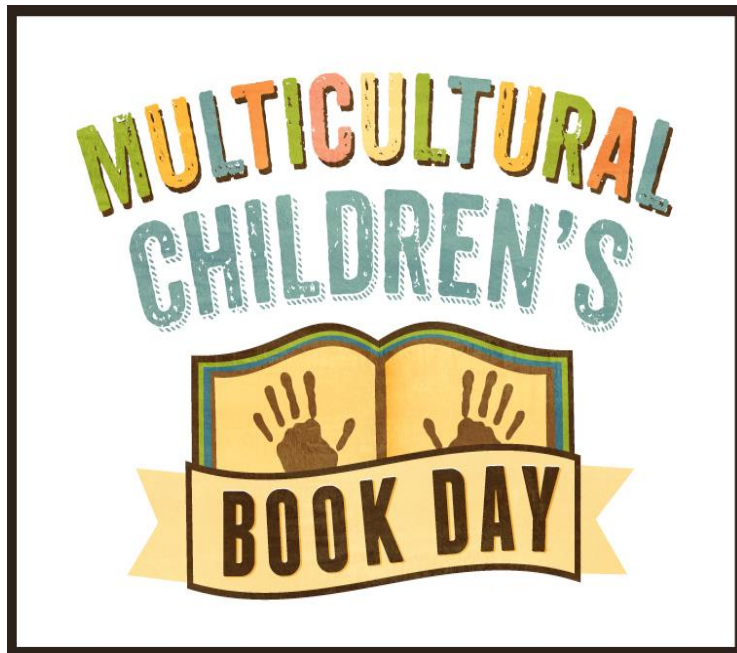


2017



Multicultural Children's Book Day Classroom Kindness Kit and Diverse Booklist

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Multicultural Children's

Book Day

1/1/2017

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Now more than ever, a message of hope, compassion, empathy and understanding is needed.

Now more than ever, children need to see themselves reflected in the pages of the books they read. Readers of all ages need to be able to “read their world” to both see themselves, and those who are different, whether by culture, religion, sexual orientation, special needs or ethnicity.

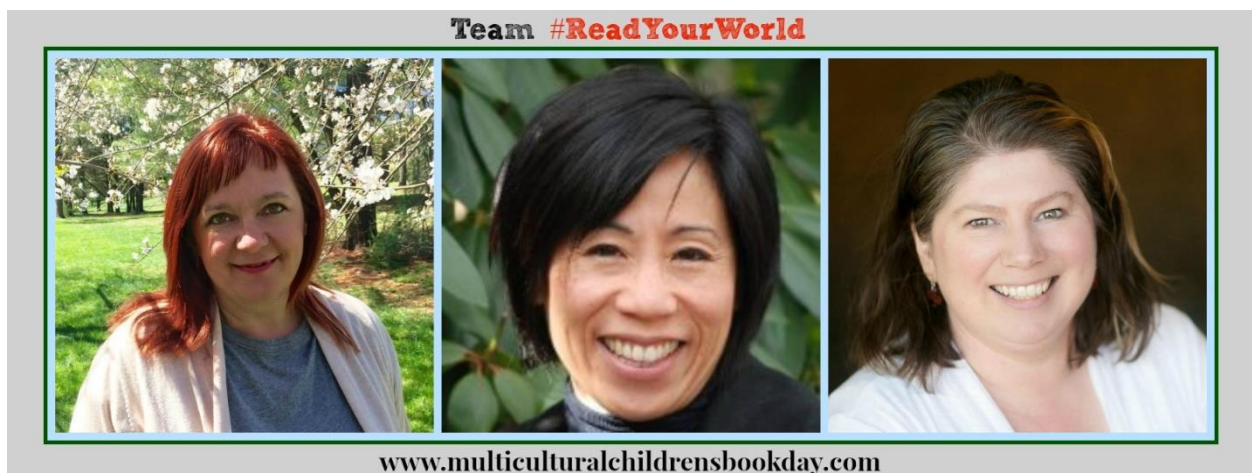
Now more than ever, we need to come together as a nation of beautifully diverse people.

Multicultural Children’s Book Day is proud to offer an initiative and holiday that encourages discovery, hope, acceptance and exploration through the pages of diverse children’s literature.

As our fourth Multicultural Children’s Book Day holiday approaches on January 27, 2017, we are thrilled to have you as part of our amazing community of supporters! With enthusiasm, optimism and hope, we are preparing for MCBBD 2017 and hope you will, again, join our celebration of diversity through children's books.

Thank you for cultivating understanding, kindness, inclusion and exploration of this beautiful world in your classroom.

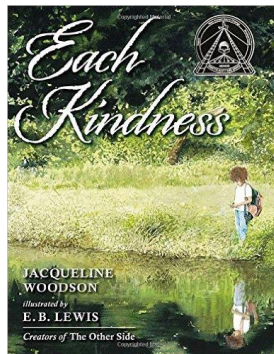
Valarie, Mia and Becky (The Multicultural Children’s Book Day team)



Read Your World-10 Classroom Books About Kindness

1. Each Kindness by Jacqueline Woodson

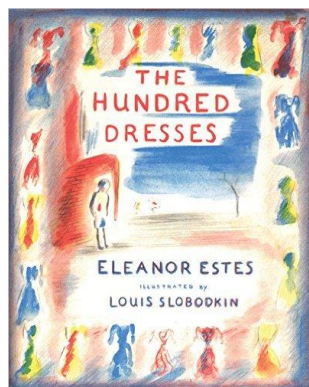
Winner of the Coretta Scott King Honor and the Jane Addams Peace Award, *Each Kindness* brings to mind that the smallest act of kindness can change the world.



Chloe and her friends refuse to let the new girl at school, Maya play with them. Each time Maya tries to play with Chloe and her friends she is rejected and turned away. Because of the unkindness, Maya stops coming to school all together. Chloe's teacher gives impactful lessons of how little things matter. Chloe realizes what she has done and feels regretful for the unkindness and lost opportunity of friendship with Maya.

2. The Hundred Dresses by Eleanor Estes

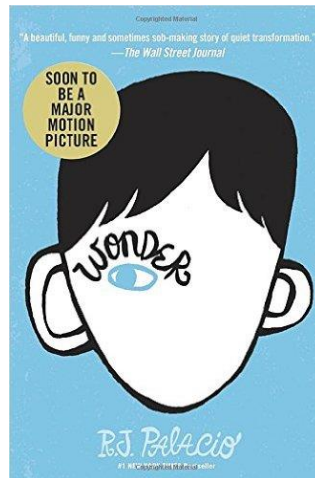
The Hundred Dresses won the Newbery Honor award in 1945 and has never been out of print. Wanda Petronski is a polish girl who goes to a Connecticut school. She is made fun of and ridiculed by her classmates for wearing the same faded blue dress every day.



Wanda claims that she has 100 dresses at home but everyone knows she doesn't. Wanda becomes the focus of intense bullying. Her classmates realize they have gone too far when Wanda is pulled out of school. Too late for apologies, one of Wanda's classmates makes the decision that she will never stand by and say nothing again.

3. Wonder by R. J. Palacio

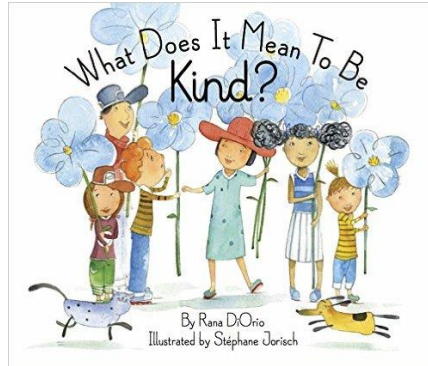
Wonder is the book that inspired the Choose Kind movement.



August Pullman is a boy who was born with a face deformity which has prevented him from going to a mainstream school. Starting in 5th grade however all of that changed and he found himself at Beecher Prep. His greatest wish in life is to be treated like a normal kid. His new classmates can't get past his extraordinary face. Written from a variety of perspectives Wonder deals with a community's struggle with empathy, compassion, and acceptance.

4. What Does It Mean to Be Kind? by Rana DiOrio

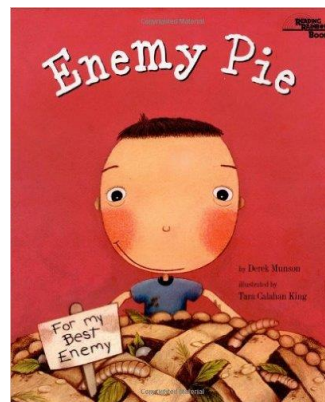
A girl in a red hat finds the courage to be kind to the new student in class.



Her kindness spreads, kind act by kind act, until her whole community experiences the magical shift that happens when everyone understands—and acts on—what it means to be kind.

5. **Enemy Pie** by Derek Munson

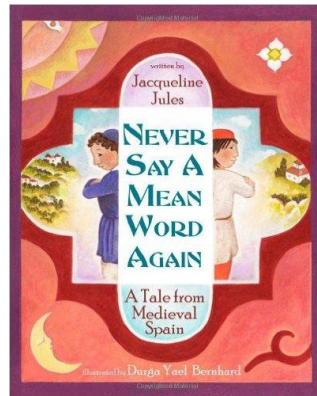
It was the perfect summer. That is, until Jeremy Ross moved into the house down the street and became neighborhood enemy number one. Luckily Dad had a surefire way to get rid of enemies: Enemy Pie. But part of the secret recipe is spending an entire day playing with the enemy!



In this funny yet endearing story, one little boy learns an effective recipes for turning your best enemy into your best friend. Accompanied by charming illustrations, *Enemy Pie* serves up a sweet lesson in the difficulties and ultimate rewards of making new friends.

6. **Never Say a Mean Word Again** by Jacqueline Jules

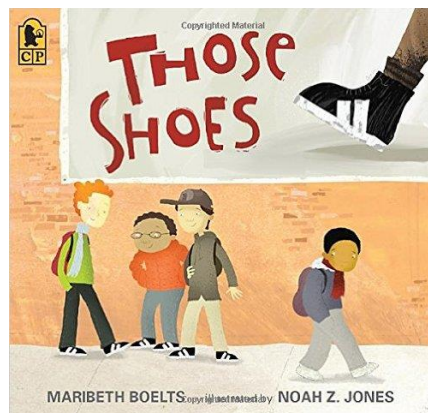
Samuel, under the orders of his father, is told to “*Make sure Hamza never says a mean word to you again.*”



Being given permission to punish someone is a great responsibility, especially when the person you're punishing isn't even aware that they did something wrong. This inspiring and compelling story is based on a legend of conflict resolutions in Muslim Spain. The lesson of extending the hand of friendship is preferable to escalating tensions is a timely tale in kindness.

7. Those Shoes by Maribeth Boelts

All Jeremy wants is a pair of shoes like everyone else has. Jeremy's grandma tells him “there's no room for want, just “need” and that he doesn't need a pair of shoes.

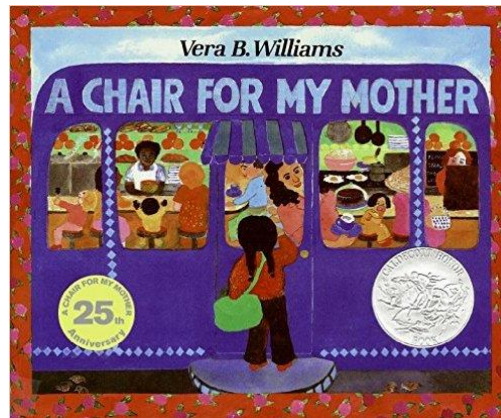


When Jeremy's shoes fall apart at school, the guidance counselor gives him a used pair, now Jeremy is more determined than ever to have a pair of “those” shoes, even a thrift store version would be better than what he has right now. Even with very sore feet, caused by the shoes of his dreams, Jeremy realizes that the things he

does have such as warm boot, a loving grandma and the chance to help a friend are worth more than the things he wants.

8. **A Chair for My Mother** by Vera B. Williams

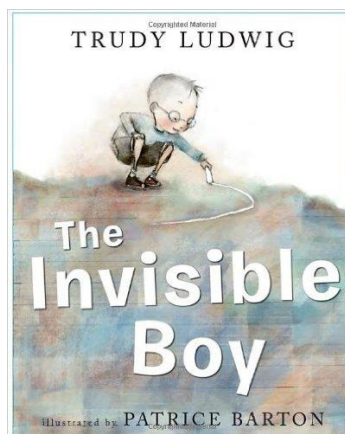
After their home is destroyed by fire, Rosa, her mother, and grandmother save their coins so they can buy a really comfortable chair for everyone to enjoy.



The feeling of excitement and anticipation expresses the strength and joyful spirit of this family. The illustrations are in deep, bright and beautiful colors that creates the perfect backdrop for this inspiring tale.

9. **The Invisible Boy** by Trudy Ludwig

Brain feels invisible. Even his teacher hardly notices him. Every day he eats alone and no one ever asks him to play.

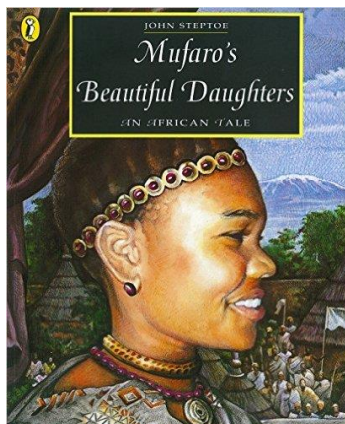


While the other kids are playing at recess, Brian loves to draw. He creates comics about greedy pirates, battling space aliens, and superheroes who have the power to create friends everywhere.

One day a new boy, Justin, arrives. The other children make fun of him but Brian slips him a kind note. When project time rolls around Brian, Justin, and another boy create a project that makes them visible. This is a heartwarming story on friendship, acceptance, and inclusion.

10. **Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters: An African Tale** by John Steptoe

An African villager named Mufaro has two daughters whom everyone agrees are beautiful. Their dispositions however are completely different. Manyara has a bad temper which she never shows to her father and is selfish. On the flipside her sister, Myasah, is always kind and considerate of other people.



When Mufaro receives word that the Great King is inviting all of the most worthy and beautiful women to appear before him so that he can choose a wife. Mufaro decides that both of his beautiful daughters will go. Each girl sets out on her own journey to the King's reception. Each meets with strangers who pose an interesting set of circumstances. Only the good and kind will succeed. Set in Zimbabwe, this folktale is a lesson on what traits truly matter in a person.

**All books are available for purchase on Amazon or at your local book retailer. Some of these links are affiliate links. If you see a book you like and click through to purchase, MCBBD will get a tiny commission. This money goes into our non-profit initiative of getting more free diverse children's books into the hands of young readers!

Activities Inspired by this Booklist

Never Say a Mean Word Again by Jacqueline Jules

(An excerpt from Jump Into a Books' book review with extension activities)

<http://www.jumpintoabook.com/2014/11/want-put-end-name-calling/>

The problem starts when Hamza views Samuel's clumsy actions as mean intended. So to return Samuel's unkindness, Hamza calls him mean names. Samuel then feels it's his turn to show unkindness but it always unfolds into kindness. How can we do this in our own lives? How can we turn unkindness into kindness?

Let's start with the way we speak. Here are a few nice things to say to people whenever you should encounter them or to keep positive conversation flowing:

- Hi my name is _____ what's yours?
- Can I help you?
- What's your favorite ____? (color, game, animal etc.)
- Tell me more
- I forgive you
- Please
- I'm glad you're my friend.
- You're awesome
- I like you
- That's incredible!
- Want to play?
- Want to play____? (Charades, hop scotch, board game, cards, Hide & Seek, Simon Says, 20 Questions, I Spy, Catch).
- Awesome

Along with kind words, we can also choose not to view someone's unkindness as unkindness but an invitation to play. If someone should say something unkind, compliment them on something and then include them in an activity.

Please note: That within the activity above, we are referring to simple childhood disagreements and not full on bullying which is a much bigger problem and is dealt with differently. It's my hope that simple kind actions when children are small will

provide them with the tools they need to deal with conflicts in a kind way as they grow as opposed to aggression.

Enemy Pie by Derek Munson

Bullying has been a very real problem all over the globe. Following are some perspectives and activities to help you and your family investigate and create solutions which work for you and yours.

Storytelling:

The story behind Dandelion allows and engages the imagination to allow readers to “live” the story. Storytelling is an excellent teaching strategy because stories ignite kids’ interest, helping them to create vivid mental images and stories activate the thinking process. The storytelling process is also brought to light in Pacer.org’s tale of SpookyThe Pumpkin.

Spooky is a square pumpkin living in a round pumpkin world. Through Spooky, Pace.org has created a wonderful system of stories, role-playing, and video to help young minds understand the effects of bullying.

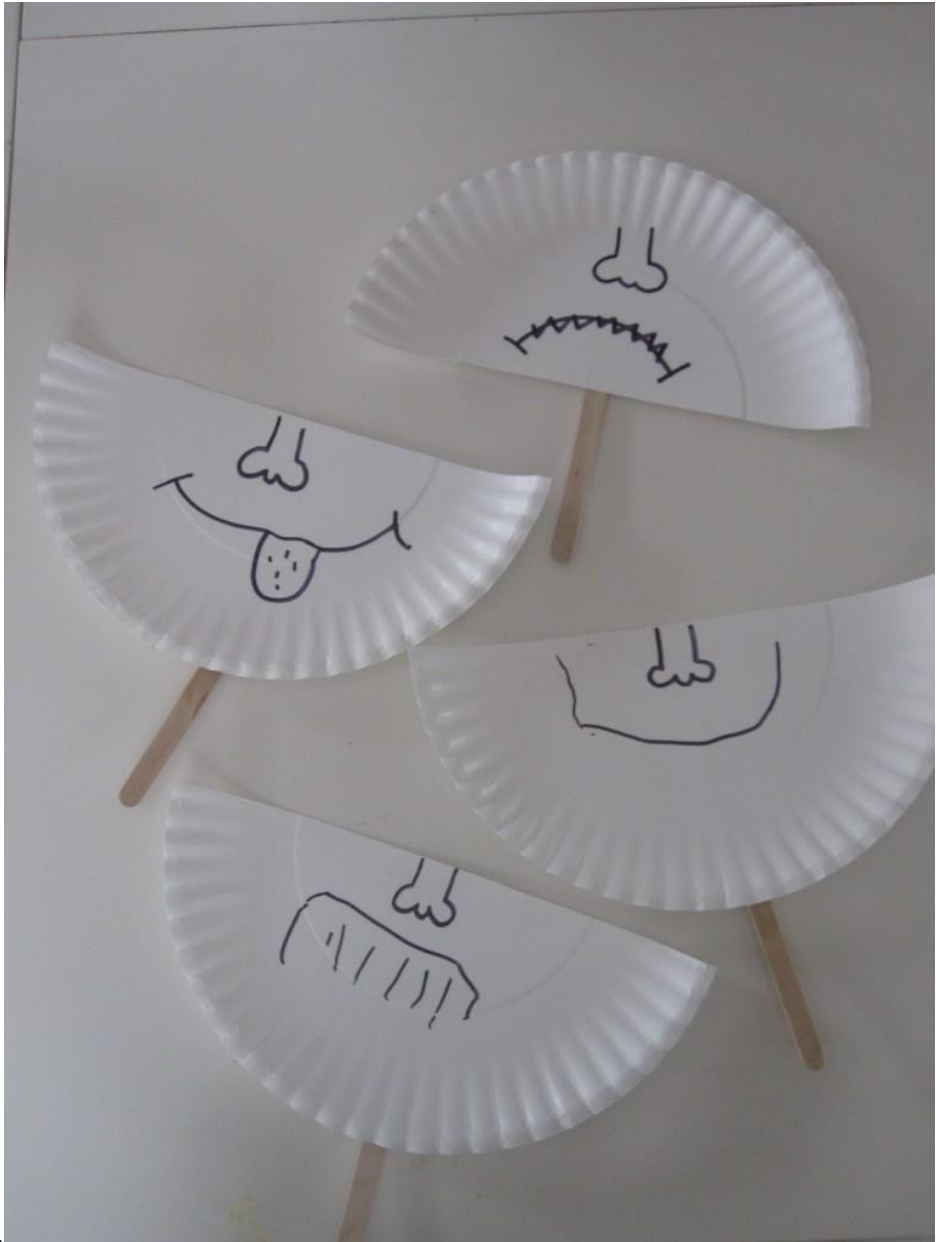
Empathy skills: Happy-Mad-Sad.

- Encourage children to label their own feelings and tell each other how they feel about bullying.
- Discuss how children who are bullied might feel.
- Explain that despite differences between people, everyone experiences certain basic feelings.
- Remind children how they felt in situations like those faced by others in distress.
- Model empathy by talking about how you identify another’s distress and think of ways to help.

Encourage your kids to be creative by creating “bullying art.” Ask them to create masks depicting the different human emotions. This helps to get them thinking about bullying and the emotions that go along with it.

Our friends over at No Time For Flash Cards has a great tutorial on making Emotions Masks from Paper Plates.

<http://www.notimeforflashcards.com/2011/05/paper-plate-emotion-masks.html>



Kindness Activities

10 Kindness Week Ideas for Schools:

1. The Kindness Tree: Create a big paper tree in the hallway or classroom using leaves or Post-it notes, have students, teachers, and staff write the random acts of kindness they've done and witnessed. It's a great way to track and highlight random acts of kindness. Avery.com has a Thankful Tree activity that could easily be modified into a Kindness Tree project.

Use [Avery Design & Print Online](#) to pre-print tags that can be customized to whatever message your students want to share. Have your students fill out a tag or two and attach them to the tree. Once everyone's filled out a tag, enjoy reading everyone's responses and trying to guess who wrote each one. Read more [here](#).
http://www.avery.com/avery/en_us/Projects-&-Ideas/Ideas-for-Home/Special-Occasions/Articles/Homespun-Ideas-for-a-DIY-Thanksgiving.htm?cmp_id=social-pin-thanksgiving--tree&crlt.pid=camp.foB5VkcLOoGV

OR use the wonderful example shared by Ripple Kindness on their Twitter Feed.
(source; <https://mobile.twitter.com/RippleKindness/status/562032163093512192>)



2. Paper Chains of Kindness: Have pre-cut strips of colored paper. As students, teachers, and staff do kind things, write it down on one of the color strips, loop it

through the preceding chain link and tape or glue it in place. This is a great addition to the kindness corner in your school or classroom. It is visually encouraging and always ongoing. It's a great way to track the year of kindness in your school and classroom. Crayola.com has a great tutorial on how to create your own Caring Chain here: <http://www.crayola.com/crafts/caring-chain-to-stop-bullying--craft/>



3.The Kindness Jar: Take a tall canning jar or any tall jar. As each person in the classroom or school community witnesses an act of kindness, they write it down on a slip of paper and place it in the kindness jar. At the end of each week read how much kindness has been generated in your classroom.



4.Kindness Lunch Mix-up: Intentionally sit by someone new at lunch today. Be sure to remind students that this is an act of kindness and to use their best “get to know” you manners. It’s especially fun when the entire school is doing this. Many new friends are made on this day. Another type of lunch kindness is to sit by someone who is eating alone or is new to the school or classroom.



5.We Appreciate You: Use small cut out hearts. Pick 5 people who you appreciate and let them know that by giving them their heart. Along with giving them to friends at school, be sure to let teachers, cafeteria workers, librarians, and staff know how much you appreciate them.



6.Smile Tag: Print the word SMILE on business card stock for one quarter of the school or classroom. Teachers and staff hand them out to begin with. Once you get a smile card, you have to tag someone else with it, and smile while giving it to them.



7.Kindness Bingo: This is a great re-make of a traditional and fun classic teaching kindness at the same time. Bingo cards are available [here](#). RandomActsofKindness.org has a wonderful free downloadable Kindness Bingo Game [here](#):

<https://www.randomactsofkindness.org/for-educators/free-k-12-lesson-plans/497-kindness-bingo>

KINDNESS BINGO

Offered a tissue to a person that needed it	Left a positive note on a random locker	Read to someone	Introduced myself to a new person	Did my chores without being asked
Invited another student to play	Held open a door	Got at least 30 minutes of exercise today	Helped someone	Texted a positive message to a friend
Returned a shopping cart	Asked someone about their day	FILL IN YOUR OWN ACT OF KINDNESS!		Gave a friend or family member a hug
Cleaned up a mess that wasn't mine	Put something in the recycle bin	Said 'thank you' to someone	Invited someone who was eating alone to join me	Woke up with a smile on my face
Made a 'things I'm thankful for' journal entry	Made someone laugh	Let someone go in front of me in line	Gave someone a compliment	Smiled at another student

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS
FOUNDATION



8.School Trash Pick-up: Keeping our school grounds, building, and classrooms is a great kindness to the entire community. Pick up a piece of trash today. Be sure to see if you can recycle, reuse, or repurpose it.



9.Book Buddies: An older reading student gets together with a younger student and reads to them. This is usually organized by mixing two classrooms, an older classroom and a younger classroom. The older and younger students develop a

relationship around reading and kindness. Try arranging this once a quarter or semester.



10.The Kindness Garden: Creating beauty for others is a great kindness. Choose a flower bed at school and create a flower, or vegetable garden of kindness. Each class contributes plants and/or seeds as well as does some volunteering in the garden during recess.



The Mission of MCCBD

Our mission is to not only raise awareness for the kid's books that celebrate diversity, but to get more of these of books into classrooms and libraries.

Children's reading and play advocates Valarie Budayr from **Jump Into a Book** and Mia Wenjen from **Pragmatic Mom** have teamed up to create an ambitious (and much needed) national event. On January 27th, 2014 Jump into a Book and Pragmatic Mom presented their very first Multicultural Children's Book Day as a way of celebrating diversity in children's books.

The results were overwhelming as authors, publishers, parents, teachers, bloggers and librarians joined forces to offer up an online event designed to shine the spotlight on diversity in children's literature.

As the non-profit initiative continues full steam ahead, MCCBD's main focus continues to be to put multicultural children's books on shelves and into the hands of deserving families through book donations and fundraising.

The MCCBD has partnered with the Junior Library Guild to provide one FREE hardcover, library quality multicultural children's book to any classroom, school or teacher who signs up for the **Multicultural Children's Book Day Free Books for Classroom Campaign**. **Learn how you can get a free book for your students here:**

MCCBD also has another free resource for educators and parents: The **Diversity Book Lists & Resources for Teachers and Parents**. ***Go [here](#) to view all of our booklists grouped by a number of different multicultural topics.***

<http://multiculturalchildrensbookday.com/multicultural-reading-resources/diversity-book-lists-for-kids/>

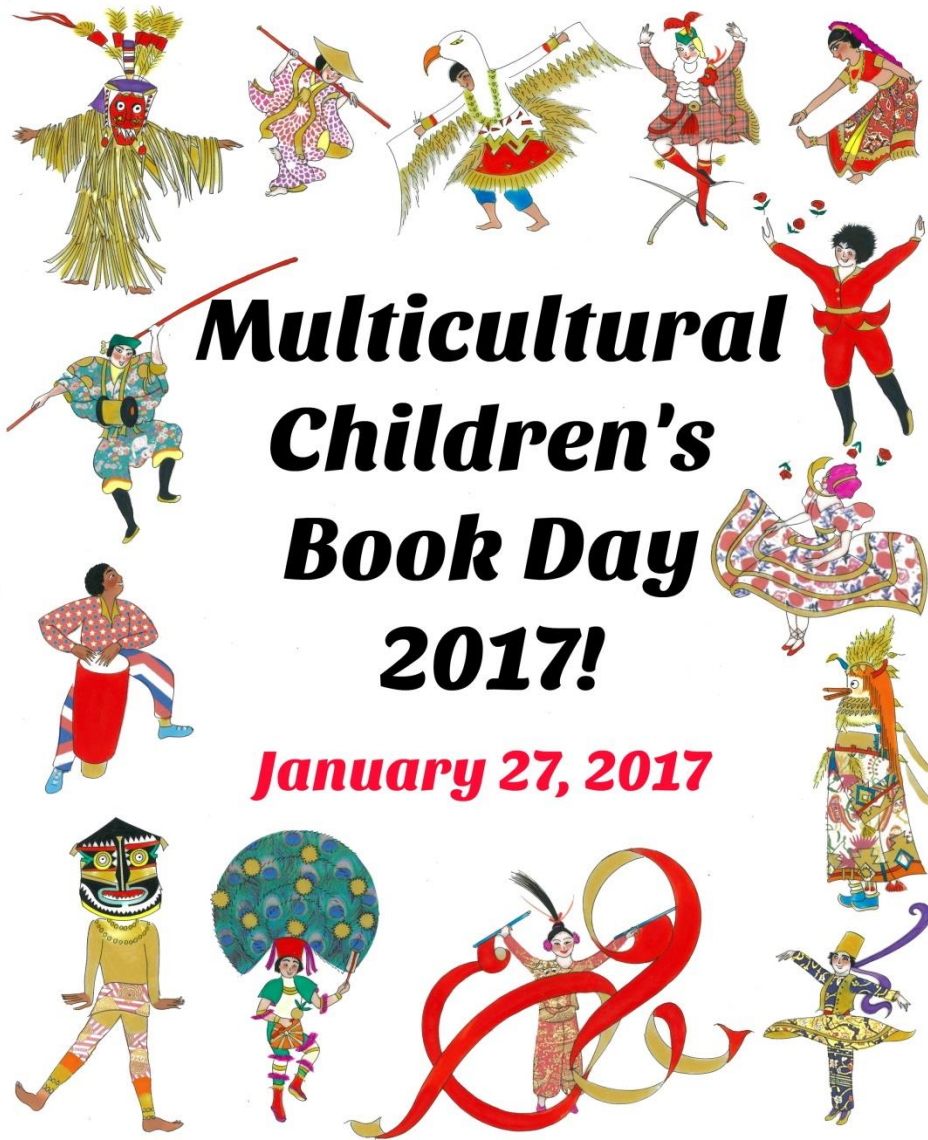


Stay in the loop on all of the MCBBD inspired book reviews, author visits and giveaways by searching for their official hashtag #ReadYourWorld on social media.

- Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/MulticulturalChildrensBookDay>

- Twitter <https://twitter.com/MCChildsBookDay>

www.MulticulturalChildrensBookDay.com



Multicultural Children's Book Day 2017!

January 27, 2017

artwork by **DEMI**