



# Read in Color Program



Everyone should be able to see themselves in the pages of a book. Little Free Library's Read in Color initiative distributes books that provide perspectives on racism and social justice, celebrate BIPOC and LGBTQ voices, and incorporate experiences from all identities for all readers.

By reading diverse books, we can increase understanding, empathy, and inclusion.

## About Read in Color

Read in Color aims to amplify diverse voices at a grassroots, community level. The program has four key components:

- **Read in Color pledge.** Everyone can sign a pledge indicating their commitment to read and share diverse books. Participants have the option to showcase their commitment on our Pledge Wall and have access to special Read in Color resources.
- **Free diverse books.** Little Free Library stewards can apply to receive shipments of diverse books at no cost, purchased from BIPOC-owned independent bookstores whenever possible. This opportunity launched in the Twin Cities and will be opened to other locations in the future.
- **Little Free Library installations.** We are establishing new Little Free Library book-sharing boxes filled with culturally relevant books in high-need communities, working in tandem with local partners. The first of these libraries are found in the Twin Cities, with more locations to follow.
- **Recommended reading lists.** Our Diverse Books Advisory Group provides a list of multicultural books for children, adolescents, and adults representing Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Asian American, Muslim, LGBTQ, and other communities.



“Little Free Library, which has more than 100,000 book-sharing boxes in the U.S. and around the world, debuted a ‘Read In Color’ initiative . . . which aims to bring books by and featuring people of color and other marginalized communities to its book-sharing boxes all over the world.”

– USA Today, *Little Free Library fights racism by diversifying its book-sharing boxes.*

“In neighborhoods around the world stand thousands of Little Free Library boxes, where anyone can take a book and leave one behind for someone else to read and treasure. Now the nonprofit organization has launched ‘Read in Color,’ an initiative to ensure its mini libraries include diverse authors, stories and characters.”

– CNN, *Little Free Library is diversifying its book-sharing boxes with more titles about people of color.*

“When children read inclusive books, seeds are planted in their minds, hearts, and souls—seeds of awareness, self-esteem, and connection. If enough such seeds are sown, they will blossom into a society that is far more just and equitable than we’ve ever experienced. Reading in Color is not just fancy for our children’s entertainment. It is necessary for our collective survival.”

– Tameka Fryer Brown, author of *Brown Baby Lullaby* and contributor at The Brown Bookshelf

“As a writer from a marginalized community whose work honors the diversity of our communities, I believe in the Read in Color pledge.”

–Kao Kalia Yang, author of *The Most Beautiful Thing* and *The Latehomecomer*

“Representation in literature MATTERS—and it starts with making diverse materials available!”

– Patricia V. Leidy Memorial Little Free Library, Devon, PA

“Words and pictures have the power to plant seeds for growing a more inclusive and just world.”

– Ulu Little Free Library, Kailua, HI



---

### Support Read in Color

Your gift to Little Free Library will be immediately put to use to provide Little Free Libraries where they’re needed most and expand programs like Read in Color. Donate today!

LittleFreeLibrary.org | 573 County Road A, Suite 106, Hudson, WI 54016 | 715-690-2488

---