

Black History: Non-Fiction Reads

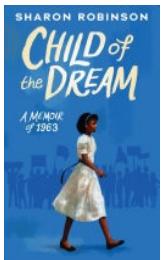
Non-Fiction resources that explore Black History in all its richness and complexity for teens and more.



March: Book One

By John Lewis, Andrew Aydin, Nate Powell

March is a vivid first-hand account of John Lewis' lifelong struggle for civil and human rights, meditating in the modern age on the distance traveled since the days of Jim Crow and segregation. Rooted in Lewis' personal story, it also reflects on the highs and lows of the broader civil rights movement.

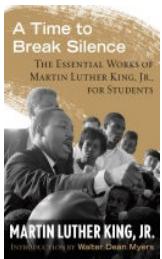


Child of the Dream

By Sharon Robinson

An incredible memoir from Sharon Robinson about one of the most important years of the civil rights movement.

In January 1963, Sharon Robinson turns thirteen the night before George Wallace declares on national television "segregation now, segregation tomorrow, segregation forever" in his inauguration speech as governor of Alabama. It is the beginning of a year that will change the course of American history.

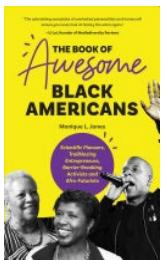


A Time to Break Silence

By Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

A Time to Break Silence presents Martin Luther King, Jr.'s most important writings and speeches—carefully selected by teachers across a variety of disciplines—in an accessible and user-friendly volume. Arranged thematically in five parts, the collection includes nineteen selections and is introduced by award-winning author Walter Dean Myers.

Included are some of Dr. King's most well-known and frequently taught classic works, including "Letter from Birmingham Jail" and "I Have a Dream," as well as lesser-known pieces such as "The Sword that Heals"

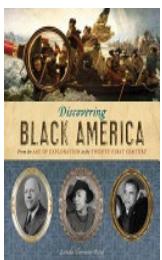


The Book of Awesome Black Americans

By Monique L. Jones

#1 Best Seller in Teen & Young Adult 21st Century U.S. History -- Making a Better America

Black Americans who have shaped their country and beyond: We are familiar with a handful of African Americans who are mentioned in American history books, but there are also countless others who do not get recognized in mainstream media. Their actions may not have appeared to shake the world, but their contributions to shifting American culture were just as groundbreaking.

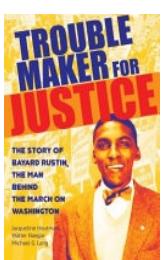


Discovering Black America

By Linda Tarrant-Reid

JUVENILE ROOM - NON-FICTION

J 973.0496 TA *Discovering Black America* offers readers an unprecedented account of more than 400 years of African American history set against a background of American and global events. The book begins with a black sailor aboard the Niña with Christopher Columbus and continues through the colonial period, slavery, the Civil War, Jim Crow, and civil rights to our current president in the White House.



Troublemaker for Justice

By Jacqueline Houtman, Walter Naegle, Michael G. Long

Voted a Best Book of the Year by School Library Journal and Kirkus Reviews!

A biography for younger readers about one of the most influential activists of our time, who was an early advocate for African Americans and for gay rights.

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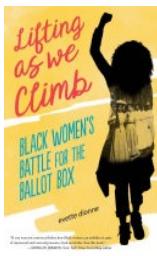
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Harriet Tubman, Secret Agent

By Thomas B. Allen

As he did in his highly acclaimed George Washington, Spymaster, author Thomas B. Allen digs back through historical records to present a famous historical figure in a new light. Readers discover that Harriet Tubman--well-known to them as an ex-slave who led hundreds of her people to freedom along the Underground Railroad--was also a spy for the Union Army. More specifically she worked behind Confederate lines in South Carolina getting information about troop movement and Rebel fortifications from slaves that she was leading to freedom on the Underground Railroad.

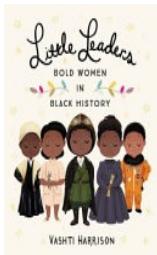


Lifting As We Climb

By Evette Dionne

For African American women, the fight for the right to vote was only *one* battle.

An eye-opening book that tells the important, overlooked story of black women as a force in the suffrage movement--when fellow suffragists did not accept them as equal partners in the struggle. When the epic story of the suffrage movement in the United States is told, the most familiar leaders, speakers at meetings, and participants in marches written about or pictured are generally white. That's not the real story.



Little Leaders: Bold Women in Black History

By Vashti Harrison

JUVENILE ROOM NONFICTION

JNF 920 HA An important book for all ages, Little Leaders educates and inspires as it relates true stories of forty trailblazing black women in American history. Illuminating text paired with irresistible illustrations bring to life both iconic and lesser-known female figures of Black history such as abolitionist Sojourner Truth, pilot Bessie Coleman, and chemist Alice Ball.

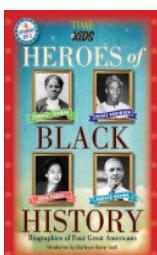


Little Legends: Exceptional Men in Black History

By Vashti Harrison

Author-illustrator Vashti Harrison shines a bold, joyous light on black men through history in this #1 *New York Times* bestseller.

An important book for readers of all ages, this beautifully illustrated and engagingly written volume brings to life true stories of black men in history. Among these biographies, readers will find aviators and artists, politicians and pop stars, athletes and activists. The exceptional men featured include writer James Baldwin, artist Aaron Douglas, filmmaker Oscar Devereaux Micheaux, and lawman Bass Reeves.



Heroes of Black History

By The Editors of TIME For Kids

TIME For Kids *Heroes of Black History* presents the stories of four great American heroes every child should know about in one volume: Harriet Tubman, Jackie Robinson, Rosa Parks, and Barack Obama. Featuring an introduction by journalist and civil rights activist Charlayne Hunter-Gault, *Heroes of Black History* shines a light on the long fight for social justice in the United States as it highlights the accomplishments and personal histories of these four pivotal Americans.



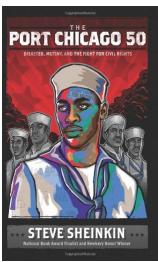
Freedom Now!: Forgotten Photographs of the Civil Rights Struggle

By Martin A. Berger

Photographers shot millions of pictures of the black civil rights struggle, yet most Americans today can recall just a handful of images that look remarkably similar. But there are other stories to be told. Blacks changed America through their action, not their suffering. In this groundbreaking catalogue, Martin Berger presents a collection of forgotten photographs that illustrate the action, heroism, and strength of black activists in driving social and legislative change.

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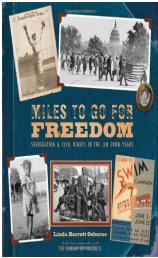
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The Port Chicago 50: Disaster, Mutiny, and the Fight for Civil Rights

By Steve Sheinkin

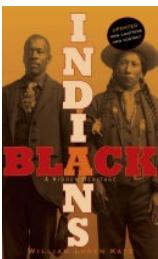
On July 17, 1944, a massive explosion rocked the segregated Navy base at Port Chicago, California, killing more than 300 sailors. On August 9th, 244 men refused to go back to work until unsafe and unfair conditions at the docks were addressed. When the dust settled, fifty were charged with mutiny, facing decades in jail and even execution.



Miles to Go for Freedom: Segregation and Civil Rights in the Jim Crow Years

By Linda Barrett Osborne

Told through unforgettable first-person accounts, photographs, and other primary sources, this book is an overview of racial segregation and early civil rights efforts in the United States from the 1890s to 1954, a period known as the Jim Crow years.



Black Indians

By William Loren Katz

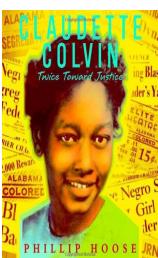
The compelling account of how two heritages united in their struggle to gain freedom and equality in America!

The first paths to freedom taken by runaway slaves led to Native American villages. There, black men and women found acceptance and friendship among our country's original inhabitants. The children of Native- and African-American marriages helped shape the early days of the fur trade, added a new dimension to frontier diplomacy, and made a daring contribution to the fight for American liberty.

A Wreath For Emmett Till

By Marilyn Nelson

Presents fifteen interlinked sonnets to pay tribute to Emmett Till, a fourteen-year-old African American boy who was lynched in Mississippi in 1955 for whistling at a white woman, and whose murderers were acquitted.



Claudette Colvin: Twice Toward Justice

By Phillip M Hoose

"When it comes to justice, there is no easy way to get it. You can't sugarcoat it. You have to take a stand and say, 'This is not right.'" - Claudette Colvin On March 2, 1955, an impassioned teenager, fed up with the daily injustices of Jim Crow segregation, refused to give her seat to a white woman on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Alabama. Instead of being celebrated as Rosa Parks would be just nine months later, fifteen-year-old Claudette Colvin found herself shunned by her classmates and dismissed by community leaders.



Birmingham Sunday

By Larry Dane Brimner

Racial bombings were so frequent in Birmingham that it became known as "Bombingham." Until September 15, 1963, these attacks had been threatening but not deadly. On that Sunday morning, however, a blast in the 16th Street Baptist Church ripped through the exterior wall and claimed the lives of four girls. Rather than triggering paralyzing fear, the bombing was the definitive act that guaranteed passage of the landmark 1964 civil rights legislation.

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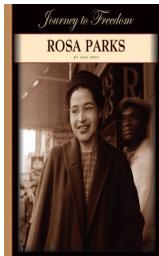
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Rosa Parks: Civil Rights Activist (Transcending Race in America: Biographies of Biracial Achievers)

By Chuck Bednar

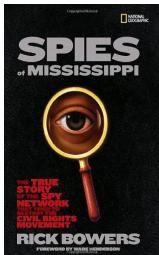
On December 1, 1955, 42-year-old Rosa Parks became the "Mother of the Civil Rights Movement" in America by refusing to give up her bus seat to a white passenger. On that day, Rosa, of mixed African-American, Muscogee Indian, and Scots-Irish ancestry, helped launch one of the most important movements of the 20th century. This is her story.



Rosa Parks (Journey to Freedom (Child's World))

By L. S. Summer

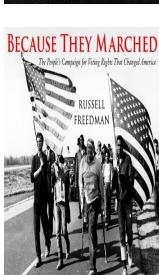
Rosa Parks played an instrumental role in the integration of Montgomery, Alabama, buses, and in the reemergence of the black community's fight for equal rights. Referred to as the 'mother of the civil rights movement,' Parks stood up for what she believed in and proved that one person can make a difference.



Spies of Mississippi: The True Story of the State-Run Spy Network that Tried to Destroy the Civil Rights Movement

By Rick Bowers

"The Spies of Mississippi" is a compelling story of how state spies tried to block voting rights for African Americans during the Civil Rights era. This book sheds new light on one of the most momentous periods in American history.



Because They Marched: The People's Campaign for Voting Rights That Changed America

By Russell Freedman

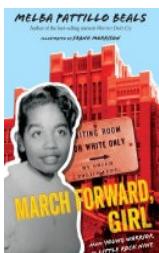
For the fiftieth anniversary of the march for voting rights from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, Newbery Medalist Russell Freedman has written a riveting account of African-American struggles for the right to vote.



Freedom's Children: Young Civil Rights Activists Tell Their Own Stories

By Ellen S. Levine

In this inspiring collection of true stories, thirty African-Americans who were children or teenagers in the 1950s and 1960s talk about what it was like for them to fight segregation in the South—to sit in an all-white restaurant and demand to be served, to refuse to give up a seat at the front of the bus, to be among the first to integrate the public schools, and to face violence, arrest, and even death for the cause of freedom.



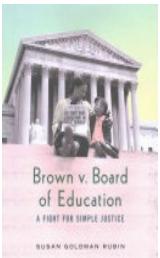
March Forward, Girl

By Melba Pattillo Beals

From the legendary civil rights activist and author of the million-copy selling *Warriors Don't Cry* comes a powerful, timely new memoir about growing up in the segregated South. Long before she was one of the Little Rock Nine, Melba Pattillo Beals was a warrior. Frustrated by the laws that kept African-Americans separate but very much unequal to whites, she had questions. Adults all told her: Hold your tongue. Be patient. Know your place. But Beals had the heart of a fighter—and the knowledge that her true place was a free one.

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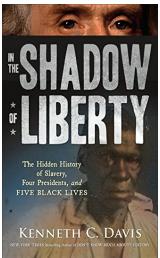
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Brown V. Board of Education

By Susan Goldman Rubin

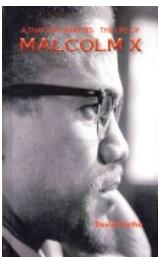
In 1954, one of the most significant Supreme Court decisions of the twentieth Century aimed to end school segregation in the United States. The ruling was the culmination of work by many people who stood up to racial inequality, some risking significant danger and hardship, and of careful strategizing by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).



In the Shadow of Liberty: The Hidden History of Slavery, Four Presidents, and Five Black Lives

By Kenneth C. Davis

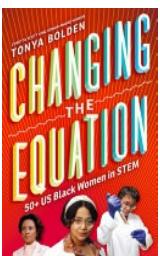
Did you know that many of America's Founding Fathers—who fought for liberty and justice for all—were slave owners? Through the powerful stories of five enslaved people who were "owned" by four of our greatest presidents, this middle-grade nonfiction book helps set the record straight about the role slavery played in the founding of America.



A Time for Martyrs

By David Aretha

How should black Americans battle racial injustice? "By any means necessary," Malcolm X declared. In the early 1960s, Malcolm X was arguably the most controversial man in America. While other civil rights leaders were careful not to alienate the white establishment, Malcolm spoke without restraint. For centuries, he exclaimed, "the white man has had his foot-long knife in the black man's back." For Malcolm, the modest gains of the civil rights movement were not enough. "An integrated cup of coffee," he said, "isn't sufficient pay for four hundred years of slave labor."

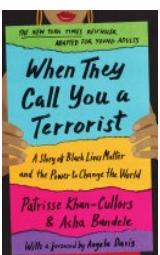


Changing the Equation

By Tonya Bolden

A celebratory and inspiring look at some of the most important black women in STEM

Award-winning author Tonya Bolden explores the black women who have changed the world of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) in America. Including groundbreaking computer scientists, doctors, inventors, physicists, pharmacists, mathematicians, aviators, and many more, this book celebrates more than 50 women who have shattered the glass ceiling, defied racial discrimination, and pioneered in their fields.



When They Call You a Terrorist (Young Adult Edition)

By Patrisse Khan-Cullors, asha bandele

Patrisse Khan-Cullors' and asha bandele's instant *New York Times* bestseller, *When They Call You a Terrorist* is now adapted for the YA audience with photos and journal entries!

From one of the co-founders of the Black Lives Matter movement comes a poetic memoir and reflection on humanity. Necessary and timely, Patrisse Khan-Cullors' story asks us to remember that protest in the interest of the most vulnerable comes from love.



Infinite Hope

By Ashley Bryan

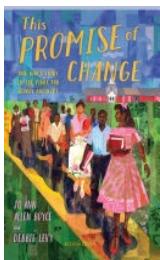
Recipient of a Coretta Scott King Illustrator Honor Award

A *Kirkus Reviews* Best Middle Grade Book of 2019

From celebrated author and illustrator Ashley Bryan comes a deeply moving picture book memoir about serving in the segregated army during World War II, and how love and the pursuit of art sustained him. In May of 1942, at the age of eighteen, Ashley Bryan was drafted to fight in World War II. For the next three years, he would face the horrors of war as a black soldier in a segregated army.

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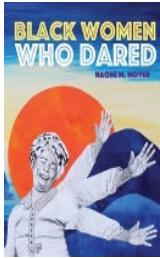
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This Promise of Change

By Jo Ann Allen Boyce, Debbie Levy

In 1956, one year before federal troops escorted the Little Rock 9 into Central High School, fourteen year old Jo Ann Allen was one of twelve African-American students who broke the color barrier and integrated Clinton High School in Tennessee. At first things went smoothly for the Clinton 12, but then outside agitators interfered, pitting the townspeople against one another. Uneasiness turned into anger, and even the Clinton Twelve themselves wondered if the easier thing to do would be to go back to their old school.

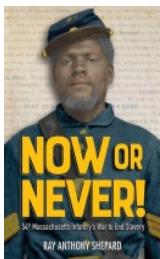


Black Women Who Dared

By Naomi M. Moyer

Beautiful, colorful illustrations tell the inspirational stories of ten black women and women's collectives from 1793 to the present.

Included are leaders who were anti-slavery activists and organizers who promoted basic health care, literacy and scholarship within their neighborhoods. The stories and art celebrate these remarkable women who are not necessarily well known or recognized, but have had profound impacts on their communities.



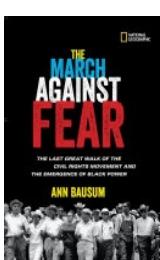
Now Or Never!

By Ray Anthony Shepard

A Kirkus Reviews Best Children's Book

Here is the riveting dual biography of two little-known but extraordinary African-American Union soldiers in Civil War history—George E. Stephens and James Henry Gooding.

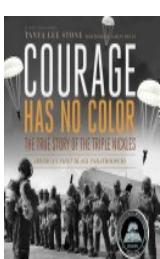
Stephens and Gooding not only served in the Massachusetts 54th Infantry, the well-known black regiment, but were also war correspondents who published eyewitness reports of the battlefields.



The March Against Fear

By Ann Bausum

James Meredith's 1966 march in Mississippi began as one man's peaceful protest for voter registration and became one of the South's most important demonstrations of the civil rights movement. It brought together leaders like Martin Luther King Jr. and Stokely Carmichael, who formed an unlikely alliance that resulted in the Black Power movement, which ushered in a new era in the fight for equality.

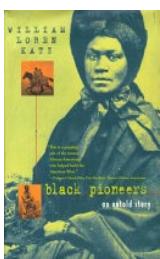


Courage Has No Color - The True Story of the Triple Nickles

By Tanya Lee Stone

JUVENILE ROOM - NON-FICTION

J 940.5403 ST World War II is raging, and thousands of American soldiers are fighting overseas against the injustices brought on by Hitler. Back on the home front, discrimination against African Americans plays out as much on Main Street as in the military. Tanya Lee Stone examines the little-known history of the Triple Nickles, America's first black paratroopers, who fought in an attack on the American West by the Japanese.



Black Pioneers

By William Loren Katz

Out of a past little noted in history texts comes this tale of African American pioneers in the Ohio and Mississippi valleys. These pathfinders were slaves, poets, runaways, missionaries, farmers, teachers, and soldiers. For these African Americans, the frontier meant freedom, and from the earliest times, some seized liberty by joining Indian nations.