



Africa

Teaching Resources Center, Joyner Library A Selective Annotated Bibliography

Titles in the Teaching Resources Center are cataloged with Dewey call numbers and are preceded by Curric. Please ask someone at the Teaching Resources Service Desk if you need any assistance.

Grade Level	Title Information	Call Number
EASY		
2 - 4	Cunnane, Kelly. <i>Deep in the Sahara</i> . New York: Schwartz & Wade Books, 2013. In Mauritania, West Africa, an Arab girl who wants to wear a malafa, the veiled dress worn by her mother and older sister, learns that the garment represents beauty, mystery, tradition, belonging, and faith.	E C9171D
PreK- 2	Daly, Niki. <i>Next Stop – Zanzibar Road!</i> Boston: Clarion Books, 2012. In Africa, Mama Jumbo puts on a jazzy dress, struggles to get her hat straight with no mirror, then jumps in Mr. Motiki's taxi to go to the market, where she finds everything she needs and more.	E D1785NE
PreK - 2	Gravett, Emily. <i>Meerkat Mail</i> . New York: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2007. Through a series of flip-up postcards addressed to his family, Sunny Meerkat documents his travels as he searches for the perfect place to live.	E G788ME
PreK - 2	Isadora, Rachel. <i>Old Mikamba Had a Farm</i> . New York: Nancy Paulsen	E

	Books, 2013.	IS170L
	The inhabitants of Old Makimba's farm in Africa, including a baboon, an elephant, and a lion, are described, verse by verse.	
PreK - 2	Kahiu, Wanuri. <i>The Wooden Camel</i> . London, UK: Lantana Publishing, 2017.	E K1207W
	Etabo wants nothing more than to race camels, but when times are tough and his chances disappear, he must be content with dreaming about racing them, until his sister makes a herd of wooden camels to help him imagine.	
2 - 4	Javaherbin, Mina. <i>Goal!</i> Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press, 2010.	E J3278G
	In a dangerous alley in a township in South Africa, the strength and unity which a group of young friends feel while playing soccer keep them safe when a gang of bullies arrives to cause trouble.	
PreK - K	Landström, Lena. <i>A Hippo's Tale</i> . Stockholm; New York: R&S Books, 2007.	E L2397H
	Deep in the middle of Africa, Mrs. Hippopotamus enjoys having quiet time all to herself, especially when bathing. But then a monkey shows up and disturbs her solitude. What is Mrs. Hippopotamus to do?	
PreK - 4	Lumry, Amanda. <i>Safari in South Africa</i> . New York: Scholastic Press, 2008.	E L9713S
	Riley travels with his Uncle Max to check on the animal population at a South African game reserve.	
2 - 5	Milway, Katie Smith. <i>One Hen: How One Small Loan Made a Big Difference</i> . Toronto, ON; Tonawanda, NY: Kids Can Press, 2008.	E M648O
	Based on a true story, tells of how a poor Ghanaian boy buys a chicken through a community loan program, which eventually helps lift him, his mother, and his community out of poverty.	
K - 3	Norfolk, Bobby. <i>Anansi & The Pot of Beans</i> . Atlanta, GA: August House Story Cove, 2006.	E N763A
	While helping his Grandma Spider, Anansi cannot resist her steaming hot pot of beans, despite her warnings to stay away.	
PreK - 3	Stephoe, John. <i>Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters: An African Tale</i> . New York:	E

	Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Books, 1987.	ST454M
	Mufaro's two beautiful daughters, one bad-tempered, one kind and sweet, go before the king, who is choosing a wife.	
K - 3	Stockland, Patricia M. <i>Tiger Toothache</i> . Edina, MN: Magic Wagon, 2008.	E ST626T
	Rooooaar! When Safari friends Milo and Eddie are woken by the ferocious roar in the grasslands, they go to investigate. They find Tasha the tiger with a terrible toothache. Can they help her find an emergency dentist and a new dental hygiene routine before it is too late?	
PreK - 2	Verde, Susan. <i>The Water Princess</i> . New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 2016.	E V583W
	The story of one young girl's quest to bring clean drinking water to her African village.	
FICTION		
N/A	Maserow, Joshua (Ed.) <i>Amagama Enkululeko! Words for Freedom: Writing Life Under Apartheid</i> . Muizenburg, ZA: Cover2Cover, 2017.	F AM12
	An anthology of short fiction, poetry, narrative journalism and extracts from novels and memoirs which frames local literature as a lens through which to engage with South Africa's past.	
1 - 3	Atinuke. <i>Anna Hibiscus</i> . Tulsa, OK: Kane Miller, 2010. (First of a series)	F AT48A01
	Anna Hibiscus, who lives in Africa with her whole family, loves to splash in the sea and have parties for her aunts, but Anna would love to see snow.	
K - 3	Atinuke. <i>The No. 1 Car Spotter</i> . Tulsa, OK: Kane Miller, 2011.	F AT48N
	When the cart breaks down and the villagers can't get their goods to market, Oluwalase Babatunde Benson, otherwise known as the No. 1 car spotter in his village, comes up with a brilliant solution.	
8 - 12	Bassoff, Leah. <i>Lost Girl Found</i> . Toronto, ON: Groundwood Books/House of Anansi Press, 2014.	F B295L
	When war comes to her village in southern Sudan, Poni is forced to flee, and join thousands of refugees travelling on foot and experiencing great hardship on their way to a refugee camp.	

- 6 - 12 Cooney, Caroline B. *Diamonds in the Shadow*. New York: Delacorte Press, 2007. F
C783D
- The Finches, a Connecticut family, sponsor an African refugee family of four, all of whom have been scarred by the horrors of civil war, and who inadvertently put their benefactors in harm's way.
- 5 - 8 Crowder, Melanie. *Parched*. Boston; New York: Harcourt; Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2007. F
C8858P
- Told from three perspectives, Sarel, who just witnessed the brutal murder of her parents, Nandi, the leader of a pack of dogs who looks out for her pups and Sarel, and Musa, an escaped prisoner with the water song inside him, struggle to survive in a land without water.
- 3 - 4 Freeman, Ruth. *One Good Thing About America*. New York: Holiday House, 2017. F
F8776O
- Anais, who has recently emigrated from Africa to Maine with her mother and young brother, copes with acclimating herself to a new country, understanding American culture, learning English, figuring out how to fit in at school, and moving from motel to shelter and finally to a permanent apartment.
- 6 - 9 Kent, Trilby. *Stones For My Father*. Toronto, ON: Tundra Books, 2011. F
K418S
- Corlie Roux's life in South Africa is not easy. But when the British invade and drive out the Boer families, some of them are driven to internment camps. This happens to Corlie. Will the love of her country survive the British invasion?
- 3 - 6 Napoli, Donna Jo. *Mogo, The Third Warthog*. New York: Hyperion Books for Children, 2008. F
N1628MO
- When Mogo is cast out of his burrow to make room for a new litter, he learns how to survive and as an unlikely friendship with a young baboon blooms, Mogo finds the joy of friendship and love.
- 9 - 12 Powers, J.L. *This Thing Called the Future*. El Paso, TX: Cinco Puntos Press, 2011. F
P873T
- Fourteen-year-old Khosi's mother wants her to get an education to break out of their South African shantytown, although she herself is wasting away from an untreated illness, while Khosi's grandmother, Gogo, seeks help from a traditional Zulu healer.
- 4 - 7 St. John, Lauren. *The White Giraffe*. New York: Dial Books for Young Readers, 2007. F
ST1047W

After a fire kills her parents, eleven-year-old Martine must leave England to live with her grandmother on a wildlife game reserve in South Africa, where she befriends a mythical white giraffe.

8 - 12 Stratton, Allan. *Chanda's Wars*. New York: Harper Teen, 2008. F
ST825CW

Chandra Kabelo, a teenaged African girl, must save her younger siblings after they are kidnapped and forced to serve as child soldiers in General Mandiki's rebel army.

6 - 12 Van de Ruit, John. *Spud*. New York: Razorbill, 2007. F
V2825S

In 1990, thirteen-year-old John "Spud" Milton, a prepubescent choirboy, keeps a diary of his first year at an elite, boys-only boarding school in South Africa, as he deals with bizarre housemates, wild crushes, embarrassingly dysfunctional parents, and much more.

6 - 9 Warman, Janice. *The World Beneath*. Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press, 2016. F
W2359W

In 1970s South Africa eleven-year-old Joshua, living with his mother in their employer's house, rescues a freedom fighter on the run and, becoming aware of the political situation around him, makes difficult choices that will change his life forever.

7 - 12 Wein, Elizabeth E. *The Lion Hunter*. New York: Viking, 2007. (Book 1 in the *Mark of Solomon* series) F
W4303L

Still recovering from his ordeal as a government spy, twelve-year-old Telemakos, the half-Ethiopian grandson of King Artos of Britain, is sent with his sister to live with Abreha, the ruler of Himyar. His Aunt Goewin warns him that Abreha is a dangerous man, but just how dangerous remains to be seen.

NONFICTION

1 - 4 Paul, Miranda. *One Plastic Bag: Isatou Ceesay and the Recycling Women of the Gambia*. Minneapolis, MN: Millbrook Press, 2015. 363.72
P2816O

Isatou Ceesay changed the problem of discarded plastic bags in Gambia. She found a way to recycle the bags and transform her community. This inspirational true story shows how one person's actions really can make a difference in our world.

4 - 6 Chambers, Catherine. *African Myths and Legends*. Chicago, IL: Capstone Raintree, 2013. 398.2096
C3556A

The world's myths are filled with characters, creatures, and stories that have fascinated people for thousands of years. This book explores the gods, goddesses, heroes, villains, tricksters, and quests that make African myths and legends so compelling

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| N/A | <p>Naidoo, Beverley. <i>Who is King? Ten Magical Stories from Africa</i>. London, UK: Frances Lincoln Children's Books, 2015.</p> <p>Collects ten stories of African folklore, from Amharic and Arabic tales to Shona and Zulu lore.</p> | <p>398.2096
N1431W</p> |
| N/A | <p>Green, Jen. <i>West African Myths</i>. New York: Gareth Stevens Pub., 2010.</p> <p>Briefly describes the history, geography, and society of West African cultures; explains concepts found within their folklore and mythology; and presents several myths.</p> | <p>398.20966
G8233W</p> |
| N/A | <p>Mhlophe, Gcina. <i>African Tales: A Barefoot Collection</i>. Cambridge, MA: Barefoot Books, 2009.</p> <p>A collection of folktales, each from a different region in Africa.</p> | <p>398.20967
M5799A</p> |
| N/A | <p>Wojahn, Rebecca Hogue. <i>A Cloud Forest Food Chain: A Who-Eats-What Adventure in Africa</i>. Minneapolis, MN: Lerner Publications, 2010.</p> <p>Welcome to an African cloud forest! As you set off down the mountain path, all you see ahead is a thick tangle of vines and bamboo trees. But the cloud forest is full of life, from a collared sunbird hovering over some flowers to a leopard stalking a giant forest hog. Day and night in the cloud forest, the hunt is on to find food and to avoid becoming someone else's next meal. All living things are connected to one another in a food chain, from animal to animal, animal to plant, plant to insect, and insect to animal.</p> | <p>577.34096
W829C</p> |
| K - 3 | <p>Spilsbury, Louise. <i>Animals in Danger in Africa</i>. Chicago, IL: Heinemann Library, 2013.</p> <p>Learn about the animals struggling to survive on the Earth's second largest continent. Clear maps and a helpful classification chart make this title a great tool for learning about threatened and endangered animals in Africa.</p> | <p>591.68096
SP45A</p> |
| K - 3 | <p>Oachs, Emily Rose. <i>Africa</i>. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media Inc., 2016.</p> | <p>916
OA1A</p> |

Simple text and full-color photography introduce beginning readers to Africa.

- 1 - 2 Oxlade, Chris. *Introducing Africa*. Chicago, IL: Heinemann Library, 2014. 916
OX4I

Introduces the continent of Africa, including its weather, people, and countries.

- 1 - 2 Schaeffer, A.R. *Spotlight on Africa*. Mankato, MN: Capstone Press, 2011. 960
SCH131S

An introduction to Africa including climate, landforms, plants, animals, and people.

BIOGRAPHY

- 6 - 12 Dahl, Roald. *Going Solo*. New York: Puffin Books, 2009. B
D137G

The children's author recounts his adventures as a young man working in East Africa for the Shell Company, living in the jungle, and later flying a fighter plane in World War II.

- 3 - 4 Doak, Robin S. *Dian Fossey: Friend to Africa's Gorillas*. Chicago, IL: Heinemann Library, 2015. B
F798D

This book takes an engaging look at the work of ground-breaking conservationist, Dian Fossey, and her work with mountain gorillas. It covers Fossey's inspiration, her methods, findings, and the impact of her work in Africa

- 2 - 6 Fronty, Aurélia. *Wangari Maathai: The Woman Who Planted Millions of Trees*. Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge, 2015. B
M112P

Wangari Maathai received the Nobel Peace Prize in 2004 for her efforts to lead women in a nonviolent struggle to bring peace and democracy to Africa through its reforestation. Her organization planted over thirty million trees in thirty years. This picture book tells the story of an amazing woman and an inspiring idea.

- 2 - 5 Erskine, Kathryn. *Mama Africa! How Miriam Makeba Spread Hope with Her Song*. New York: Farrar Straus Giroux, 2017. B
M2893E

A harrowing picture biography of civil-rights activist and Grammy Award-winning South African singer Miriam Makeba.

- 5 - 8 Gormley, Beatrice. *Nelson Mandela: South African Revolutionary*. New York: Aladdin, 2015. B
M3125GO

Get a behind-the-scenes glimpse of what it takes to change the world in this comprehensive biography that tells the complete life story of internationally renowned peacemaker Nelson Mandela. Civil rights activist. World leader. Writer. Throughout his life, Nelson Mandela took on many roles, all in the pursuit of peace.

- 5 - 12 Noah, Trevor. *Born a Crime: Stories from a South African Childhood*. New York: Spiegel & Grau, 2016. B
N661N

Noah's path from apartheid South Africa to the desk of The Daily Show began with a criminal act: his birth. Born to a white Swiss father and a black Xhosa mother, at the time such a union was punishable by five years in prison. As he struggles to find himself in a world where he was never supposed to exist, his mother is determined to save her son from the cycle of poverty, violence, and abuse that would ultimately threaten her own life.

- 3 - 6 Weatherford, Carole Boston. *Schomburg: The Man Who Built a Library*. Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press, 2017. B
SCH649W

Arturo Schomburg, a law clerk, whose life's passion was to collect books, letters, music, and art from Africa and the African diaspora and bring to light the achievements of people of African descent through the ages. When Schomburg's collection became so big it began to overflow his house (and his wife threatened to mutiny), he turned to the New York Public Library, where he created and curated a collection that was the cornerstone of a new Negro Division. A century later, his groundbreaking collection, known as the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, has become a beacon to scholars all over the world.

- K - 2 Thompson, Laurie Ann. *Emmanuel's Dream: The True Story of Emmanuel Ofosu Yeboah*. New York: Schwartz & Wade Books, 2015. B
Y34T

Born in Ghana, West Africa, with one deformed leg, he was dismissed by most people--but not by his mother, who taught him to reach for his dreams. As a boy, Emmanuel hopped to school more than two miles each way, learned to play soccer, left home at age thirteen to provide for his family, and, eventually, became a cyclist. He rode an astonishing four hundred miles across Ghana in 2001, spreading his powerful message: disability is not inability. Today, Emmanuel continues to work on behalf of the disabled.

PROFESSIONAL COLLECTION

- Khorana, Meena. *Africa in Literature for Children and Young Adults: An* 016.96

- Annotated Bibliography of English-Language Books*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1994. K528A
- Fredericks, Anthony D. *African Legends, Myths, and Folktales For Readers Theater*. Westport, CT: Teachers Idea Press, 2008. 812 F8727A
- Croze, Harvey. *Africa for Kids: Exploring a Vibrant Continent [with] 19 Activities*. Chicago, IL: Chicago Review Press, 2006. 916 C8869A
- Mooney, Carla. *Amazing Africa: Projects You Can Build Yourself*. White River Junction, VT: Nomad Press, 2010. 960 M779A

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