

**PS 39 Diversity and Inclusion Book of the Month: February**  
**Theme: Black History**

**Book Title:** *Martin Rising: Requiem for a King* by Andrea Davis Pinkney and Brian Pinkney

**Grade Level:** 2nd / 3rd

**Discuss:**

Look. See. Be.

By Andrea and Brian Pinkney, Authors

Books are mirrors that encourage us to see ourselves and others. Here's an easy exercise to try at home called Mirror Magic. It starts with two easy steps:

1. Go to the nearest mirror.
2. Take a good look at yourself.

Do you see how incredible you are? If you don't believe it, ask a friend to join you. Look in the mirror together. Find things to admire about your friend. Look for what you have in common, and also celebrate your beautiful differences.

Now ask your friend to return the favor. What traits does that friend see in you when taking a good look? How are you the same? In what ways are you each uniquely you?

Rejoice in your one-of-a-kind wonders. (She has freckles. He has skin kissed by a thousand suns. Maybe you have both of these, or neither.)

The final step in this exercise? Repeat these same actions every time you start a book. When you read, look upon every page as a reflection of some part of who you are. Maybe the characters look different but share the same interests, like drawing or daydreaming.

Admire the awesome stuff that makes all of you amazing individuals who light up the world!