

## Reading List

### Identity, Difference & Race

Blackman, Malorie, *Noughts and Crosses* (London: Corgi Books) 2002; *An Eye for an Eye* (London: Corgi Books), 2003; *Knife Edge* (London: Corgi Books) 2004; and *Checkmate* (London: Corgi Books) 2005.

*These thrilling and moving stories raise issues of race, class, inter and intra-family disputes, bitterness and revenge where the pale-skinned noughts are inferiors - powerful stories of race and prejudice - key stage 3.*

Blackman, Malorie, *Tell Me No Lies* (London: Macmillan), 1999.

*This is a story of two teenagers, one the victim, the other the perpetrator of bullying. It illustrates the systemic nature of bullying, how seriously it can get out of control and the value of truth in our relationships with one another - key stage 2/3.*

Bloom, Valerie, *Surprising Joy* (London: Macmillan), 2004.

*This story describes very well the surprises in store for a young 11 year old from Kingston Jamaica, adapting to life in London - issues of social cohesion/diversity; maintaining identity; adoption; parent/child relationships - key stage 2/3.*

Carville, D & Roisin Matthews, *Sarah's Story* (Belfast: Discovery Pub.), 2002.

*A story about a little girl struggling with her identity paralleled with the adventures of a little bear called 'Whammi' (Who am I) wanting to find a family where he can belong - key stage 1.*

Cave K & Chris Riddell, *Something Else* (London: Puffin), 1995.

*This is a lovely story illustrating inclusion and exclusion and associated feelings - key stage 1.*

Dart, Dorothy, *The Neighbours in No 12* (Tring, Lion Publishing), 1987.

*An Australian story about the conflict between a first generation Vietnamese family and a longer established Australian family - key stage 2.*

Dhami, Narinder, *Bend it like Beckham*, (London: Hodder & Stoughton), 2002

*This book, based on the screenplay by Gurinder Chadha, Guljit Bindra and Paul Mayeda Berges, highlights issues of gender as well as ethnicity and family tensions arising from a need to preserve identity/traditional values - key stage 2/3.*

Flake, Sharon, *The Skin I'm In* (London: Corgi), 1998.

*An inspirational story about a young girl coming to terms with difference and finding the courage to accept, like and be herself - key stage 2 up.*

Foreman, Michael, *War and Peas* (London: Andersen Press), 2002.

*This is a powerful fable about a lion king who goes to war with a greedy king who prefers to supply his army than feed a hungry country - key stage 1*

Gates, Susan, *White Stranger* (Oxford: OUP), 2000.

*The setting for this story is in a boarding school in Africa. Trish is the only white teenager in the school and both of her parents are teachers. She longs to blend in and struggles with her family identity; maturity level and skin colour - Key stage 3*

Gibbons, Alan, *Caught in the Crossfire* (London: Dolphin/Orion Pub.), 2003.

*A story about young teenagers caught up in the aftermath of 9/11. A thrilling and thoughtful novel highlighting, religious tension, divided family loyalties and the dire consequences - key stage 3/4.*

Hendry, Frances M, *Chains* (Oxford: OUP), 2000.

*This story, set at the end of the eighteenth century, which connects four characters from different parts of the world, all links in the slave trade chain, illustrates that slavery is not simply a black/white problem - key stage 3.*

Hoffman, Mary, *Amazing Grace* (London: Frances Lincoln), 1991.

*Grace wants to be Peter Pan in the school pantomime. In spite of class mates' objections that she is the 'wrong' gender or colour, her mum and Gran support her to try anything she wants - key stage 1.*

Hoffman, Mary, *Grace and Family* (London: Frances Lincoln), 1995.

*Grace learns that families are what you make them rather than the 'stereotype' she expects them to be - issues of family life, difference; acceptance - key stage 2.*

Hoffman, Mary, *An Angel Just Like Me* (London: Frances Lincoln), 1997.

*This is a lovely Christmas story about a little boy who wonders why there aren't any black or boy angels - issues of gender as well as ethnicity - key stage 1 up.*

Holm, Anne, *I am David* (also later published in US as 'North to Freedom') (London: Egmont), 2000.

*This story about a 12 year old boy called David who escapes from a prison camp in Eastern Europe where he has lived most of his life, describes his encounters with people, his slow growth of trust and his strong urge to belong extolling the courage and hope in all refugees - key stage 2/3.*

Michael, Jan, *Just Joshua* (Dublin: O'Brien Press), 2003.

*This is a lovely story about a young boy from a country like the Seychelles, who discovers that being 'different' matters. Through the process of learning more about his own 'mixed' identity and his relationships with others however, he discovers that it's okay to be 'just Joshua' - key stage 2*

Momen, Wendi *Call Me Ridván*, (Oxford: George Ronald), 1982.

*This is a story about Ridván, a Bahá'í boy aged 9 who finds out how to cope with the problem of bullying because he/his name is different. He learns something about himself and his religion at the same time - key stage 2.*

McCaughrean, Geraldine, *Gold Dust* (Oxford: Oxford University press), 1993.

*This moving story, set in a Brazilian town, describes the progress of a family caught up in a gold rush and all that accompanies that - the lust for money, divided loyalties, betrayal and also love and generosity from the most unexpected quarters; issues of race as well - key stage 2.*

McKee, David, *Elmer* (London: Andersen Press), 1989.

*This is a story for key stage 1 up, about an elephant learning that it's okay to be different and accept who you are, even when you're in the minority. Other stories about Elmer have similar themes on appearance - difference being special; unconditional acceptance and the importance of relationships.*

McKee, David, *The Conquerors* (London: Andersen Press), 2004.

*This is a lovely story for **key stage 1** up, about an alternative way of dealing with armed conflict.*

McKee, David, *Two Monsters* (London: Andersen Press), 1985.

*This is another story for **key stage 1** up, about a conflict between two monsters over different expressions of the same thing from different perspectives and the importance of meeting beyond 'walls' and boundaries.*

Needle, Jan, *My Mate Shofiq* (London: Lions), 1978.

*This story about two schoolboys, set in a small town outside Manchester, highlights the systemic nature of racism - at personal, communal and institutional levels - and their friendship in spite of the odds against a background of economic hardship - **key stage 2/3**.*

Piers H, and Michael Foreman, *Long Neck and Thunderfoot* (London: Puffin), 1984

*A good story illustrating what happens when mind-reading, with the associated feelings of fear and suspicion, replaces open communication - **key stage 1**.*

Swindells, Robert, *Ruby Tanya* (London: Doubleday/Corgi Yearling), 2004.

*This is a thrilling story that highlights the vulnerable situation of asylum seekers living in Britain through the eyes of two teenagers - **key stage 3**.*

Velthuijs M, *Frog is Frog* (London: Andersen Press), 1996.

*This is a good story about identity and the importance of being you rather than rivalling to be like others - **key stage 1**.*