

# BOOKS FROM

---

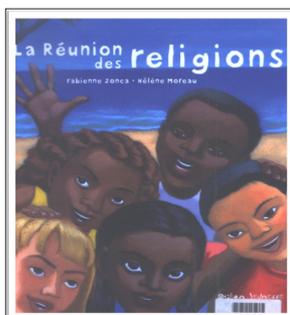
# Reunion Island

---

The books on this list were chosen by Mrs Samia Locate and Mrs Christelle Tiverne at the « Bibliothèque départementale » of the French Overseas Department of Reunion Island in the Indian Ocean.

## 1 Fabienne Jonca • Hélène Moreau, ill. **La Réunion des religions [The Mixing up of Religions]**

Océan éditions, 2010 • ISBN 978-2-36247-003-5



The better you know about the various religions that exist, the better you become tolerant and make it easier to live together. This book is accessible to children from very young age, it offers an abstract for the eight most popular religions in the world such as: Hinduism, Buddhism, the popular religion of China that include Confucius, Taoism and Buddhism, the Judaism, the Catholicism, the Orthodox, the Protestants, and Islam. Bassam lives in Réunion Island, a small island in the Indian Ocean where people about various religions live together. He is happy from this diversity; in fact he is often invited to big celebration parties by his friends. One part of the book could be classified as a documentary book which is useful for the reader because it gives answers to questions that are frequently

asked about religions such as: What are the most popular religions? What are the big events associated to these religions? And what are the most important practices of each of them? We have chosen this book because it gives a positive image of Réunion Island and its people. In fact, it gives information about their religious beliefs, culture and practices and how people live together in peace with their differences. This book is accessible to children from the age of 8; it is a beautiful book with multicoloured pictures and could be used to read aloud. At the end of the book there is an index which gives explanation for all the religious terms and expressions. It helps children learn about the variety of religions that does exist in a same country and respect them.

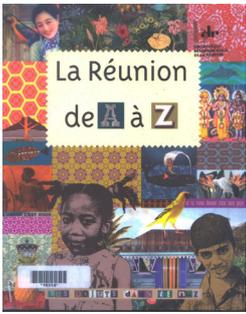
## 2 Robi • Maïté Chaveron, ill. **Elle a de qui tenir [She knows from whom she inherited it]**

Océan éditions, 2009 • ISBN 978-2916-533-72-8



Who are you? Where are you from? You are the fruit of your own roots, a new growing plant that will have its own way... The members of an African's crossbreed family want to find a trait of their own in a new born baby girl. This book is about people from crossbreed origin and it was inspired by a song from the singer Robi. Who has never questioned himself about the similarity in a trait of characters that his child could have inherited from himself or from a member of his close family? The book attempts to answer these questions. Through the illustrations and the beautiful rhymes the album becomes very sincere

and authentic. Furthermore the alternative between pictures that are painted and used to represent the members of the close family and those that are drawn and used to represent the growing girl are an excellent graphics choice because it reinforces the coherence between a text based on comparison of people and it is a kind of celebration for the crossbreed identity. The book has been selected for its originality. The topic it covers is a common subject but it is treated in an original way which makes it easy to read aloud with children from the age of three.

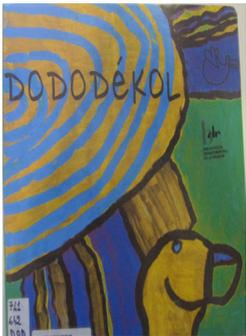


**3** Baptiste Vignol, Jean-Claude Vignol • Elsa Lauret, ill.  
**La Réunion de A à Z, 100 mots sur la Réunion**  
**[Reunion Island from A to Z, 100 words about Reunion Island]**

Les Éditions du Boucan, 2007 • ISBN 978-295248362-9

It is an alphabet primer of 100 words that describes Reunion Island, its history, the most famous spices found and used in this country, the typical houses of Réunion Island called "cases" (huts), the rainfalls, the banana, the mosquitoes, the traditional dance called "maloya", but also details about Madagascar Island, etc... This book is an invitation to discover Réunion Island in an attractive and intelligent way,

by using 100 famous words that will relate to the island in the most beautiful way through riddles and games. The illustrations use lots of colours, humour and imagination in order to reflect closely the charm, the richness and the atmosphere of this Island. This book is a real success amongst literature for young people and is accessible from the age of 6.



**4** Arius and Mary Batiskaf • A class of year 5 from the primary school of Champcourt, le Tampon, ill.  
**Dododékol [The bird Dodo's take off]**

Dodo vole, 2007 • ISBN 978-2-952204-3-1

This hardback square book deals with frequently asked question, anecdotal and metaphysical one that could be asked at any age from age 0 to 6. Here there are some dodo's birds who asked funny questions to their school teacher and all

of them will take off! These philosopher birds speak for the pleasure of the readers. This book has been selected for its lovely artistic illustration, it could be classified as a book of art for children.



**5** Axel Gauvin • Fabrice Urbatro, ill.  
**Liev i sava bal... [Hare is going to the Ball]**

Tikouti, 2007 • ISBN 2-916401-04-0

The king of animals organised a big ball where all the animals were invited, except those who do not have horns. A hare wanted to go so decided to make some false horns and finally was able to enter the ball and enjoy the party until the morning. The horns were made with honeycomb and melted under the sun when the hare got out and so he couldn't enter the ball again. This

is a famous story in Reunion Island used by storytellers to tell to children in reading aloud circles. The author is a very famous story teller in Reunion Island and he generally speaks in Creole (which is a French dialect spoken in the Island). By using Creole language the book uses funny jokes and expression, however this is not visible when translated into French.

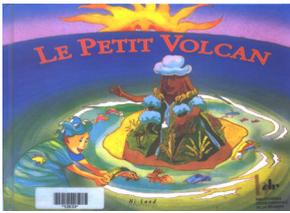


**6** Florette Ratiandry • Anny Grondin, Sully Andoche, ill.  
**Dans mon soubik [In my Basket]**

Epsilon jeunesse 2010 • ISBN 978-2-912949-35-6

This book is a collection of beautiful tales from Madagascar Island and Reunion Island. They are in French and Sakalave (a Malagasy dialect spoke in the north of Madagascar) for the tales of Madagascar, and the tales of Reunion Island are in French and Creole (a French dialect spoken in Réunion Island). This book is the result

of a co-operation between two authors, one from Madagascar Island and the other from Reunion Island and it shows the differences and similarities of cultures between the two countries through their literature and traditional tales. The book is multilingual and is accompanied by a CD.



## 7 Christophe David • François Carage, ill. **Le Petit Volcan [The Small Volcano]**

Hi-Land, 2005 • ISBN 2-910822-00-1

This book is about the birth of the Island, in fact this is the story of the union of the sea to the volcano which has made this beautiful island. Then beautiful birds came to live there, and beautiful fishes came to live in the sea around it. All this has made the Island a paradise where it is good to live. The book uses the famous character of the sea and the volcano which are commonly

used in literature for children. Indeed in Reunion Island we have a volcano which is still alive and does wake up once a year or once every two years. Children in this country grew up with nature around them, mountain, rivers, falls and the volcano which makes them get used to it so they don't become frightened about it in their daily life.



## 8 Joëlle Écormier • François Gonthier, ill. **Ticoulitintin [Ticoulitintin]**

Océan éditions, 2007 • ISBN 978-2916-533-34-6

A collection of traditional nursery rhymes of Réunion Island; these songs are in both languages Creole and translated into French, and these are still in use in nurseries or sung at home nowadays. At the end of the book the author has put a list of instruments that are commonly used with these songs. The book is accompanied

with a CD audio. We have selected this book because it contributes to the folklore of Réunion Island and particularly to the children's patrimony and culture that children are taught from a very young age. The book is very well illustrated and it gets good feedback in the Island.

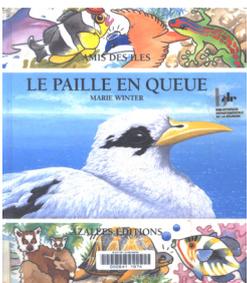


## 9 Aurélie Moynet **Vélocité [Velocity]**

Epsilon, 2010 • ISBN 978-2-912949-36-3

The author and illustrator of this book is a modeller, She always makes the models, takes photos of them and uses them for the illustrations in her book. As a result the illustrations appear as if they are in 3D and it is a very nice combination of picture and drawings. Further this book is about biodiversity and recycling things. It gives a good image of how life could be beautiful when we care for the nature around us by using a bicycle instead of an engine

or a car. We have selected this book because it gives a good image about the protection of nature, the politics of recycling things and and sustainable development. This book was granted the prize "La Réunion des livres" for its illustrations in February 2011. All the models used in the illustrations are sold in the markets as toys for young children and they encourage them to appreciate playing with recycled things.



## 10 Marie Winter **Le Paille en Queue [The Paille en Queue Bird]**

Editions Azalées, 1993 • ISBN 2-908127-18-0

This book is a documentary book for children dealing with a typical bird that lives in Réunion Island named "Le Paille en Queue". The book is very well illustrated and gives minute details about the life of this bird. The young reader will appreciate the beautiful images of the island that are real places that he could have visited during his own life in this island. We have selected

this book because the author is one of the first authors to write documentaries books about wildlife and flora for children in Réunion Island. Her books are a real success with children as they help children to know about the typical animals that live on their Island, and probably nowhere else in the world, the same as for the typical plants that grow up here.