

Providence **Community** Library

O U R N E I G H B O R H O O D L I B R A R I E S

Children's Books for Black History Month Find these books and more at your Providence Community Library

Picture Books

Bessie Smith and the Night Raiders by Sue Stauffacher

The blues singer single-handedly scares off KKK members who are trying to disrupt her show

Circle Unbroken by Margot Theis Raven

The story of the art of the seagrass basket, brought from Africa and preserved in South Carolina and Georgia

Dinner at Aunt Connie's House by Faith Ringgold

Dinner is special when twelve inspiring African American women step out of their portraits and join the family

The Escape of Oney Judge by Emily Arnold McCully

A slave risks everything to escape the house of George and Martha Washington

Follow the Drinking Gourd by Jeannette Winter

Hidden in the lyrics of the slaves' folk song were directions for following the Underground Railroad

Freedom River by Doreen Rappaport

Describes an incident in the life of an ex-slave who repeatedly risked his life to help others escape to freedom

Grandmama's Pride by Becky Birtha

Young girls experience segregation – and change – when they visit their grandmother in the 1950s South

I Have Heard of a Land by Joyce Carol Thomas

An African American pioneer woman journeys west to stake a claim for free land in Oklahoma

Jumping the Broom by Courtney Crump Wright

Lettie's sister's wedding is a rare day of celebration in the slave quarters

Night Boat to Freedom by Margot Theis Raven

A young boy risks his life to help runaway slaves. Inspired by accounts in the WPA's Slave Narrative Collection

Papa's Mark by Gwendolyn Battle-Lavert

A man learns to sign his name on his ballot for the first election in which African Americans could vote

The Patchwork Path: A Quilt Map to Freedom by Bettye Stroude

Before she dies, a mother uses a quilt to teach her daughter a code that will guide her and her father to freedom

Show Way by Jacqueline Woodson

Soonie's family makes quilts with secret meanings that are maps to a better place -- freedom

Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt by Deborah Hopkinson

A young slave stitches a quilt with a map pattern which guides her to freedom in the North

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A Sweet Smell of Roses by Angela Johnson

A stirring yet jubilant glimpse of the youth involvement in the civil rights movement

This Is the Dream by Diane Z. Shore and Jessica Alexander

Catalogs the African American experience, before, during, and after the civil rights movement

To Be a Drum by Evelyn Coleman

The rhythm of the drum, a pulse that moves through the African people, cannot be stilled – even by slavery

Uncle Jed's Barbershop by Margaree King Mitchell

The only black barber in the county pursues his dream of saving enough money to open his own shop

Under the Quilt of Night by Deborah Hopkinson

A powerful story of a young girl's escape to freedom on the Underground Railroad

Vergie Goes to School with Us Boys by Elizabeth Fitzgerald Howard

All free people need learning – old folks, young folks...even little sisters like Vergie

The Wagon by Tony Johnston

A young boy endures the difficulties of slavery, gains his freedom, and mourns the death of Abraham Lincoln

Non-Fiction

ABC of African American Poetry edited by Ashley Bryan

A poem by an African American poet for each letter of the alphabet describes the African American experience

A Dream of Freedom: The Civil Rights Movement from 1954 to 1968 by Diane McWhorter

Explores the sacrifices and triumphs of African Americans in their pursuit of social and political equality

Building a New Land: African Americans in Colonial America by James Haskins and Kathleen Benson

Discusses the changing roles, rights, and contributions of African Americans in the early United States

Delivering Justice: W.W. Law and the Fight for Civil Rights by Jim Haskins

A celebration of the life of a quiet but great leader in the struggle for civil rights

God Bless the Child by Billie Holiday and Arthur Herzog Jr

Illustrated with images of a family moving from the rural South to the urban North during the Great Migration

I Was Born a Slave: The Story of Harriet Jacobs by Jennifer Fleischner

Jacobs endured a cruel master, a harrowing escape from slavery and seven years in hiding in a cramped attic

In the Hollow of Your Hand: Slave Lullabies collected by Alice McGill

Quilt collages and a CD invite the reader to remember the words and melodies of a people struggling to survive

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OUR NEIGHBORHOOD LIBRARIES

Just Listen to the Song I'm Singing by Jerry Silverman

Relates the history of the African American experience through thirteen songs

A Kid's Guide to African American History by Nancy I. Sanders

More than 70 stories, games, crafts, experiments, recipes and other activities that help teach history

Let It Shine: Stories of Black Women Freedom Fighters by Andrea Davis Pinkney

Ten women who faced inequality, oppression, prejudice, and fear in the battle for civil rights

Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing by James Weldon Johnson

An illustrated version of the song that many consider the African American national anthem

Many Thousand Gone: African Americans from Slavery to Freedom by Virginia Hamilton

Recounts the journey of slaves to freedom via the Underground Railroad

Martin's Big Words: The Life of Martin Luther King Jr. by Doreen Rappaport

An unforgettable portrait of a man whose dream changed America and the world

My Brother Martin: A Sister Remembers by Christine King Farris

Dr. King's older sister tells the story of growing up in the segregated South of the 1930s

No More! Stories and Songs of the Slave Resistance by Doreen Rappaport

Documents the many forms of slave resistance: subversion, uprisings, escape, poetry, religion and song

Nobody Gonna Turn Me 'Round: Stories and Songs of the Civil Rights Movement by Doreen Rappaport

Uses true accounts to tell the stories of extraordinary people who risked everything to fight racism

Oh Freedom by Casey King

Kids talk about the civil rights movement with the people who made it happen

Powerful Words: More Than 200 Years of Extraordinary Writing by African Americans by Wade Hudson

Gathers together the dynamic, timely, crucial, and eloquent words of more than 30 African Americans

The School is Not White by Doreen Rappaport

The children of sharecroppers battle ignorance and prejudice in order to attend an all white school in Mississippi

Soul Looks Back in Wonder by Tom Feelings

Illustrations and poems by thirteen major poets celebrate the African American spirit

Tradional Black Music: Children's Songs by Jerry Silverman

The lyrics and music for thirty songs with an Afro-American source