

MULTICULTURAL PICTURE BOOKS

fostering cultural understanding

The early years in preschool and in the elementary grades are important in developing attitudes and values that are compatible with current expectations and circumstances within Canadian society.

Multicultural children's books can be used effectively as a means of understanding individual human stories, and the universal emotions and themes they contain.

Research has shown that storybook reading accompanied by discussion can significantly improve a child's acceptance of difference.

The following five works of children's literature depict a wide range of minorities and issues of discrimination—age, gender, physical and mental disability, and ethnicity: *Very Last First Time* by J. Andrews; *Ghost Train* by P. Yee; *How Smudge Came* by N. Gregory; *Red Parka Mary* by P. Eyvindson; and *The Moccasin Goalie* by W. Brownridge.

*More multicultural stories
by Canadian authors:*



Wisahkecahk Flies to the Moon; Ahenakew, Freda
The Story of Chakapas; Ballantyne, Adam
Crabs for Dinner; Badoe, Adwoe
Little Metis and the Metis Sash; Delaronde, Deborah L.
The Nutmeg Princess; Keens-Douglas, Richardo
How the Birth Tree Got Its Stripes - A Cree Story for Children;
Littlechild, George
Last Leaf, First Snowflake to Fall; Yerxa, Leo
Big Boy; Mollel, Telolwa M.
Weighing the Elephant; Ye, Ting-Xing
Where Only the Elders Go; Waboose, Jan Bourdeau

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