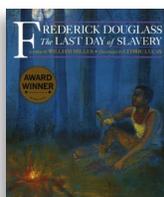


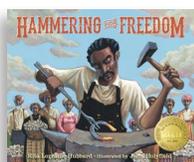
# Teaching About Slavery Through Children's Books: Book & Resource List

The following books address slavery and enslaved people during American history. These award-winning titles will help support your teaching this complex, under-taught period of American history, with a special focus on historical accuracy and cultural responsiveness. These books can be found in the Lee & Low Slavery collection online at [leeandlow.com/collections/teaching-about-slavery-collection](https://www.leeandlow.com/collections/teaching-about-slavery-collection)



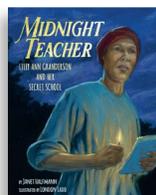
**Frederick Douglass: The Last Day of Slavery** • written by William Miller, illustrated by Cedric Lucas

Young Frederick Douglass dreams of escape, so an overseer sets out to "break" him. Frederick's response to the overseer's brutality is an act of courage that frees forever what no person can hold captive: his spirit.



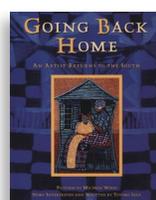
**Hammering for Freedom: The William Lewis Story** • written by Rita Lorraine Hubbard, illustrated by John Holyfield

The inspirational story of William "Bill" Lewis, a hardworking blacksmith who slowly saved his money and bought the freedom of every member of his enslaved family.



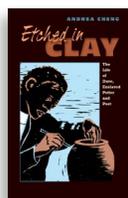
**Midnight Teacher: Lilly Ann Granderson and Her Secret School** • written by Janet Halfmann, illustrated by London Ladd

This historical fiction picture book reveals the unknown story of Lilly Ann Granderson, an African American teacher who risked her life to teach others during slavery.



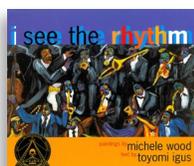
**Going Back Home: An Artist Returns to the South** • pictures by Michele Wood, story interpreted and written by Toyomi Igus

More than half a century after her family moved North to find a better life, artist Michele Wood returned to the South to see and experience where her ancestors lived, struggled, and thrived.



**Etched in Clay: The Life of Dave, Enslaved Potter and Poet** • written by Andrea Cheng

This biography in verse reveals the life of Dave, an enslaved potter who inscribed his works with sayings and short poems, in spite of the slave anti-literacy sentiment in the years leading up to the Civil War.



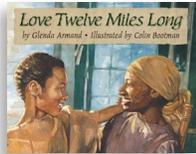
**i see the rhythm** • written by Toyomi Igus, illustrated by Michele Wood

This book explores African American music throughout history, starting with its roots in Africa.



**In the Time of the Drums** • written by Kim Siegelson, illustrated by Brian Pinkney

Mentu, an enslaved child, learns the stories, songs, and drum rhythms of his people from his grandmother, Twi, and then must find the strength to carry on this heritage after his grandmother leads the insurrection of enslaved people at Teakettle Creek.



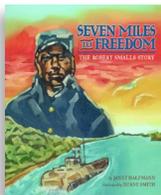
**Love Twelve Miles Long** • written by Glenda Armand, illustrated by Colin Bootman

Set on a plantation in the 1820s in Maryland, this story based on the life of young Frederick Douglass shows the power of his mother's love.



**Juneteenth Jamboree** • written by Carole Boston Weatherford, illustrated by Yvonne Buchanan

The story of a young girl who experiences the sights, sounds, and traditions of Juneteenth—a holiday that celebrates the emancipation of the last slaves in the United States.



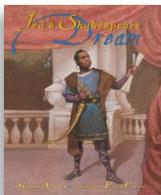
**Seven Miles to Freedom: The Robert Smalls Story** • written by Janet Halfmann, illustrated by Duane Smith

The true story of Robert Smalls, a slave steamboat wheelman who commandeered a Confederate ship during the Civil War and escape with his family and crew to freedom.



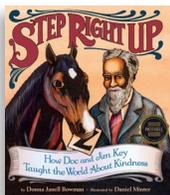
**It Jes' Happened: When Bill Traylor Started to Draw** • written by Don Tate, illustrated by R. Gregory Christie

A biography of self-taught (outsider) artist Bill Traylor, a former slave who at the age of eighty-five began to draw pictures based on his memories and observations of rural and urban life in Alabama.



**Ira's Shakespeare Dream** • written by Glenda Armand, illustrated by Floyd Cooper

This biography chronicles the life of Ira Aldridge, an African American man who is considered to be one of the greatest Shakespearean actors of the nineteenth century.



**Step Right Up: How Doc and Jim Key Taught the World About Kindness** • written by Donna Janell Bowman, illustrated by Daniel Minter

A biography of William "Doc" Key, a formerly enslaved man and self-trained veterinarian who taught his horse, Jim, to read, write, and do math, and who together with Jim became a famous traveling performance act and proponent for the humane treatment of animals around the turn of the twentieth century.



**Stone River Crossing** • written by Tim Tingle

From the award-winning author of *How I Became a Ghost*, a tale of unlikely friendship and miracles. When Martha Tom helps Lil Mo and his family escape from the plantation across the river, it's just the beginning of a Choctaw adventure of a lifetime.



# Teaching About Slavery Through Children's Books: Book & Resource List

Listed below are resources and additional texts mentioned in the webinar to further ground and inform teaching about slavery in American history.

## Online Resources

- **Teaching Tolerance: Teaching Hard History: Grades K - 5**  
<https://www.tolerance.org/frameworks/teaching-hard-history/american-slavery/k-5-framework>
- **Teaching Tolerance: Teaching Hard History: Grades 6 -12**  
<https://www.tolerance.org/frameworks/teaching-hard-history/american-slavery/6-12-framework>
- **Teaching Tolerance: Teaching Hard History: Professional Development**  
<https://www.tolerance.org/frameworks/teaching-hard-history/american-slavery/professional-development>
- **Teaching Hard History: American Slavery Podcast**  
<https://podcasts.apple.com/mu/podcast/teaching-hard-history-american-slavery/id1341785066>
- **Hasan Jeffries: Cult of Pedagogy Podcast**  
<https://www.cultofpedagogy.com/teaching-hard-history/>
- **The New York Times 1619 Project**  
<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2019/08/14/magazine/1619-america-slavery.html>
- **'13TH' Documentary: directed by Ava DuVernay**  
<http://www.avaduvernay.com/13th>
- **Reconstruction: America After the Civil War Series on PBS**  
<https://www.pbs.org/weta/reconstruction/home-preview/>
- **WPA Slave Narratives**  
<https://www.thirteen.org/wnet/slavery/resources/wpa.html>
- **ADL: Why Simulation Activities Should Not Be Used**  
<https://www.adl.org/education/resources/tools-and-strategies/why-simulation-activities-should-not-be-used>

## Additional Texts

- ***A Different Mirror: A History of Multicultural America for Young People*** by Ronald Takaki adapted by Rebecca Steffoff, published by Penguin Random House <https://www.penguinrandomhouse.com/books/219354/a-different-mirror-for-young-people-by-ronald-takaki-adapted-by-rebecca-steffoff/>
- ***In the Shadow of Liberty: The Hidden History of Slavery, Four Presidents, and Five Black Lives*** by Kenneth C. Davis, published by Macmillan <https://us.macmillan.com/books/9781627793117>
- ***Never Caught, The Story of Ona Judge*** by Erica Armstrong Dunbar & Kathleen Van Cleve, published by Simon & Schuster <https://www.simonandschuster.com/books/Never-Caught/Erica-Armstrong-Dunbar/9781501126413>
- ***The New Jim Crow***, published by Simon & Schuster <http://newjimcrow.com/>
- ***Race and Reunion: The Civil War in American Memory*** by David Blight <https://www.hup.harvard.edu/catalog.php?isbn=9780674008199>
- ***The Price for Their Pound of Flesh: The Value of the Enslaved from Womb to Grave, In the Building of a Nation*** by Daina Ramey Berry <http://www.beacon.org/The-Price-for-Their-Pound-of-Flesh-P1227.aspx>