

The Canadian Children's Book Centre Celebrates Black History Month with a list of Canadian Books for Kids & Teens

Africans Thought of It: Amazing Innovations

(We Thought of It)

Written by **Bathseba Opini** and **Richard Lee**

Annick Press, 2011
ISBN 978-1554512775
Grades 4-6 / Ages 9-11

Category: Non-Fiction

Afrika

Written by **Colleen Craig**
Tundra Books, 2008

ISBN 978-0887768071
Grade 6 / Ages 12 and up

Category: Young Adult Fiction

Alexandria of Africa

Written by **Eric Walters**
Doubleday Canada, 2008

ISBN 978-0385666398
Grade 7 / Ages 12 and up

Category: Young Adult Fiction

All Aboard! Elijah McCoy's Steam Engine

(Great Idea)

Written by **Monica Kulling**
Illustrated by **Bill Slavin**

Tundra Books, 2010
ISBN 978-0887769450
Grades 1-3 / Ages 5-8

Category: Non-Fiction

The Betrayal of Africa

(Groundwork Guide)

Written by **Gerald Caplan**
Groundwood Books, 2008

ISBN 978-0888998248
Grade 7 / Ages 14 and up

Category: Non-Fiction

Between Sisters

Written by **Adwoa Badoe**
Groundwood Books, 2010

ISBN 978-0888999962
Grades 8-9 / Ages 13 and up

Category: Young Adult Fiction

Big League Dreams: Baseball Hall of Fame's First African-Canadian, Fergie Jenkins

(Recordbooks)

Written by **Richard Brignall**
James Lorimer, 2010

ISBN 978-1552774878
Grades 6-7 / Ages 11 and up

Category: Non-Fiction

The Bite of the Mango

Written by **Mariatu Kamara** with **Susan McClelland**

Annick Press, 2008
ISBN 978-1554511594

Grades 8-9 / Ages 14 and up

Category: Non-Fiction

Black and White

Written by **Eric Walters**

Puffin Canada, 2009
ISBN 978-0143312499

Grade 5 / Ages 11-14

Category: Young Adult Fiction

Black Heritage

(Discovering Canada)

Written by **Robert Livesey**
Illustrated by **A.G. Smith**

Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 2006
ISBN 978-1550051377

Grades 3-4 / Ages 8 and up

Category: Non-Fiction

Blue Mountain Trouble

Written by **Martin Mordecai**

Arthur A. Levine/Scholastic Inc., 2009
ISBN 978-0545041560

Grades 5-7 / Ages 11-12

Category: Junior Fiction

Chanda's Secrets

Written by **Allan Stratton**
Annick Press, 2004

ISBN 978-1550378351
Grades 7-9 / Ages 13 and up

Category: Young Adult Fiction

Chanda's War

Written by **Allan Stratton**
HarperTrophyCanada, 2008

ISBN 978-1554680252
Grade 7 / Ages 12 and up

Category: Young Adult Fiction

The Children of Africville

Written by **Christine Welldon**
Nimbus Publishing, 2009

ISBN 978-1551097237
Grades 3-5 / Ages 8-12

Category: Non-Fiction

Choice of Colours: How African American Quarterbacks Became Canadian Stars

(Recordbooks)

Written by **John Danakas**
James Lorimer, 2007

ISBN 978-1550289930
Grades 6-7 / Ages 11 and up

Category: Non-Fiction

Crossing to Freedom

Written by **Virginia Frances Schwartz**

Scholastic Canada, 2010
ISBN 978-0545989787

Grades 3-4 / Ages 8-12

Category: Junior Fiction

Cry of the Giraffe

Written by **Judie Oron**

Annick Press, 2010
ISBN 978-1554512720

Grades 7-8 / Ages 14 and up

Category: Young Adult Fiction

Curtain Up! A Book for Young Performers

Written by **Dirk McLean**

Illustrated by **France Brassard**
Tundra Books, 2010

ISBN 978-0887768996
Grades 1-2 / Ages 6-8

Category: Picture Books

**A Desperate Road to Freedom:
The Underground Railroad Diary
of Julia May Jackson**

(Dear Canada)

Written by **Karleen Bradford**

Scholastic Canada, 2009

ISBN 978-0545996198

Grade 4 / Ages 10-13

Category: Junior Fiction

Elijah of Buxton

Written by **Christopher Paul Curtis**

Scholastic Canada, 2007

ISBN 978-0439936477

Grade 4 / Ages 9-13

Category: Junior Fiction

Freedom Child of the Sea

Written by **Richardo Keens-Douglas**

Illustrated by **Julia Gukova**

Annick Press, 1995

ISBN 978-1550373738

Grades 2-4 / Ages 7-9

Category: Folktales

The Freedom of Jenny

Written by **Julie Burtinshaw**

Raincoast Books, 2005

ISBN 978-1551928395

Grades 6-8 / Ages 11-14

Category: Young Adult Fiction

**George Washington Carver:
An Innovative Life**

**(Snapshots: Images of People and
Places in History)**

Written by **Elizabeth MacLeod**

Kids Can Press, 2007

ISBN 978-1553379065

Grades 4-6 / Ages 8-13

Category: Non-Fiction

Grease Town

Written by **Ann Towell**

Tundra Books, 2010

ISBN 9780887769832

Grades 5-7 / Ages 10-13

Category: Junior Fiction

A Hare in the Elephant's Trunk

Written by **Jan L. Coates**

Red Deer Press, 2010

ISBN 978-0889954519

Grades 9-10 / Ages 14 and up

Category: Young Adult Fiction

**I Came as a Stranger:
The Underground Railroad**

Written by **Bryan Prince**

Tundra Books, 2004

ISBN 978-0887766671

Grades 6-8 / Ages 10 and up

Category: Non-Fiction

If I Just Had Two Wings

Written by **Virginia Frances**

Schwartz

Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 2002 ©2001

ISBN 978-0773761926

Grades 5-6 / Ages 10 and up

Category: Junior Fiction

**James Douglas: Father of
British Columbia**

Written by **Julie H. Ferguson**

Dundurn Press, 2009

ISBN 978-1554884094

Grades 7-8 / Ages 13-18

Category: Non-Fiction

Josephine's Dream

Written by **Joan Betty Stuchner**

Illustrated by **Chantelle Walther**

Silverleaf Press, 2008

ISBN 978-1934393048

Grades 1-2 / Ages 6-8

Category: Non-Fiction

**The Kids Book of Black
Canadian History**

(Kids Book of...)

Written by **Rosemary Sadlier**

Illustrated by **Wang Qijun**

Kids Can Press, 2010 ©2003

ISBN 978-1554535873

Grades 5-6 / Ages 10-14

Category: Non-Fiction

The Last Days in Africville

Written by **Dorothy Perkyns**

Dundurn Press, 2006 ©2003

ISBN 978-1550026306

Grades 4-6 / Ages 9-12

Category: Junior Fiction

**Mella and the N'anga:
An African Tale**

Written by **Gail Nyoka**

Sumach Press, 2005

ISBN 978-1894549493

Grades 5-6 / Ages 10 and up

Category: Folktales

**My Name Is Henry Bibb:
A Story of Slavery and Freedom**

Written by **Afua Cooper**

Kids Can Press, 2009

ISBN 978-1553378136

Grades 5-6 / Ages 11 and up

Category: Young Adult Fiction

**My Name Is Phillis Wheatley:
A Story of Slavery and Freedom**

Written by **Afua Cooper**

Kids Can Press, 2009

ISBN 978-1553378129

Grades 5-6 / Ages 11 and up

Category: Young Adult Fiction

**The Name of the Tree:
A Bantu Tale**

Written by **Celia Barker Lottridge**

Illustrated by **Ian Wallace**

Groundwood Books, 2002 ©1989

ISBN 978-0888990976

Grades 1-3 / Ages 5-9

Category: Folktales

Nana's Cold Days

Written by **Adwoa Badoe**

Illustrated by **Bushra Junaid**

Groundwood Books, 2009 ©2002

ISBN 978-0888999375

Grades 1-2 / Ages 2-5

Category: Picture Books

**North Star to Freedom:
The Story of the Underground
Railroad**

Written by **Gena K. Gorrell**

Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 2004 ©1996

ISBN 978-1550050684

Grade 5 / Ages 9 and up

Category: Non-Fiction

The Orphan Boy

Written by **Tololwa Mollel**

Illustrated by **Paul Morin**

Fitzhenry & Whiteside, 2009 ©1990

ISBN 978-1550050820

Grades 1-3 / Ages 5-9

Category: Folktales

**Oscar: The Life and Music of
Oscar Peterson**

Written by **Reva Marin**

Groundwood Books, 2008 ©2003

ISBN 978-0888999054

Grades 6-8 / Ages 12 and up

Category: Non-Fiction

Out of Slavery: The Journey to Amazing Grace

Written by **Linda Granfield**
Illustrated by **Janet Wilson**
Tundra Books, 2009 ©1997
ISBN 978-0887769153
Grade 6 / Ages 9 and up
Category: Non-Fiction

Originally published as *Amazing Grace: The Story of the Hymn*

Rachel (Our Canadian Girl)

Written by **Lynne Kositsky**
Puffin Canada, 2010
ISBN 978-0143170846
Grades 3-5 / Ages 8-12
Category: Junior Fiction

Rapid Ray: The Story of Ray Lewis

Written by **John Cooper**
Tundra Books, 2002
ISBN 978-0887766121
Grade 6 / Ages 12 and up
Category: Non-Fiction

Season of Rage: Hugh Burnett and the Struggle for Civil Rights

Written by **John Cooper**
Tundra Books, 2005
ISBN 978-0887767005
Grades 7-9 / Ages 12 and up
Category: Non-Fiction

Singing Towards the Future: The Story of Portia White (Stories of Canada)

Written by **Lian Goodall**
Illustrated by **Liz Milkau**
Napoleon Publishing, 2004
ISBN 978-1894917087
Grades 5-6 / Ages 10 and up
Category: Non-Fiction

So Long, Jackie Robinson

Written by **Nancy L.M. Russell**
Key Porter Books, 2007
ISBN 978-1552638637
Grades 5-6 / Ages 11-13
Category: Junior Fiction

Stealing Home

Written by **Ellen Schwartz**
Tundra Books, 2006
ISBN 978-0887767654
Grades 4-6 / Ages 9-14
Category: Junior Fiction

Steel Drums and Ice Skates

Written by **Dirk McLean**
Illustrated by **Ho Che Anderson**
Groundwood Books, 1996
ISBN 978-0888992581
Grades 1-3 / Ages 6-9
Category: Picture Books

To Stand and Fight Together: Richard Pierpoint and the Coloured Corps of Upper Canada

Written by **Steve Pitt**
Dundurn Press/Sandcastle, 2008
ISBN 978-1550027310
Grades 5-6 / Ages 10 and up
Category: Non-Fiction

The Ultimate African Heritage Quiz Book: Maritime Edition

Written by **Craig Marshall Smith**
Nimbus Publishing, 2008
ISBN 978-1551096834
Grades 7-8 / Ages 12 and up
Category: Non-Fiction

The Underground Railroad: Next Stop, Toronto!

Written by **Afua Cooper, Adrienne Shadd and Karolyn Smardz Frost**
Dundurn Press, 2009 ©2002
ISBN 978-1554884292
Grades 9-10 / Ages 14 and up
Category: Non-Fiction

Up Home

Written by **Shauntay Grant**
Illustrated by **Susan Tooke**
Nimbus Publishing, 2008
ISBN 978-1551096605
Grade 3 / Ages 5-8
Category: Picture Books

Viola Desmond Won't Be Bugged!

Written by **Jody Nyasha Warner**
Illustrated by **Richard Rudnicki**
Groundwood Books, 2010
ISBN 978-0888997791
Grades 1-3 / Ages 6-9
Category: Non-Fiction

The War Within

Written by **Carol Matas**
Scholastic Canada, 2001
ISBN 978-0439988100
Grades 5-6 / Ages 11-15
Category: Young Adult Fiction

The Watsons Go to Birmingham: 1963

Written by **Christopher Paul Curtis**
Delacorte Press, 1995
ISBN 978-0385321754
Grades 5-6 / Ages 10-14
Category: Junior Fiction

Working for Freedom: The Story of Josiah Henson

(Stories of Canada)
Written by **Rona Arato**
Illustrated by **Chrissie Wysotski**
Napoleon & Company, 2008
ISBN 978-1894917506
Grade 5 / Ages 10 and up
Category: Non-Fiction

About the Canadian Children's Book Centre

The Canadian Children's Book Centre (CCBC) is a national, not-for-profit organization founded in 1976. We are dedicated to encouraging, promoting and supporting the reading, writing, illustrating and publishing of Canadian books for young readers. Our programs, publications, and resources help teachers, librarians, booksellers and parents select the very best for young readers.

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Celebrate Black History Month 3

Reading Levels are listed by Grade, Interest Levels are listed by Age