Black History Month book recommendations

**Picture books – Non-Fiction, could be read alouds, or a class book study**

1. A Change of Heart, by Alice Walsh - Canadian
2. Africville, by Shauntay Grant – Canadian ([educator’s guide](https://www.biblioshare.ca/BNCServices/BNCServices.asmx/Samples?token=41s70t4byypgyenv&ean=9781773060439&san=&perspective=teachersguide&filenumber=0) available)
3. Viola Desmond Won’t be Budged, by Jody Nyasha Warner - Canadian
4. Black Women Who Dared, by Naomi M. Moyer – Canadian author, with a mix of Canadian and American content
5. The Stone Thrower, by Jael Richardson – Canadian
6. Oscar Lives Next Door, by Bonnie Farmer - Canadian
7. Nina, by Traci N. Todd
8. The Green Piano, by Roberta Flack
9. Undefeated, by Kwame Alexander
10. Life Doesn’t Frighten Me, by Maya Angelou
11. Strange Fruit: Billie Holliday and the Power of a Protest Song, by Gary Golio
12. The Artivist, by Nikkolas Smith ([educator’s guide](https://images.penguinrandomhouse.com/teachers_guides/9780593619650.pdf) available)
13. The Oldest Student: How Mary Walker Learned to Read, by Rita Lorraine Hubbard
14. Ablaze With Color: A Story of Painter Alma Thomas
15. No Small Potatoes: Junius G. Groves and His Kingdom in Kansas, by Tonya Bolden
16. A Computer called Katherine: How Katherine Johnson Helped Put America on the Moon, by Suzanne Slade
17. Saving the Day: Garrett Morgan’s Life-Changing Invention of the Traffic Light, by Karyn Parsons
18. Schomburg: The Man Who Built a Library, by Carole Boston Weatherford

**Picture books – read alouds**

1. Because You Are, by Jael Richardson – Canadian
2. My Fade is Fresh, by Shauntay Grant – Canadian
3. Garden of Lost Socks, by Esi Edugyan – Canadian
4. Welcome to the Cypher, by Khodi Dill – Canadian
5. Sulwe, by Lupita Nyong’o – ([educator’s guide](https://www.adl.org/sites/default/files/book-of-the-month-sulwe_0.pdf) available)
6. Little People, BIG DREAMS: Martin Luther King Jr. – see resources for more in this series
7. I Am Enough, by Grace Byers
8. Mae Among the Stars, by Roda Ahmed
9. Stacey’s Extraordinary Words, by Stacey Abrams ([author reading](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pi4SNXC4rSY) available)
10. Hair Love, by Matthew Cherry
11. Freedom Soup, by Tami Charles
12. The Day You Begin, by Jacqueline Woodson
13. The Year We Learned to Fly, by Jacqueline Woodson
14. Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut, by Derrick Barnes
15. Shine Bright, by Kheris Rogers
16. The Making of Butterflies, by Zora Neale Hurston, adapted by Ibram X. Kendi ([educator’s guide](by%20Zora%20Neale%20Hurston,%20adapted%20for%20young%20readers%20by%20Ibram%20X.%20Kendi) available)
17. Magnolia Flower, by Zora Neale Hurston, adapted by Ibram X. Kendi ([educator’s guide](by%20Zora%20Neale%20Hurston,%20adapted%20for%20young%20readers%20by%20Ibram%20X.%20Kendi) available)
18. Change Sings, by Amanda Gorman ([educator’s guide](https://images.penguinrandomhouse.com/promo_image/9780593203224_8237.pdf) available)

We could also include a fun reminder that picture books are great for use at all grade levels 😊

**Middle School – Fiction and Non-Fiction**

1. The Underground Railroad, by Adrienne Shadd, Afua Cooper, and Karolyn Smardz Frost
2. Baracoon, by Zora Neale Hurston, adapted for young readers by Ibram X. Kendi ([educator’s guide](https://b0f646cfbd7462424f7a-f9758a43fb7c33cc8adda0fd36101899.ssl.cf2.rackcdn.com/teaching-guides/TG-9780063098336.pdf) available)
3. One Crazy Summer, by Rita Williams-Garcia
4. Bud, Not Buddy, by Christopher Paul Curtis
5. The Crossover, by Kwame Alexander
6. Stella by Starlight, by Sharon M. Draper
7. Finding Langston, by Lesa Cline-Ransome
8. Brown Girl Dreaming, by Jacqueline Woodson
9. Betty Before X, by Ilyasah Shabazz
10. This Promise of Change, by Jo Ann Allen Boyce
11. Look Both Ways, by Jason Reynolds
12. Tristan Strong Punches a Hole in the Sky, by Kwame Mbalia
13. Black Boy Joy, by Kwame Mbalia
14. Root Magic, by Eden Royce
15. Ghost Boys, by Jewell Parker Rhodes
16. How High the Moon, by Karyn Parsons
17. The Parker Inheritance, by Varian Johnson
18. Clean Getaway, by Nic Stone

**High School – Fiction and Non-Fiction**

1. Willie, by Willie O’Ree – Canadian
2. Until We Break, by Matthew Dawkins – Canadian
3. Twice As Perfect, by Louisa Onome – Canadian
4. They Said This Would Be Fun, by Eternity Martis – Canadian
5. Frying Plantain, by Zalika Reid-Benta – Canadian
6. Washington Black, by Esi Edugyan – Canadian
7. Go Do Some Great Thing: The Black Pioneers of British Columbia, by Crawford Kilian – Canadian
8. Sure, I’ll Be Your Black Friend, by Ben Phillippe
9. How to be a (Young) Anti-Racist, by Ibram X. Kendi and Nic Stone
10. The Black History Book, from D.K. Publishing
11. Turning Fifteen on the Road to Freedom, by Lynda Blackmon Lowery
12. And We Rise, by Erica Martin
13. Black Enough, by Ibi Zoboi
14. One of the Good Ones, by Maika Moulite and Martitza Moulite
15. Race Against Time: The Untold Story of Scipio Jones and the Battle to Save Twelve Innocent Men, by Sandra Neil Wallace
16. Dear Martin, by Nic Stone
17. Long Way Down, by Jason Reynolds
18. On The Come Up, by Angie Thomas

**Graphic Stories**

1. Swim Team, by Johnnie Christmas – Canadian
2. Hot Comb, by Ebony Flowers
3. New Kid, by Jerry Craft ([educator’s guide](https://www.adl.org/sites/default/files/book-of-the-month-new-kid.pdf) available)
4. March, by John Lewis
5. Monster, by Walter Dean Myers
6. Black History in Its Own Words, by Ron Wimberly
7. Eve, by Victor LaValle
8. Wash Day Diaries, by Jamila Rowser and Robyn Smith
9. Frizzy, by Clair A. Ortega
10. Blackward, by Lawrence Lindell
11. Curlfriends: New in Town, by Sharee Miller
12. Miles Morales: Shockwaves, by Justin A. Reynolds
13. Shuri: The Search for the Black Panther, by Nnedi Okorafor
14. Shuri and T’Challa: Into the Heartlands, by Roseanne A. Brown
15. When Stars Are Scattered, by Victoria Jamieson and Omar Mohamed
16. The Crossover graphic novel, by Kwame Alexander
17. Nubia: Real One, by L.L. McKinney
18. Moon Girl and Devil Dinosaur, by Brandon Montclare

**More books and resources:**

Books

1. Beech Street Books series “[Black History in Canada](https://www.beechstreetbooks.ca/imprint/coast2coast2coast/WBEE0027)” – also available in French
2. Beech Street Books series “[Black Heritage in Canada](https://www.beechstreetbooks.ca/imprint/truenorth/WBEE0061)” – also available in French
3. Little People, BIG DREAMS “[Black Voices](https://littlepeoplebigdreams.com/shop/?wpv_view_count=319&wpv-lpbd-theme=black-voices&wpv_sort_orderby=field-wpcf-publication-date&wpv_paged=1)”
4. Born on the Water: The 1619 Project, by Nikole Hannah-Jones, Renee Watson, and Nikkolas Smith ([educator’s guide](https://storage.googleapis.com/classroom-portal-production/uploads/2021/11/512a7c15-bornonthewater_edguide.pdf) available)
5. [Timelines from Black History: Leaders, Legends, Legacies](https://www.dk.com/uk/book/9780241503614-timelines-from-black-history/), from D.K. Publishing
6. [Unspeakable: The Tulsa Race Massacre](https://lernerbooks.com/shop/show/20776), by Carole Boston Weatherford
7. Righting Canada’s Wrongs series: [Africville](https://lorimer.ca/childrens/product/righting-canadas-wrongs-africville/)

Websites

1. A Black People’s History of Canada: <https://www.blackpeopleshistory.ca/>
2. Canadian Museum for Human Rights, Teaching Resources: <https://humanrights.ca/education-resources/>
3. Canadian Museum for Human Rights, The Story of Black Slavery in Canadian History: <https://humanrights.ca/story/story-black-slavery-canadian-history>
4. National Film Board: [https://blog.nfb.ca/blog/2024/01/25/celebrating-bhm-with-a-look-back-at-three-pioneering-filmmakers-curators-perspective/?hp\_en=feature\_2&feature\_type=w\_blog&banner\_id=80840&\_gl=1\*1bq14pi\*\_ga\*MTgyNDcwMTYyNi4xNzA2MjA2MTI3\*\_ga\_0CLQ31X8KS\*MTcwNjIwNjEyNi4xLjEuMTcwNjIwNjIyNS4zNi4wLjA.\*\_ga\_EP6WV87GNV\*MTcwNjIwNjEyNi4xLjEuMTcwNjIwNjIyNS4zNi4wLjA](https://blog.nfb.ca/blog/2024/01/25/celebrating-bhm-with-a-look-back-at-three-pioneering-filmmakers-curators-perspective/?hp_en=feature_2&feature_type=w_blog&banner_id=80840&_gl=1*1bq14pi*_ga*MTgyNDcwMTYyNi4xNzA2MjA2MTI3*_ga_0CLQ31X8KS*MTcwNjIwNjEyNi4xLjEuMTcwNjIwNjIyNS4zNi4wLjA.*_ga_EP6WV87GNV*MTcwNjIwNjEyNi4xLjEuMTcwNjIwNjIyNS4zNi4wLjA).
5. National Film Board: <https://www.nfb.ca/channels/black-communities-canada-education/>
6. National Film Board: <https://www.nfb.ca/playlist/anti-racism-films/>
7. The Canadian Encyclopedia, Black History in Canada: <https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/collection/black-history-in-canada>
8. Historica Canada, Black History in Canada Education Guide: <http://education.historicacanada.ca/files/19/EN_BlackHistory_Digital.pdf>
9. Curio: <https://curio.ca/en/catalog/search?q=%22Black%20History%22%20>
10. TED: <https://www.ted.com/talks/verna_myers_how_to_overcome_our_biases_walk_boldly_toward_them>
11. TEDEd, The Exceptional Life of Benjamin Banneker <https://ed.ted.com/lessons/the-exceptional-life-of-benjamin-banneker-rose-margaret-ekeng-itua>
12. TEDEd, Letter from a Birmingham Jail, Martin Luther King Jr.: <https://ed.ted.com/best_of_web/a7lRYePh/watch>
13. TEDEd, Becoming Sojourner Truth: <https://ed.ted.com/lessons/the-electrifying-speeches-of-sojourner-truth-daina-ramey-berry>
14. TEDEd, An Unsung Hero of the Civil Rights Movement: <https://ed.ted.com/lessons/an-unsung-hero-of-the-civil-rights-movement-christina-greer>
15. TEDEd, How One Journalist Risked her Life to Hold Murderers Accountable: <https://ed.ted.com/lessons/how-one-journalist-risked-her-life-to-hold-murderers-accountable-christina-greer>
16. Anti-Racism Daily: <https://the-ard.com/>
17. Experiences Canada, Anti-Racism resources: <https://experiencescanada.ca/anti-racism-conversations/>
18. CBC Interactives, 23 Historical Black Canadians You Should Know: <https://www.cbc.ca/news2/interactives/black-history-month/>
19. Strong and Free podcast: <https://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.ca/en/article/strong-and-free-podcast>
20. Alberta Teacher’s Association LibGuide: <https://teachers-ab.libguides.com/blackhistory/Black_History>