



Books About Race, Ethnicity and Cultural Traditions

Selected from the American Psychological Association Books about Race and Ethnicity list and from The Conscious Kid's book list. See all titles at www.apa.org/res/parent-resources/books and www.theconsciouskid.org/book-lists.

"Leo Can Swim" by Anna McQuinn

Join Leo and his daddy, and several other babies as they all go to swim class.

"Shades of Black: A Celebration of Our Children" by Sandra L. Pinkney

Picture book celebrating the beauty of African American children in their skin, hair and eye colors.

"Paletero Man" by Lucky Diaz and Micah Player

A vibrant picture book celebrating the strength of community and the tastes of summer from Latin Grammy-winning musician Lucky Diaz and celebrated artist Micah Player.

"All the Colors We Are: The Story of How We Get Our Skin Color" by Katie Kissinger

A simple and scientific explanation of the three factors that determine skin color: ancestors, the sun and melanin. Includes activities to do with children.

"Alma and How She Got Her Name" by Juana Martinez-Neal

If you ask her, Alma Sofia Esperanza José Pura Candela has way too many names: six! How did such a small person wind up with such a large name? Alma turns to Daddy for an answer and learns of Sofia, the grandmother who loved books and flowers; Esperanza, the great-grandmother who longed to travel; José, the grandfather who was an artist; and other namesakes, too.

"Mixed Me!" by Taye Diggs

Meet Mike, a mixed-race kid who has an awesome head of thick, curly hair and lots of energy.

"Princess Truly Series" by Kelly Greenawalt

A series of rhythmic rhyming stories that celebrate individuality, girl power and diversity.

"Accordionly: Abuelo and Opa Make Music" by Michael Genhart

When both grandpas, Abuelo and Opa, visit at the same time, they can't understand each other's language and there is a lot of silence. The grandson's clever thinking helps find a way for everyone to share the day together as two cultures become one family.

“I’m a Pretty Little Black Girl!” by Betty K. Bynum

“I’m a Pretty Little Black Girl” is a celebration for little black girls in all shades and hair textures, with an introduction to the lead character “Mia.” With her friends, Mia shares fun, good manners and the idea of a future filled with brilliance!

“Two Eyes, a Nose and a Mouth” Roberta Grobel Intrater

More than 100 vibrant photographs of multigenerational and multicultural faces with simple rhyming text to explore and celebrate our similarities and differences.

“Inside Out and Back Again” by Thanhha Lai

Inspired by the author’s childhood experience as a refugee—fleeing Vietnam after the Fall of Saigon and immigrating to Alabama—this coming-of-age debut novel told in verse has been celebrated for its touching child’s-eye view of family and immigration.

“12 Brown Boys” by Omar Tyree

A collection of short stories for middle readers that focus on the lives of black pre-teen boys.

“Other Words for Home” by Jasmine Warga

Jude never thought she’d be leaving her beloved older brother and father behind, all the way across the ocean in Syria. But when things in her hometown start becoming volatile, Jude and her mother are sent to live in Cincinnati with relatives.

