

Our unique categories identify trends in how indigenous people and people of color (IPOC) are represented in multicultural picture books. Ensuring that no one message dominates is an important way to diversify your bookshelves.

Category	Description	Examples from Our Collection
Any Child	Books depicting IPOC which do not make race, ethnicity, or culture part of the storyline. Any Child books can be identified as those in which the characters' race could be changed without changing the story.	<i>Lola Reads to Leo</i> (Charlesbridge) by Anna McQuinn
Cross Group: Interactions Across Race & Culture	Books portraying interactions of named characters across racial or cultural difference, including those depicting peer group and cross-age friendships. The interactions may be positive, negative, hostile or ambiguous.	<i>My Friend Jamal</i> (Annick Press) by Anna McQuinn
Beautiful Life: A Focus on Culture	Books about a particular racial or cultural group experience, taking readers into the everyday lives of characters around the world, with specific cultural components such as language, food, celebrations, and traditions.	<i>Hana Hashimoto, Sixth Violin</i> (Kids Can Press) by Chieri Uegaki <i>Red Kite, Blue Kite</i> (Disney-Hyperion) by Ji-li Jiang
Race/Culture Concepts: Examining Difference & Commonalities	Books that explore and compare specific aspects of human difference, inviting readers to consider varying perspectives related to racial, ethnic, or cultural identity.	<i>Going to Mecca</i> (Frances Lincoln) by Na'ima Robert <i>Shades of People</i> (Holiday House) by Shelley Rotner
Oppression: Struggle, Resistance & Triumph	Books about prejudice, mistreatment and discrimination based on race, ethnicity or culture, such as stories focused on slavery, the civil rights movement or internment.	<i>Hope's Gift</i> (G.P. Putnam's Sons) by Kelly Starling Lyons
Folklore: Myths, Legends & Traditional Stories	Books featuring myths, legends, folk and fairy tales set in a particular cultural context, introducing readers to various traditions, activities, languages and values.	<i>Beauty and the Beast</i> (HarperCollins) by H. Chuku Lee
Biography: Real People, Real Lives	Narrative nonfiction books about the life of a particular person or group of people from a historical or contemporary perspective.	<i>Side by Side: The Story of Dolores Huerta and Cesar Chavez</i> (Rayo) by Monica Brown
Incidental: Ensemble or Background Characters of Color	Books featuring a diverse group of non-primary characters, or books with a white protagonist and a diverse cast of background characters.	<i>12 Days of New York</i> (Harry N. Abrams) by Tonya Bolden <i>Read All About It!</i> (HarperCollins) by Laura Bush and Jenna Bush Hager
Informational: Factual Content Unrelated to Race or Culture	Narrative nonfiction books presenting factual information, with or without a storyline; may be encyclopedic. IPOC are depicted, but race/culture is not always central to the content.	<i>The Good Garden: How One Family Went from Hunger to Having Enough</i> (Kids Can Press) by Katie Smith Milway