Africa

Teaching Resources Center, Joyner Library
A Selective Annotated Bibliography

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<tr>
<th>Grade Level</th>
<th>Title Information</th>
<th>Call Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EASY</td>
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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.


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.


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.


1
The inhabitants of Old Makimba's farm in Africa, including a baboon, an elephant, and a lion, are described, verse by verse.


Etumbo 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.


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.


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?


Riley travels with his Uncle Max to check on the animal population at a South African game reserve.


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.


While helping his Grandma Spider, Anansi cannot resist her steaming hot pot of beans, despite her warnings to stay away.


Mufaro's two beautiful daughters, one bad-tempered, one kind and sweet, go before the king, who is choosing a wife.


Roooaar! 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?


The story of one young girl's quest to bring clean drinking water to her African village.

**FICTION**


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. *Anna Hibiscus*. Tulsa, OK: Kane Miller, 2010. (First of a series)

Anna Hibiscus, who lives in Africa with her whole family, loves to splash in the sea and have parties for her aunties, but Anna would love to see snow.


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.


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.
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<td>6 - 12</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>5 - 8</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>3 - 4</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>6 - 9</td>
<td>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?</td>
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<td>3 - 6</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>9 - 12</td>
<td>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.</td>
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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.


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.


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.


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.


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**


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.


Collects ten stories of African folklore, from Amharic and Arabic tales to Shona and Zulu lore.


Briefly describes the history, geography, and society of West African cultures; explains concepts found within their folklore and mythology; and presents several myths.


A collection of folktales, each from a different region in Africa.


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.

K - 3 Spilsbury, Louise. *Animals in Danger in Africa*. Chicago, IL: Heinemann Library, 2013. 591.68096 SP45A

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.

K - 3 Oachs, Emily Rose. *Africa*. Minneapolis, MN: Bellwether Media Inc., 2016. 916 OA1A
Simple text and full-color photography introduce beginning readers to Africa.


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


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

**BIOGRAPHY**


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.


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.


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.


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

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.


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.


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.


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


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