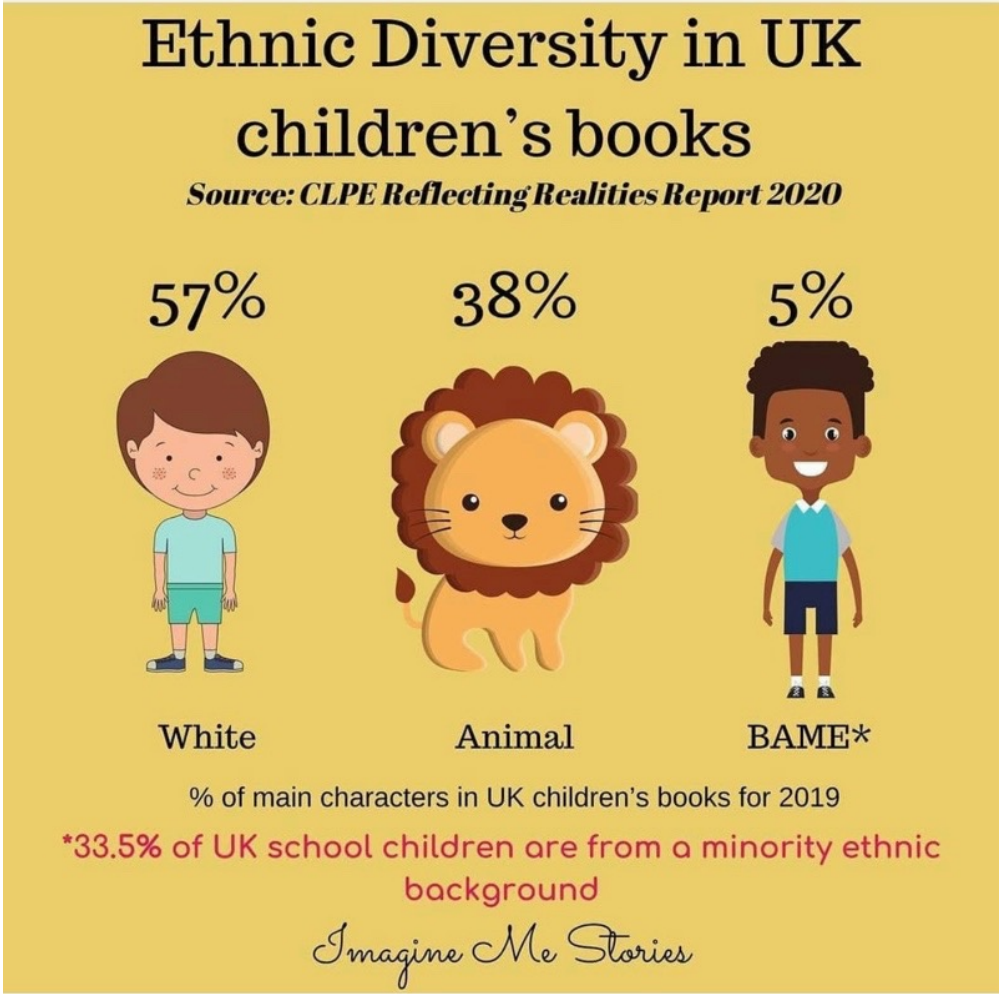


Recommendation Books for Schools



The books with a * are books we either own or have read and can recommend personally.

Books Specifically About Racism

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- *My Skin, Your Skin: Let's talk about race, racism and empowerment - Laura Henry Allain (ages 2-7yrs).
- *What is Racism? - Katie Daynes (ages 4-7 years).
- This Book is Anti-Racist – Tiffany Jewell (aged 10-11 years plus)
- Everyday Action, Everyday Change – Natalie and Naomi Evans (aged 10 years plus)

Educational Books / Black British History

The Black Curriculum have three excellent books:

- *Legacies: Black British Pioneers
- *Places: Important Sights in Black British History
- *Migration: Journeys Through Black British History

- *Black and British: An Illustrated History David Olusoga (age 7-11 years)
- *Black and British: A Short Essential History (ages 7-12 years)
- *Brilliant Black History Month -Atinuke (ages 7 years plus)
- Young Gifted and Black: Meet 52 Black Heroes From The Past -Jamia Wilson
- *The Story of The Windrush by KN Chinbiri (like a ladybird book)





Books with Black and Brown children and families as main characters:

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- *Amazing Grace - Mary Hoffman
- *Julian Is A Mermaid - Jessica Love (race and gender identity)
- *Kechi's Hair - Tola Okogwu
- Hair Love -Matthew Cherry
- *The Mega Magic: Hair Swap – Rochelle Hulmes
- Hair, It's A Family Affair! – Mylo Freeman
- My Hair – Hannah Lee
- *Ada Twist Scientist – Andrea Beaty
- *All are Welcome - Alexandra Penfold
- *Full Full Full of Love- Trish Cooke
- *So Much- Trish Cooke
- *Hip and Hop, You Can Do Anything - Akala
- *Handa's Surprise / Handa's Hen- Eileen Browne
- *Ruby's Worries – Tom Percival
- *The Girls - Jenny Lovlie
- Mia Mayhem Is A Superhero – Kara West

Books with Black and Brown children and families as main characters continued:

- Look Up / Clean Up – Nathon Bryon
- Rainbow Colours – Juliana Perdomo
- Grandma’s Saturday Soup – Sally Fraser
- *Get Up, Stand Up - Cedella Marley
- *Every Little Thing - Cedella Marley
- Billy and The Beast -Nadia Shireen
- We’re Going to Find The Monster – Malorie Blackman
- Counting Kindness - Hollis Kurman (about being a refugee)
- My Daddies - Gareth Peters (same sex parents and diversity)
- Bilal Cooks Daal - Aisha Saeed
- The Proudest Blue – Ibtihaj Muhammad (a story of Hijab)
- The Best Diwali Ever - Sonali Shah





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Books that are problematic in terms of racist negative stereotypes:

Being mindful when reading stories to children how the colours Black and Brown are being used, what are they being used to describe and how are these words used in descriptions (usually negatively) – especially in early year's colour books (poo is brown, brown is dirty) or early emotional literacy books where colours are used to describe feelings. Please see the following examples...

Continued...

‘The Colour Monster’ by Anna

Llenas - This book is problematic and shouldn't be used in early years settings / schools (Black is fear, Black is scared) – there are reports of numerous Black and Brown children telling their parents they don't want to be Black because Black is fear/scary. Internalised racism (impacts on identity – Black is bad) reinforces negative racist stereotypes – Black people are scary, Black is bad, Black is something to be feared.





Alternatives to The Colour Monster:

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- Find out about Feelings; a lift the flap book of emotions by Pat-a-Cake
- The Feelings Book - Todd Parr
- Ruby's worries – Tom Percival
- The Huge Bag of Worries – Virginia Ironside

Continued...

‘Superworm’ by Julia Donaldson -

An example of where language can be harmful and the need to replace harmful language when reading to children. For example, “*The servant crow is black and grim*” can be changed to “*The servant crow is mean and grim*”.





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**UK books we recommend
for teaching staff/ any staff
working in education to
further their learning and
understanding:**

- *I Heard What You Said – Jeffrey Boakye
- *How to Build Your Antiracist Classroom – Orlene Badu

Purchasing Books

If and where possible please try and buy from Black-owned book shops. Please see three listed below.

Book Love – <https://www.thisisbooklove.com/> are based in South East London. The lady who runs it is extremely passionate about educating all young people and ensuring Black and Brown people are represented in books and are out there in as many places as possible. They are passionate about education and the future of education and as well as being an online store, Book love is a travelling book carnival that travels all around the country. They regularly have stalls in various locations/events in South East London and also visit schools if requested. They have a service where they curate lists of books to meet a schools' needs -

<https://www.thisisbooklove.com/shop> . They are also part of an established group who are fighting for British Black history to be better represented in the national curriculum which is the ultimate goal for us and I'm sure us all.



Continued:

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- **Afrori Books** – a shop in Brighton and also a large online collection.
www.afroribooks.co.uk
- **Willesden Bookshop** -shop in Highgate and an online shop that specialises in multicultural children's books -
<http://www.willesdenbookshop.co.uk>

Flashcards to better understand Afro hair types/styles and global head coverings:

<https://www.littleomo.com/collections/flashcards>

