

Picture Books with diverse main characters			
Title	Author	Description	MLN link
The Snow Day	Ezra Jack Keats	Ezra Jack Keats's classic The Snowy Day, winner of the 1963 Caldecott Medal, pays homage to the wonder and pure pleasure a child experiences when the world is blanketed in snow."-- Publisher's Weekly	available in Concord
Sulwe	Lupita Nyong'o	A stunningly illustrated book about a young girl's journey with colorism, self-esteem, and learning that true beauty comes from within.	available in Concord
Last stop on Market Street	Matt de la Peña	A young boy, CJ, rides the bus across town with his grandmother and learns to appreciate the beauty in everyday things.	available in Concord
The Name Jar	Yangsook Choi	After Unhei moves from Korea to the United States, her new classmates help her decide what her name should be.	available in network
Marisol McDonald Doesn't Match	Monica Brown	Marisol McDonald, a biracial, nonconformist, soccer-playing pirate-princess with brown skin and red hair, celebrates her uniqueness.	available in Concord
Over and Under the Pond	Kate Messner	Celebrates the forms of life that live above and under a pond, including turtles, red-winged blackbirds, blue herons, minnows, frogs, and catfish.	available in Concord

The Thing Lou Couldn't Do	Ashely Spires	This delightful picture book from Ashley Spires, bestselling author of <i>The Most Magnificent Thing</i> , perfectly depicts what children go through when confronted with something difficult. With humor and endearing artwork, Spires sensitively portrays Lou procrastinating, making excuses, imagining alternatives and denying she cares.	available in network
Pattan's Pumpkin: An Indian Flood	Chitra Soundar	Pattan has an amazing pumpkin. It grows bigger than the goats, bigger than the elephants... so BIG that it is as TALL as the mountains. Then one day, the storm clouds burst and the waters rise. Pattan, his family, and all the animals are in danger from the momentous flood. Can Pattan and his giant pumpkin save the day? Based on a traditional tale told by the Irula people of southern India -- From dust jacket.	available in network
The Color of Us	Karen Katz	Seven-year-old Lena wants to paint a picture of herself, and she wants to use brown paint for her skin. But brown comes in so many different shades, which Lena learns as she and her mother take a walk through her neighborhood.	available in network
Thunder Boy Jr.	Sherman Alexie	Thunder Boy Jr. doesn't want to share a name with his dad, Big Thunder. The two of them discover the power of names and decide on one together that builds their relationship. A beautiful story told from the perspectives of a First Nations family that celebrates all a name can convey.	available in Concord

I am Enough	Grace Byers	Our natural-haired protagonist compares herself to nature—"like the sun, I'm here to shine"—and tells readers that she—and WE—are complete and enough, as-is. Close this book feeling empowered and knowing your kids are getting the message that all humans are lovely and valuable.	available in Concord
Mommy's Khimar	Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow	"A young Muslim girl puts on a head scarf and not only feels closer to her mother, she also imagines herself as a queen, the sun, a superhero, and more."	available in Concord
Picture Books that Celebrate Friendship, Kindness and Differences			
What's the Difference?: Being Different	Doyin Richards	Because what matters most is not our differences, but what we do together as friends, as families, as colleagues, as citizens. Perfect for sharing as a family or in the classroom, <i>What's the Difference?</i> should find a place in homes and in hearts.	available in network
Be Kind	Pat Zietlow Miller	When Tanisha spills grape juice all over her new dress, her classmate contemplates how to make her feel better and what it means to be kind. From asking the new girl to play to standing up for someone being bullied, this moving and thoughtful story explores what a child can do to be kind, and how each act, big or small, can make a difference or at least help a friend.	available in Concord
Same, Same but Different	Jenny Sue Kostecki-Shaw	Through an inviting point-of-view and colorful, vivid illustrations, this story shows how two boys living oceans apart can be the best of friends.	available in network

All are Welcome	Alexandar Penfold	Illustrations and simple, rhyming text introduce a school where diversity is celebrated and songs, stories, and talents are shared.	available in Concord
The Day you Begin	Jacqueline Woodson	Other students laugh when Rigoberto, an immigrant from Venezuela, introduces himself but later, he meets Angelina and discovers that he is not the only one who feels like an outsider.	available in Concord
Lovely	Jess Hong	"Big, small, curly, straight, loud, quiet, smooth, wrinkly. Lovely explores a world of differences that all add up to the same thing: we are all lovely!"-- Provided by publisher.	available in network
The Sandwich Swap	Her Majessty Queen Rania Al Abdullah	The smallest things can pull us apart-until we learn that friendship is far more powerful than difference. In a glorious three-page gatefold at the end of the book, Salma, Lily, and all their classmates come together in the true spirit of tolerance and acceptance.	available in Concord
Most People	Michael Leannah	Looks at the goodness of most people, pointing out how many more people there are in the world who would like to help others than would like to hurt them, and even most of those who do bad things can change.	available in network
I Walk with Vanessa: A story about	Kerascoët	An elementary school girl witnesses the bullying of another girl, but she is not sure how to help.	available in Concord
Picture Books with People with Differing Abilities			
Title	Author	Description	MLN link
When Charley met Emma	Amy Webb	Five-year-old Charley gets teased for daydreaming and drawing more than his friends, but when he meets Emma, who is physically different, he needs help remembering that being different is okay.	available in Concord

All the way to the top	Annette Bay Pimentel	This is the story of a little girl who just wanted to go, even when others tried to stop her.	available in network
We're All Wonders	RJ Palacio	Augie enjoys the company of his dog, Daisy, and using his imagination, but painfully endures the taunts of his peers because of his facial deformity.	available in Concord
I Will Dance	Nancy Bo Flood	Like many young girls, Eva longs to dance. But unlike many would-be dancers, Eva has cerebral palsy. She doesn't know what dance looks like for someone who uses a wheelchair.	available in Concord
Just Ask	Sonia Sotomayor	Feeling different, especially as a kid, can be tough. But in the same way that different types of plants and flowers make a garden more beautiful and enjoyable, different types of people make our world more vibrant and wonderful.	available in Concord
Rescue and Jessica: a life-changing	Jessica Kensky and Patrick Downes	Based on a real-life partnership, the heartening story of the love and teamwork between a girl and her service dog will illuminate and inspire.	available in Concord
The Deaf Musicians	Pete Seger	Living legend and Kennedy Center honoree Pete Seeger, renowned poet Paul DuBois Jacobs, and Coretta Scott King honor winner R. Gregory Christie present a jazzy riff on the power of music, overcoming obstacles, and all the different ways to hear the world. So, who will listen to a deaf musician? Everyone!	available in network
Picture Books for Young Activists			
Title	Author		MLN link
Emmanuel's Dream	Laurie Ann Thompson and Sean Qualls	Emmanuel Ofosu Yeboah's inspiring true story—which was turned into a film, <i>Emmanuel's Gift</i> , narrated by Oprah Winfrey—is nothing short of remarkable.	available in network

Free as a Bird: the story of Malala	Lina Maslo	The inspiring true story of Malala Yousafzai, human rights activist and the youngest ever winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, from debut author/illustrator Lina Maslo. Celebrate the power of one young woman speaking up for change with <i>Free as a Bird</i> . This beautiful nonfiction picture book is perfect for sharing at home or in the classroom.	available in network
Come with Me	Holly McGhee	In this lyrical and timely story, author Holly M. McGhee and illustrator Pascal Lemaître champion the power of kindness, bravery, and friendship in the face of uncertainty.	available in network
I am One	Susan Verde	One seed to start a garden, one note to start a melody, one brick to start breaking down walls: Every movement and moment of change starts with purpose, with intention, with one. With me. With you.	available in Concord
We are Water Protectors	Carole Lindstrom	Inspired by the many Indigenous-led movements across North America, <i>We Are Water Protectors</i> issues an urgent rallying cry to safeguard the Earth's water from harm and corruption—a bold and lyrical picture .	available in Concord
Get up, Stand up	Cedella Marley	The third picture book adaptation of one of Bob Marley's beloved songs that has a timely message for children: To counter injustice, lift others up with kindness and courage.	available in network