

The Miquon School

2019 African-American Cozy Read-In Book Titles and Information

TITLE	AUTHOR	ILLUSTRATOR	NOTES
Catching the Moon	Hubbard, Crystal	DuBurke, Randy	From Lee & Low pub: <i>“Catching the Moon: The Story of a Young Girl’s Baseball Dream</i> is based on the childhood of Marcenia “Toni Stone” Lyle Alberga (1921–1995), an African American girl who grew up to become the first woman to play for an all-male professional baseball team. Despite her parents’ misgivings, young Marcenia cared only about playing baseball and was a regular on a team of local boys.”
Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut	Derrick Barnes	Gordon James	“When it’s your turn in the chair, you stand at attention and forget about who you were when you walked through that door.” Drawn from author Derrick Barnes’s own barbershop visits as a youth, <i>Crown</i> is the poetic account of a young boy at the barber and the transformative power a fresh cut holds. Note: Barnes received a 2018 Newbery Honor and Coretta Scott King Award for his writing, while James received a 2018 Caldecott Honor and Coretta Scott King Award for his illustrations.
The Day You Begin	Woodson, Jacqueline	Lopez, Rafael	The Day You Begin is the story about small acts of bravery--being your whole self can be hard when you feel different in a place where no one knows you yet!
Firebird	Copeland, Misty	Myers, Christopher	Misty Copeland didn’t start dancing ballet until the age of 13, but went on to make history as a soloist at American Ballet Theater in just a few years. In this book, gorgeously illustrated by Christopher Myers, Misty writes of a shy young dancer who learns to soar to great heights like a Firebird.
In Plain Sight	Jackson, Richard	Pinkney, Jerry	Sophie visits with her grandfather everyday after school and plays a game of hide-and-seek as he pretends to lose some of his belongings. Join Sophie as she tries to locate these objects in her grandfather’s bedroom.
I, Too, Am America	Langston Hughes	Bryan Collier	Based on Langston Hughes’s famous poem by the same name, this picture book tells the visual history of Pullman railway porters, one of the first jobs that offered African-American men steady pay, dignity, and a ladder into the middle class. The story travels by train from the South to the North, from old to new, from then to now, finally ending in Harlem, New York. Artist Brian Collier brings life and action to the story through his use of collage illustrations.

Mae Among the Stars	Ahmed, Roda	Burrington, Stasia	This book is inspired by the life of the first African American woman to travel in space, Mae Jemison. When little Mae was a child, she dreamed of dancing in space. She imagined herself surrounded by billions of stars - floating, gliding, and discovering. Follow Mae as she learns that if you can dream it and you work hard at it, anything is possible.
Mixed Me	Diggs, Taye	Evans, Shane	<i>Mom and Dad say I'm a blend of dark and light: "We mixed you perfectly, and got you just right."</i> Mike has awesome hair. He has LOTS of energy! His parents love him. And Mike is a PERFECT blend of the two of them. Still, Mike has to answer LOTS of questions about being mixed. And he does, with LOTS of energy and joy in this charming story about a day in the life of a mixed-race child.
New Shoes	Meyer, Susan Lynn	Velasquez, Eric	Ella Mae has always worn hand-me-downs from her cousin Charlotte, but this year the shoes were too small. Ella Mae is excited to go shopping with her mom, but when she arrives at the store, she finds out that African American people are not allowed to put the shoes on their feet. Ella Mae is upset, so she and Charlotte come up with a plan so the community doesn't have this humiliating experience.
Preaching to the Chickens	Asim, Jabari	Lewis, E. B.	(from Google books) John Lewis wants to be a preacher when he grows up; a leader whose words stir hearts to change, minds to think, and bodies to take action. But why wait? When John is put in charge of the family farm's flock of chickens, he discovers that they make a wonderful congregation! ...
Princess Hair	Miller, Sharee		Underneath their crowns, princesses have a variety of hairstyle choices. This book affirms and celebrates historically underrepresented hairstyles such as dreadlocks, Afros, twists and frohawks.
The Stuff of Stars	Bauer, Marion Dane	Holmes, Ekua	The beautiful, imaginative illustrations bring this story of beginnings -- that of each of us and of the universe -- to vivid life. We are all connected. Or to quote Neil DeGrasse Tyson..."We are stardust." 2019 Coretta Scott King Award Winner

Thank You, Omu!	Mora, Oge		Omu makes food that smells so yummy people can't help but drop by and she is happy to share; but what happens when her pot is empty? Sarah's note: 2019 Caldecott Honor AND 2019 John Steptoe Illustrator Award winner - Best debut book by African American illustrator
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