Book Recommendations for Young Learners from Dayton Metro Library

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

### Board Books
- **Baby Botanist** by Laura Gehl (2019)
- **Baby's First Words** by Stella Blackstone (2017)
- **Bath! Bath! Bath!** by Douglas Florian (2018)
- **Bitty Brown Babe** by Deborah Lefalle (2019)
- **Dream Big, Little One** by Vashti Harrison (2018)
- **Global Baby Boys** by Maya Ajmera (2014)
- **I Can Dream** by Betsy Snyder (2018)
- **I Love Science** by Allison Wortche (2019)
- **Leo Gets a Checkup** by Anna McQuinn (2018)
- **Love Makes a Family** by Sophie Beer (2018)
- **Rosa Loves Dinosaurs** by Jessica Spanyol (2018)
- **Rosa Plays Ball** by Jessica Spanyol (2018)
- **Rosa Rides Her Scooter** by Jessica Spanyol (2018)
- **Toesy Toes** by Sarah Yi-Mei Tsiang (2018)

### Early Readers
- **Apple Picking Day!** by Candice Ranson (2016)
- **Garden Day!** by Candice Ranson (2019)
- **Get a Hit, Mo! (Mo Jackson)** by David A. Adler (2016)
- **I Am a Super Girl!** by Kelly Greenawalt (2019)
- **Kick It, Mo!** by David A. Adler (2018)
- **Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse: Passport to Reading** by Rory Keane (2018)
- **Snow Day!** by Candice Ransom (2018)

### Picture Books
- **A Beach Tail** by Karen Lynn Williams (2010) (PreK-1st)
- **A Boy Like You** by Frank Murphy (2019) (K-2nd)
- **All Are Welcome** by Alexandra Penfold (2018) (PreK-2nd)
- **All Different Now: Juneteenth, the First Day of Freedom** by Angela Johnson (2014) (2nd-3rd)
- **Around the Table that Grandad Built** by Melanie Heuiser Hill (2019) (PreK-2nd)
- **Astro Girl** by Ken Wilson-Max (2017) (PreK-K)
- **B is for Baby** by Atinuke (2019) (Pre-K)
- **Be a Maker** by Katelyn Howes (2019) (PreK-1st)
- **Bea’s Bees** by Katherine Pryor (2019) (1st-3rd)
- **Bilal Cooks Daal** by Aisha Saeed (2019) (PreK)
- **Brave Ballerina: The Story of Janet Collins** by Michelle Meadows (2019) (PreK-2nd)
- **Carmela Full of Wishes** by Matt de la Peña (2018) (PreK-2nd)
- **Cece Loves Science** by Kimberly Derting (2018) (K-3rd)
- **Common Threads: Adam’s Day at the Market** by Huda Essa (2019) (PreK)
- **Cool Cuts** by Mechal Renee Roe (2020) (PreK-1st)
- **Daniel’s Good Day** by Micha Archer (2019) (PreK-K)
- **Fairy Science** by Ashley Spires (2019) (K-2nd)
- **Fearless Mary: Mary Fields, American Stagecoach Driver** by Tami Charles (2019) (Pre-K-3rd)
- **The Best Kind of Bear** by Greg Gormley (2019) (PreK)
- **The Big Bed** by Bunmi Laditan (2018) (Pre-K)
- **The Big Five** by Bella Makatini (2019) (Pre-K)
- **The End of Something Wonderful** by Stephanie Lucianovic (2019) (1st-3rd)
**Picture Books (continued)**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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


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

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


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

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

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

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

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


*I Can Write the World* by Jason Cockcroft (2019) (PreK-2nd)

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

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

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

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


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

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

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


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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

*Nighttime Symphony* by Timbaland (2019) (PreK)

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

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


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

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

*The Proudest Blue* by Ibtihaj Muhammad (2019) (K-3rd)
Picture Books (continued)

- **Remarkably You** by Pat Zietlow Miller (2019) (PreK-1st)
- **Right This Very Minute** by Lisl H. Detlefsen (K-1st)
- **Saturday** by Oge Mora (2019) (PreK-1st)
- **Sing a Song** by Kelly Starling Lyons (2019) (1st-3rd)
- **Sisters: Venus & Serena Williams** by Jeanette Winter (2019) (K-3rd)
- **Small World** by Ishta Mercurio (2019) (PreK-2nd)
- **A Squiggly Story** by Andrew Larsen (2016) (PreK-2nd)
- **Sulwe** by Lupita Nyong'o (2019) (PreK-2nd)
- **Tallulah the Tooth Fairy CEO** by Dr. Tamara Pizzoli (2019) (1st-3rd)
- **Thank You, Omu!** by Oge Mora (2018) (PreK-2nd)
- **Thinker: My Puppy Poet and Me** by Eloise Greenfield (2019) (1st-3rd)
- **Twins** by Mike Ciccotello (2019) (PreK-1st)
- **Tyaja Uses the THiNK Test** by Linda Ryden (2019) (K-3rd)
- **Undefeated** by Kwame Alexander (2019) (2nd – 3rd)
- **Wallpaper** by Thao Lam (2018) (PreK-2nd)
- **Want to Play Trucks?** by Ann Stott (2018) (PreK-K)
- **When Aidan Became a Brother** by Kyle Lukoff (2019) (PreK-2nd)
- **You and Me and Home Sweet Home** by George Ella Lyon (2009) (1st-3rd)