



#WeHave Diverse Books

Presented by Top Grade

We are pleased to present a special edition of *Top Grade: CanLit for the Classroom*. As always, it is our priority to present the latest books from Canadian publishers. In our support for educators in their search for materials that reflect the diversity of our nation, this wide array of titles celebrates diversity in ability, gender, sexual orientation, ancestry, race, and religion.

#WeHaveDiverseBooks is a taste from diverse Canadian authors and illustrators whose thought-provoking books amuse, delight, engage, and tell important stories about differences among us, as well as our shared values. From the smallest reader in your school to the oldest teen student, **#WeHaveDiverseBooks** offers some of the best of Canadian publishing.

In order to further support educators in putting these materials to use in the classroom, two educators have read the books and offered their advice and classroom insight about each one. To learn more, be sure to visit diversity.49thShelf.com/

OUR ANNOTATORS



Fatma Faraj

Fatma Faraj is the junior school teacher-librarian at Branksome Hall, an independent school for girls in Kindergarten through Grade 12, in Toronto. Previously, she was an elementary classroom teacher and a middle school teacher-librarian for the Peel District School Board. Fatma tweets at @HoldFastLibrary.



Larry Swartz

Larry Swartz has been an educator for the past four decades working as a classroom teacher, consultant and university instructor. His most recent teaching experiences have been in the Initial Teacher Education programs at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE/UT) and Brock University. Larry is the author of several publications for teachers and a presenter at conferences. Larry centers his work on choosing and using children's literature. For more information see website: larryswartz.ca.

Top Grade is an initiative of the Association of Canadian Publishers
174 Spadina Avenue, Suite 306, Toronto, Ontario, M5T 2C2 416-487-6116

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A list is available at www.publishers.ca/topgrade.



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HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

The **#WeHaveDiverseBooks** catalogue is divided into Selections for **K-8** and for **high school**. The list is sorted by grade range, starting at K-2, and within the grade range sorted **alphabetically by title**.

Each title is identified by its **diversity theme**, one of seven described here:

Abilities: Stories featuring differently-abled kids and families.

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit: Contemporary stories, as well as folklore, from aboriginal communities.

Citizenship, Immigration, and Place of Origin: Stories of immigration, adjustment, and ancestry.

Religion, Culture, and Celebrations: Stories from religious and cultural minorities, and of the communities' traditions and celebrations.

Family: Stories featuring families with unique, non-nuclear structures, or from diverse socio-economic backgrounds.

Gender Identity and Expression: Stories featuring persons expressing their gender identity in a unique way.

LGBTQ: Stories from LGBTQ communities.

Race, Colour, Ethnic Origin: Stories from people of colour and racial minorities.

Under each of the book's covers are details about the publisher, ISBN, curriculum tie-in, format, retail price, ages, and grades which vary according to the reader but are useful guidelines to suitability. Additional books by that author may be listed, a Twitter handle, and if they are available for school visits.

We encourage you to visit publisher's websites where additional information can be found about book and authors, and teaching guides are often available.

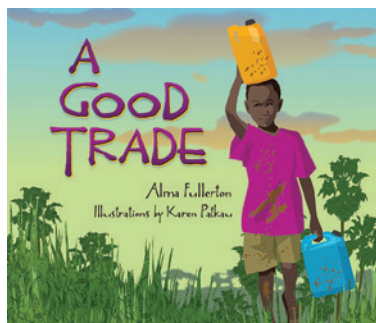
Be sure to visit **diversity.49thshelf.com** to explore this collection online. The list will be continuously updated with brand-new titles with diverse characters and stories!

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SELECTIONS FOR K-8

GRADES K-2



Pajama Press • 9780986949593
Language Arts, Social Studies
Hardcover
\$19.95 • Ages 4-6 • Grades K-2
@AlmaFullerton
Author available for class visits

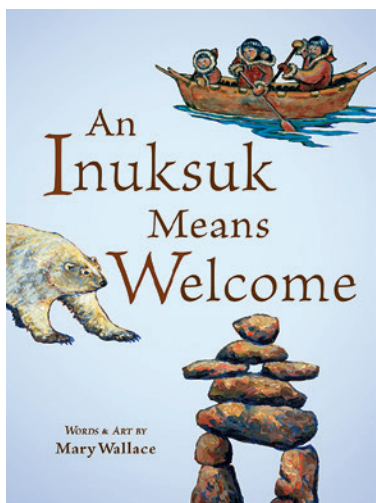
A GOOD TRADE

Alma Fullerton, Illustrated by Karen Patkau

Race, Colour, Ethnic Origin

Every day Kato trudges barefoot past fields and soldiers on the long, hot road to his Ugandan village well. When an aid worker brings a life-changing gift of shoes for all the village children, Kato finds something to give her in return: one small piece of beauty in a war-torn land.

Though sparse in text, this is a strong read aloud picture book for students of different ages. *A Good Trade* is noteworthy for its poetic language, its unique vocabulary, and for its heartwarming story about kindness and gratitude. This book is excellent for helping students make inferences. What may seem a simple story that depicts a day in the life of a boy in a country ravaged by civil war and drought, works on another level by exploring the themes of perseverance, responsibility and integrity.



Owlkids Books • 9781771471374
Language Arts, Social Studies
Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit
Hardcover • Ebook available
\$18.95 • Ages 4-6 • Grades K-2
Also available: *Make Your Own Inuksuk*
by Mary Wallace

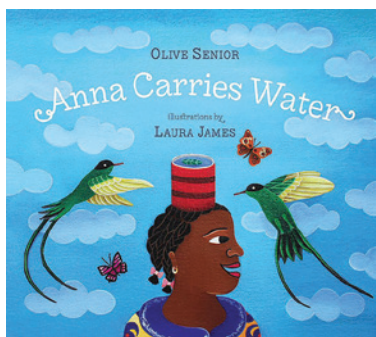
AN INUKSHUK MEANS WELCOME

Mary Wallace

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

An acrostic introduction to life in the Arctic by Mary Wallace, a teacher and artist who has worked among Canada's northern communities and has a deep respect for the landscape and people.

Important features of this book include the acrostic nature of presenting information (e.g. I is for Inukshuk); pronunciation keys (e.g. ee-nuck-shuck); and Inuktitut language translations. An Inukshuk means "w"elcome is a strong example of dual language text, particularly suitable for English as Second Language learners. The visuals introduce readers to a way of the people, animals, and the environment of the Arctic. Librarians and teachers can use this book to teach a project in which students make their own inukshuks.



Tradewind Books
9781896580609
Language Arts • Hardcover
\$18.95 • Ages 3-7 • Grades K-3

ANNA CARRIES WATER

Oliver Senior

Illustrated by Laura James

Family; Race, Colour, Ethnic Origin

This charming and poetic family story set in Jamaica shows young readers the power of determination, as Anna achieves her goal and overcomes her fear.

This book will help students learn about a part of the world very different from their own, where children of the world are given the responsibility of carrying water to their family homes. Each of the illustrations in this book tells a story, conveys emotions, and provides tools for understanding community and culture and relationships among family and neighbours. For character education, this is a story of perseverance, responsibility and teamwork.

SELECTIONS FOR K-8



Tradewind Books
9781896580456
Language Arts, Middle Eastern
Hardcover • \$22.95 • Ages 4-7
Grades K-3

AZIZ THE STORYTELLER

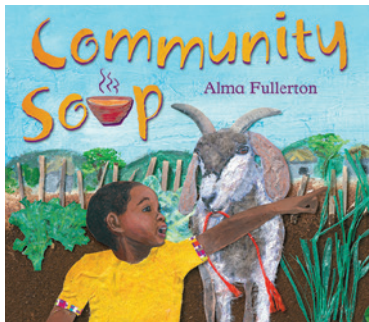
Vi Huges

Illustrated by Stefan Czernecki

Religion, Culture, and Celebrations

All the stories of the world are woven into a magic carpet waiting to be told.

A lofty tribute to the universal art of storytelling, this story can also help students consider the passing on of traditions. Significantly, the picture book can inspire students to retell stories from their own lives. The unique font and black and white illustrations also add to the vivid Middle Eastern setting of this tale.



Pajama Press
9781927485279
Language Arts, Social Studies, Food and Nutrition • Race, Colour, Ethnic Origin
Hardcover • Teacher's Guide available
\$19.95 • Ages 4-6 • Grades K-2
Also available: *In a Cloud of Dust* by Alma Fullerton
Author available for school visit.
@AlmaFullerton

COMMUNITY SOUP

Alma Fullerton

Race, Colour, Ethnic Origin

In a garden outside a Kenyan schoolhouse, teachers and students are gathering their vegetables for soup. But all Kioni brought today were her troublesome goats. How can they contribute?

A strong resource for interactive read-alouds in which teachers or librarians can help students analyze text and pictures, tell personal stories, ask questions, and make predictions. This is an important book to share when helping students consider what makes a community. It is also a story about working together to problem solve, and to make a delicious meal that can be shared with others. The colourful mixed media illustrations are noteworthy, and can serve as a model for students creating their own textured art pieces.



Kids Can Press
9781894786331
Language Arts, Cultures, Local & Global Community
Hardcover
Ebook Available
\$18.95 • Ages 5-7 • Grades K-2
Author available for class visits.

HANA'S HASHIMOTO, SIXTH VIOLIN

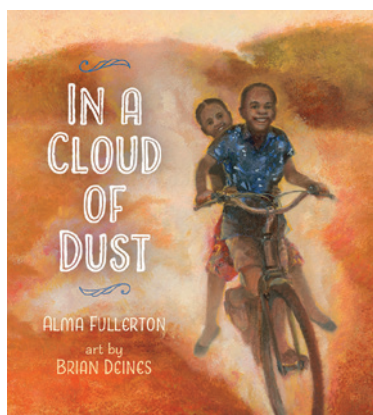
Chieri Uegaki and Qin Eng

Race, Colour, Ethnic Origin

In this beautifully written picture book, Hana Hashimoto has signed up to play her violin at her school's talent show. The trouble is, she's only a beginner, and she's had only three lessons. Her brothers insist she isn't good enough. "It's a talent show, Hana," they tell her. "You'll be a disaster!" Hana remembers how wonderfully her talented grandfather, or Ojiichan, played his violin when she was visiting him in Japan. So, just like Ojiichan, Hana practices every day. She is determined to play her best.

I would share this book to help students understand the passion and commitment many young people have for playing an instrument. It is a story that helps teach young people that in order to do something well you need to practice, practice, and practice. Hana's story also portrays the loving relationship that many young people have with their grandparents. This is the book that supports the music curriculum and also can be shared to learn about a loving Japanese family.

SELECTIONS FOR K-8



Pajama Press • 9781927485620
Language Arts, Social Studies, Transportation
Hardcover • \$19.95 • Ages 4-6
Grades K-2
Also available: *A Good Trade* by Alma Fullerton • Author available for class visits.
@AlmaFullerton

IN A CLOUD OF DUST

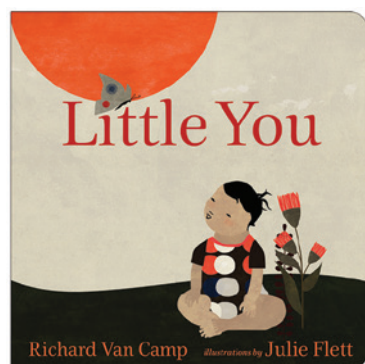
Alma Fullerton

Illustrated by Brian Deines

Race, Colour, Ethnic Origin

A Tanzanian schoolgirl struggles with a long walk to and from school that leaves her no daylight in which to do homework. When studying at lunchtime makes her miss out on the bicycle library's visit, her compassionate classmates find a way to share the bicycles so that everyone can reach home.

This picture book, narrated in simple poetic language (most pages of verbal text are less than twenty words in length) tells the story of one determined girl who helps her friends learn how to ride the bicycles they received from a truck that pulled into their schoolyard. The book can lead to a study of Bicycle Libraries, and perhaps help young people to consider ways to support this humanitarian cause. *In a Cloud of Dust* is an ideal read-aloud to help students think about respect and teamwork.



Orca Books • 9781459802483
Language Arts, First Nations
Hardcover • Ebook available
\$9.95 • Ages 3-5 • Grades K-2
Also available: *Welcome Song for Baby* by Richard Van Camp
Author available for school visits
@richardvancamp

LITTLE YOU

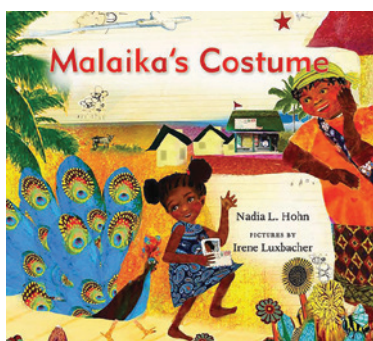
Richard Van Camp

Illustrated by Julie Flett

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

*Richard Van Camp, internationally renowned storyteller and bestselling author of the hugely successful *Welcome Song for Baby: A Lullaby for Newborns*, has partnered with award-winning illustrator Julie Flett to create a tender board book for babies and toddlers that celebrates the potential of every child. With its delightful contemporary illustrations, *Little You* is perfect to be shared, read or sung to all the little people in your life—and the new little ones on the way!*

A simple board book that celebrates a baby and its family, this book uses pictures and short sentences to express the joy the baby brings to their lives. The images and words can be used to promote personal narratives connected to family relationships and the universal celebration of babies and families. Art lessons can explore the use of colour and positive and negative space.



Groundwood Books • 9781554987542
Language Arts, People & Places,
Caribbean & Latin America
Hardcover • Ebook available
Ages 4-6 • Grades K-2
Author available for school visits
@Nadiahohn

MALAIKA'S COSTUME

Nadia L. Hohn

Illustrated by Irene Luxbacher

Citizenship, Immigration, and Place of Origin

It's Carnival time. The first Carnival since Malaika's mother moved to Canada to find a good job and provide for Malaika and her grandmother. Her mother promised she would send money for a costume, but when the money doesn't arrive, will Malaika still be able to dance in the parade?

Indo-Caribbean students will connect to the story of the young girl who is waiting to be reunited with her mother who has moved to Canada. When teaching social studies, this book will help readers learn about Afrocentric identity, consider the diversity of families, the importance of carnival and cultural celebrations, and the specific bond between grandparent and grandchild. The idea of creating a costume is central to this story, thus inspiring students to share stories of costumes in their own lives.

SELECTIONS FOR K-8



Orca Books
9781459809574
Language Arts, First Nations
Hardcover • Ebook available
\$9.95 • Ages 3-5 • Grades K-2
Author available for school visits
@ltdrum

MY HEART FILLS WITH HAPPINESS

Monique Gray Smith

Illustrated by Julie Flett

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

International speaker and award-winning author Monique Gray Smith wrote My Heart Fills with Happiness to support the wellness of Indigenous children and families, and to encourage young children to reflect on what makes them happy.

What fills your heart with happiness? This simple board book explores the question using pictures and words to show happiness in a young First Nations girls' world. Personal narratives can be drawn from the text and images. The book can also be used for drama exploration by having the students create tableaux of scenes represented in the book, as well as to invent images of what happiness means to them.



Owlkids Books
9781926973685
Language Arts • Hardcover
\$16.95 • Ages 4-6 • Grades K-2
Also available: *Arto's Big Move* by
Monica Arnaldo

MY NEIGHBOUR IS A DOG

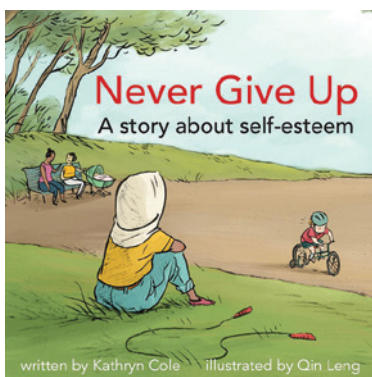
Isabel Minhós Martins

Illustrated by Madalena Matoso

Family

A little girl disagrees with her parents' assertion that their fellow apartment dwellers — a diverse group of crocodiles, elephants, dogs, and bears — are strange because they are different.

When teaching students about community, an important part of social studies curriculum, this picture book will help students consider what makes a good neighbour. Whether living in an apartment building or in a house, students can learn to understand — and respect — their own neighbours even if their behaviours seem strange. Family relationships are also central to this amusing story.



Second Story Press
9781927583609
Character Education, Self Esteem
Hardcover
\$15.95 • Ages 5-7 • Grades K-2
Also available: *Reptile Flu and Fifteen Dollars and Thirty-five Cents* by Kathryn Cole
Author available for class visits.

NEVER GIVE UP *A story about self-esteem*

Kathryn Cole

Illustrated by Qin Leng

Race, Colour, Ethnic Origin

Shaun is strong enough to know that even things that don't come easily can be mastered through determination and hard work. Learning to ride his two wheeler with the help of his friend Nadia, he overcomes his fear and the teasing of the other children in the park and manages to impress friends and bullies alike.

This picture book can be shared with young people to help them understand the character education traits of perseverance and respect. Many students might identify with the sad feelings Shaun has when others make fun of him as he learns to ride a bicycle. Moreover, they can learn that being determined and having self-confidence will lead to success and positive self-esteem.

SELECTIONS FOR K-8

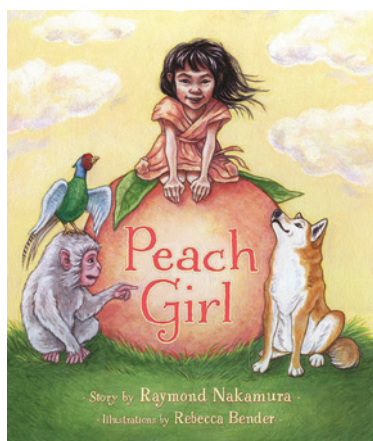


Owlkids Books • 9781771471046
Language Arts, the Arts, Social Studies
Hardcover • Ebook available
\$17.95 • Ages 5-7 • Grades K-2
Also available: *The Potato King* by
Christoph Niemann

OSCAR LIVES NEXT DOOR *A story inspired by Oscar Peterson's childhood*
Bonnie Farmer
Illustrated by Mare Lafrance
Race, Colour, Ethnic Origin

A story based on the famous jazz musician Oscar Peterson's childhood in the Montreal neighbourhood Little Burgundy.

This is a strong example of biographical text told in picture book form. Oscar Peterson's childhood is a story of triumph over adversity, and provides a good read-aloud source to teach perseverance while students are learning about character education. It is also a book that brings the music curriculum to life by demonstrating the way Oscar's passion for playing an instrument led to success, and at the same time providing a strong Afro Canadian role model.

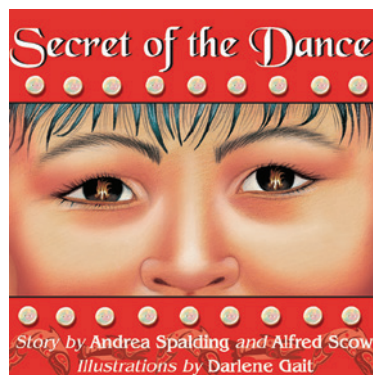


Pajama Press • 9781927485583
Language Arts, Character Education,
Folk Tales
Hardcover • Teacher's guide available
\$19.95 • Ages 5-7 • Grades K-2
Illustrator available for class visits.
@raymondsbrain, @LittleStRebecca
Illustrator available for class visits.

PEACH GIRL
Raymond Nakamura
Illustrated by Rebecca Bender
Race, Colour, Ethnic Origin

In this reimagining of a Japanese folk tale, Momoko is born from a peach to make the world a better place. Despite rumours of a terrible ogre that lives nearby and eats children, Momoko bravely sets out with a pocketful of dumplings and the timid Monkey, Dog, and Pheasant to find out the truth for herself.

I would share this book during a lesson on folktales. Peach Girl is based on a well-known folktale (Peach Boy), but in this version the main character is a strong female protagonist. This gender-swap creates an opportunity to make comparisons to the traditional version of the story. The elements of folktales (the call to adventure, the journey, the evil adversary, and the moral or lesson) can also be deconstructed and explored using this picture book.



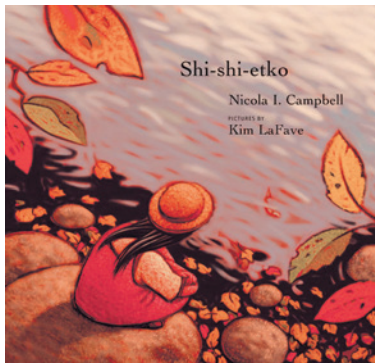
Orca Books • 9781554691296
Language Arts, First Nations
Paperback • Ebook available
\$9.95 • Ages 4-6 • Grades K-2
Also available: *Seal Song* by Andrea
Spalding and illustrated by Pascal Milelli
Author available for class visits

SECRET OF THE DANCE
Andrea Spalding and Alfred Scow
Illustrated by Darlene Gait
Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

In 1935, a nine-year-old boy's family held a forbidden Potlatch in faraway Kingcome Inlet. Wat'l'kina slipped from his bed to bear witness. In the Big House masked figures danced by firelight to the beat of the drum. And there, he saw a figure he knew. Aboriginal elder Alfred Scow and award-winning author Andrea Spalding collaborate to tell the story, to tell the secret of the dance.

This is an important picture book to share when considering cultural traditions connected to the dance curriculum. Moreover, it is a strong story of upholding Aboriginal cultural traditions and ceremonies, even in the face of persecution from the government. The book is based on the true story of one First Nations family who performed a forbidden Potlatch ceremony, despite the need to keep it a secret, and demonstrated the importance of preserving their culture. The illustrations offer readers a view of salmon hunting, and of the clothing, masks and costumes passed down from generation to generation.

SELECTIONS FOR K-8



Groundwood Books
9780888996596
Language Arts, History, Aboriginal Studies
Hardcover • Ebook available
\$18.95 • Ages 4-6 • Grades K-2

SHI-SHI-ETKO

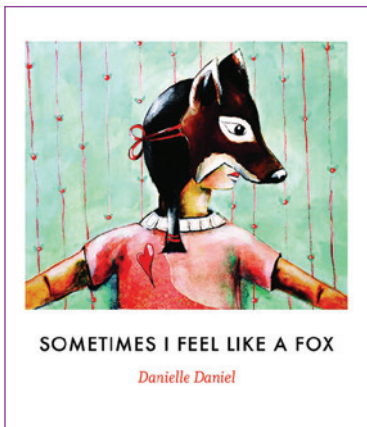
Nicola I. Campbell

Illustrated by Kim LaFave

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

In just four days young Shi-shi-etko will have to leave her family and all that she knows to attend residential school.

I would use this book to help students begin to understand the history of residential schools. Moreover, this is a story about examining family history, learning from our elders, and respecting the environment in which we live. Through one First Nation girl's experience, students can better consider where they come from and who they are.



Groundwood Books
9781554987504
Language arts, emotions and feelings
Hardcover • Ebook available
\$18.95 • Ages 5-7 • Grades K-2
Author is available for school visits.

SOMETIMES I FEEL LIKE A FOX

Danielle Daniel

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

In this introduction to the Anishinaabe tradition of totem animals, young children explain why they identify with different creatures such as a deer, beaver or moose. Delightful illustrations show the children wearing masks representing their chosen animal, while the few lines of text on each page work as a series of simple poems throughout the book.

This book explores different parts of our identity, and invites response in a variety of curriculum areas: Drama (students become an animal of their choice and move and speak in role as that animal); Writing (write a first person account, in role, describing life as an animal); Visual Arts (create a mask or create an illustration to show an animal's adventure) and Science (What facts do you know about that animal, What questions do you have about that animal characteristics?).



Owlkid Books
9781771470766 • Language Arts
Hardcover • Ebook available
\$17.95 • Ages 5-7 • Grades K-2
Also available: *Anything is Possible* by Giulia Belloni

SUPERFAB SAVES THE DAY

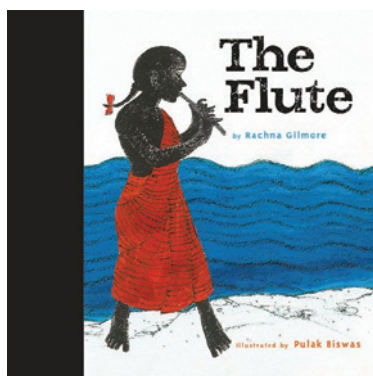
Jean Leroy and Bérengère DeLaporte

Gender Identity and Expression

An unlikely superhero saves his city from destruction by being true to himself and embracing his super style.

SuperFab is a superhero, one who is fussy about the outfit he wears when called upon to save the day. This book is a good springboard into arts-based activities where students can illustrate a new costume for the character, or where students can become SuperFab and be interviewed in character by the media who want to learn about his adventures fighting crime.

SELECTIONS FOR K-8



Tradewind Books
9781896580579
Language Arts • Hardcover
\$16.95 • Ages 4-7 • Grades K-3

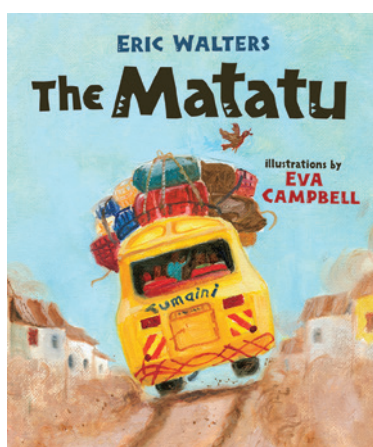
THE FLUTE

Rachna Gilmore
Illustrated by Pulak Biswas

Religion, Culture, and Celebrations; Race, Colour, Ethnic Origin

In this original folk tale set in India, a little girl nearly drowns when a river overflows its banks. Raised by her cruel aunt and uncle, she finds solace in her mother's magic flute.

This story is set in India and will help students consider the power that music can have in our lives in order to give us comfort, hope, and resilience. Chandra, the protagonist of this story provides an example of a strong female character determined to overcome obstacles.



Orca Books
9781554693016
Language Arts, Social Studies
Paperback • Ebook available
\$9.95 • Ages 4-6 • Grades K-2
Also available: *When Elephants Fight* by Eric Walters and Adrian Bradbury
Author available for school visits
@EricRWalters

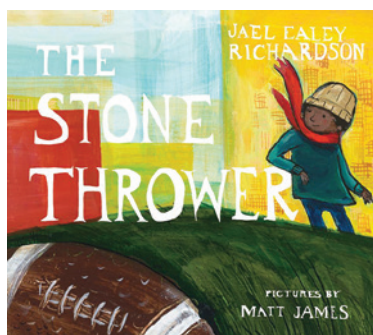
THE MATATU

Eric Walters
Illustrated by Eva Campbell

Race, Colour, Ethnic Origin

Kioko had been watching the matatus come and go for as long as he could remember. But today, for his fifth birthday, he climbs aboard one with his grandfather. As the matatu pulls away from the market, the village dogs chase after them. When Kioko asks his grandfather why the dogs always bark and chase after matatus, his grandfather tells him an entertaining tale about a dog, a goat and a sheep.

The Matatu is Eric Walter's retelling of a Kenyan folktale about a bus that picks up people as it travels from town to town. Filled with bright illustrations and an engaging sense of humour, teachers can use this book to teach math as well as communication skills. Learning can also extend to social studies (cultural practices) and social skills (listening, sharing and communicating). Drama experiences such as retelling the story in role, creating tableaux images, or dramatizing the story can be drawn from a reading of this folktale.



Groundwood Books
9781554987528
Language arts, people & places, African American
Hardcover • Ebook available
\$18.95 • Ages 5-7 • Grades K-2
Author available for class visits

THE STONE THROWER

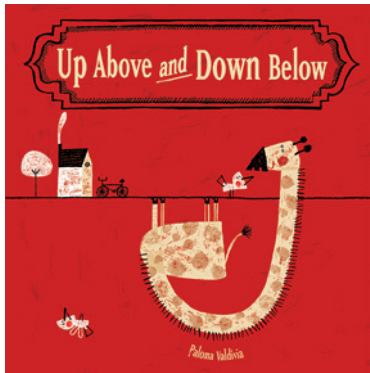
Jael Ealey Richardson
Illustrated by Matt James

Race, Colour, Ethnic Origin

The African-American football player Chuck Ealey grew up on the wrong side of the tracks in Portsmouth, Ohio. Against all odds, he became an incredible quarterback. But despite his unbeaten record in high school and university, he would never play professional football in the United States.

Chuck Ealey's story gives readers an important view of overcoming adversity in difficult times as well as paying tribute to the importance of education. When teaching character education, this book highlights the qualities of perseverance and determination. *The Stone Thrower* also provides a glimpse into segregation in the 1950s and poverty.

SELECTIONS FOR K-8



Owlkids Books • 9781926973395
Language Arts, Social Studies
Hardcover
\$16.95 • Ages 4-6 • Grades K-2
Also available: *Who's Next Door?* by Mayuko Kishira

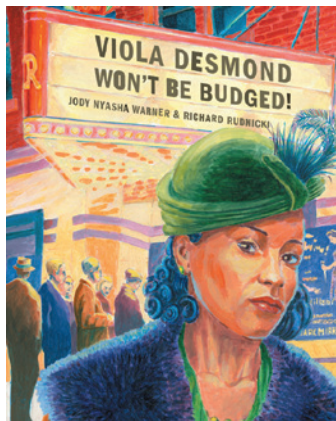
UP ABOVE AND DOWN BELOW

Paloma Valdivia

Citizen, Immigration, and Place of Origin

In the world, there are different kinds of people. The ones on the top think the ones on the bottom are different, and vice versa. This book encourages young readers to appreciate people for their similarities and differences.

This is an excellent resource for drawing comparisons between cultures by helping students consider the differences and similarities that their cultures have with others around the world. This picture book can teach geography students how the equator divides the world “up above” and “down below.” The book is a good introduction to geography, and an exploration of the map of the world.



Groundwood Books • 9780888997791
Language Arts, History, Canada
Hardcover • Ebook available
\$18.95 • Ages 5-7 • Grades K-2
Author available for class visits.

VIOLA DESMOND WON'T BE BUDGED!

Jody Nyasha Warner

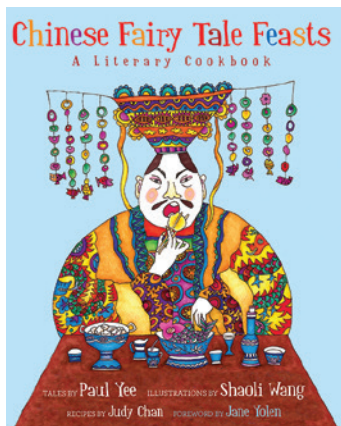
Illustrated by Richard Rudnicki

Race, Colour, Ethnic Origin

In Nova Scotia, in 1946, an usher in a movie theatre told Viola Desmond to move from her main floor seat up to the balcony. She refused to budge. Viola knew she was being asked to move because she was black. In no time at all, the police arrived and took Viola to jail. The next day she was charged and fined, but she vowed to continue her struggle against such unfair rules.

Here is a book to share when presenting students with the iconic story of Rosa Parks. In 1946, Viola Desmond, an African Canadian woman, refused to move from the main floor to the balcony of a movie theatre. This true story, set in Nova Scotia is an important historical event that can help students understand the struggle against racial discrimination and the injustice of prejudice in Canada and throughout the world. Information at the back of the book provides readers with a glimpse of African Canadian history.

GRADES 1-3



Tradewind Books • 9781896580685
Language Arts, Cultural History, Chinese
Hardcover
\$25.95 • Ages 5-12 • Grades 1-7
Also available: *The Secret Keepers* by Paul Yee

CHINESE FAIRY TALE FEASTS *A literary cookbook*

Paul Yee

Illustrated by Shaoli Wang; Recipes Judy Chan

Religion, Culture, and Celebrations; Race, Colour, Ethnic Origin

In this enchanting collection of fairy tales, including original stories and interpretations of Chinese folklore by master storyteller Paul Yee, a glorious procession of characters make their appearance. Each tale is followed by a simple recipe for a classic Chinese dish relevant to the story.

Readers can choose to read one or more of the thirteen fairy tales in this anthology. Whether the story is humorous, magical, or ghostly, there is much to learn about Chinese culture and the world of folktales. Food plays a significant role, and recipes accompany each fairy tale, making this an excellent resource to accompany the Social Studies curriculum (e.g. Heritage and Identity: Early Societies). Information about different Chinese vocabulary and customs is also included.

SELECTIONS FOR K-8



Tradewind Books
9781896580371
Language Arts • Hardcover
\$20.95 • Ages 4-7 • Grades 1-3

HONEY CAKE

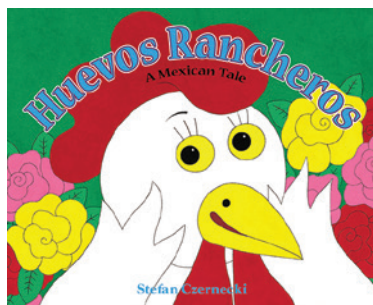
Joan Bettey Stucher

Illustrated by Cynthia Nugent

Ethnic Origin; Citizenship, Immigration, and Place of Origin

In late September 1943, the Danish authorities learnt that the Germans were about to deport the Jews of Denmark to concentration camps. Very quickly, the Danish people arranged a fleet of fishing boats to carry all the Jews to Sweden. This historical event is brought to life through the eyes of David Nathan, whose family is rescued by his courageous Christian friend Else Jensen and her family. This is a tale of friendship, honour and bravery, when all Danes dreamt of one thing only: the sweet taste of freedom.

This short book presents an interesting and heartfelt perspective on the events of World War II and can be shared with developing novel readers as a good example of historical fiction. It is the story of a special friendship between a boy and girl, and a story of honour and pride in times of adversity. Students will be heartened by the bravery of David Nathan, a Danish Jew, who is sent on a special mission to distract the Nazi soldiers



Tradewind Books
9781896580043
Language Arts • Paperback
\$9.95 • Ages 4-7 • Grades 1-3

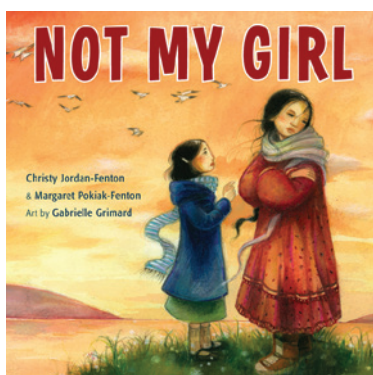
HUEVOS RANCHEROS (A MEXICAN TALE)

Stefan Czernecki

Ethnic Origin; Citizenship, Immigration, and Place of Origin

Marcelina lived in a small cage on the balcony of Señor Raul's cantina in Mexico City. Every day she would lay eggs and Señor Raul would turn them into delicious huevos rancheros for his customers. Señor Raul loved to sing and always serenaded Marcelina with his sweet songs. But every night Marcelina would dream of the day when she would not have to live in a cage. A recipe for Huevos Rancheros is included in this poignant tale.

This simple story can be used to show the unlikely friendship between a hen and a coyote. For character education, this picture book is a good example of kindness and respect. The book can also be shared as an example of traditional tales from Mexican culture.



Annick Press
9781554516247
Language Arts, Aboriginal Studies,
History • Paperback
\$9.95 • Ages 6-9 • Grades 1-4
Also available: *When I Was Eight* by
Christy Jordan-Fenton & Margaret
Pokiak-Fenton

NOT MY GIRL

Christy Jordan-Fenton & Margaret Pokiak-Fenton

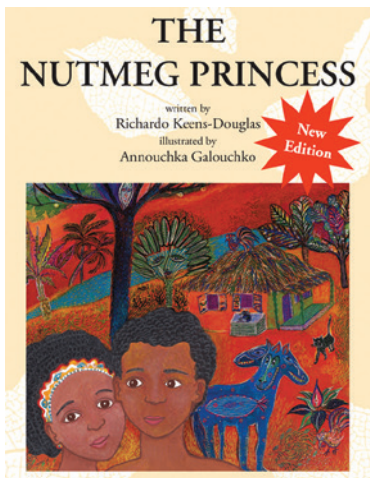
Illustrated by Gabrielle Grimard

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

After two years away from home at a residential school, Margaret returns to her Arctic home only to find that she no longer fits in.

Knowing how to read, write, and add numbers does not impress Margaret's family when she returns to her Arctic home. Margaret is now an outsider and must re-learn the ways of her family (language, food, and behaviour). When using this sequel to *When I Was Eight*, teachers and students can discuss the themes of loss, family, and belonging.

SELECTIONS FOR K-8



Annick Press • 9781554515998
Language Arts • Paperback
\$9.95 • Ages 6-9 • Grades 1-4

THE NUTMEG PRINCESS

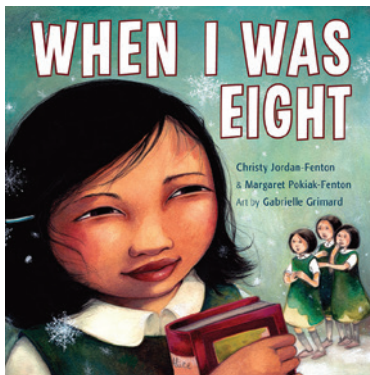
Richardo Keens-Douglas

Illustrated by Annouchka Galouchko

Race, Colour, Ethnic Origin

A powerful modern fable about two children on the Isle of Spice (Grenada) who discover true friendship, faith, and the nature of beauty.

This book, first published over thirty years ago, is a strong fable and a special resource for learning about Caribbean culture. This is an ideal source to demonstrate how words and pictures work together to tell a story. For character education, *The Nutmeg Princess* is a story of co-operation and responsibility.



Annick Press • 9781554514908
Language Arts, Aboriginal Studies,
History • Paperback
\$9.95 • Ages 6-9 • Grades 1-4
Also available: *Not My Girl* by Christy
Jordan-Fenton & Margaret Pokiak-Fenton

WHEN I WAS EIGHT

Christy Jordan-Fenton & Margaret Pokiak-Fenton

Illustrated by Gabrielle Grimard

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

Margaret is determined to learn how to read, but that means leaving her Arctic home for the outsiders' school. A version of Fatty Legs for younger readers.

Residential schooling is an important part of Canada's history. This book makes it accessible for young students to learn about some of the history through the lens of a young Inuit girl, Margaret, who wants to go to school to learn how to read. Besides telling one story of learning to read, several themes can be found in this story: assimilation, using your voice, and standing your ground.

GRADES 2-4



Owlkids Books
9781771470513
Social Studies, Language Arts
Hardcover
Teacher's guide available
\$17.95 • Ages 6-8 • Grades 2-4
Also available: *Off to Class* by Susan Hughes
Authors available for school visits
@savvynatalia, @melio_25

A TICKET AROUND THE WORLD

Natalia Diaz and Melissa Owens

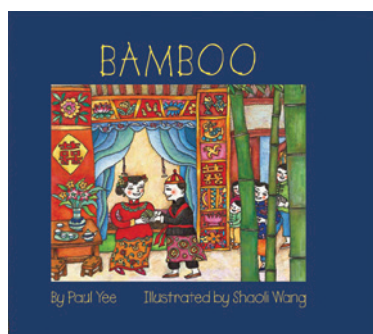
Illustrated by Kim Smith

Citizenship, Immigration, and Place of Origin

An introduction to cultures around the world which presents 13 countries and their traditions, language, food, geography, wildlife, landmarks, and more.

Each spread in this collection invites readers to travel to a different country and to learn about and compare the people, the animals, and the celebrations of different cultures. This is an ideal resource for teaching social studies and geography curriculum about communities around the world. Also, it is a good example of a non-fiction text that present information through maps and illustrations.

SELECTIONS FOR K-8



Tradewind Books
9781894965538
Language Arts • Hardcover
\$22.95 • Ages 4-7 • Grades 2-4

BAMBOO

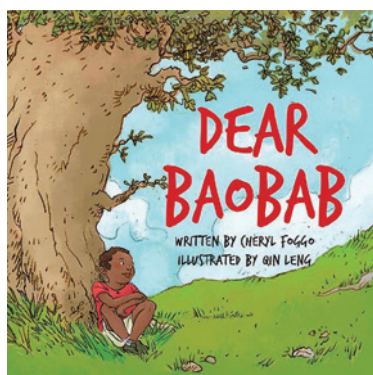
Paul Yee

Illustrated by Shaoli Wang

Ethnic Origin; Citizenship, Immigration, and Place of Origin

In a Chinese village, Bamboo, a simple farmer, falls in love with a peasant girl, Ming, and soon they are married. To celebrate the wedding, the newlyweds plant a grove of bamboo. When Bamboo goes to the New World to seek his fortune, his new wife is left behind to till the fields. Ming soon discovers that the bamboo she brought as a gift to her new husband is magic.

This tale, along with the illustrations, can be shared with students to learn about Chinese culture. Universal themes of family relationships, overcoming hardships, and survival are also important to share with readers. For drama exploration, this book can be used as a source for Readers Theatre, since there is an equal balance of narration and dialogue.



Second Story Press
9781897187913
Race, Colour, Ethnic Origin: Ditto
Character Education, Multiculturalism
Hardcover
\$15.95 • Ages 6-8 • Grades 2-4

DEAR BAOBAB

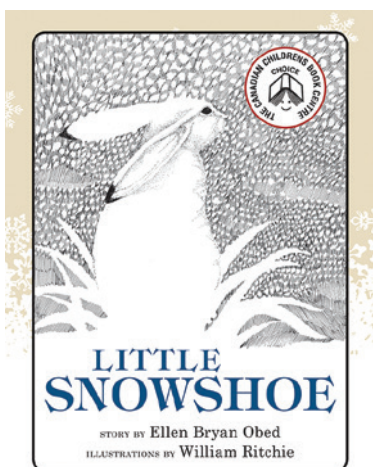
Cheryl Foggo

Illustrated by Qin Leng

Multicultural Kids and Families

After moving from Africa to North America, Maiko knows what it is to feel planted in the wrong place.

This is a story to share to help young readers understand the feelings and challenges that many young immigrant children face when moving to a new country. The special relationship that Maiko has with a giant baobab tree in his village in Africa as well as the spruce tree that sits in the yard of his new home, shows the comfort – and friendship – we can find within our natural environment.



Breakwater Books
9780919519299
Language Arts, Geography, Social
Studies • Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis,
and Inuit • Paperback
\$12.95 • Ages 4-6 • Grades 2-4

LITTLE SNOWSHOE

Ellen Bryan Obed

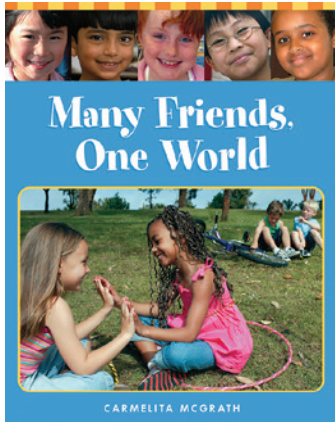
Illustrated by William Ritchie

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

Set in the Arctic, this charming, beautifully illustrated story unfolds with Little Snowshoe looking for his mother. Against the whiteness of the snow he is continually fooled by other objects that he mistakes for her. Finally, exhausted from his search, he falls asleep to be awakened by his mother who has found him. Little Snowshoe is an easy-to-read book, which bases its story line on the camouflage ability of the snowshoe rabbit.

The repetitious pattern of this story makes it appropriate for read aloud, let's read together, or you read to me experiences. A lovely story to share about parent/child bonding. A special feature of this 30th anniversary edition is two pages of information about The Arctic Hare and a glossary of terms connected to the topic. Suggested activities for illustrating, sequencing and learning about predators are also outlined at the back of the book.

SELECTIONS FOR K-8



Breakwater Books
9781550812534
World religions, world cultures, social studies • Hardcover
\$34.95 • Ages 5-7 • Grades 2-4
Author available for class visits.

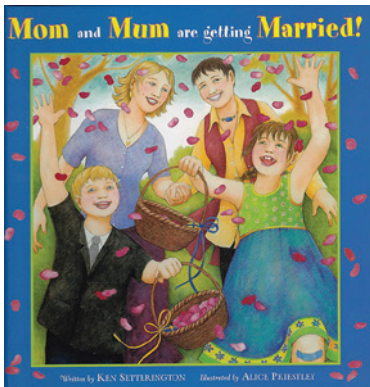
MANY FRIENDS, ONE WORLD

Carmelita McGrath

Religion, Culture, and Celebrations

This book is about religions, faith and spiritual beliefs. As you read, you will learn about many exciting people, founders, world leaders, and people from all over the world, both young and old, from the past and present, all with great stories to tell.

Using pictures, stories, and facts, *Many Friends, One World* is a useful resource for considering global connections, and is a model of a non-fiction text presented in a variety of modes (e.g., a world map at the front of the book with a diverse list of famous faces and images). These features allow students and teachers to develop their own understanding about faith, spirituality, and religion that encourage readers to make connections to themselves, to the world, and beyond.



Second Story Press
9781896764849
Character education, tolerance, homosexuality, family, LGBTQ
Hardcover
\$15.95 • Ages 5-7 • Grades 2-4
Also available: *Branded by the Pink Triangle* by Ken Setterington

MOM AND MUM ARE GETTING MARRIED

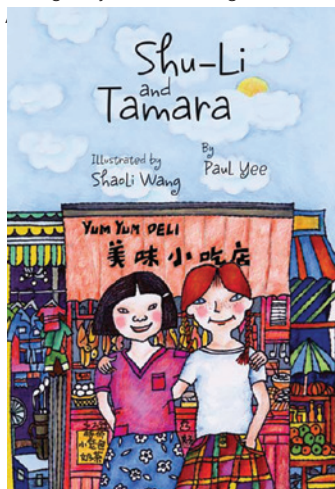
Ken Setterington

Illustrated by Alice Priestly

LGBTQ

Rosie is surprised to find her Mom dancing alone in the living room, but when Mom announces, "Your Mum and I are getting married!" they can't wait to start planning the big day. Friends and family come together for a celebration of love.

When teaching about diverse families, this picture book is an important story about single sex relationships. This book supports Health curriculum and helps students to gain understanding of Healthy Relationships, as well as to be respectful of differences. It can also be to serve as an entry point into anti-discrimination education.



Tradewind Books • 9781896580937
Language Arts • Paperback
\$7.95 • Ages 6-9 • Grades 2-4

SHU-LI AND TAMARA

Paul Yee

Illustrated by Shaoli Wang

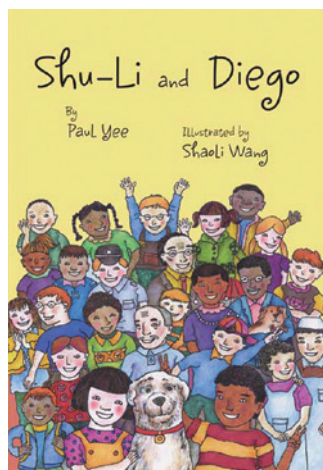
Race, Colour, Ethnic Origin; Citizenship, Immigration, and Place of Origin

Shu-Li's family moved to Canada two years ago. They now run a Chinese deli on Vancouver's Commercial Drive. Her classmate, Tamara, recently moved into the neighbourhood.

An ugly rumour threatens the girls' relationship.

Themes of friendship, diversity, family, respect, and community building are found in this short chapter book. Students will be drawn to the stories of the fourth-graders from diverse backgrounds (and the recipes included at the end of the book). Teachers can read aloud this story, and explore the themes with their students.

SELECTIONS FOR K-8



Tradewind Books • 9781896580531
Language Arts • Race, Colour, Ethnic
Origin • Paperback
\$8.95 • Ages 8-11 • Grades 4-6

SHU-LI and DIEGO

Paul Yee

Illustrated by Shaoli Wang

Race, Colour, Ethnic Origin

In this sequel to the popular Shu-Li and Tamara, award-winning Paul Yee recounts the adventures of Shu-Li and her classmate Diego as they face the challenge of taking care of Baxter, a neighbour's dog. The two friends face disaster when Baxter runs away.

This is a story about teamwork and responsibility. This is a sequel to Yee's Shu-Li Tamara, and like its predecessor, the book shows the friendship between two characters from different cultural backgrounds. Students are encouraged to make connections to the people and places they encounter in their own communities.



Breakwater Books • 9781550813524
World Religions, World Cultures, Social
Studies • Paperback
\$27.95 • Ages 4-6 • Grades 2-4
Author available for class visits

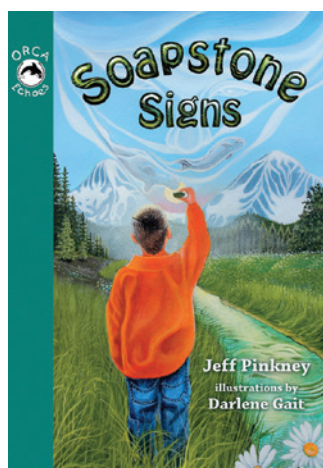
SO MUCH TO SHARE

Carmelita McGrath

Religion, Culture, and Celebrations

This book is about religions, faith and the beliefs that guide people in their daily lives. You will read about many special ceremonies and celebrations that people use to practice and share what they believe. You will also learn about the things people can do to make any day special and to make our world a better place.

This resource gives students a fundamental overview of religious traditions, and is therefore a useful text to help students understand religious diversity. The book highlights celebrations from a number of faiths, helping students to learn about the beliefs of others and perhaps compare the customs they read about to their own family rituals and traditions. A useful model for non-fiction text since information is presented in a variety of modes (e.g. transcript, speech bubbles, photographs, captions, and letters).



Orca Books • 9781459804005
Language Arts, First Nations
Paperback • Ebook available
Teacher's guide available
\$6.95 • Ages 7-9 • Grades 2-4
Author available for class visits

SOAPSTONE SIGNS

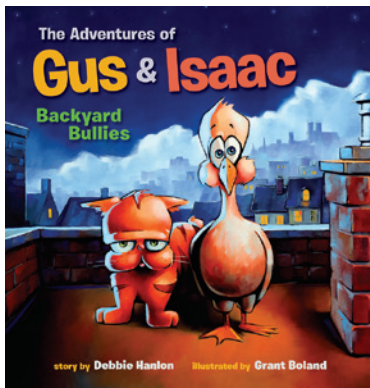
Jeff Pinkney

Illustrated by Darlene Gait

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

One spring, a nine-year-old Cree boy is visited by a master soapstone carver named Lindy, who gives him four pieces of soapstone. The primary secret to carving, the boy learns, is recognizing that each piece of soapstone already holds its true form inside. Lindy teaches the boy to listen to the soapstone and look to the world around him for signs as to what to carve.

This chapter book pays tribute to the craft of soapstone carving. The book can be shared when studying First Nations culture and can be a springboard into more in-depth learning about this art form. It can also lead children to consider creating their own sculptures using a variety of media.



Breakwater Books
9781550813630
Language Arts, Social Sciences
Paperback
\$12.95 • Ages 5-7 • Grades 2-4
Author available for school visits
@DebbieHanlon1

THE ADVENTURES OF GUS AND ISAAC *Backyard Bullies*

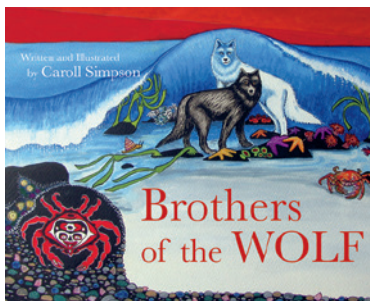
Debbie Hanlon

Illustrated by Grant Boland

Abilities

Bullies roam the backyards, scaring and picking on everyone they find. So, when Isaac the bob-tailed cat moves into a house in the neighbourhood, you know he'll be the next target. It's only by forging an unlikely friendship with Gus the seagull, who's afraid of heights, that the two can face their fears and stand up to the backyard bullies.

A seagull, a bob-tailed cat, and a trio of bully cats are central to this story about bullying that provides understanding of the uneasy feelings of those who are victimized and the meanness of those who feel they have a right to bully others. Some vocabulary, spread throughout the story is presented in larger red font which invites students to make inferences about the meaning of these words and then confirm their predictions by referring to the glossary at the end of the book.



Heritage House
9781772030389
Language Arts, Aboriginal Studies
Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit
Paperback • Ebook available
\$12.95 • Ages 6-11 • Grades 2-5

BROTHERS OF THE WOLF

Caroll Simpson

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

This is the tale two wolf cubs raised as human children in a village on the Pacific coast. The two brothers are very different from one another. One feels most at home in the forest, while the other loves the sea. When they undergo a supernatural transformation, the brothers must part ways. But they soon discover how the power of their howling voices can unite to save the world from uncertain darkness.

Elements of traditional storytelling, including a glossary of terms and images brings the reader knowledge of the First Nations people in this collection of books. This collection of books is useful in literacy planning, specifically, storytelling skills. The themes found in this story are: family relationships, respecting the environment, and choices.



Heritage House
9781772030624
Language Arts, Aboriginal Studies
Paperback • Ebook available
\$12.95 • Ages 6-11 • Grades 2-5

THE FIRST BEAVER

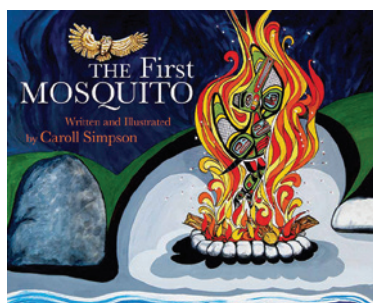
Caroll Simpson

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

Young Reedee, born with shimmering brown hair the colour of Mother Earth, is different from the other people in her village, and it isn't just her hair that sets her apart. At night, while the village sleeps, Reedee disappears into the forest. At first her parents worry, but they soon discover their daughter has a path she must follow on her own.

Elements of traditional storytelling, including a glossary of terms and images brings the reader knowledge of the First Nations people in this collection of books. This collection of books is useful in literacy planning, specifically, storytelling skills. The themes found in this story are: finding one's true self, believing in oneself, and respecting choices.

SELECTIONS FOR K-8



Heritage House
9781772030631
Language Arts, Aboriginal Studies
Paperback • Ebook available
\$12.95 • Ages 6-11 • Grades 2-5

THE FIRST MOSQUITO

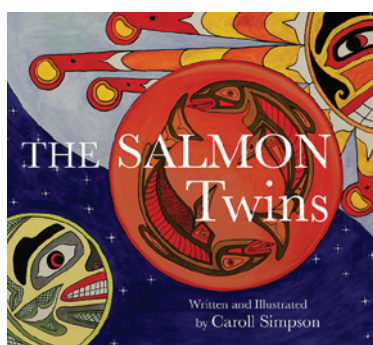
Carroll Simpson

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

Yax loses his spear among the trees one day. Ignoring his mother's warnings about the dangers of the woods, he wanders into the forest. Soon he finds himself in peril. Fortunately, the members of the village are able to enlist the help of friendly spirit creatures—Creek Woman, Thunderbird, and the Lightning Snakes, who set a trap for the boy's pursuers and help transform a fierce monster into the insect now known as the mosquito.

Elements of traditional storytelling, including a glossary of terms and images brings the reader knowledge of the First Nations people in this collection of books. This collection of books is useful in literacy planning, specifically, storytelling skills.

The themes found in this story are: perseverance, bravery, and how mosquitoes came to be.



Heritage House
9781927527009
Language Arts, Aboriginal Studies
Paperback • Ebook available
\$12.95 • Ages 6-11 • Grades 2-5

THE SALMON TWINS

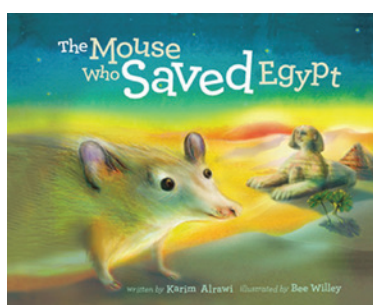
Carroll Simpson

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

When new twins are born in a Pacific Coast village, everyone celebrates because the twins are the children of the salmon. But when the twins grow selfish and greedy, Thunderbird transforms them into a Two-Headed Sea Serpent. Then the salmon don't run up the river and the villagers start to go hungry. The Serpent's heads have to co-operate with each other to solve the mystery and restore the salmon run.

Elements of traditional storytelling, including a glossary of terms and images brings the reader knowledge of the First Nations people in this collection of books. This collection of books is useful in literacy planning, specifically, storytelling skills.

The themes found in this story are: overcoming selfishness, working together, and respecting family and friends.



Tradewind Books
9781896580791
Language Arts • Hardcover
\$16.95 • Ages 5-8 • Grades 2-4

THE MOUSE WHO SAVED EGYPT

Karim Alrawi

Illustrated by Bee Willey

Ethnic Origin; Citizenship, Immigration, and Place of Origin

*See how a small kindness can be repaid a thousand times over. In this retelling of an ancient Middle Eastern folk tale, Karim Alrawi follows up his best-selling *The Girl Who Lost Her Smile* with another classic fable.*

A book that teaches kindness and how the smallest creatures can be the most heroic. I would use this book when teaching fables, as well as to encourage readers to consider how morals or messages can be gleaned from adventure stories. Though set in Ancient Egypt, this picture book is relevant to contemporary world issues of power and injustice.

SELECTIONS FOR K-8



Second Story Press
9781897187609
Language Arts
Character Education • Self Esteem
Hardcover • Ebook available
\$15.95 • Ages 6-8 • Grades 2-4
Author available for school visits.

VIOLET

Tania Dubrey Stehlik

Illustrated by Vanja Vuleta Jovanovic

Race, Colour, Ethnic Origin

When Violet's father comes to pick her up at school, one of her classmates asks: "How come your Dad is blue and you're not?" Violet has never even thought about this before. Her mother is red, and her father is blue – so why is she violet?

Violet's story helps readers to contemplate their own identities and consider the diversity that surrounds them, in classrooms and the wider communities. Violet questions her mixed heritage and gains self-respect when she realizes she's not the only one who is different. Readers who have tried to fit in to a new school environment can learn from Violet's story, a book about personal pride and inclusive communities. For character education, this can be shared for helping teach respect.



Tradewind Books
9781896580556
Language Arts • Hardcover
\$16.95 • Ages 4-8 • Grades 2-4

VIVA ZAPATA

Emilie Smith and Margarita Kenefic Tejada

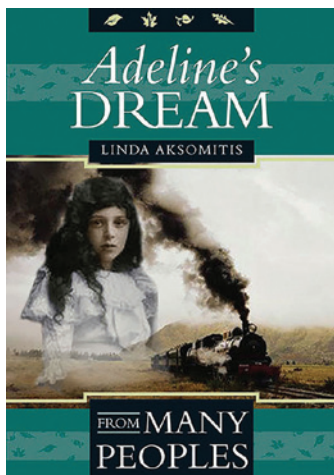
Illustrated by Stefan Czernecki

Ethnic Origin; Citizenship, Immigration, and Place of Origin

This heart-warming story chronicles a fictional episode in the childhood of the revolutionary Mexican hero. Emiliano Zapata. When Emiliano's treasured pony is stolen by bandits, he decides to track it down himself.

This biographical story of Mexican revolutionary, Emiliano Zapata, who fought for the rights of the poor, works on two levels: it is an adventure story of a young boy, and a story of injustice that is overcome through courage and determination. The black and white art, along with the language used to tell the story, offer a flavour of Mexican culture.

GRADES 4-6



Coteau Books
9781550503234
Language Arts, History • Paperback
Teacher's guide available
\$8.95 • Ages 9-11 • Grades 4-6
@aksomitis

ADELINE'S DREAM

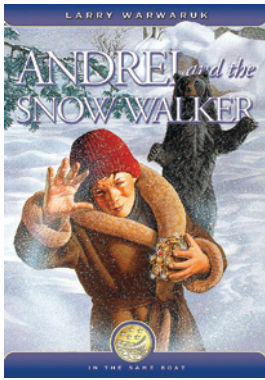
Linda Aksomitis

Citizenship, Immigration, and Place of Origin

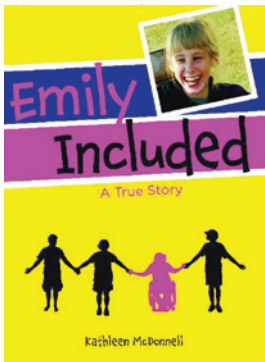
Twelve-year-old Adeline Mueller has to fight to make a place for herself when her family comes to Canada from Germany in 1910 to join her father in their new land. Adeline hasn't seen her father for four years, but his letters promised a splendid new life. But when they arrive in Qu'Appelle, Saskatchewan, the reality is very different. Home is a sod house in a squatter settlement on CPR land. What will Adeline do?

This book connects to the social studies curriculum, and addresses an important story from Canada's past. Teachers can use Adeline's story to teach about the challenges immigrant families faced in the early twentieth century. Students can draw connections to contemporary issues by those who choose to come to Canada.

SELECTIONS FOR K-8



Coteau Books • 9781550502138
Language Arts, History, Aboriginal Studies • Paperback • Ebook available
Teacher's guide available
\$9.95 • Ages 9-11 • Grades 4-6
Also available: *Brovko's Amazing Journey* by Larry Warwaruk
Author available for classroom visits



Second Story Press • 9781926920337
Social Studies, Biography/Autobiography, Social Activists
Paperback • Ebook available
\$8.95 • Ages 9-11 • Grades 4-6
Author available for class visits



Annick Press • 9781554516582
Language Arts, History
Religion, Culture
Paperback • Ebook available
Teachers Guide Available
\$12.95 • Ages 8-11 • Grades 3-6
Also available: *Janusz Korczak & the Orphans of the Warsaw Ghetto* by Irene Cohen-Janca • @SharonEMckay

ANDREI AND THE SNOW WALKER

Larry Warwaruk

Citizenship, Immigration, and Place of Origin

Andrei and his family leave Ukraine for a homestead near Batoche, Saskatchewan, in 1900. Andrei has never worked so hard, helping to build a home, breaking land, learning to hunt with two Metis friends, Gabriel and Chi Pete. They tell him about Snow Walker, a man of unusual powers and wisdom – a man some say can change into a bear. And sometimes, in the woods, Andrei thinks he sees a figure moving...

Determination and perseverance are the central themes of this novel about a young immigrant's experience in rural Saskatchewan in the early twentieth century. Students who enjoy reading stories about horses will be captivated by Andrei's dream of owning a colt and becoming a great horseman like his grandfather. This novel provides insights into the Métis culture and ancestral wisdom.

EMILY INCLUDED

Kathleen McDonnell

Abilities

The true story of Emily Eaton and her family, who fought for the right for Emily, who was born with severe cerebral palsy, to go to school with her peers.

The challenges of living with cerebral palsy are central to Emily Eaton's experiences. This book can be shared to help students build understanding of and compassion for other students with special needs. Finding the right school program for students with special needs, whether a physical disability or not, is a situation that many students will recognize. The book is a true story of perseverance, in which one family takes their fight for inclusion and justice all the way to the Supreme Court.

THE END OF THE LINE

Sharon E. McKay

Religion, Culture, and Celebrations

Ordinary citizens risk everything to save a young Jewish girl in wartime Holland.

This title can be used in the classroom as a Literature Circle choice where students discuss the Holocaust. This novel helps students learn about those who harbored Jews during World War II. Moreover this title can help student consider the choices and sacrifices one needs to make in order to help others survive.

SELECTIONS FOR K-8



Annick Press
9781554512461
Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit
Paperback • Ebook available
Teacher's guide available
\$12.95 • Ages 9-12 • Grades 4-7

FATTY LEGS

Christy Jordan-Fenton & Margaret Pokiak-Fenton

Illustrated by Liz Amini-Holmes

Aboriginal Studies, History, Language Arts

A feisty 8-year-old Native girl overcomes the humiliation she experiences in a residential school.

This is essential reading to provide young people with insights into residential schools. *Fatty Legs* is a true story of a girl whose resilient spirit helps her to overcome the cruel torment she receives from both students and adults at a residential school. I would share this as a good example of biographical writing. The rich visual images enhance the impact of Margaret Pokiak's harrowing story.



Coteau Books
9781550504057
Language Arts, Aboriginal
Paperback • Ebook available
Teacher's guide available
\$7.95 • Ages 9-11 • Grades 4-6

FIGHT FOR JUSTICE

Lori Saigeon

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

Ten-year-old Justice feels like the "man of the house" for his twin sister Charity and their mom. But when his classmate Trey bullies him, he doesn't know what to do. Then on a family visit to their home reserve, Justice helps his mushum (grandfather) fix his snowmobile and finds the courage to talk about Trey. Through Mushum's stories and actions, he begins to understand why people bully and some possible ways to deal with them.

This is a book that can be shared to teach about dealing with bullies, and is essential for encouraging those who have been targeted to speak up to their peers, family, or teachers about being tormented. It also takes readers into the life of an Aboriginal boy and describes the relationship he has with his grandparents who lives on a reserve. Told in short chapters, this book might appeal to reluctant readers.



Annick Press
9781554510870
History, Aboriginal Studies
Technology • Paperback
\$9.95 • Ages 9-11 • Grades 4-6

THE INUIT THOUGHT OF IT *Amazing Arctic Innovations*

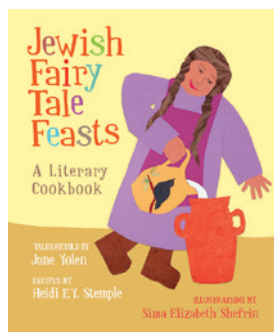
Alooook Ipellie with David MacDonald

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

Explore the amazing inventions and innovations of traditional Inuit, and how their ideas continue to echo around the world.

An excellent example of a non-fiction text that provides fascinating and accessible information on Inuit culture and the Inuit's ingenuity in inventing items essential for survival in the Arctic. Topics are presented with major title headings (e.g., Dog Sled) and subheadings (e.g., Rope, Sled, Mud runners, Ivory Runners). Text features include timelines, maps, photographs with captions, and an index.

SELECTIONS FOR K-8



Tradewind Books
9781896580708
Language Arts, History, Jewish Studies
Hardcover
\$24.95 • Ages 9-12 • Grades 4-7

JEWISH FAIRY TALE FEASTS

A literary cookbook, Tales Retold

Jane Yolen

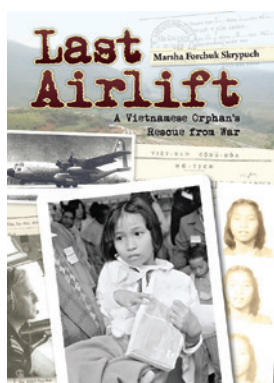
Illustrated by Sima Elizabeth Shefrin

Recipes by Heidi E.Y. Stemple

Religion, Culture, and Celebrations

Award-winning author Jane Yolen retells Jewish folk tales and Heidi Stemple writes delicious Jewish recipes to accompany them.

This collection of Jewish fairy tales is an excellent example of a multi-modal text that includes recipes, proverbs, anecdotes, and explanations. Any one of the tales can help readers get a taste of Jewish cuisine and traditions, and works well as a tool to invite students to share stories about their own cultures and traditions.



Pajama Press • 9780986949517
Language Arts, Social Studies, History
Paperback • Ebook available
Teacher's guide available
\$12.95 • Ages 9-11 • Grades 4-6
Also available: *One Step at a Time: A Vietnamese Child Finds Her Way* by Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch
Author available for class visits.
@MarshaSkrypuch

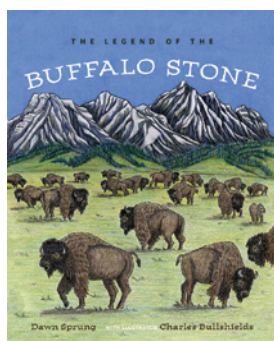
LAST AIRLIFT *A Vietnamese Orphan's Rescue from the War*

Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch

Citizenship, Immigration, and Place of Origin

Last Airlift is the true story of the last Canadian airlift operation that left Saigon and arrived in Toronto on April 13, 1975. Son Thi Anh Tuyet was one of 57 babies and children on that flight. Based on personal interviews and enhanced with archive photos, Tuyet's story of the Saigon orphanage and her flight to Canada is an emotional and suspenseful journey brought to life by award-winning children's author, Marsha Skrypuch.

Teachers and librarians can share this biography to help students understand the refugee experience. Tuyet's story, courage and tenacity will likely touch the hearts of readers. The inclusion of photographs add to the authenticity of this Vietnamese orphan's journey from orphanage in Vietnam to a home in Canada. An important book to share for Social Studies curriculum when teaching Responsible Citizenship and Canada's Interactions with the Global Community.



Heritage House
9781927527412
Language Arts, Aboriginal Studies
Hardcover • Ebook available
\$19.95 • Ages 8-11 • Grades 4-6
Also available: *Mwakwa Talk to the Look: A Cree Story for Children* by Dale Auger
Author available for class visits.

THE LEGEND OF THE BUFFALO STONE

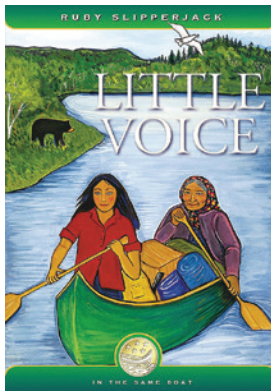
Dawn Sprung

Illustrated by Charles Bullshields

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

For Hanata and the Blackfoot people, everything is connected to the innii, or buffalo: their food, clothing, and shelter. When a winter storm descends on the land, the buffalo disappear and the people begin to grow hungry. All hope is lost until Hanata has a dream that leads her on a search for a magical stone with the power to bring back the innii.

I would share this title when teaching legends and presenting students with First Nations tales that help them understand heritage and traditions. Based on a traditional Blackfoot story, *The Legend of the Buffalo Stone* depicts the interconnectedness that many Aboriginal tribes have with animals. Hanata, the heroine of this tale, is also a good example of a strong female protagonist.



Coteau Books • 9781550501827
Language Arts, Aboriginal Studies,
History
Paperback • Ebook available
\$9.95 • Ages 9-11 • Grades 4-6

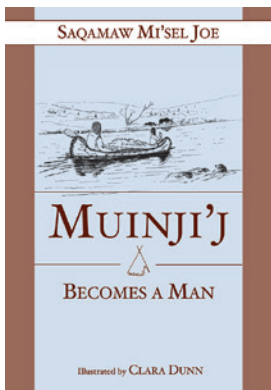
LITTLE VOICE

Ruby Slipperjack

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

Things have been hard for eleven-year-old Ray since her father's accidental death in a logging accident, and so far she has been unable to express her grief. Then Ray gets the chance she's been longing for: to spend a summer in the bush with her beloved grandmother – fishing, camping, and living off the land. Her grandmother, a skilled healer, is the mentor and teacher Ray needs to find her own identity and voice.

This is a story about dealing with death in the family. It is also a story learning about cultural traditions from our grandparents. Ray has a strong relationship with her grandmother who is an elder and healer in their northern community. I would share this novel as a Literature Circle choice in a class that is exploring First Nations cultures.



Breakwater Books
9781550811674 & 9781550812374
History, Social Studies
Paperback • Ebook available
\$9.95 • Ages 6-8 • Grades 4-6
Translated version *MUJINJI: JI'NMUA'SIT* also available

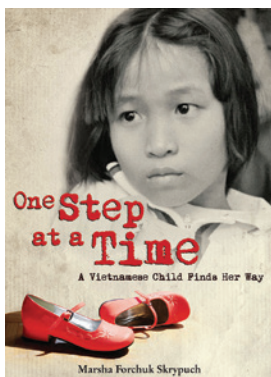
MUJINJI'S BECOMES A MAN

Saqamaw Mi'Sel Joe; Illustrated by Clara Dunn

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

Mujinji's has been waiting all his life to make this trip with his grandfather – a trip to the city to sell otter, beaver and muskrat pelts, and bring back supplies to the village. It's a long expedition that tests Mujinji's reserves of strength, patience and maturity. But then, the worst happens – his naskamij falls ill. Mujinji's must continue the journey alone, face the challenges and mysteries of a city he has never seen, and return to help his grandfather as well as his village that relies on him.

This book explores the themes of survival and perseverance. The author is a member of the Mi'kmaq tribe and as spiritual leader, he tells an authentic story about the culture and traditions of his people. Mujinji's adventures paint a clear picture of Aboriginal people who sell animal pelts in the city and bring back supplies to their home village. This book can be shared to support studies of First Nations people. A translated version is a useful companion to this short novella.



Pajama Press • 9781927485019
Language Arts, Social Studies, History
Abilities • Hardcover
Teacher's guide available
\$17.95 • Ages 9-11 • Grades 4-6
Also available: *Last Airlift: A Vietnamese Orphan's Rescue from War* by Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch • Author available for class visits. • @MarshaSkrypuch

ONE STEP AT A TIME

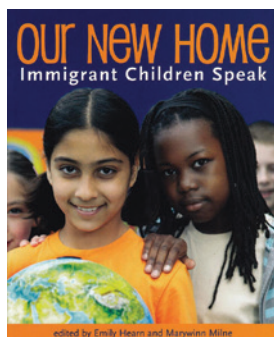
A Vietnamese Child Finds Her Way

Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch

Vietnamese-born Tuyet has escaped her war-torn homeland and found a loving family in Canada. Tuyet dreams of running and playing with her adopted siblings, but her leg has been weakened and twisted by polio. Can she face her fear of hospitals and the traumatic memories they awaken if it means walking in matching shoes at last?

This sequel to *Last Airlift* describes a young girl's experiences when settling into a new home, with which many young readers who have moved to a new environment will identify. This non-fiction selection will likely build sensitivity to understanding other cultures and the turbulent lives that many refugees face. Readers will also cheer for protagonist Tuyet as she undergoes surgeries that will allow her to walk on her own.

SELECTIONS FOR K-8



Second Story Press
9781897187326
Social Studies
Citizenship/Justice, Multiculturalism
Paperback • Ebook available
\$13.95 • Ages 9-11 • Grades 4-6

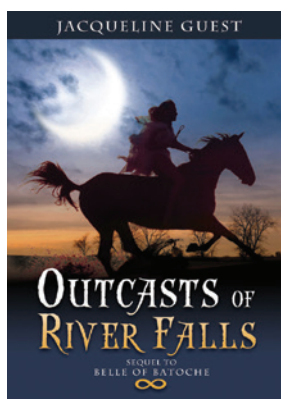
OUR NEW HOME *Immigrant Children Speak*

Edited by Emily Hearn and Marywinn Milne

Citizenship, Immigration, and Place of Origin

From diverse cultures of Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Guyana, Somalia, and others, immigrant children write of their fears, excitement, and challenges faced when moving to another world and forging a new sense of self in a new land.

How does one cope with immigrating to a new country, to survive in a new and foreign community? This title exposes students to authentic immigrant experiences of students similar in age to themselves. I would use this book to conduct a research project where students write a personal story or interview and record the experiences of others in their community who have moved.



Coteau Books • 9781550504804
Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit
Language Arts, Aboriginal Studies,
History • Paperback • Ebook available
Teacher's guide available
\$9.95 • Ages 9-11 • Grades 4-6
Also available: *The Comic Book War*, *Ghost Messages* both by Jacqueline Guest
Author available for school visits.
@JacquelineGuest

OUTCASTS OF RIVER FALLS

Jacqueline Guest

To succeed in Toronto in the early 1900s, Kathryn's father had kept their Métis heritage a secret, even from his daughter. But when he dies, 14-year-old Kathryn must leave her school to live with her Aunt Belle in Alberta – in a shack in the Métis community of River Falls. Barred from owning land, the Métis must find ways to survive. There are lessons to be learned, though: from her aunt, the Métis community, and the world around her.

This story combines fact and fiction to tell the story of Kathryn, a Torontonion from a well-to-do family, who moves to Alberta after her father's death and learns about the family he left behind. Using historical moments in Canadian history, this book brings to life the plight of the Métis people. A short historical note at the end of the book can be used to further the discussion of Louis Riel and the Battle of Batoche.



Orca Books
9781459809901
Social Studies, Canadian and World
Studies • Hardcover • Ebook available
\$24.95 • Ages 10-12 • Grades 4-6
Also available: *What World Is Left* by
Monique Polak
Author available for school visits.
@monique_polak

PASSOVER *Festival of Freedom*

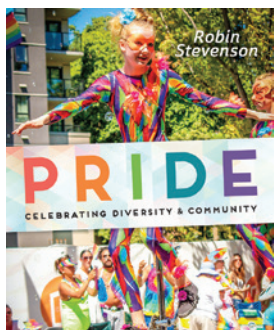
Monique Polak

Religion, Culture, and Celebrations:

During Passover, Jews are reminded of how, more than three thousand years ago, their ancestors emerged from slavery to become free men and women. Bestselling author Monique Polak explores her own Jewish roots as she tells the Passover story, which reminds us that the freedom to be who we are and practice our religion, whatever it may be, is a great gift.

A nonfiction text that interweaves images, stories and facts in a comprehensive format that is easily accessible for middle school students and teachers. Clear features of text are used to organize the book suitable for teaching about religious customs. The book is well organized and will help readers formulate a global understanding of Passover, its history, and the current practices of Jewish families around the world.

SELECTIONS FOR K-8



Orca Books
9781459809932
Social Studies, Health and Physical Education
Paperback • Ebook available
\$24.95 • Ages 10-12 • Grades 4-6
Author available for school visits
@robin_stevenson

PRIDE *Celebrating Diversity & Community*

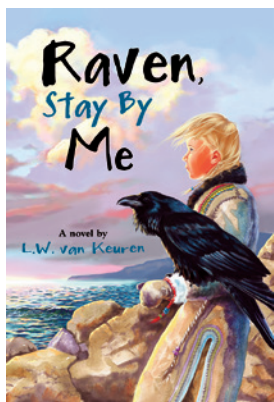
Robin Stevenson

LGBTQ

For LGBTQ people and their supporters, Pride events are an opportunity to honour the past, protest injustice, and celebrate a diverse and vibrant community. The high point of Pride, the Pride Parade, is spectacular and colorful. But there is a whole lot more to Pride than rainbow flags and amazing outfits. How did Pride come to be? And what does Pride mean to the people who celebrate it?

Also available: *Inferno* by Robin Stevenson

This nonfiction text explores the history of Pride Parades across the world. Using text alongside photos and personal anecdotes, this book will be useful for teaching about the history of the LGBTQ's struggle for human rights, and will give context to annual celebrations.



Breakwater Books
9781894377300
Language Arts, Native Studies, Social Studies
Paperback
\$14.95 • Ages 9-11 • Grades 4-6

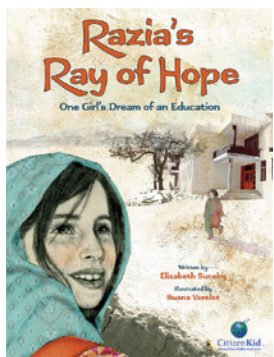
RAVEN, STAY BY ME

L.W. van Keuren

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

Eleven-year-old Greenlander Inga Sigurdsdottir awakens on a cold and rocky coast after her Norse ship wrecks en route to "Vinland." Her one comfort and companion is an injured raven she rescues. When she encounters Inuit hunters, both parties are terrified by the meeting. But when an exhausted Inga rescues a lost child, the girl's mother insists that the stranded Inga be taken in. Chance eventually brings her into contact with a company of Norsemen, including her own uncle. Caught between the two cultures, she is compelled to choose between returning to Greenland with the Norse or staying with the Inuit.

This book can be shared as an example of a survival story about a strong female character and her relationship with nature. Both Norse and Inuit cultures are central to this book. The language and lore of the world of ships is an added feature to *Raven, Stay By Me*, showing how informational text can successfully be woven into fiction.



Kids Can Press • 9781554538164
Social Studies, Cultures, Local & Global Community • Hardcover • Ebook available • Teacher's Guide available
\$19.95 • Ages 8-10 • Grades 4-6
Also available: *Mimi's Village* by Katie Smith Milway
Author available for class visits.
@pressed4words

RAZIA'S RAY OF HOPE

One Girl's Dream of an Education

Elizabeth Suneby

Illustrated by Suana Verelst

Religion, Culture, and Celebrations

Razia dreams of getting an education, but in her small village in Afghanistan, girls haven't been allowed to attend school for many years. When a new girls' school opens in the village, a determined Razia must convince her father and oldest brother that educating her would be best for her, their family and their community. Razia's Ray of Hope is the latest inspiring story from the CitizenKid™ collection.

This picture book is a good example of multicultural literature that gives voice to individuals whose stories are often overlooked. Razia is a strong-minded girl who, like millions of other children across the world, has not had the opportunity to go to school. This fictional story is based on the real stories of young Afghan women who are tenacious, who are fighting for equality, and who have never given up on hope.

SELECTIONS FOR K-8



Second Story Press • 9781926920306
Social Studies, Politics and Government,
Biography
Paperback • Ebook available
Teacher's Guide available
\$14.95 • Ages 9-11 • Grades 4-6
Also available: *Severn and the Day She
Silenced the World* by Janet Wilson
Author available for school visits.

SHANNEN AND THE DREAM FOR A SCHOOL

Janet Wilson

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

The true story of thirteen-year-old Shannen Koostachin, who fought for the rights of the children in her community of Attawapiskat First Nation.

Organized in twenty chapters and accompanied by photographs, this nonfiction text tells the true story of Shannen Koostachin and her classmates' efforts to get the Canadian government to replace their contaminated elementary school in Attawapiskat First Nation in northern Ontario. Teachers and librarians can use this book to bring the definitions of perseverance, equity, and justice to life. Share this book with students to show them the power young people have to raise their voices, get organized and fight for what is right.



Second Story Press • 9781897187647
Language Arts, Aboriginal Education,
Character Education
Paperback • Ebook available
Teacher's guide available
\$8.95 • Ages 9-11 • Grades 4-6
Also available: *The Scratch on the Ming
Vase* by Caroline Stellings

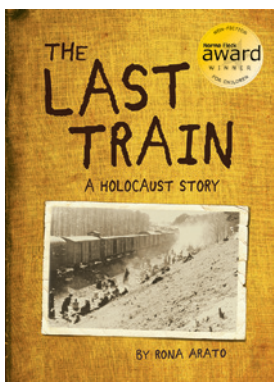
THE CONTEST

Caroline Stellings

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

Rosy is thrilled when she learns she could win a set of L.M. Montgomery's books from the library in an Anne of Green Gables look-alike contest. But will Rosy, a half-Native brunette, be able to compete with her red-haired and freckled friend Lydia?

How can a half Mohawk girl win the Anne of Green Gables lookalike contest? Rosy is determined to win the prize, a brand new set of the Anne books. This short novel offers a strong female character who won't let anything get in the way of her dreams. An appealing story about First Nations character education, Rosy's friendships, and the pride she has despite her impoverished family situation, are inspiring. *The Contest* is also a fine tribute to libraries and librarians.



Owlkids Books • 9781926973623
Social Studies, History, Language Arts
Hardcover • Ebook available
\$16.95 • Ages 10-12 • Grades 4-6
Also available: *Why Do We Fight?* by
Niki Walker • Author available for school
visits • @RonaArato

THE LAST TRAIN

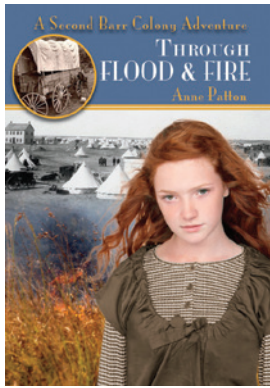
A Holocaust story

Rona Arato

Citizenship, Immigration, and Place of Origin

The Norma Fleck Award-winning true story about young brothers Paul and Oscar Arato and their mother, Lenke, surviving the Nazi occupation during the final years of World War II.

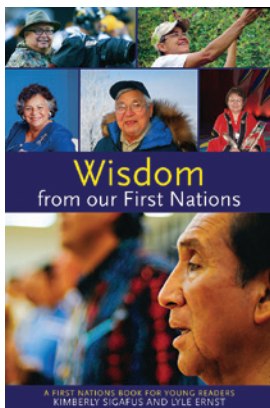
A must-read for students learning about the Holocaust. The Last Train is a powerful story of bravery and resilience. This is one Hungarian family's story of being trapped in a freight train with thousands of other Jews in Germany with the threat of the Nazi regime surrounding them. This remarkable true story is a story of fate, of coincidence, and of survival. It is also strong narrative that builds readers' empathy by connecting the present to the past.



Coteau Books
9781550506402
Language Arts, History
Paperback • Ebook
\$9.95 • Ages 10-12+ • Grades 4-6
Also available: Full Steam to Canada by
Anne Patton
Author available for school visits



Owlkids Books
9781771470698
Language Arts
Hardcover • Ebook available
\$16.95 • Ages 8-10 • Grades 4-6
@liamodonnell



Second Story Press
9781927583555
Social Studies, Aboriginal Education,
Biography/Autobiography
Paperback • Ebook available
\$10.95 • Ages 9-11 • Grades 4-6

THROUGH FLOOD AND FIRE

Anne Patton

Citizenship, Immigration, and Place of Origin

After travelling thousands of miles, Dorothy Bolton is still getting used to her new home on the prairies. The landscape proves hard to tame – fire and flood consumes everything, and the Barr Colonists who arrived with Dorothy are growing restless. But Dorothy's father has always dreamed of having his own farm. So, with the help of a community that comes together despite their different backgrounds, the Bolton's set out to create a new life.

History comes to life in this story about a ten year old girl and her family's settlement in Saskatchewan at the beginning of the 20th Century. This story can help students learn about the conditions and turmoil many immigrants faced when coming to Canada, and draw links to contemporary immigrant experiences. This book is a good example of how historical fiction can be made appealing to students by combining a strong narrative with historical facts.

WEST MEADOWS DETECTIVES

The case of the snack snatcher

Liam O'Donnell

Illustrated by Aurelie Grand

Abilities

The first title in a new chapter book series featuring Myron, a boy detective on the autism spectrum, as he and his Resource Room 15 classmates crack cases.

This is a chapter book that can easily be shared with young readers interested in the detective genre. Students will relate to this mystery about the disappearance of school snacks. The main character, Myron Matthews, has autism which will also help readers learn understanding for and acceptance of the special needs of others. The chapter book highlights how what may be considered our greatest weaknesses can also be our greatest strengths.

WISDOM FROM OUR FIRST NATIONS

Kim Sigafus and Lyle Ernst

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

In these twelve fascinating biographical essays, First Nations and Native American elders share stories from their lives and explain how their humble childhoods shaped the adults they became and the lessons they share as elders.

Teachers and librarians can share this non-fiction resource with students who are interested in learning more about First Nations culture. Each chapter presents information, testimony and advice about learning from the past, living responsibly in the present, and passing down stories and experiences for future generations. A table of contents can help readers decide which of the authentic voices from elders they would like to learn from.

SELECTIONS FOR K-8



Second Story Press
9781897187265
Character Education, Abilities, Holidays
& Celebration
Paperback • Ebook available
\$8.95 • Ages 8-10 • Grades 4-6
Author available for class visits.

ZOE'S EXTRAORDINARY HOLIDAY ADVENTURES

Christina Minaki

Religion, Culture, and Celebrations

Zoe is in a wheelchair and it bugs her that some kids think she's not smart because her body doesn't always do what she wants. Then Zoe learns about the diverse cultures of her friends at school and realizes she's not the only different one.

What's wrong with being different? How am I different than you? I would share this book to help students understand the interests, feelings, and dreams of a young person in a wheelchair. Though differently abled, Zoe pays attention to the diversity of kids in her school community and comes to understand that people are all the same or different in many ways.

GRADES 7-8



Second Story Press • 9781926920795
Social Studies, Citizenship/Justice,
Multiculturalism
Paperback • Ebook Available
\$11.95 • Ages 11-13 • Grades 7-8

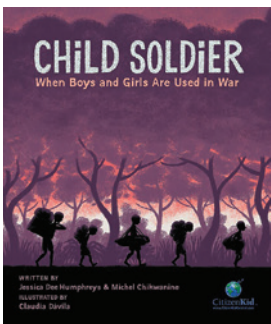
A LONG WAY FROM HOME

Alice Walsh

Citizenship, Immigration, and Place of Origin

An Afghan girl, an American boy, and the resilient residents of a small town are thrown together when dozens of planes are grounded in Gander, Newfoundland after the terrorist attacks on 9/11. In the middle of tragedy they find unexpected kindness, friendship, and hope.

Students often need narratives to help them understand traumatic world events. In this novel, the 9/11 crisis is experienced through the lives of an Afghan girl and an American boy. Terrorist attacks may seem incomprehensible, but readers can sympathize and try to understand the essential need to be resilient when such horrifying events unfold. Set in Gander, Newfoundland, this novel will be useful to help students understand Canada's part in the tragedy that took place before they were born.



Kids Can Press • 9781771381260
Social Studies, History, Global
Awareness
Hardcover • Ebook available
\$18.95 • Ages 10-12 • Grades 7-8
Also available: *This Child, Every Child* by
David J. Smith
This author is available for class visits.
@michelchikwan

CHILD SOLDIER *When Boys and Girls are Used in War*

Jessica Dee Humphreys and Michel Chikwanine

Illustrated by Claudia Davila

Citizenship, Immigration, and Place of Origin

Michel Chikwanine was five years old when he was abducted from his schoolyard in the Democratic Republic of Congo and forced to become a soldier for a brutal rebel militia. Michel managed to escape and find his way back to his family, but he was never the same again. After immigrating to Canada, Michel was encouraged by a teacher to share what happened to him in order to raise awareness about child soldiers around the world.

Michel Chikwanine's heroic escape from the rebel militia and the challenges he faced to make a new life for himself in Canada can help build readers' understanding of and empathy for those caught in political upheavals. Told in graphic format, the narration, dialogue, and illustrated panels highlight the plight of one child soldier. Information at the back of the book provides some additional information and statistics about young people forced into armed war.

SELECTIONS FOR K-8



Pajama Press
9781927485651
Language Arts, Social Studies, History
Paperback
\$15.95 • Ages 11-13 • Grades 7-8
@MarshaSkrypuch

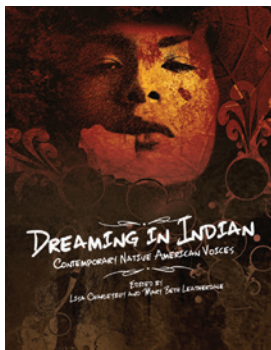
DANCE OF THE BANISHED

Marsha Forchuk Skrypuch

Citizenship, Immigration, and Place of Origin

A teenager leaves his fiancée behind in their Anatolian village to make a new life in Canada for them both. But when WWI breaks out, he is sent to an internment camp while his betrothed struggles to survive and find a way to join him

This title won the 2015 Geoffrey Bilson award for Historical Fiction, and is a compelling story about the Armenian Genocide at the beginning of the twentieth century. Though the story takes place over one hundred years ago, students can make comparisons to modern-day refugees determined to stay alive and find salvation in a new country. The love between the two protagonists provides a compelling narrative in this horrifying part of history. This book can be shared to help students understand the internment of so-called “enemy aliens” in Canada.



Annick Press
9781554516865
Aboriginal Studies, History
Paperback • Ebook available
\$14.95 • Ages 12+ • Grades 7+
@urbannativegirl

DREAMING IN INDIAN

Contemporary Native American Voices

edited by Lisa Charleboy and Mary Beth Leatherdale

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

Native artists and writers contribute heartfelt pieces about growing up Native.

This powerful collection allows students to read about artists who understand what it is like to grow up Native. Young adult readers will find remarkable text and images that tell stories about the dreams and challenges of Aboriginal identity. Multi-modal text features (e.g. poetry, photographs, song, art work, narratives) add to the power of this book.



Orca Books
9781459809826
Language Arts, Social Studies
Paperback • Ebook available
\$9.95 • Ages 11-13 • Grades 7-8
Author available for school visits
@KathleenCherry_

EVERYDAY HERO

Kathleen Cherry

Abilities

Alice doesn't like noise, smells or strangers. She does like rules. Lots of rules. Nobody at her new school knows she has Asperger's, so it doesn't take long for her odd behavior to get her into trouble. When she meets Megan in detention, she doesn't know what to make of her. Megan doesn't smell, she's not terribly noisy, and she's not exactly a stranger, but is she a friend?

Understanding and empathy can be explored in this novel about the story of friendship between Alice, a girl with Asperger's syndrome, and Megan. The easy to read text is accessible for middle school students and teachers in this story about children's rights, family responsibilities, and respecting differences.



Annick Press
9781554517473
History, Language Arts
Race, Colour, Ethnic Origin
Hardcover • Ebook available
\$21.95 • Ages 11-14 • Grades 6-9
Authors available for school visits.

GIVE ME WINGS

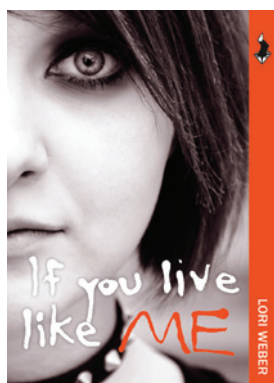
How a choir of former slaves took on the world

Kathy Lowinger

Race, Colour, Ethnic Origin

The inspiring true story of Ella Sheppard, a young freed slave, who founded the Jubilee Singers, an African-American choir that helped change people's attitudes towards them.

This true story depicts the passion and salvation that one tenacious slave, Ella Sheppard, finds in music. Ella forms the Jubilee Singers choir that found joy in song that ended up saving their lives. The book, arranged in nine chapters provides a rich history of slavery, and includes maps, photographs, posters, art work, and a time line. The inclusion of lyrics to spiritual songs sung by black slaves that make this resource especially shine.



Wandering Fox
9781772030525
Language Arts, Social Studies
Paperback • Ebook available
\$12.95 • Ages 11-14 • Grades 6-9
Also available: *City Pictures* by Shirlee Smith Matheson
Author available for class visits

IF YOU LIVE LIKE ME

Lori Weber

Religion, Culture, and Celebrations

This city girl is determined to get back to the concrete, the buzz, and the bright lights of Montreal. She knows life in Newfoundland will be no better than it was in the other places she's been forced to live since her father's study on "dying cultures" began. Will Cheryl's cold, goth exterior and her refusal to embrace a new life cut her off from those who love her?

This is a book about different views of the world, between urban and rural communities, socioeconomic status, and fathers and daughters. Protagonist Cheryl is considered an outsider and many young adolescents can identify with her rebellious nature. The Newfoundland setting is an important feature of this story, helping readers understand how where we live determines who we are, and the impact that our personal choices have on our community and the wider world.



Wandering Fox
9781772030174
Language Arts, Social Studies
Paperback • Ebook available
\$9.95 • Ages 11-14 • Grades 6-9
Author available for class visits.
@alisonlohans

NO PLACE FOR KIDS

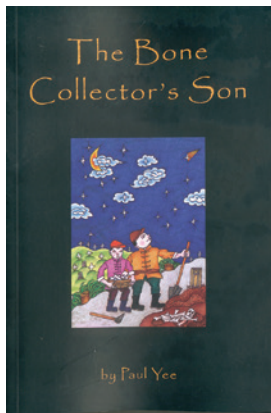
Alison Lohans

Families

Jennifer and Sarah were once part of a happy, stable family, but their idyllic life comes to an abrupt halt with the death of their mother. Unable to cope with his grief and the needs of his two young daughters, their father finds comfort in alcohol, and loses his grip on his family. With nothing left to lose, the two run away to their aunt's in Vancouver, setting out with very little money and no clear plan.

Statistics for homeless youth in today's urban centres are increasingly high. Many readers will identify – or sympathize – with Sarah and Jennifer's desperation to survive in a world without parents. This is a book that will help readers empathize for the characters, who are forced to survive by any means, as they set out on a journey to find a place called home.

SELECTIONS FOR K-8



Tradewind Books • 9781896580500
Language Arts, History • Paperback
\$12.95 • Ages 10-13 • Grades 5-8

THE BONE COLLECTOR'S SON

Paul Yee

Race, Colour, Ethnic Origin; Family

Award-winning author Paul Yee tells the tale of how ghosts haunt Bing and his bone-collector father after they dig up the bones of a murdered Chinese worker.

More than a ghost story, this novel invites readers to empathize with Bing-wing Chan, who resents his father for his bad habits and for his job as a bone collector which requires him to dig up skeletons of deceased Chinese. Paul Yee is an important author giving voice to the Chinese experience, and this title is valuable in helping students understand the history and culture of Chinese immigrants. I recommend that teachers organize an author study of this title, along with other titles by the award-winning author.



Coteau Books • 9781550505825
Language Arts, History
Paperback • Ebook Available
Teacher's Guide available
\$12.95 • Ages 13-15 • Grades 7-8
Also available: *Ghost Messages, Outcasts of River Falls* both by Jacqueline Guest
Author available for school visits
@JacquelineGuest

THE COMIC BOOK WAR

Jacqueline Guest

Race, Colour, Ethnic Origin

It's 1943 when Robert Tourond gets a message from a falling meteorite – his favourite comic book superheroes really ARE protecting his brothers, who are all overseas fighting "that Hitler." All Robert has to do is keep buying those comic books, and he'll make sure everyone stays safe and sound. Robert soon discovers that although he and others on the Home Front can make a difference, he and his heroes cannot really protect his brothers.

Comic books are the passion and salvation of Robert, an adolescent who finds himself caught up in the events of World War II. Robert's story focuses on the importance of communications and telegrams to the war effort. Many students will relate to Robert's love of comic book superheroes, and benefit from the way in which Robert uses familiar stories of superheroes to make sense of the tumult of wartime.



University of Regina Press
9780889773455
Language Arts, Language, Aboriginal Studies • Paperback • Ebook available
\$24.95 • Ages 12+ • Grades 7+
Also available: *Blackfoot Stories of Old* by Inge Gene

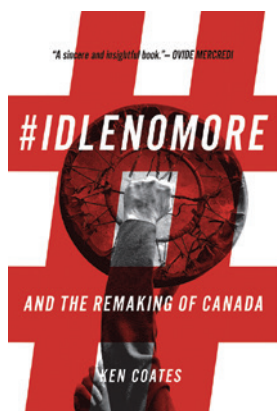
WOODS CREE STORIES

written and translated by Solomon Ratt

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

The nine humorous tales in Woods Cree Stories teach big life lessons—about honour, hard work, and respect. Presented in English, Cree syllabics, and Standard Roman orthography.

This book can be shared with students as an example of dual language text (i.e., Cree/ English). There are nine standalone stories in this collection, each set in the woods. For reluctant readers, the book has an additional appeal, since each story is less than eight pages in length and each is filtered with humour as well as lessons about responsibility and respect. The Cree-to English glossary is an added bonus to this book.



University of Regina Press
9780889773424
Language Arts, History, Aboriginal
Studies • Paperback • Ebook available
\$27.95 • Ages 14+ • Grades 9+

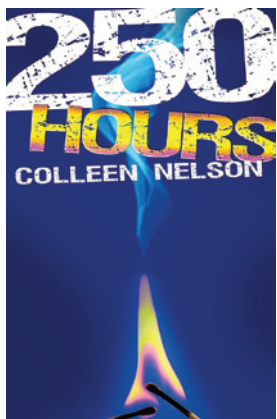
#IDLENO MORE and the remaking of Canada

Ken Coates

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

In #IdleNoMore and the Remaking of Canada, author Ken Coates reflects on how the movement's legacy lives on through First Nations youth.

Librarians can recommend this detailed investigation of the most powerful demonstration of Aboriginal pride and identity in Canadian history to adolescent students who need a resource to support an inquiry project for History, Law or Social Justice Curriculum.



Coteau Books
9781550506419
Language Arts, Aboriginal Studies,
History • Paperback • Ebook Available
\$12.95 • Ages 13-15 • Grades 9-10
Author available for school visits
@ColleenNelson14

250 HOURS

Colleen Nelson

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

Jess and Sara Jean couldn't be more different. He's a loner with a criminal record; a Métis raised on the Reserve; the son of a residential school survivor. She's from Edelburg, a conservative town. When Jess is found guilty of arson, he must complete 250 hours of community service, starting with Sara Jean's neglected garage. Sorting through boxes, they discover the secrets keeping their communities apart are the very things that will bring them together.

This novel will appeal to adolescents who like to read stories about troubled teenagers questioning their identities and their relationships. Important too, is that the narrative is centered on 250 hours of community service, which will hopefully inspire readers to think about how they can make a difference in their own communities and peer groups.



Orca Books • 9781459810792
Language Arts, Social Studies
Hardcover • Ebook available
\$19.95 • Ages 13-15 • Grades 9-10
Author available for school visits
@darrengroth

ARE YOU SEEING ME?

Darren Groth

Abilities

Twins Justine and Perry have left their home in Australia and embarked on the road trip of a lifetime in the Pacific Northwest. It's been a year since their dad lost his battle with cancer and Justine became the sole caregiver for her autistic brother, Perry. Now Perry has been accepted into an assisted-living residence in their hometown, Brisbane, Australia, but before he takes up residence, they're seeking to create the perfect memory.

Twin siblings, Perry and Justine, travel to British Columbia to find their long lost mother in this young adult novel. Communication is a major theme as the twins take turns narrating the story. Both of the twins face many challenges and their stories will intrigue reluctant readers. Teachers can use this book to explore and expand understanding of the Autism Spectrum Disorder.



Second Story Press • 9781926920962
Social Studies, Tolerance, Homosexuality
Paperback • Ebook Available
\$15.95 • Ages 13-15 • Grades 9-10
Mom and Mum are Getting Married! By
Ken Setterington
Author available for class visits

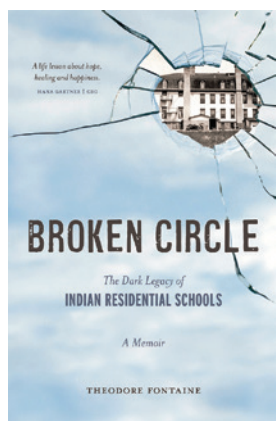
BRANDED BY THE PINK TRIANGLE

Ken Setterington

LGBTQ

The untold history of the persecution of gay men by the Nazi regime during the Holocaust.

This resource about the Nazi treatment of homosexuals who were imprisoned in Nazi Germany provides adolescents with a historical record of gay men who were harassed and persecuted for their sexual identity, and will help students gain sympathy and understanding of homophobia. The pink triangle has become a symbol for gay rights and Setterington's book is an important, accessible nonfiction title that presents historical facts, biographical information, and photographs that gives students important insight into the persecution of homosexuals in the holocaust.



Heritage House
9781926613666
English, Canadian History, Aboriginal
Studies • Paperback • Ebook available
\$19.95 • Ages 14+ • Grades 9-12
Author available for class visits.

BROKEN CIRCLE

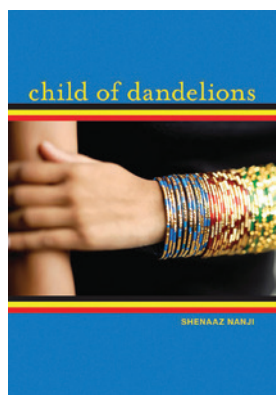
The dark legacy of Indian residential schools

Theodore Fontaine

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

In this powerful and poignant memoir, Ted examines the impact of his psychological, emotional and sexual abuse, the loss of his language and culture, and, most important, the loss of his family and community. He goes beyond details of the abuses of Native children to relate a unique understanding of why most residential school survivors have post-traumatic stress disorders and why succeeding generations of First Nations children suffer from this dark chapter in history.

This is an important book to share when helping students understand what it was like to live in Residential schools. As a memoir, this offers readers a first-hand account of the trials of Aboriginal youth who lived and survived under what were often brutal conditions. Librarians and teachers can share this book with readers to demonstrate how stories of injustice can inspire strong emotions in readers. Broken Circle also offers a significant model of a true story about hope and healing.



Second Story Press • 9781897187500
Citizenship, Immigration, and Place of
Origin • Social Studies, Citizenship/
Justice, Multiculturalism
Paperback • Ebook Available
Teacher's Guide Available
\$9.95 • Ages 13-15 • Grades 9-10
Author available for class visits

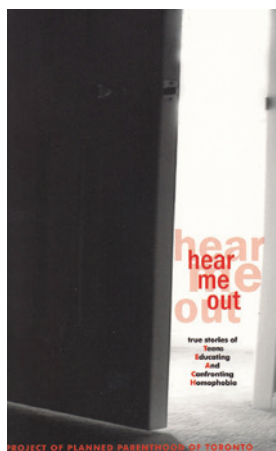
CHILD OF DANDELIONS

Shenaaz Nanji

Race, Colour, Ethnic Origin

Fifteen-year-old Sabine's courage is put to the test in 1970s Uganda after General Idi Amin orders all Indians like her to leave the country.

I recommend sharing this book with adolescents who want to immerse themselves in a gut-wrenching story of young people caught in the political upheaval. Sabine and her family live in a country terrorized by an army dictator, known as "the countdown monster." This novel, drawn from recent historical events, encourages empathy with its emotional depiction of Sabine's story of courage and resilience in the face of poverty and hostility in Uganda.



Second Story Press
9781896764870
Social Studies, Tolerance,
Homosexuality
Paperback • Ebook available
\$12.95 • Ages 13-15 • Grades 9-10

HEAR ME OUT

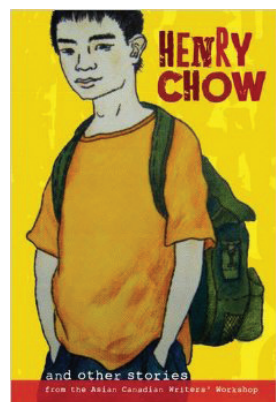
True stories of teens educating and confronting homophobia

Planned Parenthood of Toronto

LGBTQ

Twenty gay teens speak out about their lives, about the realization of their sexuality, and the consequences for themselves. These honest and poignant stories discuss the reactions of their friends and families, their schoolmates and society in general.

The twenty-one voices in this anthology tell their personal stories of confronting homophobia. This book can support Health and Physical Education curriculum and brings authenticity to the complex topic of sexual identity. This book will resonate with adolescents who have had similar experiences or know someone who has encountered challenges of growing up queer. Students can read one or more testimonials in this collection which can serve as models for personal narratives or research. The book can also provide support for Gay Straight Alliances or Diversity clubs that are established in many secondary schools throughout the country.



Tradewind Books
9781896580333
Language Arts • Paperback
\$12.95 • Ages 11-14 • Grades 7-11

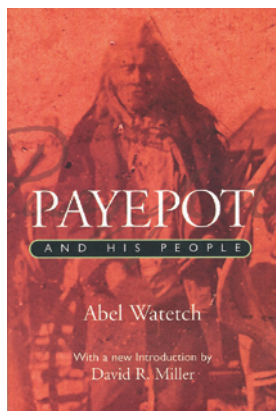
HENRY CHOW and other stories

edited by David Stephens

Ethnic Origin; Citizenship, Immigration, and Place of Origin

Chosen by Ricepaper magazine and the Asian Canadian Writers' Collective, these stories by emerging and established writers such as Evelyn Lau and Governor General Award winner Paul Yee reflect the experiences and sentiments of North-American Asian teenagers.

Teachers and librarians can offer this book to students to help them learn more about the short story format. Significant too, is that each author in this collection is Asian, amplifying youth voices from different parts of these cultures. Students can each read a story independently and then share what they read by retelling the story to others. Students can then make comparisons between the characters' experiences and their own lives.



University of Regina Press
9780889772014
Language Arts, History, Aboriginal
Studies
Paperback • Ebook available
14.95 • Ages 13+ • Grades 8+

PAYEPOT AND HIS PEOPLE

Abel Watetch

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

In Payepot and His People, Abel Watetch, the nephew of Chief Payepot, documents the previously unwritten history of his people.

How does history get recorded? Whose story is the truth? First published in 1957, this is an important document that describes the life of the Cree Chief Payepot, a veteran from World War I. This book is an important recording of First Nations lore, and a significant example of authentic storytelling, research, and oral history.



ECW Press • 9781770411821
Language Arts, Religion
Paperback • Ebook Available
Ages 13-16 • Grades 9-12
Author available for class visits.
@SuriRosen

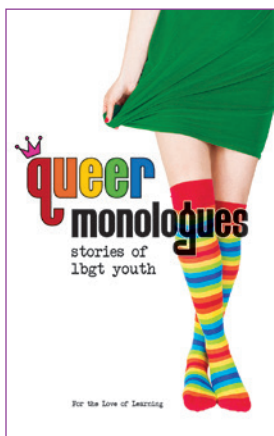
PLAYING WITH MATCHES

Suri Rosen

Religion, Culture, and Celebrations

When 16-year-old Raina Resnick is expelled from her Manhattan private school, she's sent to live with her strict aunt and finds herself a social pariah at her new school. In the tight-knit Jewish community, Raina finds she is good at one thing: matchmaking!

This book examines the complexities that many adolescents face accepting their own identities, and questioning their role in society. This contemporary story which will likely intrigue reluctant young adult readers and can be used as a strong example of characterization in novels.



Breakwater Books • 9781550814583
Language Arts, Social Sciences,
Humanities • Paperback • Ebook available
\$9.95 • Ages 13-15 • Grades 9-10

QUEER MONOLOGUES

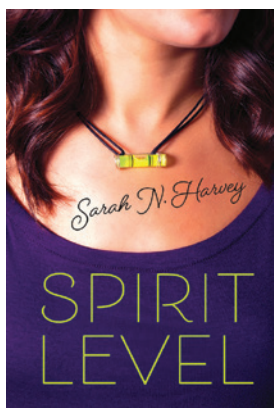
Stories of LGBT Youth

Breakwater Books

LGBTQ

Queer Monologues: Stories of LGBT Youth, produced by For the Love of Learning (FTLOL), offers queer youth a safe, creative outlet to share their concerns, hopes, and personal stories with the community-at-large.

Monologues are useful sources for drama exploration. This collection invites students to read the authentic stories of lesbian, bisexual, gay, and transgender youth, and is suitable for supporting understanding of sexual identity and belonging. The monologues also serve as models for young adolescent readers to write their own monologues that reveal their own stories and views of social justice.



Orca Books • 9781459808164
Language Arts, Social Studies
Paperback • Ebook available
\$14.95 • Ages 13-15 • Grades 9-10
Also available: *Three Little Words* by
Sarah N. Harvey
Authors available for class visits.

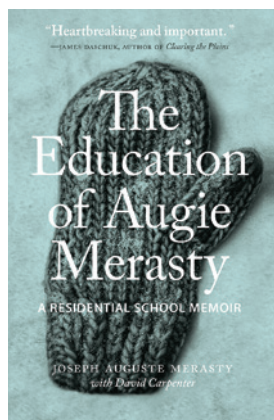
SPIRIT LEVEL

Sarah N. Harvey

Gender Identity and Expression

Harriet (known as Harry) is a donor-conceived child who has never wanted to reach out to her half-siblings or donor—until now. Feeling adrift after a breakup with her long-time boyfriend, Harry tracks down her half-siblings, two of whom are in Seattle, where Harriet lives.

This young adult novel explores issues of family and self-discovery. Adolescents will respond to the dilemmas and questions Harriet, known as Harry, faces when she explores her family history. Issues of race, gender identity, and second chances will challenge and inspire high school students to read and discuss in an English class.



University of Regina Press
9780889773684
Memoir, History
Hardcover • Ebook available
\$21.95 • 13+ • Grades 8+

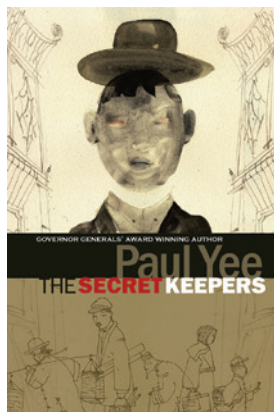
THE EDUCATION OF AUGIE MERASTY *A residential school memoir*

Joseph A. Merasty

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit

A courageous and intimate chronicle of life in a residential school, The Education of Augie Merasty highlights the urgent need for reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

Though it may be a challenge for students to fathom the brutal experiences and inhuman conditions thousands of Aboriginal children encountered in residential schools, this memoir provides a first-hand account of one individual's story. The book should be presented to students who want to learn more about this history and to grasp how the past informs our present and future.



Tradewind Books
9781896580968
Language Arts • Paperback
\$12.95 • Ages 13+ • Grades 8+

THE SECRET KEEPERS

Paul Yee

Race, Colour, Ethnic Origin

Governor General's Award-winning author Paul Yee's masterpiece of historical fiction that will take the reader on a roller coaster journey into the past.

Not only is this a natural disaster survival story, it is a story of the past haunting the present, both literally and figuratively. Paul Yee brings an authentic Chinese voice to his writing and in this book he demonstrates how poetic narrative and personal stories are important to grasp the turmoil and impact of historical events.



Books We Love Ltd.
9781771454216
Language Arts, History, Canadian Studies
Paperback • Ebook available
\$14.95 • Ages 10-12 • Grades 9-10
Author available for class visits.

WEST TO THE BAY

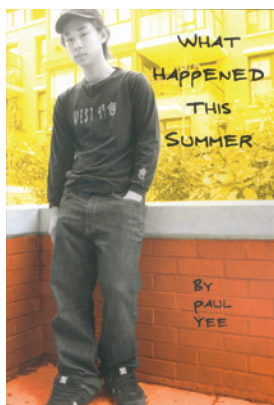
Joan Donaldson-Yarmey

Race, Colour, Ethnic Origin

In 1750, Thomas Gunn, along with three friends, join the Hudson's Bay Company and sail from Stromness on the Orkney Islands of northern Scotland to York Factory fort on Hudson's Bay. They believe they are starting a new and exciting life in what is called Rupert's Land, but tragedy follows them, striking for the first time on the ship. At the fort Thomas finds his older brother, Edward, who had joined four years earlier.

Learning what the world was like almost four hundred years ago can be challenging for students to grasp. In this book, young adult readers will learn about the working conditions of the York Factory fort, survival, and the long ago relationships with indigenous peoples. The book is a story of courage and perseverance.

FOR HIGH SCHOOL



Tradewind Books
978-1896580883
Language Arts • Paperback
\$12.95 • Ages 13-18 • Grades 8-12

WHAT HAPPENED THIS SUMMER

Paul Yee

Ethnic Origin; Citizenship, Immigration, and Place of Origin

This collection of short stories by Governor General's Award winning author Paul Yee takes readers into the lives of Chinese teens in Canada, who must deal with their cultural backgrounds as well as battle parents over schooling, careers and peer relationships. Like all teens, they grapple daily with issues around sexuality, religion and fitting in.

This book speaks to many young adolescents who struggle to balance family traditions with the lure of urban culture. Whether they are immigrants or not, teenagers can draw text to self-connections through this powerful story of one Chinese adolescent boy — a complementary class activity would be to encourage students to tell their own stories in healthy class discussions or through writing their own personal narratives.



Tradewind Books
9781896580777
Language Arts, Aboriginal Studies
Paperback
\$12.95 • Ages 12-14 • Grades 7-9

WHERE I BELONG

Tara White

Aboriginal, First Nations, Métis, and Inuit; Family

This moving novel of self-discovery and awareness takes place during the Oka crisis in the summer of 1990. Adopted as an infant, Carrie has always felt somehow out of place. Recurring dreams haunt her, warning that someone close to her will be badly hurt. When she finds out that her birth father is Mohawk, living in Kahnawake, Quebec, she makes the journey and finally achieves a sense of home and belonging.

Librarians and teachers can share this coming of age story to help readers learn about Indigenous cultures and to consider the meaning of heritage and belonging. This is a fine example of historical fiction set during the Oka uprising and is an important source to share when teaching Aboriginal history. Tara White is a Mohawk woman, thus providing students with the opportunity to read the authentic voice of an Indigenous female author.

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