Looking for books for children about the African-American experience but finding all your book choices are waitlisted or back-ordered? Here are some fiction and nonfiction titles from the Galesburg Public Library’s Overdrive collection that may have shorter wait lists.

**The Crossover by Kwame Alexander**
This award-winning novel in verse tells the story of two brothers navigating the worlds of loyalty, love, and championship basketball.

**The Undefeated by Kwame Alexander, illustrated by Kadir Nelson**
The Newbery Award-winning author of The Crossover pens an ode to black American triumph and tribulation, with art from a two-time Caldecott Honoree.

**Finding Langston by Lesa Cline-Ransome**
Discovering a book of Langston Hughes' poetry in the library helps Langston cope with the loss of his mother, relocating from Alabama to Chicago as part of the Great Migration, and being bullied.

**Trombone Shorty by Troy Andrews, illustrated by Bryan Collier**
Picture book bio of a trombone prodigy who lead his own band by age six and went on to headline the legendary New Orleans Jazz Fest.

**New Kid by Jerry Craft**
Jordan is the "new kid" at a private school where the opportunities are numerous... and the other Black kids are few.

**The Mighty Miss Malone by Christopher Paul Curtis**
Twelve-year-old Deza Malone, her older brother Jimmie, and their parents endure tough times in Gary, Indiana, and later Flint, Michigan during the Great Depression.

**The Watsons Go To Birmingham by Christopher Paul Curtis**
The ordinary interactions and everyday routines of the Watsons, an African American family living in Flint, Michigan, are drastically changed after they go to visit Grandma in Alabama in the summer of 1963.

**Blended by Sharon Draper**
Isabella, whose black father and white mother struggle to share custody, never feels whole, especially as racial tensions affect her school and she and her stepbrother are stopped by police.

**M.C. Higgins the Great by Virginia Hamilton**
As a slag heap, the result of strip mining, creeps closer to his house in the Ohio hills, fifteen-year-old M.C. is torn between trying to get his family away and fighting for the home they love.
Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom by Lynda Blackmon Lowery
Shares the story of the youngest person to complete the momentous 1965 Voting Rights March from Selma to Montgomery.

Jazz by Walter Dean Myers, illustrated by Christopher Myers
The history of jazz is presented in a series of fifteen illustrated poems.

Of Thee I Sing: A Letter to My Daughters by Barack Obama, illustrated by Loren Long
In a letter to his daughters, President Barack Obama has written a moving tribute to thirteen groundbreaking Americans and the ideals that have shaped our nation.

Heart and Soul: the Story of America and African Americans by Kadir Nelson
An illustrated introduction to African-American history, from Revolutionary-era slavery up to the election of President Obama.

Ghost by Jason Reynolds
Ghost wants to be the fastest sprinter on his middle school track team, but his past keeps slowing him down.

Ghost Boys by Jewell Parker Rhodes
After seventh-grader Jerome is shot by a white police officer, he observes the aftermath of his death and meets the ghosts of other fallen black boys.

Sugar by Jewell Parker Rhodes
In 1870, Reconstruction brings big changes to the Louisiana sugar plantation where ten-year-old Sugar has always lived, including her friendship with Billy, the son of her former master.

Courage Has No Color by Tanya Lee Stone
Examines the story of the Triple Nickles, America's first black paratroopers, who fought against attacks perpetrated on the American West by the Japanese during World War II.

Roll of Thunder Hear My Cry by Mildred D. Taylor
A Black family living in Mississippi during the Depression of the 1930s is faced with prejudice and discrimination.

Some Places More Than Others by Renee Watson
Amara visits her father’s family in Harlem for her twelfth birthday, hoping to better understand her family and herself.

Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson
In vivid poems, the author shares what it was like to grow up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with the remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement.