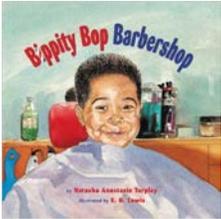
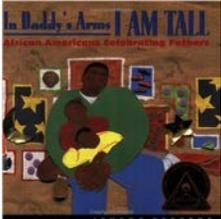
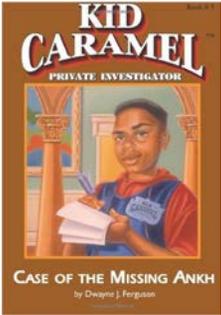
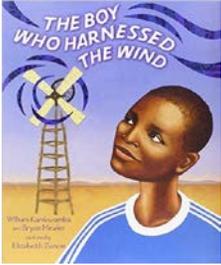
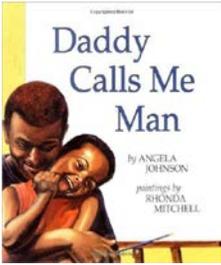
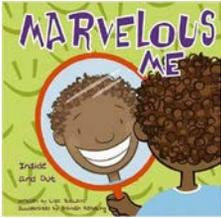
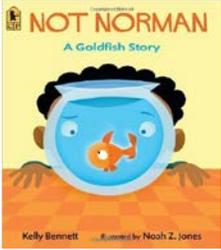
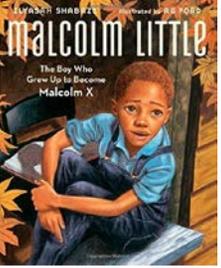
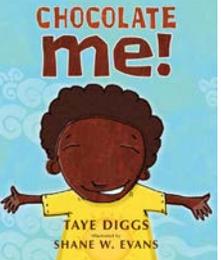
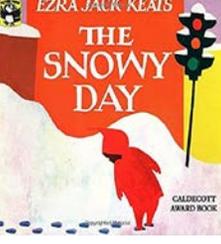
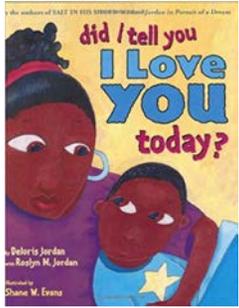
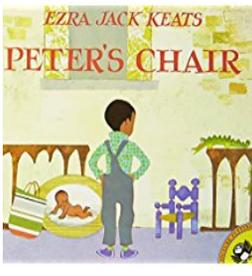
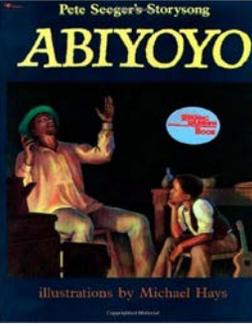


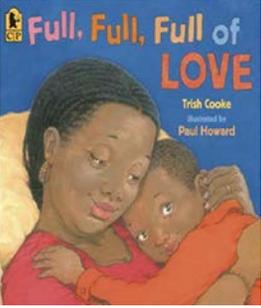
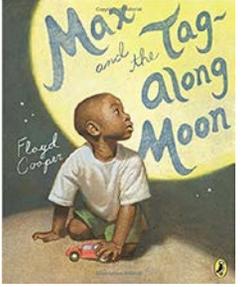
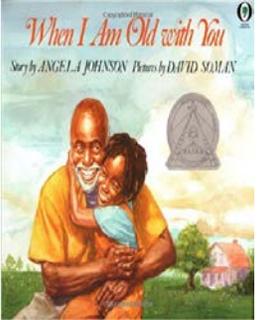
Recommended Book List for Black Boys (Picture Books)

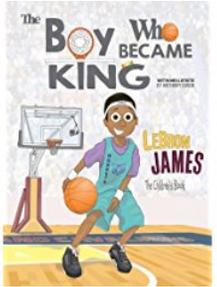
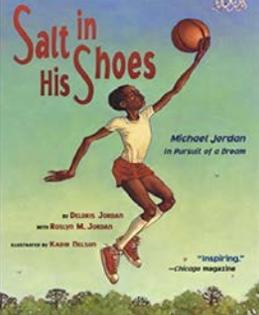
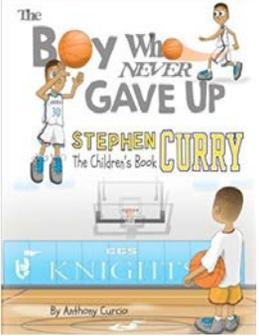
TITLE OF BOOK	AUTHOR/ILLUSTRATOR	BOOK COVER	BOOK DESCRIPTION
Bippity Bop Barbershop	Tarpley, Natasha		<p><i>Written in a reassuring tone with a jazzy beat and illustrated with graceful, realistic watercolors, this book captures an important rite of passage for boys and celebrates African-American identity.</i></p>
In Daddy's Arms, I am Tall	Abiabde, Folami		<p><i>This poetry book contains several poems written by a variety of authors all focusing on black fathers and father figures.</i></p>
Kid Caramel	Ferguson, Dwayne		<p><i>Kid Caramel, "Private Investigator" and his friend Earnest are visiting the art museum. Just after African Prince Abdu's elaborate film to introduce the Crystal Ankh is over, a smoke bomb explodes and the ancient treasure vanishes. This smoothly paced, easy read should appeal to any child who loves a mystery.</i></p>

<p>The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind</p>	<p>Kamkwamba, William</p>		<p><i>When fourteen-year-old William Kamkwamba's Malawi village was hit by a drought, everyone's crops began to fail. Without enough money for food, let alone school, William spent his days in the library . . . and figured out how to bring electricity to his village.</i></p>
<p>Daddy Calls Me Man</p>	<p>Johnson, Angela</p>		<p><i>In this companion book to the bestselling I Love My Hair, a young boy, Miles, makes his first trip to the barbershop with his father. Like most little boys, he is afraid of the sharp scissors, the buzzing razor, and the prospect of picking a new hairstyle. But with the support of his dad, the barber, and the other men in the barbershop, Miles bravely sits through his first haircut.</i></p>
<p>Marvelous Me</p>	<p>Bullard, Lisa</p>		<p><i>Alex is a marvelous little boy who is just like other people in some ways, such as getting angry sometimes, but also unique because of his special laugh, his grizzly hugs, and his own interesting thoughts. Includes activities.</i></p>
<p>If I Ran for President</p>	<p>Stier, Catherine</p>		<p><i>Norman the goldfish isn't what this little boy had in mind. He wanted a different kind of pet — one that could run and catch. With wry humor and lighthearted affection, author Kelly Bennett and illustrator Noah Z. Jones tell an unexpected — and positively fishy — tale about finding the good in something you didn't know you wanted.</i></p>

<p>Malcolm Little: The Boy who grew up to become Malcolm X</p>	<p>Shabazz, Ilyasah</p>		<p><i>Malcolm X grew to be one of America's most influential figures. But first, he was a boy named Malcolm Little. Written by his daughter, this inspiring picture book biography celebrates a vision of freedom and justice.</i></p>
<p>Dizzy</p>	<p>Winter, Jonah</p>		<p><i>This is the story of Dizzy Gillespie, a real cool cat who must have been born with a horn in his hands, judging from the way he played the trumpet. This is a story about a boy who breaks all the rules — and finds his own personal heaven along the way.</i></p>
<p>Chocolate me!</p>	<p>Diggs, Taye & Evans, Shane</p>		<p><i>When a little boy is teased for looking different than other kids because of his dark skin, his mother tells him why he's beautiful just the way he is. Actor Taye Diggs and Shane W. Evans' book will help both kids and parents love the skin they're in</i></p>
<p>The Snowy Day</p>	<p>Keats, Ezra Jack</p>		<p><i>The Snowy Day, a 1963 Caldecott Medal winner, is the simple tale of a boy waking up to discover that snow has fallen during the night. The little boy celebrates the snow-draped city with a day of humble adventures-- experimenting with footprints, knocking snow from a tree, creating snow angels, and trying to save a snowball for the next day.</i></p>

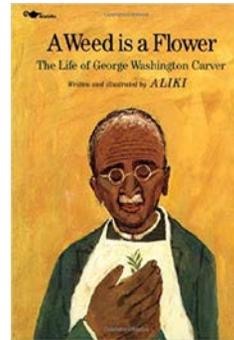
<p>Did I Tell You I Love You Today?</p>	<p>Jordan, Deloris</p>		<p><i>Apart or together, near or far, day or night, from childhood to adulthood -- the never-ending reach and power of a mother's love touches every moment of every day, even when you least expect it. All you need to do is make sure to notice.</i></p>
<p>Peter's Chair</p>	<p>Keats, Erza Jack</p>		<p><i>The award-winning, classic stories about Peter and his neighborhood friends from the Caldecott Medal-winning author, Ezra Jack Keats. Peter has a new baby sister. First his father paints Peter's old cradle pink, then his crib. Then his parents want to paint Peter's chair! "Let's run away, Willie," he says to his dog. And they do. This is a gentle and reassuring story about sibling rivalry.</i></p>
<p>Abiyoyo</p>	<p>Seeger, Pete / Hays, Michael</p>		<p><i>No one wants to hear the little boy play his ukelele anymore...Clink, clunk, clonk. And no one wants to watch his father make things disappear...Zoop! Zoop! Until the day the fearsome giant Abiyoyo suddenly appears in town, and all the townspeople run for their lives and the lives of their children! Nothing can stop the terrible giant Abiyoyo, nothing, that is, except the enchanting sound of the ukelele and the mysterious power of the magic wand.</i></p>

<p>Full, Full, Full of Love</p>	<p>Cooke, Trish / Howard, Paul</p>		<p><i>For the youngest member of an exuberant extended family, Sunday dinner at Grannie's can be full indeed - full of hugs and kisses, full of tasty dishes, full to the brim with happy faces, and full, full, full of love. With a special focus on the bond between little Jay Jay and his grannie, Trish Cooke introduces us to a gregarious family we are sure to want more, more, more of.</i></p>
<p>Max and the Tag-Along Moon</p>	<p>Cooper, Floyd</p>		<p><i>Max loves his grandpa. When they must say good-bye after a visit, Grandpa promises Max that the moon at Grandpa's house is the same moon that will follow him all the way home. On that swerby-curvy car ride back to his house, Max watches as the moon tags along. But when the sky darkens and the moon disappears behind clouds, he worries that it didn't follow him home after all. Where did the moon go—and what about Grandpa's promise?</i></p>
<p>When I Am Old with You</p>	<p>Johnson, Angela / Soman, David</p>		<p><i>A child imagines being old with Granddaddy and joining him in such activities as playing cards all day, visiting the ocean, and eating bacon on the porch.</i></p>

<p>LeBron James: The Children's Book: The Boy Who Became King</p>	<p>Curcio, Anthony</p>		<p><i>The Boy Who Became King is the inspiring true story of NBA superstar LeBron James. This Fully illustrated picture book biography tells the story of a young boy and his loving, single mother and their struggle to make it on their own. With the help of a coach and his family, LeBron is introduced to the game of basketball. Against all odds, “the kid from Akron” not only makes it to the NBA but becomes a basketball legend who now helps others who are struggling like he and his mother once were.</i></p>
<p>Salt In His Shoes</p>	<p>Jordan, Deloris & Jordan Roslyn M. / Nelson , Kadir</p>		<p><i>The mere mention of the name conjures up visions of basketball played at its absolute best. But as a child, Michael almost gave up on his hoop dreams, all because he feared he'd never grow tall enough to play the game that would one day make him famous. That's when his mother and father stepped in and shared the invaluable lesson of what really goes into the making of a champion -- patience, determination, and hard work.</i></p>
<p>Stephen Curry: The Children's Book: The Boy Who Never Gave Up</p>	<p>Curcio, Anthony</p>		<p><i>The Boy Who Never Gave Up is the inspiring true story of NBA superstar Stephen Curry. This Fully illustrated picture book biography tells the story of a young boy who many said was too short to play in high school, too weak to play in college and not good enough to play in the NBA. Against all odds, this small boy who follows his dream, not only makes it to the NBA, but becomes one of the greatest players to ever play the game of basketball.</i></p>

**A Weed Is a Flower:
The Life of George
Washington Carver**

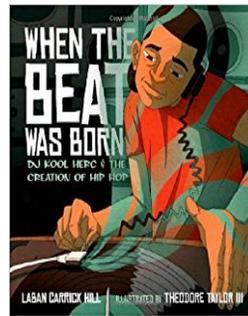
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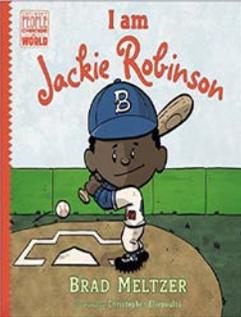
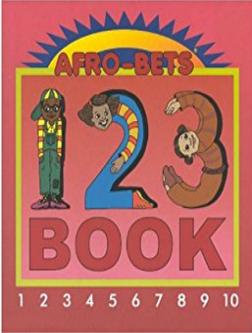
It is also a great story and introduction to another great American scientist and historical figure. The uses for this book are many - use it when highlighting African American figures in history, use it during units on slavery and the reconstruction, and touches on the Tuskegee institute, another important American institution - so it could also be worked into units on the great depression and WWII. The character studies are also important - can be used to highlight determination and perseverance, hardworking spirit, scientific investigation, helpful personality, and many others.

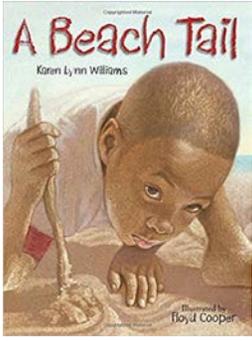
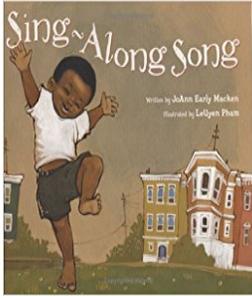
**When the Beat Was
Born: DJ Kool Herc
and the Creation of
Hip-Hop**

Hill, Laban Carrick / Taylor
III, Theodore



*Before there was hip hop, there was DJ Kool Herc. On a hot day at the end of summer in 1973 Cindy Campbell threw a back-to-school party at a park in the South Bronx. Her brother, Clive Campbell, spun the records. He had a new way of playing the music to make the breaks—the musical interludes between verses—longer for dancing. He called himself DJ Kool Herc and this is *When the Beat Was Born*. From his childhood in Jamaica to his youth in the Bronx, Laban Carrick Hill's book tells how Kool Herc came to be a DJ, how kids in gangs stopped fighting in order to breakdance, and how the music he invented went on to define a culture and transform the world.*

<p>I am Jackie Robinson</p>	<p>Meltzer, Brad / Eliopoulos, Christopher</p>		<p><i>Jackie Robinson always loved sports, especially baseball. But he lived at a time before the Civil Rights Movement, when the rules weren't fair to African Americans. Even though Jackie was a great athlete, he wasn't allowed on the best teams just because of the color of his skin. Jackie knew that sports were best when everyone, of every color, played together. He became the first black player in Major League Baseball, and his bravery changed African-American history and led the way to equality in all sports in America.</i></p>
<p>Afro-Bets: 123 Book</p>	<p>Hudson, Cheryl Willis</p>		<p><i>Part of the popular Afro-Bets series, the 123 book includes playful illustrations with a twist that make learning the numbers 1 through 10 fun and engaging for early-readers. The Afro-Bets kids, Langston, Nandi, Glo, Stef, Tura, and Robo, are a fun and flexible group. Children will enjoy learning the numbers 1 through 10 as the Afro-Bets take turns stretching and bending into numbers. Every page includes colorful pictures and words to help reinforce each number.</i></p>

<p>A Beach Tail</p>	<p>Williams, Karen</p>		<p><i>How will Gregory find his way back to Dad? Swish-swoosh . . . Gregory draws a lion in the sand. "Don't go in the water, and don't leave Sandy," warns Dad. But the sandy lion grows a tail that gets longer and longer—and soon Gregory is lost on the beach. This wonderful read-aloud book brings to life a summer experience that is all too familiar for young children. Karen Williams's rhythmic text has been paired with Floyd Cooper's brilliant illustrations, revealing the trip down the beach entirely from a child's point of view. A gentle father-son bond is shown in both text and art, reassuring young readers even as they share in Greg's moment of worry at finding himself lost and alone.</i></p>
<p>Sing-Along Song</p>	<p>Macken, JoAnn Early & Pham, Leuyen</p>		<p><i>Lively illustrations of a loving family punctuate a rollicking text where the everyday sounds in a young child's world inspire the sweetest melodies, from a robin chirping in the morning until Daddy's home-at-last footsteps in the evening.</i></p>

*Descriptions taken from book publisher