

Books written and/or illustrated by Brian Pinkney along with suggested interest/grade levels

For more information about Brian Pinkney check:

<http://www.eduplace.com/kids/tnc/mtai/bpinkney.html>

Alvin Ailey by Andrea Davis Pinkney and illustrated by Brian Pinkney (K-3)

Describes the life, dancing, and choreography of Alvin Ailey, who created his own modern dance company to explore the black experience.

Ella Fitzgerald written by Andrea Pinkney and illustrated by Brian Pinkney (1-4)

Narrated by Scat Cat Monroe, a feline in a zoot suit, the book spins four "tracks" on Fitzgerald's life, from her childhood in Yonkers performing on street corners, to her discovery at a 1934 talent contest at the legendary Apollo Theatre to her move into the "ping-pong rhythms" of bebop.

Duke Ellington: Piano Prince & his Orchestra by Andrea Pinkney illustrated by Brian Pinkney (1-4)

A brief recounting of the career of this jazz musician and composer who, along with his orchestra, created music that was beyond category. Winner of the Caldecott Honor and Coretta Scott King Awards

Dear Benjamin Banneker written by Andrea Pinkney and illustrated by Brian Pinkney (3-6)

Story of the correspondence between Benjamin Banneker, a free black man, who wrote to Thomas Jefferson to tell him how he felt about Jefferson owning slaves.

Hush Little Baby written and illustrated by Brian Pinkney (Pre-k)

This version of a favorite lullaby features a spinning top, a dog named Pearl and a fire truck returning the baby girl to the house where Mamas gonna sing you a lullaby.

Adventures of Sparrow Boy written and illustrated by Brian Pinkney (K-3)

After an encounter with a sparrow, Henry finds he is able to fly just like his favorite comic book hero HawkMan.

Jo Jo's Flying Stick written and illustrated by Brian Pinkney (K-3)

In order for JoJo to advance from a white to a yellow belt in Tae Kwon Do, she must break a board with a flying side kick. Everyone offers support and advice. Granddaddy recommends that she do a little fancy footwork "to chase away the jitters," the way he did before his boxing matches.

Max Found Two Sticks written and illustrated by Brian Pinkney (K-3)

Although he doesn't feel like talking, a young boy responds to questions by drumming on various objects, including a bucket, hat boxes, and garbage cans, echoing the city sounds around him.

Jackie's Bat written by Maribeth Lorbiecki and written by Brian Pinkney (2-5)

A fictionalized account of Robinson's first season with the Brooklyn Dodgers, as seen through the eyes of Joey, a batboy.

Sukey and the Mermaid written by Robert San Souci and illustrated by Brian Pinkney (1-4)

From West Africa via the Caribbean to the Sea Islands off South Carolina's coast come the story fragments melded in this unusual, haunting tale. San Souci's eloquent prose, matched by Pinkney's handsome illustrations executed in scratchboard and oil pastel, tells the tale of a black girl's special relationship with a benevolent mermaid.

Faithful Friend written by Robert San Souci and illustrated by Brian Pinkney (3-6)

A retelling of the traditional tale from the French West Indies in which two friends, Clement and Hippolyte, encounter love, zombies, and danger on the island of Martinique.

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Thumbelina written and illustrated by Brian Pinkney (K-2)

After being kidnapped by a toad, a beautiful girl no bigger than a thumb has a series of dreadful experiences and makes many animal friends before meeting a fairy prince just her size.

Cendrillon: Caribbean Cinderella written by Robert San Souci and illustrated by Brian Pinkney (1-6)

This much-loved, familiar tale of good triumphing over evil has been infused with the luscious colors and textures of the Caribbean and the rhythms of Creole culture.

Bill Pickett: Rodeo-Ridin' Cowboy written by Andrea Pinkney and illustrated by Brian Pinkney (K-5)

Describes the life and accomplishments of the son of a former slave whose unusual bulldogging style made him a rodeo star.

Boycott Blues: How Rosa Parks Inspired A Nation written by Andrea Pinkney and illustrated by Brian Pinkney (3-6)

Uses the form of a blues song to share the story of the year-long bus boycott in Montgomery, Alabama, sparked by seamstress Rosa Parks' refusal to give up her seat on a city bus to a white passenger in 1955, which resulted in a repeal of the Jim Crow segregation laws.

Cut from the Same Cloth: American Women of Myth, Legend, and Tall Tale written by Robert San Souci and illustrated by Brian Pinkney (3-6)

A collection of twenty stories about legendary American women, drawn from folktales, popular stories, and ballads.

Dark-Thirty: Southern Tales of the Supernatural written by Patricia McKissack and illustrate by Brian Pinkney (3-6)

A collection of ghost stories with African American themes, designed to be told during the Dark Thirty--the half hour before sunset--when ghosts seem all too believable.

Dreamkeeper and other Poems written by Langston Hughes and illustrated by Brian Pinkney (4+)

Hughes' classic poetry collection, originally published for young people in 1932, is reissued. It includes seven additional poems. Black-and-white scratchboard illustrations in Pinkney's signature style express the emotion and beat of the poetry

Happy Birthday! Martin Luther King written by Jean Marzollo and illustrated by Brian Pinkney (K-3)

An eloquent and powerful introduction to the life and death of Martin Luther King, Jr.

In the Time of the Drums written by Kim Siegelson and illustrated by Brian Pinkney (1-4)

Mentu, an American-born slave boy, watches his beloved grandmother, Twi, lead the insurrection at Teakettle Creek of Ibo people arriving from Africa on a slave ship.

Sojourner Truth's Step-Stomp Stride written by Andrea Pinkney and illustrated by Brian Pinkney (3-6)

Born into slavery, Belle had to endure the cruelty of several masters before she escaped to freedom. But still, she knew that she wouldn't really be free unless she was helping to end slavery and injustice in America. That's when she changed her name to Sojourner and began traveling across the country, demanding equal rights for black people and for women.