



MILWAUKEE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

MPS READS!

Selections for February, 2021



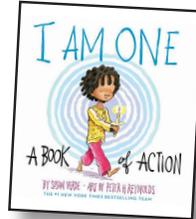
Help children get excited about reading! Each month, a list of featured books will be available to: Assist teachers, librarians, and families in finding quality books to encourage independent reading; offer titles that allow students to see themselves, explore other cultures, and discover more about the world in which they live; and ignite a passion for reading.

PRESCHOOL

I Am One: A Book of Action

by Peter Reynolds

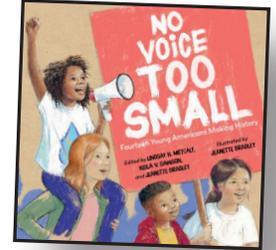
One seed to start a garden, one note to start a melody, one brick to start breaking down walls: Every moment of change starts with purpose, with intention, with one. This book is a powerful call to action, encouraging each reader to raise their voice, extend a hand, and take that first step to move toward a better world.



No Voice Too Small: Fourteen Young Americans Making History

by Lindsay H. Metcalf, et al

Mari Copeny demanded clean water in Flint. Jazz Jennings insisted, as a transgirl, on playing soccer with the girls team. From Viridiana Sanchez Santos's quinceañera demonstration against anti-immigrant policy to Zach Wahls's declaration that his two moms and he were a family like any other, this book celebrates the young people who know how to be the change they seek.



Sometimes People March

by Tessa Allen

Sometimes people march to resist injustice, to stand in solidarity, to inspire hope.

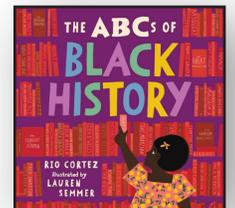
Throughout American history, one thing remains true: No matter how or why people march, they are powerful because they march together.

INTERMEDIATE (GRADES 3 – 5)

The ABCs of Black History

by Rio Cortez

This book celebrates a story that spans continents and centuries, triumph and heartbreak, creativity and joy. It's a story of big ideas — P is for Power, S is for Science and Soul. Of significant moments — G is for Great Migration. Of iconic figures — H is for Zora Neale Hurston, X is for Malcom X. It's an ABC book and a story of hope and love.

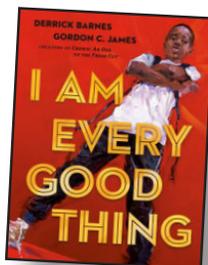


PRIMARY (GRADES KINDERGARTEN – 2)

I Am Every Good Thing

by Derrick Barnes

The confident Black narrator of this book is proud of everything that makes him who he is. He's got big plans, and he'll see them through—he's creative, adventurous, smart, funny, and a good friend. Sometimes he falls, but he always gets back up. And other times he's afraid, because he's often misunderstood and called what he is not.



¿Hay algo mal en mí? (Is There Something Wrong with Me?)

by Maria Uribe

This book provides concrete examples of micro-aggressions and discrimination—rooted in race, ethnicity, and gender—that children face. Designed to elicit empathy and conversation about identity and belonging, the book suggests at-home and classroom activities to dismantle social bias.

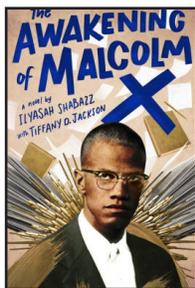


MIDDLE SCHOOL (GRADES 6 – 8)

The Awakening of Malcolm X

by Ilyasah Shabazz and Tiffany D. Jackson

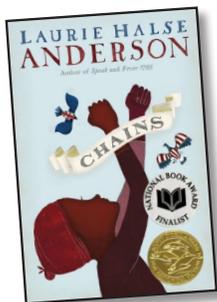
In Charlestown Prison, Malcolm Little struggles with the weight of his past. Malcolm drifts through days, unsure of his future. He reads all the books in the prison library, joins the debate team and the Nation of Islam. Malcolm grapples with race, politics, religion, and justice in the 1940s. And he emerges from prison more than just Malcolm Little: Now, he is Malcolm X.



Chains

by Laurie Halse Anderson

As the Revolutionary War begins, thirteen-year-old Isabel wages her own fight for freedom. She and her sister, Ruth, become the property of a malicious New York City couple, the Locktons, who have no sympathy for the American Revolution and even less for Ruth and Isabel. When Isabel meets Curzon, a slave with ties to the Patriots, he encourages her to spy on her owners, who know details of British plans for invasion. She is reluctant at first, but Isabel realizes her loyalty is available to the bidder who can provide freedom.

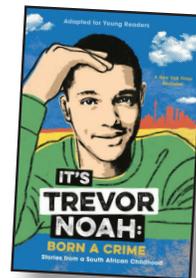


HIGH SCHOOL (GRADES 9 – 12)

It's Trevor Noah: Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood

by Trevor Noah

Trevor Noah, host of *The Daily Show* on Comedy Central, shares his remarkable story of growing up in South Africa with a black South African mother and a white European father at a time when it was against the law for a mixed-race child to exist. But he did exist—and from the beginning, the often-misbehaved Trevor used his keen smarts and humor to navigate a harsh life under a racist government.

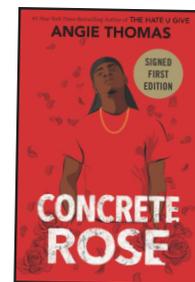


Concrete Rose

by Angie Thomas

Seventeen-year-old Maverick Carter knows that a real man takes care of his family. As the son of a former gang legend, Mav does that the only way he knows how: dealing for the King Lords. With this money he can help his mom, who works two jobs while his dad's in prison.

Mav's got everything under control. Until he finds out he's a father. But it's not so easy to sling dope, finish school, and raise a child. So when he's offered the chance to go straight, he takes it. In a world where he's expected to amount to nothing, maybe Mav can prove he's different.



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