

World Read Aloud Day 2021

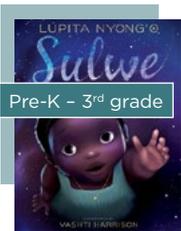
World Read Aloud Day, February 3, is as an opportunity for families to celebrate the joy of reading aloud. Reading daily is one of the most important habits we can encourage in students, particularly those who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Research shows that reading aloud is the single most important activity for developing the knowledge that leads to success in reading. Research also shows that reading aloud to children promotes their growth across domains including listening, language, literacy,

cognition, play and social-emotional skills. Children who are deaf or hard of hearing experience delays in all these domains due to their hearing loss. Therefore, reading aloud becomes even more important for children who are deaf or hard of hearing.

In celebration of World Read Aloud Day, we want to support reading skills and amplify the voices of a diverse selection of authors and illustrators by sharing their stories as recommended by Clarke educators and support team members.

#ClarkeBookClub Picks



Sulwe

Author: Lupita Nyong'o
Illustrator: Vashti Harrison

The inspiring children's book by actress Lupita Nyong'o tells the story of a young girl who learns beauty comes from within.



The Adventures of Billie Baha and her Super HEARo Friends

Author: Jessica Jordan-Hogan
Illustrator: Jacqui C. Smith

This children's book tells the story of Billie, a young girl who has a bilateral hearing loss due to Microtia. Billie promotes bringing different friends together with her "kindness superpower." This book highlights other characters with hearing loss and includes cochlear implants, hearing aids and unilateral loss. It's also inclusive of religions, races and physical disabilities.



Mulan: Before the Sword

Author and Illustrator: Grace Lin

This prequel novel based on Mulan is full of adventure and wonder as Hua Mulan accompanies the Jade Rabbit of Chinese lore on a quest to save Mulan's younger sister, Xiu.



Last Stop on Market Street

Author: Matt de la Peña
Illustrator: Christian Robinson

This children's book is an inclusive ode to kindness, empathy, gratitude and finding joy in unexpected places. It celebrates the special bond between a curious young boy and his grandmother. It's the perfect story for a read-aloud with beautiful and descriptive language.

Bookmarks: Celebrating Black Voices Netflix Jr. Digital Read-Aloud Series



Celebrity readers share children's books by Black authors to spark kid-friendly conversations about empathy, equality,

self-love and anti-racism.

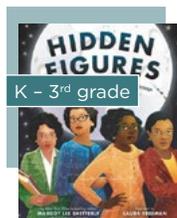


The Proudest Blue: A Story of Hijab and Family

Author: Ibtihaj Muhammad and S.K. Ali
Illustrator: Hatem Aly

Olympic medalist Ibtihaj Muhammad and Morris Award finalist S.K. Ali share an uplifting, universal story of new experiences, the unbreakable bond between siblings and of being proud of who you are.

Find more recommendations for a diverse list of inclusive books and resources at clarkeschools.org/antiracism or follow along on social media with the hashtag **#ClarkeBookClub**.



Hidden Figures: The True Story of Four Black Women and the Space Race

Author: Margot Lee Shetterly with Winifred Conkling
Illustrator: Laura Freeman

This chapter book is based on the inspiring story of four women who helped NASA launch men into space in 1961.