

# Recommended Reads

## Anti-Racism

### for Older Children



**J  
BAJA, V**

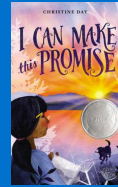
### Count Me In Varsha Bajaj



Told from two viewpoints, sixth-graders Karina and Chris use social media to stand up to racism in Houston, Texas, after an attack puts Karina's Indian American grandfather in the hospital.

**J  
DAY, C**

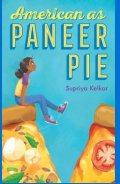
### I Can Make This Promise Christine Day



When twelve-year-old Edie finds letters and photographs in her attic that change everything she thought she knew about her Native American mother's adoption, she realizes she has a lot to learn about her family's history and her own identity.

**J  
KELK, S**

### American as Paneer Pie Supriya Kelkar



When a racist incident rocks her small Michigan town, eleven-year-old Lekha must decide whether to speak up or stay silent, even as she struggles to navigate her life at home, where she can be herself, and at school, where she is teased about her culture.

**J  
KHAN, H**

### Amina's Voice Hena Khan



A Pakistani-American Muslim girl struggles to stay true to her family's vibrant culture while simultaneously blending in at school. After her local mosque is vandalized, she is devastated. Her friend Soojin is talking about changing her name. Does Amina need to become more "American" and hide who she really is?

**J  
MALD, T**

### What Lane? Torrey Maldonado



Biracial sixth-grader Stephen questions the limitations society puts on him after he notices the way strangers treat him when he hangs out with his white friends and learns about the Black Lives Matter movement.

**J  
MARK, J**

### From the Desk of Zoe Washington Janae Marks



Avid baker Zoe Washington receives a letter on her twelfth birthday from her biological father, who is in prison for a terrible crime.

**J  
OH, E**

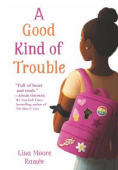
### Finding Junie Kim Ellen Oh



A tale based on true events follows the coming-of-age of a girl who is motivated by an act of racism at school to learn about her ancestral heritage and her grandparents' experiences as lost children during the Korean War.

**J  
RAME, L**

### A Good Kind of Trouble Lisa Moore Ramée



Twelve-year-old Shayla is allergic to trouble. All she wants to do is to follow the rules. Now she's suddenly questioning who her best friends are and some people at school are saying she's not black enough. Shay's sister, Hana, is involved in Black Lives Matter, but Shay doesn't think that's for her. After experiencing a powerful protest, though, Shay decides some rules are worth breaking.

J  
SHEN, E

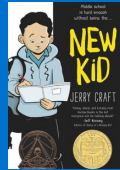
The Comeback  
E.L. Shen



Twelve-year-old Maxine Chen dreams of being a figure skating champion, but a remarkably talented new girl at the arena and a racist classmate at school test her resolve.

JGN  
CRAF, J

New Kid  
Jerry Craft



After his parents send him to a prestigious private school known for its academics, Jordan Banks finds himself torn between two worlds.

J 305.8  
JEWE, T

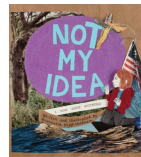
This Book is Anti-Racist  
Tiffany Jewell



Learn about identities, true histories, and anti-racism work...This book is written so young people will feel empowered to stand up to the adults in their lives. This book will give them the language and ability to understand racism and a drive to undo it.

J 305.8009  
HIGG, A

Not My Idea: A Book About Whiteness  
Anastasia Higginbotham



A white child sees a TV news report of a white police officer shooting and killing a black man. "In our family, we don't see color," his mother says, but he sees the colors plain enough. An afternoon in the library's history stacks uncover the truth of white supremacy in America. Racism was not his idea and he refuses to defend it.

J 305.80097  
ERIC, L

Racial Justice in America: What is White Privilege?



Leigh Ann Erickson

Race in America has been avoided in children's education for too long. 'What Is White Privilege?' explores the concept of systemic and intrinsic racism in a comprehensive, honest, and age-appropriate way.

J 305.80097  
TAL

The Talk: Conversations about Race, Love & Truth



Wade Hudson & Cheryl Willis Hudson

Thirty diverse and award-winning authors and illustrators capture frank discussions about racism, identity, and self-esteem.

## MORE ANTI-RACISM BOOKS:

The Long Ride | J Budhos

You Don't Know Everything, Jilly P! | J Gino

Ghost Boys | J Rhodes

Other Words for Home | J Warga

Front Desk | J Yang

Brown Girl Dreaming | J 811.54 WOOD, J

Woke: A Young Poet's Call to Justice | OS J 811.008 WOK

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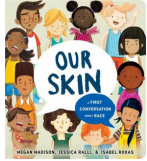
## Anti-Racism

### for Young Children



Aurora  
Public  
Library  
District

BB P

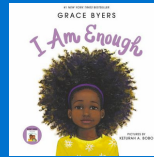


#### Our Skin: A First Conversation About Race

Megan Madison, Jessica Ralli, & Isabel Roxas

Based on the research that race, gender, consent, and body positivity should be discussed with toddlers on up, this read-aloud board book series offers adults the opportunity to begin important conversations with young children in an informed, safe, and supported way.

P  
BYER, G



#### I Am Enough

Grace Byers

Shares a story of loving who you are, respecting others and being kind to one another.

P  
CHEN, E



#### I Am Golden

Eva Chen

This joyful and lyrical picture book from New York Times bestselling author Eva Chen and illustrator Sophie Diao is a moving ode to the immigrant experience, as well as a manifesto of self-love for Chinese American children.

P  
DOYO, S



#### Magnificent Homespun Brown: A Celebration

Samara Cole Doyon

Joyful young narrators celebrate feeling at home in one's own skin.

P  
HO, J



#### Eyes That Speak to the Stars

Joanna Ho

A young Asian boy notices that his eyes look different from his peers' after seeing his friend's drawing of them. After talking to his father, the boy realizes that his eyes rise to the skies and speak to the stars, shine like sunlit rays, and glimpse trails of light from those who came before--in fact, his eyes are like his father's, his agong's, and his little brother's, and they are visionary.

P  
KHAN, H

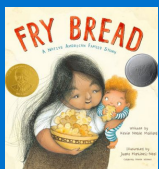


#### Under My Hijab

Hena Khan

As a young girl observes that each of six women in her life wears her hijab and hair in a different way, she considers how to express her own style one day.

P  
MAIL, K

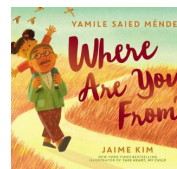


#### Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story

Kevin Noble Maillard

Using illustrations that show the diversity in Native America and spare poetic text that emphasizes fry bread in terms of provenance, this volume tells the story of a post-colonial food that is a shared tradition for Native American families all across the North American continent.

P  
MEND, Y



#### Where Are You From?

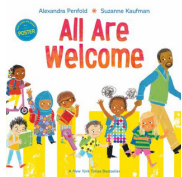
Yamilé Saied Méndez

When a young girl is asked where she's from--where she's really from--she's no longer as she was. She decides to turn to her dear abuelo for some help with this ever-persistent question. But he doesn't quite give her the answer she expects.

**P  
PENF, A**

All Are Welcome  
Alexandra Penfold & Suzanne Kaufman

Illustrations and simple, rhyming text introduce a school where diversity is celebrated and songs, stories, and talents are shared.



**P  
THOM, J**

Your Name is a Song  
Jamilah Thompkins-Bigelow

Frustrated by a day full of teachers and classmates mispronouncing her beautiful name, a little girl tells her mother she never wants to come back to school. In response, the girl's mother teaches her about the musicality of African, Asian, Black-American, Latinx, and Middle Eastern names on their lyrical walk home through the city.



**POR  
NYON, L**

Sulwe  
Lupita Nyong'o

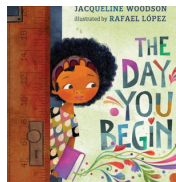
When five-year-old Sulwe's classmates make fun of her dark skin, she tries lightening herself to no avail, but her encounter with a shooting star helps her understand there is beauty in every shade.



**POR  
WOOD, J**

The Day You Begin  
Jacqueline Woodson

Other students laugh when Rigoberto, an immigrant from Venezuela, introduces himself but later, he meets Angelina and discovers that he is not the only one who feels like an outsider.



**J 305.8  
GOLU, J**

Come Together, Change the World: A Sesame Street Guide to Standing Up for Racial Justice

Jackie Golusky

Elmo and friends learn along with young readers about racial justice. This gentle guide informs kids what it means to stand up for justice and what they can do in their daily lives.



**PT  
813.6  
MODI, S**

The Proudest Color  
Sheila Modir, PhD & Jeff Kashou, LMFT

Zahra sees the world in vivid colors. When kids at school tell her she's different because of the color of her skin, she doesn't know how to feel, but her mother tells her to feel proud.



## MORE ANTI-RACISM BOOKS

Laxmi's Mooch | P Anand

Hair Love | P Cherry

Eyes That Kiss in the Corner | P Ho

Skin Again | P hooks

The Name Jar | POR Choi

Parenting 4 Social Justice | PT 649.1 BERK, A

Something Happened In Our Town | PT P CELA, M