

INTERCULTURAL BOOKS RECOMMENDED BY

EARLY YEARS PRACTITIONERS

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Details are given of the intercultural and multicultural books recommended by practitioners in response to a survey on “Intercultural Books in Practice” sent to seventy Early Years centres in Dublin in October 2006. The available details re the title, author, date, place of publication, ISBN and price are included. Practitioners notes on the content are also given.

FICTION BOOKS

Handa's Surprise. Eileen Browne. (1995). London: Walker Books. ISBN 0-7445-3634-0. €9.10.

Very colourful – variety of concepts, i.e. animals, fruit. This books is about a girl who lives in a village who walks miles to visit a friend.

Handa's Hen. Eileen Browne. (1995). London: Walker Books. ISBN 0-7445-9815-X. €8.95.

Twenty dual language editions available from Mantra Lingua. Croatian and English ISBN 1-84444-075-3. £7.50. English with Albanian, Arabic, Bengali, Chinese, Farsi, French, Gujarati, Hindi, Italian, Panjabi, Portuguese, Russian, Shon, Somali, Swahili, Tamil, Turkish, Urdu, Vietnamese, Yoruba. In big book format in English only.

It is a story book with different races in a different country but has many aspects any child can relate to. Ordinary story looking for hen – meets animals etc. native to her own country.

So Much. Trish Cooke. (1996). London: Walker Books. ISBN: 0-7445-4396-7.

Excellent depiction of African culture and the importance of family. Quick pace and rhymes have children joining in also.

We're going on a Lion Hunt. David Axtell. (2001). London: Ted Smart/Book People. ISBN 0-333-74149-8. £4.99.

Version of *We're going on a Bear Hunt*, set in Africa with African children depicted..

Amazing Grace. Mary Hoffman and Caroline Binch. (1992).London: Frances Lincoln. ISBN 07112-0699-6

Lovely strong depiction of mother and grandmother. All female family. A story about Grace who wants to play Peter Pan in a school play but is told she can't because she is black and a girl.

Tusk, Tusk. David McKee.(2006) London: Anderson Press. ISBN 10: 1842705792
Very subtle message of tolerance of colour.

The Hunter. Paul Geraghty, (1998). Red Fox. ISBN 10: 0099267119
Shows the beauty of another country.

Not so fast Songololo. Nicky Daly. Publisher: Frances Lincoln. ISBN: 0-7112-1765-3.
£5.99.
Features a child and his grandmother. Shows similarities and differences of different cultures.

Topsy and Tim make a new friend. Jean Adamson & Gareth Adamson (2003). ISBN 10: 1904351174. One of a set of books exploring children's experiences.

Elmer. David McKee. (2006). London: Red Fox Books/ Random House Children's Books. ISBN: 0-99699-7203. £5.99.
An excellent book for young children to stay within symbolism that discusses the importance of being yourself.

Elmer and the Hippo. David McKee. Publisher: Red Fox. ISBN: 0-09-945114-. £4.99.
A book about displacement.

Full, full of love. Trish Cooke. (2003). London: Walker Books. ISBN: 1-84428-782-3.
£4.99.
This books shows everyday things that a child experiences with his grandmother.

Silver Shoes. Caroline Binch. (2005). London: Frances Lincoln. €8.95. ISBN 10: 1845074718.
This books displays pictures of people of all ages and colour and the illustrations are of real people which I like, as it is very hard to get such a good mix. However the text is a little long for the age of children we would read it to so we mostly use the pictures to tell the story.

Masai and I. Virginia Kroll & Nancy Carpenter, (1994). London: Aladdin Paperbacks. ISBN 10- 0689804547. A child considers her life if she lived in a Masai tribe.

Bran agus na Dathanna. Eric Hill. (2000). Dublin: An Gúm. €3.15.
This book is simple enough to read even for the adult reader with very basic Irish language knowledge. The pictures clearly relate to the text.

Tugann Bran cuairt ar an bhfeirm. Eric Hill. (2001). Dublin: An Gúm.€3.15.
The children relate to a visit to the farm. They love the sounds of different languages.

Daisy the Doctor. Felicity Brooks & Jo Litchfield. (2004), Usborne Publishing. ISBN 10: 0746052243. One of a series of books looking at different everyday situations in children's lives.

Tickle, tickle. Helen Oxenbury, (1998). Walker Books. ISBN 10:0744561012. A group of four babies of various ethnic origins play tickle, tickle together in this book.

Scat the Cat. Accessed http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/ld/projects/trc/2004/manual/internal_chapters/toddler_color
Story adapted by Janette Larson from a traditional story, discussing difference.

Hush! A Thai lullaby. Mingfong Ho & Holly Meade. (2000). London: Scholastic. ISBN 10-0531071669. A young child's look at a Thai mother asking all the animals to be quiet as she gets her baby to sleep. Use of rhythm and rhyme and discovery of Thai animals.

NON-FICTION BOOKS

Watoto Pack. Trócaire. (2001). Maynooth: Trócaire.
This generates a lot of discussion about how different children's lives are in other countries. Also contains posters, photos and activities.

All kinds of people. Emma Damon.(1995). London: Ted Smart/Book People. Also Tango books. ISBN 1-85707-067-4.
Lift the flap on all sorts of difference, tall, short, spectacles etc.

All kinds of Bodies. Emma Brownjohn. (2002). London: Tango Books.
ISBN 1-85707-560-9
Lift the flap and discover all kinds of bodies, larger, thin, skin colour, noses etc.

Children just like me. (1995). Barnabas and Anabel Kindersley. London: Dorling Kindersley.£10.99. ISBN 0-7513-5327-2.
Interesting facts about children from around the world.

Oxford First Book of Children of the World. Rebecca Trays. (2000). Oxford University Press. ISBN 10: 019910770x
Selects a child from lots of parts of the world and tells us about different aspects of their lives.

Wake Up World. Beatrice Hollyer. (1999). London: Frances Lincoln.
ISBN 0-7112-1484-0. £6.99.
A day in the life of children around the world.

A is for Africa, Ifeoma Onyefula. (1993). London: Frances Lincoln. ISBN 0-7112-1029-2
An alphabet in words and pictures, it was chosen by Child Education as one of the best information books of 1993.

I is for India. Prodecepta Das. (1999). London: Frances Lincoln. ISBN 10: 0711211019

C is for China. Sungwan So. (2000) Frances Lincoln Publishers. ISBN 10: 0711213186
Hands around the World. 365 Creative ways to build Cultural Awareness & Global Respect. Susan Milford, (1992). London: Williamson Books. ISBN 0-913589-65-9.
This book is a valuable resource book loaded with activities from other countries.

A life like MINE. How children live around the world. (2002). London: Dorling Kindersley and UNICEF. ISBN 0-7513-3982-2. This book explores children's rights and how they are met in many different countries.

Books of countries of Europe published by Macdonald And Co. Maxwell House, Worship Street, London E22A 2EN.

People and Places: Oxford first Encyclopaedia. Andrew Langley (2002). Oxford: Oxford University Press. ISBN 10: 0199109729.

Now I'm Big. Margaret Miller. (1996). London: William Morrow. ISBN 10:0688140777.
Non-fiction, depicting everyday preschool experiences through photos.

We're different, we're the same. Bobbi Jane Kates & Joe Mathieu. (1992). Random House. ISBN 0-679-83227-0. Sesame Street. A witty look at difference, very suitable for young children.

Gruaig. Oxfam. Kate Petty. (2004). Dublin: An Gúm. ISBN 1-85791-623-9. €6.50.
An-bhéim ar stíl ghruaige, ábhar a bhaineann le chuile páiste. Emphasis on hairstyle, which applies to every child.

I love my hair. Natasha Tarpey. (1988). London: Little Brown & Company. ISBN 10: 0316525588
This book gave a very good picture of an African girl's braided hair. This was good representation of a number of children new to our group.

First Faces. Snazaroo. (1995). London: Kingfisher. ISBN 10: 1856973476
Faces and body painting , hands, legs in different countries, North Africa, West Indies.

Mo Cholainn, ó Bhaithis go Bonn. Zita Newcome. (2001). Dublin: An Gum.
Language acquisition book re everyday life. Parts of body talk about similarities and opportunity to talk about differences.

Two eyes, a nose and a mouth. Roberta Grobel Intrater. (2000). London: Scholastic. ISBN 0439116805
This book was good as it encouraged a good discussion among the children.

A different kind of beautiful. Daaimah Wagia & Joseph Augustine Alvarez. (2004).

ISBN 10: 1412027926

Rhyming story which looks at differences from skin tone to small/tall.

A Calendar of Festivals. Celebrations from around the world. Gerry Gilchrist and Helen Cann.(1998). London: Barefoot Books. ISBN 1-84148-020-7. €12.00

This book takes us back to the origins of many celebrations across the world.

A Year of Religious Festivals. Senker, C. (Series.) (2004). New York: Hodder Wayland. ISBN-10: 0750240571; ISBN-13: 978-0750240574. €10.95.

All kinds of beliefs. Emma Damon. (2000). Tango Books. ISBN 10: 1857075056. A lift the flap book looking at different religions and beliefs.

What I believe. Jennifer Murphy- Morriscal & Sue Shanahan. (2004). London: Beyond Words Publishers. ISBN 10: 1582701229. A book for adults and children to share about personal values and beliefs.

The Nativity. Fiona Watt & Rachel Wells. (2005). London: Usbourne. ISBN 10: 0746069592.

Figures not all European, characters real and appropriate to own country. Also tactile.

Kid's Multicultural Cookbook. Food and fun round the world. Deanna F. Cook. (1995). London: Williamson. ISBN 0-913589-91-8.

This book is like a passport to a flavour-hopping jaunt around the world. This is as user-friendly as a children's cookbook can possibly be.

What's cooking, Jamela? Nicky Daly. (2002). London: Frances Lincoln. ISBN 10: 071121705.

Shows the difference between an African Christmas and an Irish Christmas by telling us the traditions of Africa.

Give me My Yam! Jan Blake and Peter Melnychuk.(1998). London: Walker Books.

ISBN 0-7445-4885-3. A story set in the Caribbean and told in gentle, rhythmical style of a traditional folktale.

Animal Boogie. Debbie Harter, (2006). London: Barefoot Books. ISBN 1905236492. Beautifully illustrated book with CD, depicts children from different races and one is a wheelchair user.

The *Who Cares* series of books by Child's Play.

For Every Child. By various authors. (2002). Red Fox. ISBN 10: 0099408651

(UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.) some rights are taken from Convention – worded in simple language and each right has a illustration by a different artist in caricature form.

Two homes. Calire Masuel. (2002). London: Walker Books. ISBN 0744589258.
Shows a little boy who's parents are separated. It's about living between both parents.

Out there somewhere. Mike Manning & Brita Granstrom (1999). ISBN 10: 0749634448
Depicts different family set ups (single parents, living with grandparents etc.) in different countries, with different races in both urban and rural settings. This book always generates a lot of discussion amongst the older children in the crèche.

Lanterns and Firecrackers: A Chinese New Year story. Jonny Zucker & Jan Barger. (2005). London: Frances Lincoln. ISBN 10:1845070763. A simple and delightful introduction to the Chinese New Year festival.

OTHER SOURCES

Morris, L. and Coghlan, S. (Eds.). (2005). *Cross-Currents. A Guide to Multicultural Books for Young People.* Dublin: IBBY Ireland. ISBN 0-9541352-1-0.

Office of the Minister for Children. (2006). *Diversity and Equality Guidelines.* Dublin: Office of the Minister for Children.

Willoughby, M. (2004). *Every Child Matters: Developing Anti-discriminatory Practice in Early Childhood Services.* Dublin: Barnardos' National Children's Resource Centre.