elizabeth Zunon, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 4.5)

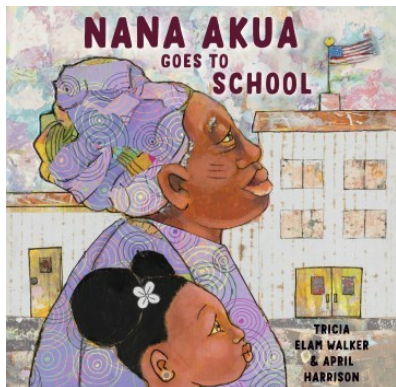
"As a little girl and her father bake her birthday cake together, Daddy tells the story of her Grandpa Cacao, a farmer from the Ivory Coast in West Africa...Daddy says, "We can only enjoy chocolate treats thanks to farmers like him." Once the cake is baked, it's ready to eat, but this isn't her only birthday present. There's a special surprise waiting at the front door..." - Follett



### The Little Mermaid

by Jerry Pinkney, c2020 (IL: K-3, RL: 4.2)

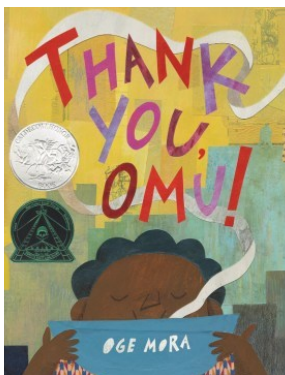
"Melody, the littlest sea princess, is not content just to sing in the choir of mermaids like her sisters...she trades her beautiful voice for a potion that gives her legs, so that she may live on land instead. It seems like a dream come true at first. But when trouble stirs beneath the ocean, Melody faces another impossible choice—stay with her friend, or reclaim her true identity and save her family." - Pub.



### Nana Akua Goes to School

by Tricia Elam Walker, c2020 (IL: K-3)

"It is Grandparents Day at Zura's elementary school, and the students are excited to introduce their grandparents and share what makes them special...Worried that her classmates will be scared of Nana—or worse, make fun of her—Zura is hesitant to bring her to school. Nana Akua knows what to do, though. With a quilt of traditional African symbols and a bit of face paint, Nana Akua is able to explain what makes her special, and to make all of Zura's classmates feel special, too." - Pub.



### Thank You, Omu

by Oge Mora, c2018 (IL: K-3)

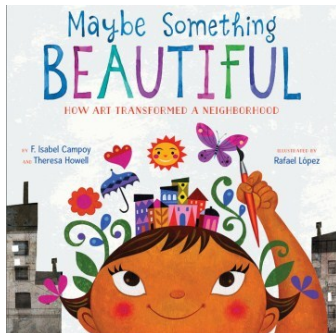
"When the aroma of Omu's homemade stew fills the air, her neighbors arrive, one by one, for a taste until all is gone except for her generous spirit." - Pub.



# Diverse Characters-Picture Books

## Hispanic/Latino

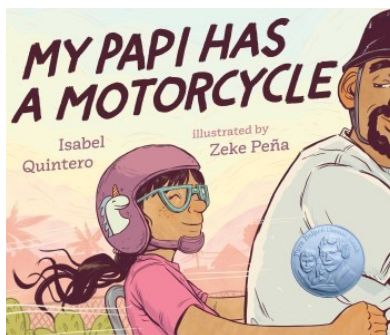
Compiled by Joan Pearce



### **Maybe Something Beautiful: How Art Transformed a Neighborhood**

by F. Isabel Campoy, c2016 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.3)

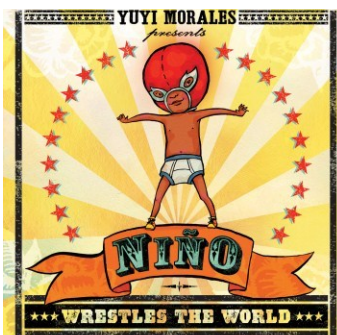
"In this exuberant picture book about transformation through art, Mira lives in a gray urban community until a muralist arrives and, along with his paints and brushes, brings color, joy, and hope to the neighborhood." - Pub.



### **My Papi Has a Motorcycle**

by Isabel Quintero, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.8)

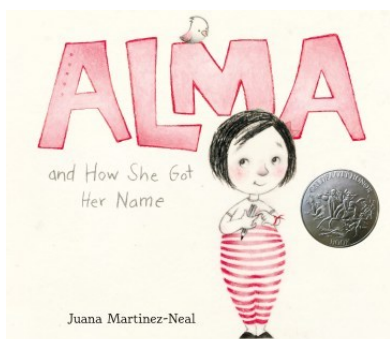
"When Daisy Ramona zooms around her neighborhood with her papi on his motorcycle, she sees the people and places she's always known. She also sees a community that is rapidly changing around her. But as the sun sets purple-blue-gold behind Daisy Ramona and her papi, she knows that the love she feels will always be there." - Pub.



### **Nino Wrestles the World**

by Yuyi Morales, c2013 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.3)

"Lucha Libre champion Nino has no trouble fending off monstrous opponents, but when his little sisters awaken from their naps, he is in for a no-holds-barred wrestling match that will truly test his skills." - Follett



### **Alma and How She Got Her Name**

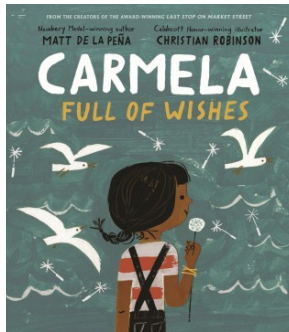
by Juana Martinez-Neal, c2018 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.0)

"What's in a name? For one little girl, her very long name tells the vibrant story of where she came from. As she hears the story, Alma Sofia Esperanza Jose Pura Candela starts to think her name might be a perfect fit after all—and realizes that she will one day have her own story to tell." - Pub.

# Diverse Characters-Picture Books

## Hispanic/Latino

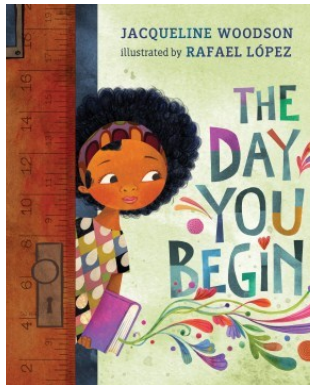
Compiled by Joan Pearce



### Carmela Full of Wishes

by Matt de la Peña, c2018 (IL: K-3)

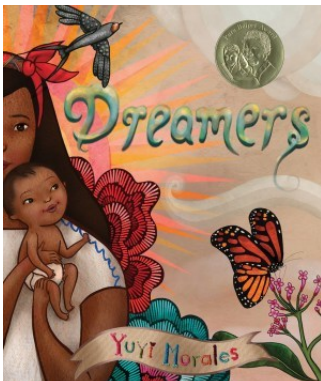
"Carmela, finally old enough to run errands with her brother, tries to think of the perfect wish, while his wish seems to be that she stayed home." - Follett



### The Day You Begin

by Jacqueline Woodson, c2018 (IL: K-3, RL: 1.8)

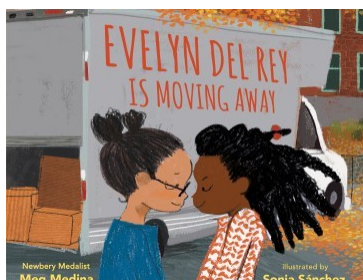
"There are many reasons to feel different. Maybe it's how you look, talk, or where you're from; maybe it's what you eat, or something just as random. It's not easy to take those first steps into a place where nobody really knows you yet, but somehow you do it." - Pub.



### Dreamers

by Yuyi Morales, c2018 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.9)

"An illustrated picture book autobiography in which award-winning author Yuyi Morales tells her own immigration story." - Pub.



### Evelyn Del Rey Is Moving Away

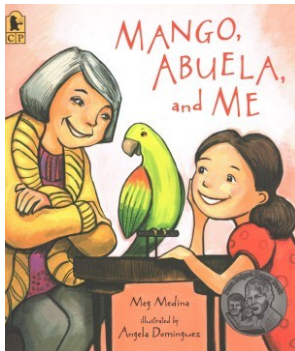
by Meg Medina, c2020 (IL: K-3)

"Evelyn Del Rey is Daniela's best friend, her mejor amiga. But after today, everything will be different. After today, Evelyn won't live in a mirror-image apartment across the street. Today Evelyn Del Rey is moving away... They promise to visit and keep in touch, and though they will be apart, they know they will always be each other's first best friend, their numero uno." - Pub.

# Diverse Characters-Picture Books

## Hispanic/Latino

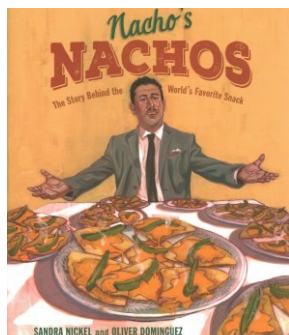
Compiled by Joan Pearce



### Mango, Abuela, and Me

by Meg Medina, c2015 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.9)

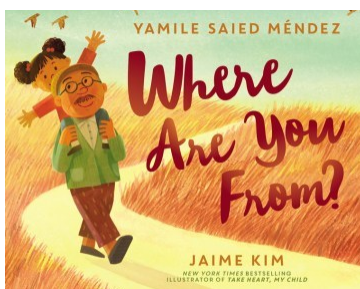
"Mia is not sure what to think when her Abuela comes to live with her family in the city. They share a bedroom but speak different languages and Abuela is sad about leaving her sunny house with wild parrots in mango trees. How Mia and Abuela develop their relationship while learning to communicate makes for a richly-told, uplifting story that lovingly blends generations and cultures." - Pub.



### Nachos, Nachos: The Story Behind the World's Favorite Snack

by Sandra Nickel, c2020 (IL: K-3, RL: 4.5)

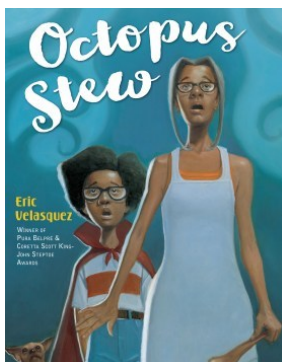
"A picture book biography of Ignacio (Nacho) Anaya, a waiter at the Victory Club in Piedras Negras, Coahuila, Mexico, and the events surrounding the creation, in 1940, of the globally-popular tortilla chip, cheese, and jalapeno pepper snack that bears his name-nachos." - Follett



### Where Are You From?

by Yamile Saied Méndez, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.0)

"When a girl is asked where she's from—where she's really from—none of her answers seems to be the right one. Unsure about how to reply, she turns to her loving abuelo for help." - Pub.



### Octopus Stew

by Eric Velasquez, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.9)

"The octopus Grandma's cooking has grown to titanic proportions. "Tenga cuidado!" Ramsy shouts. "Be careful!" But it's too late. The octopus traps grandma! Ramsey uses both art and intellect to free her. Then the story takes a surprising twist. And it can be read two ways. Open the fold-out pages to find Ramsy telling a story to his family. Keep the pages folded, and Ramsy's octopus adventure is real." - Pub.



# Diverse Characters-Picture Books

## Asian

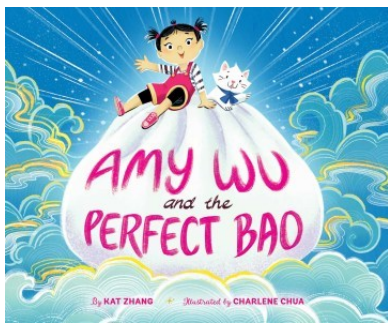
Compiled by Joan Pearce



### **Big Mooncake for Little Star**

by Grace Lin, c2018 (IL: K-3, RL: 1.6)

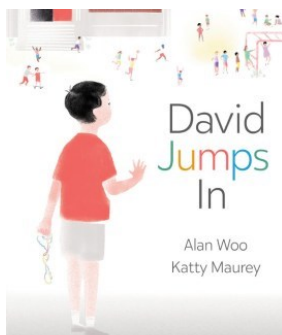
"Little Star loves the delicious Mooncake that she bakes with her mama. But she's not supposed to eat any yet What happens when she can't resist a nibble? In this stunning picture book that shines as bright as the stars in the sky, Newbery Honor author Grace Lin creates a heartwarming original story that explains phases of the moon." - Pub.



### **Amy Wu and the Perfect Bao**

by Kat Zhang, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.2)

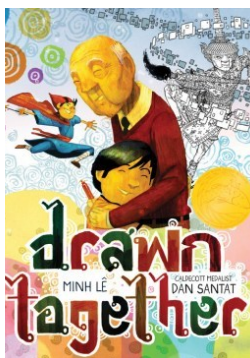
"Meet the funny, fierce, and fearless Amy Wu, who is determined to make a perfect bao bun today. Can she rise to the occasion? Amy loves to make bao with her family. But it takes skill to make the bao taste and look delicious. And her bao keep coming out all wrong. Then she has an idea that may give her a second chance...Will Amy ever make the perfect bao?" - Pub.



### **David Jumps In**

by Alan Woo, c2020 (IL: K-3, RL: 1.9)

"It is David's first day at his brand-new school. He doesn't know anyone...Bundled deep inside David's pocket is a string of rubber bands, knotted and ready for a game of elastic skip. But will anyone want to try that game? he wonders. Will anyone want to play with him?" - Pub.



### **Drawn Together**

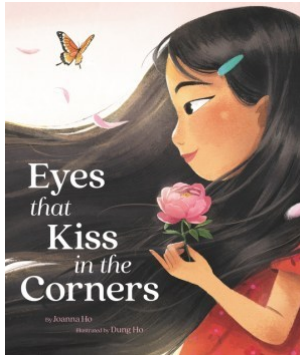
by Ming Lê , c2018 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.8)

"When a young boy visits his grandfather, their lack of a common language leads to confusion, frustration, and silence. But as they sit down to draw together, something magical happens-with a shared love of art and storytelling, the two form a bond that goes beyond words." - Pub.

# Diverse Characters-Picture Books

## Asian

Compiled by Joan Pearce



### Eyes That Kiss in the Corners

by Joanna Ho, c2021 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.5)

"A young Asian girl notices that her eyes look different from her peers". They have big, round eyes and long lashes. She realizes that her eyes are like her mother's, her grandmother's, and her little sister's...Drawing from the strength of these powerful women in her life, she recognizes her own beauty and discovers a path to self love and empowerment." - Pub.

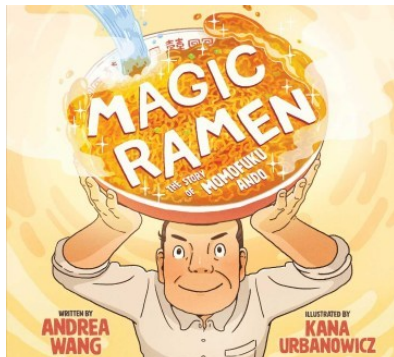


### It Began With a Page: How Gyo Fujikawa Drew the Way

by Kyo Maclear, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 4.2)

"Gyo's parents had come to California from Japan looking for a better life, but sometimes Gyo felt invisible...Art became her profession, and now her drawings were in magazines and store window displays.

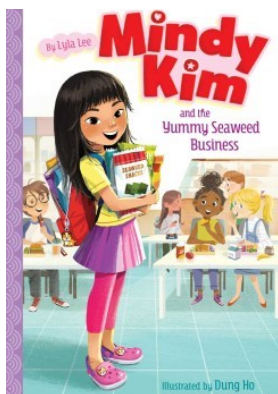
From the beloved team of Kyo Maclear and Julie Morstad comes a story that poignantly portrays the life of Gyo Fujikawa, a groundbreaking hero in the fight for racial diversity in picture books." - Pub.



### Magic Ramen: The Story of Momofuku Ando

by Andrea Wang, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.6)

"Every day, Momofuku Ando would retire to his lab—a little shed in his backyard. For years, he'd dreamed about making a new kind of ramen noodle soup that was quick, convenient...With persistence, creativity, and a little inspiration, Ando succeeded. This is the true story behind one of the world's most popular foods." - Pub.



### Mindy Kim and the Yummy Seaweed Business

by Lyla Lee, c2020 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.1)

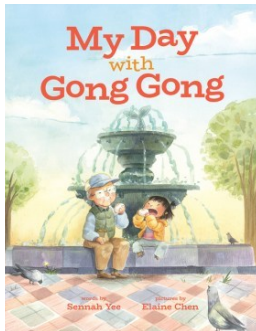
(Beginning Chapter Book)

"On her first day of school, Mindy's school snack of dried seaweed isn't exactly popular at the lunch table. Luckily, her new friend, Sally, makes the snacks seem totally delicious to Mindy's new classmates, so they decide to start the Yummy Seaweed Business to try and raise money for [a] puppy!" - Pub.

# Diverse Characters-Picture Books

## Asian

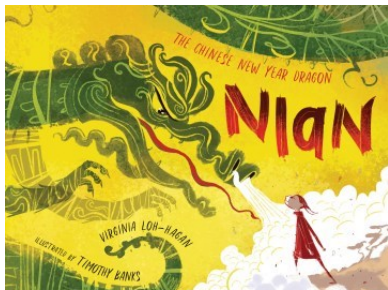
Compiled by Joan Pearce



### My Day With Gong Gong

by Sennah Yee, c2020 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.4)

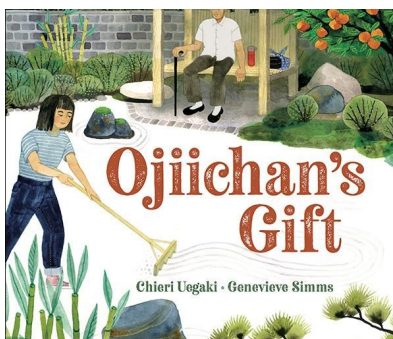
"May isn't having fun on her trip through Chinatown with her grandfather. Gong Gong doesn't speak much English, and May can't understand Chinese. She's hungry, and bored with Gong Gong's errands...But just when May can't take any more, Gong Gong surprises her with a gift that reveals he's been paying more attention than she thought." - Pub.



### Nian, the Chinese New Year Dragon

by Virginia Loh-Hagan, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.2)

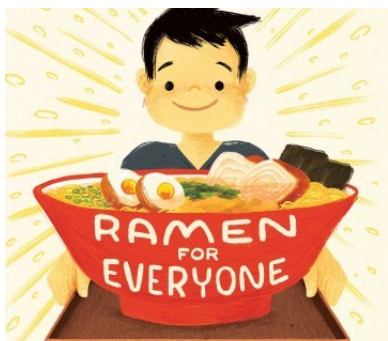
"An illustrated retelling for young readers of the Chinese folktale about a dragon that threatens a village each spring and Mei, the young girl who is destined to defeat him." - Pub.



### Ojiichan's Gift

by Chieri Uegaki, c2010 (IL: Prim)

"When Mayumi was born, her grandfather created a garden for her. It was unlike any other garden she knew. It had no flowers or vegetables. Instead, Ojiichan made it out of stones...This gentle picture book story will warm children's hearts as it explores a deep intergenerational bond and the passing of knowledge from grandparent to grandchild over time." - Pub.



### Ramen for Everyone

by Patricia Tanumihardja, c2023 (IL: K-3, RL: ?)

Summary:

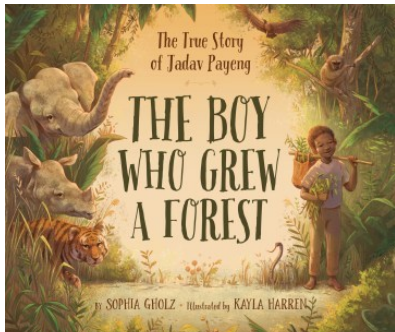
"Hiro's dream is to make his own perfect bowl, and he's sure he can do it after watching his dad and taking notes. But when he gets started, things don't go according to plan. The seaweed crumbles! The eggs slip through his fingers! The pork falls apart! Hiro is worried he'll never be a real ramen chef...but thanks to ..." - Pub.



# Diverse Characters-Picture Books

## East Indian

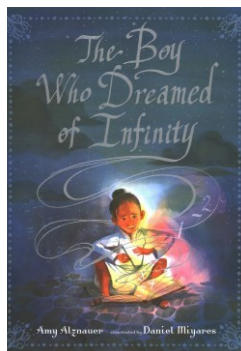
Compiled by Joan Pearce



### The Boy Who Grew a Forest: the True Story of Jadav Payeng

By Sophia Gholz, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.9)

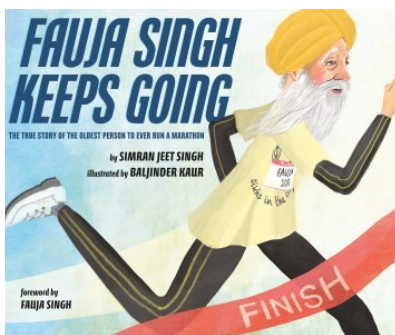
"A picture book biography of Jadav Payeng who as a boy was distressed by the destruction deforestation and erosion in India's Brahmaputra River region, so he began planting trees. What began as a small thicket of bamboo, grew into a thriving 1,300 acre forest filled with native plants and animals." - Pub.



### The Boy Who Dreamed of Infinity

by Amy Alznauer, c2020 (IL: K-3)

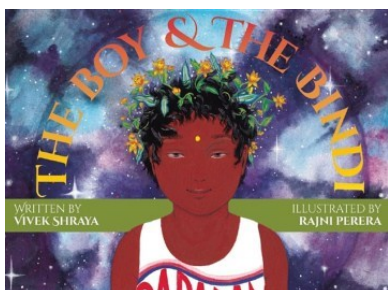
"In 1887 in India, a boy named Ramanujan is born with a passion for numbers...As he grows up, Ramanujan reinvents much of modern mathematics, but where in the world could he find someone to understand what he has conceived?" - Pub.



### Fauja Singh Keeps Going: The True Story of the Oldest Person to Ever Run a Marathon

by Simran Jeet Singh, c2020 (IL: K-3, RL: 4.3)

"The inspiring true story of Fauja Singh, who broke world records to become the first one hundred-year-old to run a marathon, shares valuable lessons on the source of his grit, determination to overcome obstacles, and commitment to positive representation of the Sikh community." - Pub.



### The Boy and the Bindi

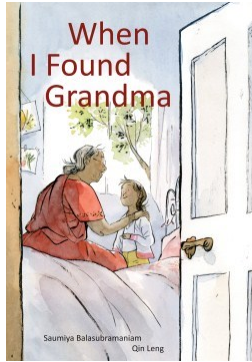
by Vivek Shraya, c2016 (IL: K-3, RL: 1.6)

"In this spiritual picture book, a young boy asks his mother about her bindi, the dot many Hindu women wear on their forehead. Ammi, his mother, explains how wearing a bindi takes her back to her childhood, reminding her of family traditions and inspiring her to be true to herself. She gives her son a bright yellow bindi to wear...he experiences spiritual calmness and a sense of connectedness." - Booklist

# Diverse Characters-Picture Books

## East Indian

Compiled by Joan Pearce



### **When I Found Grandma**

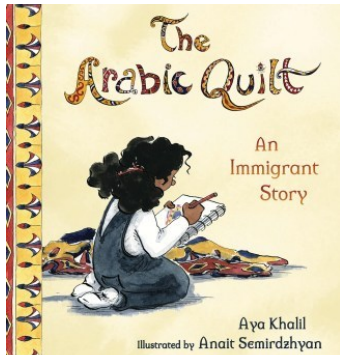
by Saumiya Balasubramaniam, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.0)

"Maya longs to see her grandmother, but when Grandma arrives from far away for a visit, she is not quite what Maya expected." - Pub.

# Diverse Characters-Picture Books

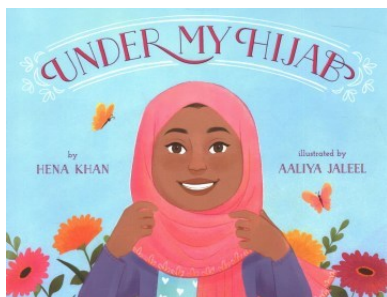
## Other

Compiled by Joan Pearce



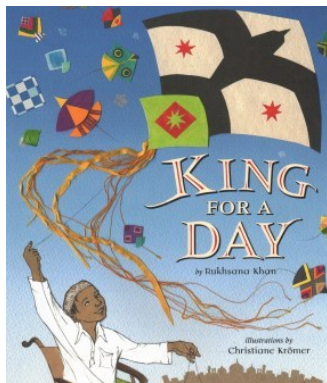
**The Arabic Quilt: an Immigrant Story** (Egypt to U.S.A.)  
by Aya Khalil, c2020 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.3)

"Kanzi's family has moved from Egypt to America, and on her first day in a new school, what she wants more than anything is to fit in. Maybe that's why she forgets to take the kofta sandwich her mother has made for her lunch, but that backfires when Mama shows up at school with the sandwich. Mama wears a hijab and calls her daughter Habibti (dear one). When she leaves, the teasing starts." - Pub.



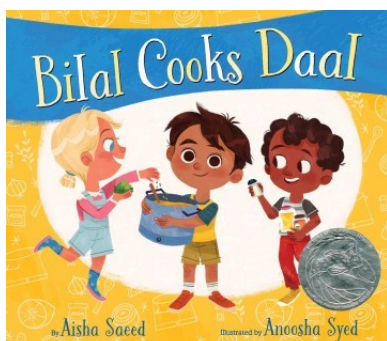
**Under My Hijab (Muslim)**  
by Hena Khan, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.4)

"Grandma's hijab clasps under her chin. Auntie pins hers up with a whimsical brooch. Jenna puts a sun hat over hers when she hikes. Iman wears a sports hijab for tae kwon do. As a young girl observes the women in her life and how each covers her hair a different way, she dreams of the possibilities in her own future and how she might express her personality through her hijab." - Pub.



**King for a Day (Pakistan)**  
by Rukhsana Khan, c2014 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.9)

"Even though he is confined to a wheelchair, a Pakistani boy tries to capture the most kites during Basant, the annual spring kite festival, and become "king" for the day. Includes an afterword about the Basant festival." - Follett



**Bilal Cooks Daal** (South Asia)  
by Aisha Saeed, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.3)

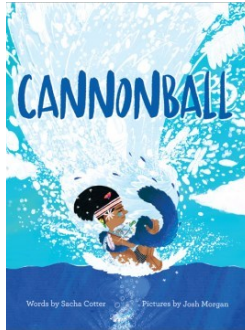
"Six-year-old Bilal is excited to help his dad make his favorite food of all-time: daal. The slow-cooked lentil dish from South Asia requires lots of ingredients and a whole lot of waiting. Bilal wants to introduce his friends to daal. They've never tried it. As the day goes on, the daal continues to simmer, and more kids join Bilal and his family, waiting to try the tasty dish. And as time passes, Bilal begins to wonder: Will his friends like it as much as he does?" - Pub.



# Diverse Characters-Picture Books

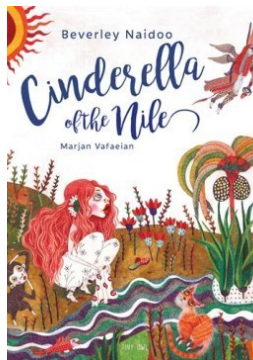
## Other

Compiled by Joan Pearce



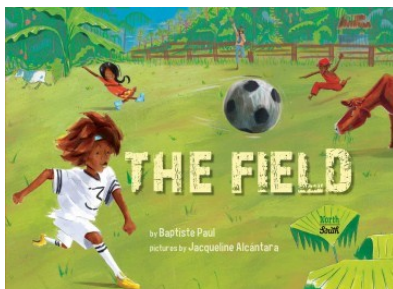
**Cannonball** (New Zealand—Maori)  
by Sacha Cotter, c2020 (IL: K-3)

"Determined to execute the perfect cannonball dive, a boy tries to follow everyone's advice but finally hears Nan, an expert and former champion, who advises doing it his own way." - Follett



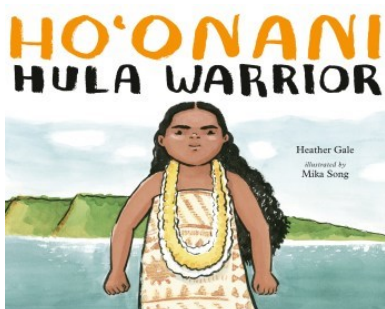
**Cinderella of the Nile** (Egypt)  
by Beverley Naidoo, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.8)

"In this earliest known version of Cinderella, a rosy-cheeked girl called Rhodopis is abducted from Greece and sold as a slave in Egypt. Her master gives her a pair of beautiful rose-red slippers. But when Horus the Falcon sweeps in to steal her slipper, Rhodopis has little idea that this act will lead her to the King of Egypt." - Pub.



**The Field** (Saint Luica—Creole)  
by Paul Baptiste, c2018 (IL: K-3, RL: 1.0)

"The world's most popular and inclusive sport has found its spirited, poetic, and authentic voice in Paul's debut picture book, highlighting its universal themes: teamwork, leadership, diversity, and acceptance." - Follett



**Ho'onani: Hula Warrior** (Hawaii)  
by Heather Gale, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.4)

"Ho'onani feels in-between. She doesn't see herself as wahi-ne (girl) OR kane (boy). She's happy to be in the middle. But not everyone sees it that way. When Ho'onani finds out that there will be a school performance of a traditional kane hula chant, she wants to be part of it. But can a girl really lead the all-male troupe? Ho'onani has to try." - Pub.

# Diverse Characters-Picture Books

## Other

Compiled by Joan Pearce



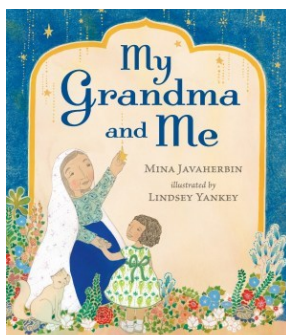
**Leila in Saffron** (*Pakistani Americans*)  
by Rukhsana Guidroz, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.7)

"A colorful journey of self-discovery and identity, this sweet, vibrant picture book follows young Leila as she visits her grandmother's house for their weekly family dinner, and finds parts of herself and her heritage in the family, friends, and art around her." - Pub.



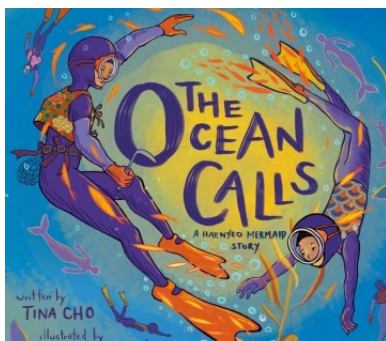
**The Many Colors of Harpreet Singh** (*Sikh Americans*)  
by Supriya Kelkar, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.0)

"Harpreet Singh has a different color for every mood and occasion, from pink for dancing to bhangra beats to red for courage. He especially takes care with his patka -his turban-smoothing it out and making sure it always matches his outfit. But when Harpreet's mom finds a new job in a snowy city and they have to move, all he wants is to be invisible." - Follett



**My Grandma and Me** (*Iran*)  
by Mina Javaherbin, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.5)

"While Mina is growing up in Iran, the center of her world is her grandmother. Whether visiting friends next door, going to the mosque for midnight prayers during Ramadan, or taking an imaginary trip around the planets, Mina and her grandma are never far apart." - Pub.



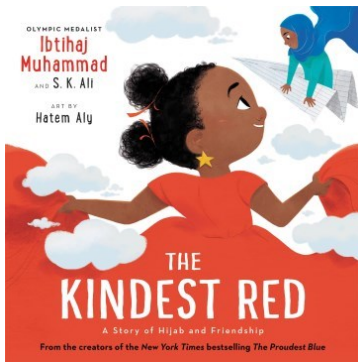
**The Ocean Calls: a Haenyeo Mermaid Story** (*Korea*)  
by Tina Cho, c2020 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.7)

"A breathtaking picture book featuring a Korean girl and her haenyeo (free diving) grandmother about intergenerational bonds, finding courage in the face of fear, and connecting with our natural world. Dayeon wants to be a haenyeo just like Grandma." - Pub.

# Diverse Characters-Picture Books

## Other

Compiled by Joan Pearce



### The Kindest Red : A Story of Hijab and Friendship by Ibtihaj Muhammad, c2023 (IL: K-3, RL: ?)

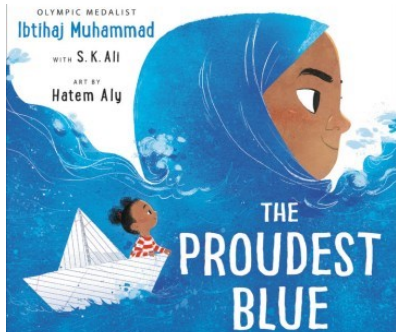
"It's picture day and Faizah can't wait to wear her special red dress with matching hair ribbons, passed down from her mother and sister. Faizah's teacher starts the day by asking her students to envision the kind of world they want, inspiring Faizah and her friends to spend the day helping one another in ways large and small. - Pub.



# Diverse Characters-Picture Books

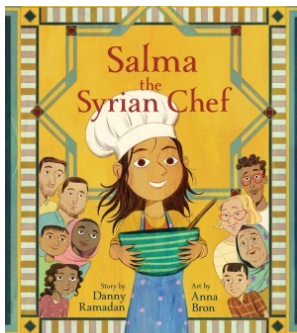
## Other

Compiled by Joan Pearce



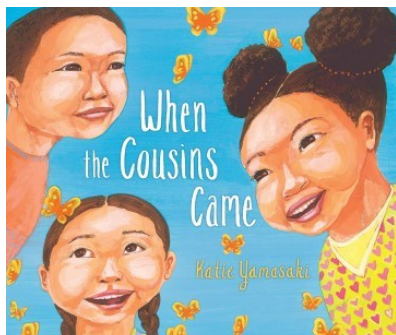
### **The Proudest Blue: A Story of Hijab and Family** by Ibtihaj Muhammad, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 1.6)

"With her new backpack and light-up shoes, Faizah knows the first day of school is going to be special. It's the start of a brand new year and, best of all, it's her older sister Asiya's first day of hijab—a hijab of beautiful blue fabric, like the ocean waving to the sky. But not everyone sees hijab as beautiful, and in the face of hurtful, confusing words, Faizah will find new ways to be strong." - Pub.



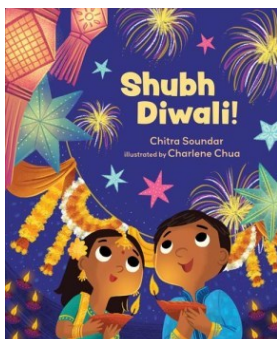
### **Salma the Syrian Chef (Syria)** by Danny Ramadan, c2020 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.9)

"All Salma wants is to make her mama smile again. Between English classes, job interviews, and missing Papa back in Syria, Mama always seems busy or sad. A homemade Syrian meal might cheer her up, but Salma doesn't know the recipe, or what to call the vegetables in English, or where to find the right spices! Luckily, the staff and other newcomers in her Welcome Center are happy to lend a hand—and a sprinkle of sumac." - Pub.



### **When the Cousins Came (Asian American)** by Katie Yamasaki, c2018 (IL: K-3, RL: 1.6)

"Lila is excited for her cousins Takeo and Rosie to visit. They're going to ride bikes, paint, and camp together! But when the cousins arrive, everything's wrong: Rosie and Takeo are better painters than Lila, have skateboards instead of bikes, and don't want to camp outside. Lila is terribly disappointed until the cousins make her a surprise: a big banner for their "best cousin" Lila!" - Pub.



### **Shubh Diwali (Hindu)** by Chitra Soundar, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.7)

"Diwali has arrived Rangoli art decorates the floor and strings of flowers hang around the doors. Now it's time to ring the bells, light the lamps, and welcome the new year with family and friends. A sweet introduction to the Hindu festival of lights." - Pub.

# Diverse Characters-Picture Books

## Multicultural/Promoting Diversity

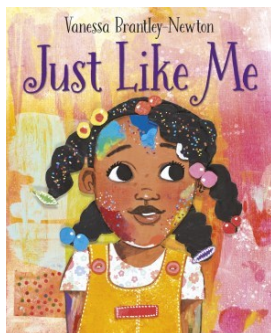
Compiled by Joan Pearce



### **Intersection Allies: We Make Room for All**

By Chelsea Johnson, c2019 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.6)

"A cheerful, diverse cast of friends describe living the ally life in this progressive picture book...Though they're all the same age, the friends are otherwise very different...Their unwavering support for one another helps readers understand what intersectionality means and looks like. The bright, sweet illustrations have a charming silk-screen look that perfectly complements the heartfelt snapshots of the kids." - SLJ



### **Just Like Me**

by Vanessa Brantley-Newton, c2020 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.6)

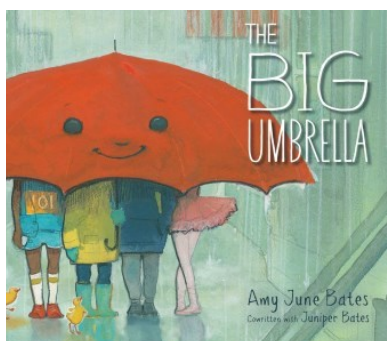
"...a collection of poetry filled with engaging mini-stories about girls of all kinds: girls who feel happy, sad, scared, powerful; girls who love their bodies and girls who don't; country girls, city girls; girls who love their mother and girls who wish they had a father. With bright portraits in Vanessa's signature style of vibrant colors and unique patterns and fabrics, this book invites readers to find themselves and each other within its pages." - Pub.



### **All Are Welcome**

by Alexandra Penfold, c2018 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.0)

"Follow a group of children through a day in their school, where everyone is welcomed with open arms. A school where kids in patkas, hijabs, and yarmulkes play side-by-side with friends in baseball caps...*All Are Welcome* lets young children know that no matter what, they have a place, they have a space, they are welcome in their school." - Pub.



### **The Big Umbrella**

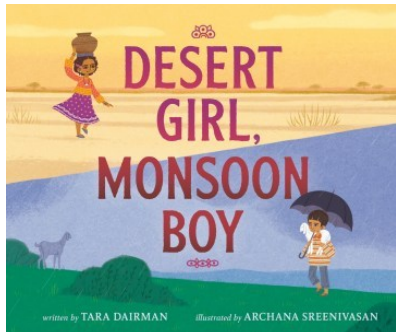
by Amy June Bates, c2018 (IL: K-3, RL: 1.4)

"By the door there is an umbrella. It is big. It is so big that when it starts to rain there is room for everyone underneath. It doesn't matter if you are tall. Or plaid. Or hairy. It doesn't matter how many legs you have." - Pub.

# Diverse Characters-Picture Books

## Multicultural/Promoting Diversity

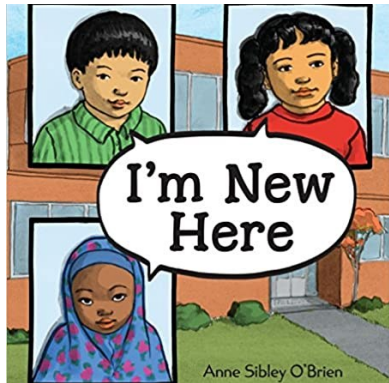
Compiled by Joan Pearce



### Desert Girl Monsoon Boy

by Tara Dairman, c2020 (IL: K-3)

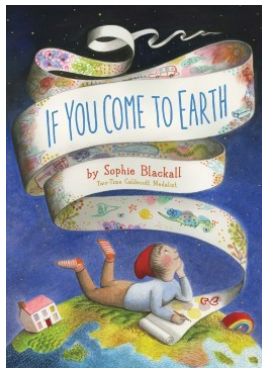
"Extreme weather affects two children's lives in very different ways and shows how the power of nature can bring us together...The journeys of these two children experiencing weather extremes in India highlight the power of nature and the resilience of the human spirit."  
- Pub.



### I Am New Here

by Anne Sibley O'Brien, c2015 (IL: Prim)

"Three students are immigrants from Guatemala, Korea, and Somalia and have trouble speaking, writing, and sharing ideas in English in their new American elementary school. Through self-determination and with encouragement from their peers and teachers, the students learn to feel confident and comfortable in their new school without losing a sense of their home country, language, and identity." - Amazon.ca



### If You Came to Earth

by Sophie Blackall, c2020 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.3)

"A boy writes a letter to an imagined alien, explaining all the things he will need to know about Earth and the people who live here—and adding a postscript asking what the alien might look like." - Follett



### Lovely

by Jess Hong, c2017 (IL: K-3, RL: 1.8)

"Big, small, curly, straight, loud, quiet, smooth, wrinkly. Lovely explores a world of differences that all add up to the same thing: we are all lovely!" - Pub.



# Diverse Characters-Picture Books

## Multicultural/Promoting Diversity

Compiled by Joan Pearce

### MIXED

A Colorful Story

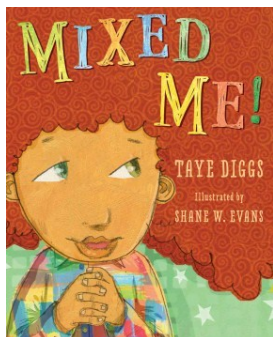


Arree Chung

#### Mixed: A Colorful Story

by Arree Chung, c2018 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.1)

"Each believing that their hue is the best, the three primary colors live in separate parts of the city until Yellow and Blue meet, fall in love, and decide to mix."  
- Pub.

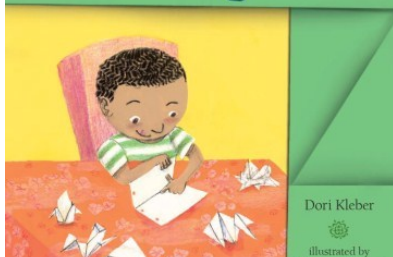


#### Mixed Me

by Taye Diggs, c2015 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.1)

"Mike has awesome hair. He has LOTS of energy His parents love him. And Mike is a PERFECT blend of the two of them. Still, Mike has to answer LOTS of questions about being mixed. And he does, with LOTS of energy and joy in this charming story about a day in the life of a mixed-race child."  
- Pub.

### More-igami



#### More-igami

by Dori Kleber, c2016 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.4)

"Joey loves things that fold: maps, beds, accordions, you name it...Maybe he can learn origami, too. It's going to take practice...But how can Joey become an origami master if he's not allowed to practice? Is there anywhere that he can hone the skill that makes him happy—and maybe even make a new friend while he's at it?" - Pub.

### One of These Is Not Like the Others



BARNEY SALTZBERG

#### One of These is Not Like the Others

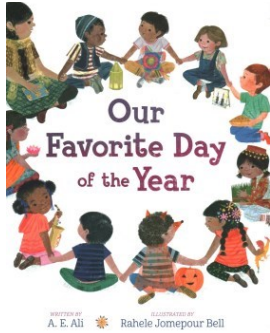
by Barney Saltzberg, c2020 (IL: K-3, RL: 1.3)

"Barney Saltzberg's hilarious and delightfully direct text and simple illustrations introduce children to the concept and splendor of inclusiveness, through recognizing who or what's different on each spread and celebrating the unity as it is." - Pub.

# Diverse Characters-Picture Books

## Multicultural/Promoting Diversity

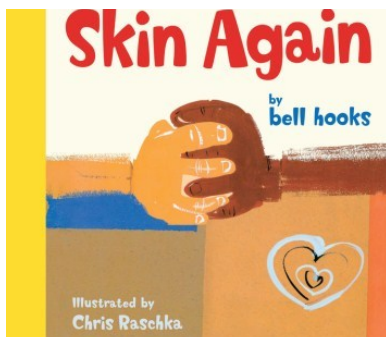
Compiled by Joan Pearce



### Our Favourite Day of the Year

By A.E. Ali, c2020 (IL: K-3)

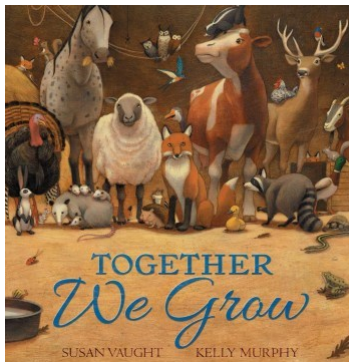
"Four kindergartners who think they have nothing in common become friends after sharing traditions of their holidays, including Eid al-Fitr, Rosh Hashanah, Christmas, and Pi Day." - *Follett*



### Skin Again

by bell hooks, c2017 (IL: K-3, RL: 2.7)

"Celebrating all that makes us unique and different, *Skin Again* offers new ways to talk about race and identity. Race matters, but only so much—what's most important is who we are on the inside. Looking beyond skin, going straight to the heart, we find in each other the treasures stored down deep." - *Pub.*



### Together We Grow

by Susan Vaught, c2020 (IL: K-3)

"A storm drives all the farm animals indoors except for a lonely fox family. The barn isn't their home. But where will they go for safety? This stunning picture books explores themes of acceptance and belonging: Large or small, Short and tall, There is room, There is room, There is room For us all." - *Pub.*



### What's My Superpower

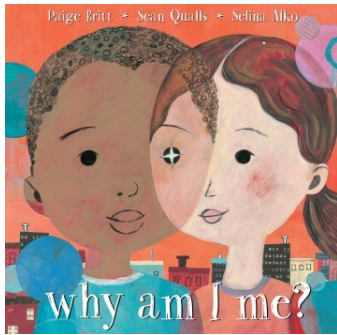
by Aviaq Johnston, c2017 (IL: K-3, RL: 3.3)

"Nalvana feels like all of her friends have some type of superpower. She has friends with super speed (who always beat her in races), friends with super strength (who can dangle from the monkey bars for hours), and friends who are better than her at a million other things. Nalvana thinks she must be the only kid in town without a superpower. But then her mom shows Nalvana that she is unique and special, and that her superpower was right in front of her all along." - *Pub.*

# Diverse Characters-Picture Books

## Multicultural/Promoting Diversity

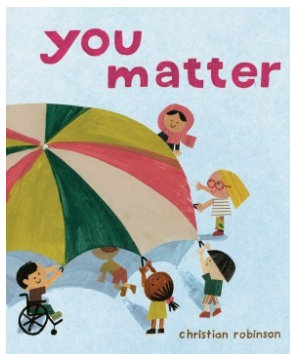
Compiled by Joan Pearce



### Why Am I Me?

by Paige Britt, c2017 (IL: K-3, RL: 1.6)

"Presented as a thoughtful, poetic exchange between two characters—who don't realize they are thinking and asking the very same questions—this beautiful celebration of our humanity and diversity invites readers of all ages to imagine a world where there is no you or me, only we." - Pub.



### You Matter

by Christian Robinson, c2020 (IL: K-3)

"In this full, bright, and beautiful picture book, many different perspectives around the world are deftly and empathetically explored&;from a pair of bird-watchers to the pigeons they&;re feeding. Young readers will be drawn into the luminous illustrations inviting them to engage with the world in a new way and see how everyone is connected, and that everyone matters." - Pub.