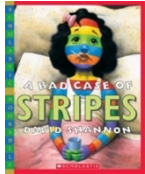




## Be Who You Are: Best Books for Kids



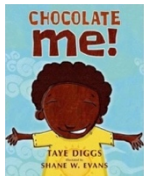
**A Bad Case of Stripes / Un caso grave de rayas.** David Shannon. (K – 2) Camilla has always worried about what other people think of her. She contracts an ailment that literally turns her into whatever anyone—classmates, doctors, etc.—decides she should be. English and Spanish editions.



**Be Who You Are.** Todd Parr. (Toddler – K) With Parr's signature silly and accessible style, Parr encourages readers to embrace all their unique qualities – reminding them that their unique traits are what make them so special.



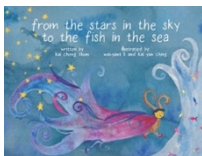
**Bling Blaine: Throw Glitter, Not Shade.** Rob Sanders. (Pre-K – 1) Blaine's a boy who loves to shine . . . well actually, he loves to sparkle. But when his bling rubs some people the wrong way, and the bullying begins, Blaine—along with the entire school—starts to lose his shine. Can Blaine's friends help bring back his glimmer?



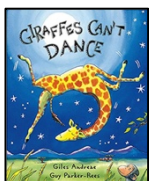
**Chocolate Me! Taye Diggs.** (Pre-K – 1) Teased for looking different than the other kids—his skin is darker, his hair curlier—he tells his mother he wishes he could be more like everyone else. And she helps him to see how beautiful he really, truly is.



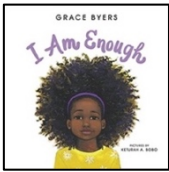
**The Day You Begin / El Día en Que Descubres Quién Eres.** Jacqueline Woodson. (K – 3) Follows a series of students who feel like they stand out and are teased by their classmates. Woodson reminds us that we all feel like outsiders sometimes—and how brave it is that we go forth anyway. English and Spanish editions.



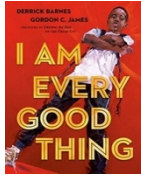
**From the Stars in the Sky to the Fish in the Sea.** Kai Cheng Thom and Kai Yun Ching. (Pre-K – 1) Miu Lan can change into any shape they can imagine. A boy or a girl? A bird or a fish? A flower or a shooting star? At school, they must endure difficult questions. But one thing's for sure—their mother will love them just the same.



**Giraffes Can't Dance.** Giles Andreae. (Toddler – Pre-K) Gerald the tall giraffe would love to join in with the other animals at the Jungle Dance, but he doesn't until finds his own tune and finds acceptance on his own terms.



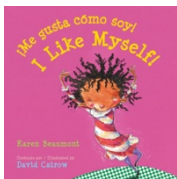
**I Am Enough.** Grace Byers. (Pre-K – 1) With beautiful illustrations and rhyming text *Empire* actor and activist Grace Byers offers a lyrical ode to loving who you are, respecting others and being kind to one another. Featuring an African American girl interacting with girls doing a range of activities from jump rope to martial arts reminding girls they are “here to shine.”



**I Am Every Good Thing.** Derrick Barnes. (Pre-K – 2) I am. a nonstop ball of energy. Powerful and full of light. I am a go-getter. A difference maker. A leader. The confident Black narrator of this book is proud of everything that makes him who he is. He's got big plans, and no doubt he'll see them through--as he's creative, adventurous, smart, funny, and a good friend



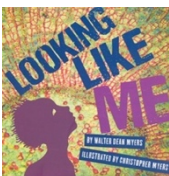
**I Am Perfectly Designed.** Karamo Brown with Jason “Rachel” Brown. (Pre-K – K) Actor, Karamo Brown and his son write about a boy and his father taking a joyful walk through the city, discovering all the ways in which they are perfectly designed for each other.



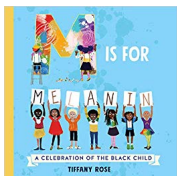
**I Like Myself! / ¡Me gusta cómo soy!** Karen Beaumont. (Pre-K – K) Inside, outside, upside down: Young readers will discover the many ways to celebrate the joy of loving who you are! Encourages kids to appreciate everything about themselves—inside and out. Messy hair? Beaver breath? So what! Here's a little girl who knows what really matters.



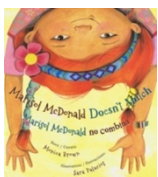
**It's OK to be Different.** Todd Parr. (Pre-K – K) Delivers the important messages of acceptance, understanding, and confidence with Parr's bold, bright colors and silly scenes.



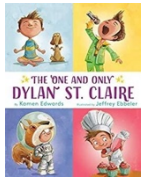
**Looking Like Me.** Walter Dean Myers. (K – 2) With rhythmic text and unique photo-collage illustrations Walter Dean Myers and his son, Christopher Myers celebrate every child, and everything that a child can be. In 2019 Walter Dean Myers received the Children’s Literature Legacy Award.



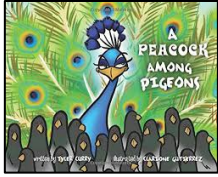
**M is for Melanin.** Tiffany Rose. (Toddler – K) Each letter of the alphabet contains affirming, Black-positive messages, from A is for Afro and F is for Fresh to P is for Pride and W is for Worthy. Teaches children their ABCs while encouraging them to love the skin they're in. Be bold. Be fearless. BE YOU.



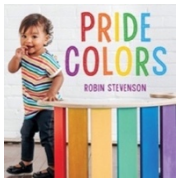
**Marisol McDonald Doesn't Match / Marisol McDonald no combina.** Monica Brown. (K – 2) Marisol, a multiracial girl, loves to be creative, eating peanut butter and jelly burritos, for example. But at times she is misunderstood and teased by peers. Bilingual.



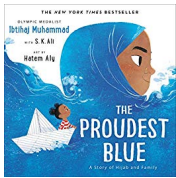
**The One and Only Dylan St. Claire.** Kamen Edwards. (Pre-K – 1) Meet elementary school superstar Dylan St. Claire in this laugh-out-loud book about a live-out-loud boy. Dylan St. Claire confidently walks between "masculine" and "feminine" behavior: He cries openly and expresses his emotions but also cracks jokes and finds his inner strength when the going gets rough.



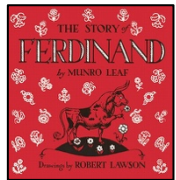
**Peacock Among Pigeons.** Tyler Curry. (Pre-K – 1) Peter, the peacock, tries to blend in with the pigeons but he can't no matter how hard he tries. Finally, he meets colorful birds that accepted him and themselves for the ways they were unique, helping him accept himself.



**Pride Colors.** Robin Stevenson. (Toddler – Pre-K) Through gentle rhymes and colorful photographs of adorable children, "Pride Colors" is a celebration of the deep unconditional love of a caregiver for a young child. The profound message of this delightful book is you are free to be whoever you choose to be; you'll always be loved



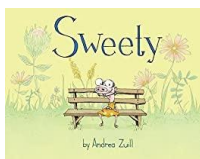
**The Proudest Blue: A Story of Hijab and Family.** Ibtihaj Muhammad. (Pre-K – 1) Ibtihaj Muhammad. (Pre-K – 1) It's the first day of school and Asiya will wear her first-day hijab. "Some people won't understand your hijab, Mama had said. But if you understand who you are, one day they will too." Olympic medalist, Ibtihaj Muhammad writes of the unbreakable bond between siblings, and of being proud of who you are.



**Story of Ferdinand / El cuento de Ferdinando.** Munro Leaf. (Pre-K – 1) A timeless classic first published in 1936. All the other bulls run and jump and butt their heads together, but Ferdinand would rather sit and smell the flowers.



**Sulwe.** Lupita Nyong'o. (Pre-K – 2) Sulwe has skin the color of midnight. But Sulwe just wants to be beautiful and bright, like her mother and sister. Then a magical journey in the night sky opens her eyes and changes everything. Actress Lupita Nyong'o inspires children to see their own unique beauty.



**Sweety.** Andrea Zull. (Pre-K – 2) The story of a charming, mushroom-loving, totally awkward naked mole rat who is looking for like-minded peeps. But her peers don't always get her. But surely there are other mushroom lovers out there? As Sweety sets out to find her peeps, she realizes that being Sweety is actually pretty awesome.



**Los Zombis No Comen Verduras! / Zombies Don't Eat Veggies!** Megan and Jorge Lacera. (Pre-K – 2) Mo, a zombie, loves nothing more than growing and eating vegetables. The problem? His parents insist that their niño eat only zombie cuisine, like arm-panadas and finger foods. Mo can't imagine a lifetime of just eating zombie food. He even begins to question his own zombie identity. English and Spanish editions.