

## 100 Years, 100 Middle Grade Books to Encourage Empathy

When We Need Diverse Books got its start in 2014, our team had one vision in mind -- to create a world in which all kids can see themselves in the pages of a book. That's why we're thankful to the CBC for this opportunity to share 3 lists of diverse children's books that our team has

carefully curated. Historically these types of lists have ignored work by content creators from the margins, relegating wonderful books to the shadows. Those books don't get an opportunity to make it to every child's bookshelf and into every child's heart -- and we are striving to change that. We warmly invite you to check out our recommendations!

We Need Diverse Books is a non-profit that advocates for increased diversity in children's literature. WNDB got its start in 2014 as a viral Twitter hashtag and has since grown into a 501(c)(3) organization with 11 groundbreaking initiatives and a team that spans the globe.

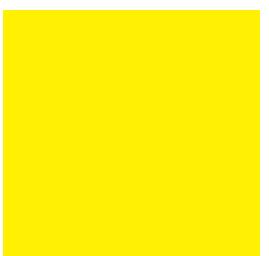
- The Crossover by Kwame Alexander
- The Track series by Jason Reynolds
- Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred D. Taylor
- Dactyl Hill Squad series by Daniel José Older
- After Tupac and D Foster by Jacqueline Woodson
- The Watsons Go to Birmingham by Christopher Paul Curtis
- Bud, Not Buddy by Christopher Paul Curtis
- One Crazy Summer by Rita Williams-Garcia
- The Parker Inheritance by Varian Johnson
- Gone Crazy in Alabama by Rita Williams-Garcia
- A Long Walk to Water: Based on a True Story by Linda Sue Park
- The Jumbies series by Tracey Baptiste
- Look Both Ways by Jason Reynolds, illustrated by Alexander Nabaum
- Two Naomis by Olugbemisola Rhuday-Perkovich and Audrey Vernick
- Clayton Byrd Goes Underground by Rita Williams-Garcia, illustrated by Frank Morrison
- Unusual Chickens for the Exceptional Poultry Farmer by Kelly Jones, illustrated by Katie Kath
- Let the Circle Be Unbroken by Mildred D. Taylor
- Betty Before X by Ilyasah Shabazz & Renée Watson
- Midnight Without a Moon by Linda Williams Jackson
- Hurricane Child by Kacen Callender
- Ghost Boys by Jewell Parker Rhodes

Learn more at DiverseBooks.org



- The Iron Trial by Holly Black & Cassandra Clare
- The Inquisitor's Apprentice by Chris Moriaty
- The Night Diary by Veera Hiranandani
- You Don't Know Everything, Jilly P by Alex Gino
- The House on Mango Street by Sandra Ciscernos
- They Call Me Guero: A Border Kid's Poems by David Bowles
- Merci Suárez Changes Gears by Meg Medina
- Zeely by Virginia Hamilton, illustrated by Symeon Shimin
- Tristan Strong Punches a Hole In the Sky by Kwame Mbalia
- The People Could Fly: American Black Folktales by Virginia Hamilton, illustrated by Leo and Diane Dillon
- Cilla Lee-Jenkins: Future Author Extraordinaire by Susan Tan, illustrated by Dana Wulfekotte
- Enchanted Air: Two Cultures, Two Wings: A Memoir by Margarita Engle
- My Life as an Ice Cream Sandwich by Ibi Zoboi
- Where the Mountain Meets the Moon by Grace Lin
- Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard: The Sword of Summer by Rick Riordian
- The First Rule of Punk by Celia C. Pérez
- The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora by Pablo Cartaya
- The Bridge Home by Padma Venkatraman
- Other Words for Home by Jasmine Warga
- A Good Kind of Trouble by Lisa Moore Ramée
- Genesis Begins Again by Alicia D. Williams
- Jazmin's Notebook by Nikki Grimes
- Some Places More Than Others by Renée Watson
- Turtles of Oman by Naomi Shihab Nye
- Just South of Home by Karen Strong
- The Emporer's Riddle by Kat Zhang
- Bayou Magic by Jewell Parker Rhodes
- The Birchback House by Louise Erdich
- The Stormrunner by J.C. Cervantes
- Race to the Sun by Rebecca Roanhorse
- Kinda Like Brothers by Coe Booth

- Forest World by Margarita Engle
- George by Alex Gino
- Dragon Pearl by Yoon Ha Lee
- Amal Unbound by Aisha Saeed
- New Kid by Jerry Craft
- The Gauntlet by Karuna Riazi
- Amina's Voice by Hena Khan
- Habibi by Naomi Shihab Nye
- Front Desk by Kelly Yang
- The Real Boy by Anne Ursu
- Frazzeled series by Booki Vivat
- Shooting Kabul by N. H. Senzai
- Cousins by Virginia Hamilton
- Blended by Sharon M. Draper
- Spirit Hunters by Ellen Oh
- Pashmina by Nidhi Chanani
- Greenglass House by Kate Milford
- Hoodoo by Ronald L. Smith
- Roller Girl by Victoria Jamieson



- Ivy Aberdeen's Letter to the World by Ashley Herring Blake
- Stella Diaz Has Something to Say by Angela Dominguez
- The Serpent's Secret by Sayantani DasGupta
- Save Me Seat by Sarah Weeks & Gita Varadarajan
- Stella by Starlight by Sharon M. Draper
- Hello, Universe by Erin Kelly Entrada
- Flying Lessons & Other Stories by edited by Ellen Oh
- Indian Shoes by Cynthia Leitich Smith
- What Momma Left Me by Renée Watson
- Geeks, Girls, and Secret Identities by Mike Jung
- The Lightning Queen by Laura Resau
- Stormy Seas: Stories of Young Boat Refugees by Mary Beth Leatherdale and Eleanor Shakespeare
- Stanley Will Probably Be Fine by Sally J. Pla, illustrated by Steve Wolfhard
- How I Became a Ghost: A Choctaw Trail of Tears Story by Tim Tingle
- Speaking Our Truth: A Journey to Reconciliation by Monique Gray Smith
- In the Footsteps of Crazy Horse by Joseph Marshall III
- Lowriders in Space by Cathy Camper, illustrated by Raul the Third
- The Hero Next Door by edited Olugbemisola Rhuday-Perkovich
- The Season of Styx Malone by Kekla Magoon
- Love Like Sky by Leslie C. Youngblood
- Aru Shah and the End of Time by Roshani Chokshi
- Love Sugar Magic series by Anna Meriano, illustrated by Mirelle Ortega
- The Last Last-Day-of-Summer by Lamar Giles, illustrated by Dapo Adeola
- The Red Pencil by Andrea Davis Pinkney, illustrated by Shane W. Evans
- Sal and Gabi Break the Universe by Carlos Hernandez
- Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson
- Chains (Seeds of America series) by Laurie Halse Anderson
- The Skin I'm In by Sharon G. Flake
- Dymonde Daniels series by Nikki Grimes

Read Diverse Books!