



BCDI
Black Child
Development Institute

20 POWERFUL STORIES. A LIFETIME OF POSSIBILITIES.



Books That Celebrate, Inspire, and Empower
Black Children from Birth to 8 Years Old

NEW YORK STATE

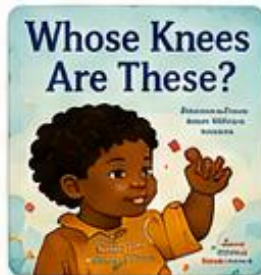
These 20 beautifully written and illustrated books by Black authors and illustrators uplift identity, spark imagination, build confidence, and nurture a love of reading.

1



Brown Sugar Baby
Kevin Lewis,
illustrated by
Jestenia Southerland
Ages Birth–3

2



Whose Knees Are These?
Jabari Asim,
illustrated by
LeUyen Pham
Ages Birth–3

3



Crown: An Ode to the Fresh Cut
Derrick Barnes,
illustrated by
Gordon C. James
Ages 3–8

4



I Am Every Good Thing
Derrick Barnes,
illustrated by
Gordon C. James
Ages 3–8

5



The King of Kindergarten
Derrick Barnes,
illustrated by
Vanessa Brantley-Newton
Ages 3–6

6



The Queen of Kindergarten
Derrick Barnes,
illustrated by
Vanessa Brantley-Newton
Ages 3–6

7



Hair Love
Matthew A. Cherry,
illustrated by
Vashti Harrison
Ages 3–8

8



Saturday
Oge Mora
Ages 3–7

9



Sulwe
Lupita Nyong'o,
illustrated by
Vashti Harrison
Ages 4–8

10



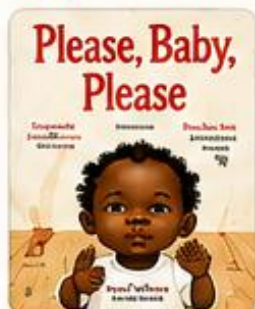
The Day You Begin
Jacqueline Woodson,
illustrated by
Rafael López
Ages 4–8



Every child deserves to see themselves in a story.
Every child deserves a story that helps them dream bigger.
Together, let's build a legacy of literacy,
love, and leadership.



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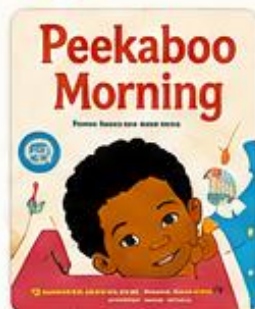


Please, Baby, Please

Spike Lee &
Tonya Lewis Lee,
illustrated by
Kadir Nelson

Ages Birth–3

12

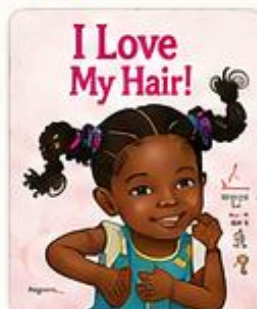


Peekaboo Morning

Rachel Isadora

Ages Birth–3

13

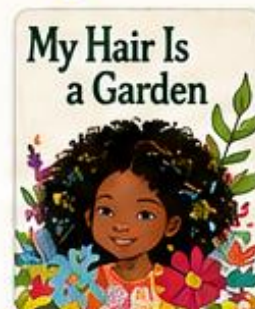


I Love My Hair!

Natasha Anastasia
Tarpley, illustrated by
E. B. Lewis

Ages 3–7

14

My Hair Is
a Garden

Cozbi A. Cabrera

Ages 4–8

15



Me & Mama

Cozbi A. Cabrera

Ages 3–7

16



Thank You, Omu!

Oge Mora

Ages 3–8

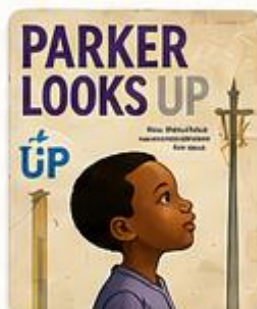
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Saturday at the
Food Pantry

Diane O'Neill,
illustrated by
Brizida Magro

Ages 4–8

18

Parker Looks Up:
An Extraordinary
Moment

Parker Curry &
Jessica Curry,
illustrated by
Brittany Jackson

Ages 3–8

19

The Year
We Learned
to Fly

Jacqueline Woodson,
illustrated by
Rafael López

Ages 4–8

20

Mae Among
the Stars

Roda Ahmed,
illustrated by
Stasia Burrington

Ages 4–8



We Read.
We Grow.
We Lead.
We Legacy.



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**NEW YORK
STATE**

Building Brighter
Futures
One Book at a Time.