

St. Patrick's Episcopal Day School | Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion
Anti-Racist Resource List for Students and Families
Compiled by Librarians Jamila Felton and Mara Rosenberg | June 2020



Note: This resource list is *not* comprehensive. We have, instead, provided specific resources that directly teach or promote anti-racist values and actions, or that candidly explore the historical context of systemic racism. A few intersectional, social justice books for children have also been added for their connections to systemic racism.

Early Childhood



A is for Activist by Innosanto Nogara

An ABC board book written and illustrated for the next generation of progressives: families who want their kids to grow up in a space that is unapologetic about activism, environmental justice, civil rights, LGBTQ rights, and everything else that activists believe in and fight for.

All the Colors We Are/Todos los colores de nuestra piel: The Story of How We Get Our Skin Color by Katie Kissinger

Celebrate the essence of one way we are all special and different from one another—our skin color! This Spanish bilingual book offers children a simple, scientifically accurate explanation about how our skin color is determined by our ancestors, the sun, and melanin.

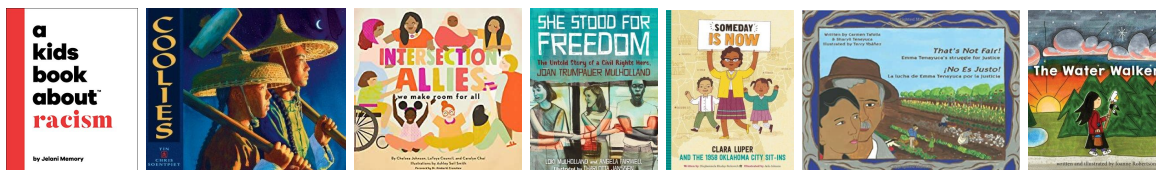
Antiracist Baby by Ibram X. Kendi, illustrated by Ashley Lukashevsky

With bold art and thoughtful yet playful text, *Antiracist Baby* introduces the youngest readers and their grown-ups to the concept and power of antiracism. Providing the language necessary to begin critical conversations at the earliest age, it is for readers of all ages dedicated to forming a just society. **Available 6/16/2020.*

Who We Are!: All About Being the Same and Being Different by Robbie Harris, illustrated by Nadine Bernard Wescott

Join a family at Funland as they go on rides and play games. During their excursion, they — and young readers — notice that people are the same as one another in lots of ways, and different in lots of ways too. Accessible, humorous, illustrations; conversations between Gus and Nellie; and straightforward text help children realize why it’s important to treat others the way they want to be treated and the way *you* want to be treated.

Early Elementary



A Kids Book About Racism by Jelani Memory

This book provides a clear description of what racism is, how it makes people feel when they experience it, and how to spot it when it happens. This is one conversation that's never too early to start. Ages 5-9.

Coolies by Yin, illustrated by Chris K. Soentpiet

A Chinese-American boy hears the story of his relatives who came to the United States to make a better life for themselves helping to build the transcontinental railroad. The Chinese workers, known derogatorily as "coolies," from a Chinese word meaning "bitter labor," were paid less than their European counterparts and were often given the most dangerous jobs. The Chinese workers tried staging a strike, but were forced to back down. Even when the railroad's completion is celebrated, the importance of the Chinese laborers is ignored. Ages 5 and up.

IntersectionAllies: We Make Room for All by Chelsea Johnson

The brainchild of three women-of-color sociologists, IntersectionAllies is an entry into intersectional feminism. The nine characters describe their backgrounds, ranging from a physical disability to language brokering, taking pride in their identities and connecting to collective struggles for justice. The group bond grounds the message of allyship and equality. When things get hard, the kids advocate respect and inclusion, learning to embrace, rather than shy away from, difference. Grades 2-5.

She Stood for Freedom: The Untold Story of a Civil Rights Hero, Joan Trumpauer Mulholland by Loki Mulholland, illustrated by Charlotta Janssen

This picture book biography of Joan Trumpauer Mulholland follows her from her segregated childhood in 1950s Virginia through her college years, when she joined the Civil Rights Movement, attending demonstrations and sit-ins. She was the first White person to join in the 1963 Woolworth's lunch counter sit-ins in Jackson, Mississippi. She also participated in the Freedom Rides of 1961 and was arrested and imprisoned. Her life has been spent standing up for racial justice. Ages 5 and up.

Someday Is Now: Clara Luper and the 1958 Oklahoma City Sit-ins by Olugbemisola Rhuday-Perkovich, illustrated by Jade Johnson

More than a year before the Greensboro sit-ins, a teacher named Clara Luper, an unsung hero of the Civil Rights movement, led a group of young people to protest a segregated drugstore by sitting at its lunch counter. Perfect for early elementary kids in encouraging them to stand up for what is right and teaching about the power of nonviolent activism. Grades K-3.

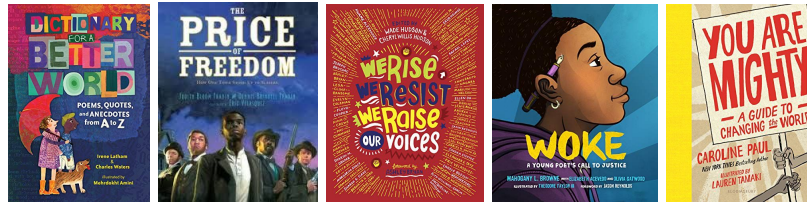
That's Not Fair! Emma Tenayuca's Struggle for Justice by Carmen Tafolla and Sharyll Tenayuca, illustrated by Terry Ybáñez

A vivid depiction of the early injustices encountered by a young Mexican-American girl in San Antonio in the 1920's. Emma Tenayuca learns to care deeply about poverty and hunger during a time when many Mexican Americans were starving to death and working unreasonably long hours for 3 cents/hour in the city's pecan-shelling factories. Emma begins to get involved, and eventually, at the age of 21, leads 12,000 workers in the first significant historical action in the Mexican-American struggle for justice. Ages 5-7.

The Water Walker by Joanne Robertson

The determined story of an Ojibwe grandmother (nokomis), Josephine Mandamin, and her great love for nibi (water). Nokomis walks to raise awareness of our need to protect nibi for future generations and for all life on the planet. She, along with other women, men and youth, has walked around all the Great Lakes from the four salt waters, or oceans, to Lake Superior. Grades K-3.

Upper Elementary



Dictionary for a Better World: Poems, Quotes, and Anecdotes from A to Z by Irene Latham, illustrated by Mehrdokht Amini

How can we make the world a better place? This middle-grade resource is organized as a dictionary; each entry presents a word related to creating a better world, such as ally, empathy, or respect. For each word, there is a poem, a quote from an inspiring person, a personal anecdote from the authors, and a "try it" prompt for an activity. Grades 4-7.

The Price of Freedom: How One Town Stood Up to Slavery by Dennis Brindell Fradin and Judith Bloom Fradin, illustrated by Eric Velasquez

When John Price took a chance at freedom by crossing the Ohio river from Kentucky into Ohio one January night in 1856, the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850 was fully enforced in every state of the union. But the townspeople of Oberlin, Ohio, believed that all people deserved to be free, so Price started a new life in town-until a crew of slave-catchers arrived and apprehended him. When the residents of Oberlin heard of his capture, many of them banded together to demand his release in a dramatic showdown that risked their own freedom. Grades 2-4. **This book is out of print; used copies are available for purchase online.*

We Rise, We Resist, We Raise Our Voices edited by Wade Hudson and Cheryl Willis Hudson

What do we tell our children when the world seems bleak, and prejudice and racism run rampant? With 96 pages of original art and prose, fifty diverse creators lend voice to young activists. Featuring poems, letters, personal essays, art, and other works from such industry leaders as Jacqueline Woodson, Jason Reynolds, Kwame Alexander, Andrea Pippins, Sharon Draper, Ellen Oh, and artists Ekua Holmes, Rafael Lopez, James Ransome, Javaka Steptoe, and more, this anthology empowers the nation's youth to listen, learn, and build a better tomorrow. Grades 3-6.

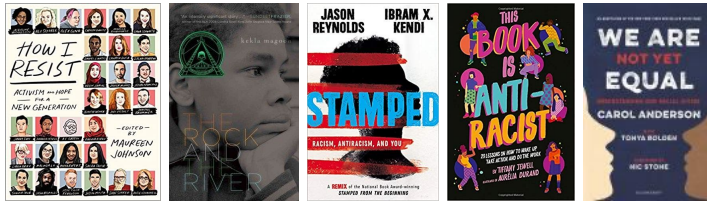
Woke: A Young Poet's Guide to Justice by Mahogany L. Browne, illustrated by Theodore Taylor

Woke is a collection of poems by women of color that reflects the joy and passion in the fight for social justice, tackling topics from discrimination to empathy, and acceptance to speaking out. With bright, emotional art and writing from Mahogany Browne, Elizabeth Acevedo and Olivia Gatwood, kids will be inspired to create their own art and poems to express how they see justice and injustice. Grades 2-5.

You Are Mighty: A Guide to Changing the World by Caroline Paul illustrated by Lauren Tamaki

This guide features change-maker tips, tons of DIY activities, and stories about the kids who have paved the way before, from famous activists like Malala Yousafzai and Claudette Colvin to the everyday young people whose habit changes triggered huge ripple effects. So make a sign, write a letter, volunteer, sit-in, or march! There are lots of tactics to choose from, and you're never too young to change the world. Grades 5-8.

Middle and High School



How I Resist: Activism and Hope for a New Generation edited by Maureen Johnson

Now, more than ever, young people are motivated to make a difference in a world they're bound to inherit. But with much to shout about, where do they begin? What can I do? How can I help? Through a collection of essays, songs, illustrations, and interviews about activism and hope, this book shows readers that they are not helpless, and that anyone can be the change. Grades 8-11.

The Rock and the River by Kekla Magoon

In 1968 Chicago, fourteen-year-old Sam Childs is caught in a conflict between his father's nonviolent approach to seeking civil rights for African-Americans and his older brother, who has joined the Black Panther Party. Grades 6-10.

Stamped: Racism, Antiracism, and You by Jason Reynolds and Ibram X. Kendi

The construct of race has always been used to gain and keep power, to create dynamics that separate and silence. This remarkable reimaging of Dr. Kendi's National Book Award-winning *Stamped from the Beginning* reveals the history of racist ideas in America, and inspires hope for an antiracist future. It takes you on a race journey from then to now, shows you why we feel how we feel, and why the poison of racism lingers. It also proves that while racist ideas have always been easy to fabricate, they can also be discredited. Grades 7-12.

This Book Is Anti-racist: 20 Lessons on How to Wake Up, Take action, and Do the Work by Tiffany Jewell, illustrated by Aurelia Durand

Who are you? What is racism? Where does it come from? Why does it exist? What can you do to disrupt it? Learn about social identities, the history of racism and resistance against it, and how you can use your anti-racist lens and voice to move the world toward equity and liberation. Grades 7-12.

We Are Not Yet Equal: Understanding Our Racial Divide by Carol Anderson with Tonya Bolden

This is a compelling young adult adaptation of Carol Anderson's *White Rage*. When America achieves milestones of progress toward full and equal Black participation in democracy, the systemic response is a consistent racist backlash that rolls back those wins. This examines five of these moments—the end of the Civil War and Reconstruction; the promise of opportunities in the North during the Great Migration; the Supreme Court's landmark 1954 *Brown v. Board of Education* decision; the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Voting Rights Act of 1965; and the election of President Barack Obama. Grades 9 and up.

Adults



[EmbraceRace: Raising a Brave Generation | embracerace.org/resources](https://embracerace.org/resources)

Founded in 2016 by two parents, EmbraceRace identifies, organizes, and creates tools, resources, discussion spaces, and networks to meet four goals: nurture resilience in children of color; nurture inclusive, empathetic children of all stripes; raise kids who think critically about racial inequity; and support a movement of kid and adult racial justice advocates for all children. A great place to start is the article, [EmbraceRace Teaching and Talking to Kids About Race](#).

How to Be an Antiracist by Ibram X. Kendi

Antiracism is a transformative concept that reorients and reenergizes the conversation about racism--and points us toward liberating new ways of thinking about ourselves and each other. At its core, racism is a powerful system that creates false hierarchies of human value; its warped logic extends beyond race, from the way we regard people of different ethnicities or skin colors to the way we treat people of different gender identities and body types. This is an essential work for anyone who wants to go beyond the awareness of racism to the next step: contributing to the formation of a just and equitable society.

So You Want to Talk about Race by Ijeoma Oluo

In this New York Times bestseller, Ijeoma Oluo offers a hard-hitting but user-friendly examination of race in America. Widespread reporting on aspects of white supremacy--from police brutality to the mass incarceration of Black Americans--has put a media spotlight on racism in our society. Still, it is a difficult subject to talk about. Oluo guides readers through subjects ranging from intersectionality and affirmative action to "model minorities" in an attempt to make the seemingly impossible possible: honest conversations about race and racism, and how they infect almost every aspect of American life.

When Affirmative Action Was White: An Untold History of Racial Inequality in Twentieth-century America by Ira Katznelson

Ira Katznelson fundamentally recasts our understanding of twentieth-century American history and demonstrates that all the key programs passed during the New Deal and Fair Deal era of the 1930s and 1940s were created in a deeply discriminatory manner. Through mechanisms designed by Southern Democrats that specifically excluded maids and farm workers, the gap between Blacks and Whites actually widened despite postwar prosperity. Also discussed are postwar policies to promote home ownership, GI benefits that financed college education, and labor laws regarding minimum wages that deliberately excluded Blacks.

***White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for
White People to Talk about Racism*** by
Robin J. DiAngelo

Antiracist educator Robin DiAngelo deftly illuminates the phenomenon of white fragility and "allows us to understand racism as a practice not restricted to 'bad people' (Claudia Rankine). Referring to the defensive moves that white people make when challenged racially, white fragility is characterized by emotions such as anger, fear, and guilt, and by behaviors including argumentation and silence. These behaviors, in turn, function to reinstate white racial equilibrium and prevent any meaningful cross-racial dialogue. DiAngelo examines how white fragility develops, how it protects racial inequality, and what we can do to engage more constructively.