



GET WOKE STAY WOKE

Anti-racist books for kids and families

Picture Books:

All are Welcome by Alexandra Penfold

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

All Different Now: Juneteenth, the First Day of Freedom by Angela Johnson

In 1865, members of a family start their day as slaves, working in a Texas cotton field, and end it celebrating their freedom on what came to be known as Juneteenth.

Alma and How She Got Her Name by Juana Martinez-Neal

When Alma Sofia Esperanza Jose Pura Candela asks her father why she has so many names, she hears the story of her name and learns about her grandparents.

Be Who You Are by Todd Parr

Simple words and pictures encourage kids to be proud of what makes them unique, where they come from, and how they express themselves and see the world.

Crown: an Ode to the Fresh Cut by Derrick D. Barnes

Celebrates the magnificent feeling that comes from walking out of a barber shop with newly-cut hair.

The Day You Begin by 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.

Dream Big, Little One by Vashti Harrison

Featuring 18 trailblazing black women in American history, *Dream Big, Little One* is the board book adaptation of the author's *Little Leaders: Bold Women in Black History*.

Each Kindness by Jacqueline Woodson

When Ms. Albert teaches a lesson on kindness, Chloe realizes that she and her friends have been wrong in making fun of new student Maya's shabby clothes and refusing to play with her.

Freedom in Congo Square by Carole Boston Weatherford.

As slaves relentlessly toiled in an unjust system in 19th century Louisiana, they all counted down the days until Sunday, when at least for half a day they were briefly able to congregate in Congo Square in New Orleans where they could sing, dance, and play music and forget their cares, their struggles, and their oppression.

Hair Love by Matthew Cherry

A little girl's daddy steps in to help her arrange her curly, coiling, wild hair into styles that allow her to be her natural, beautiful self.

Hands Up! By Breanna J. McDaniel

A young girl lifts her hands up in a series of everyday moments before finally raising her hands in resistance at a protest march

Hey Black Child by Useni Eugene Perkins

A lyrical, empowering poem that celebrates black children and seeks to inspire all young ones to dream big and achieve their goals

Last Stop on Market Street by Matt de la Peña

A young boy rides the bus across town with his grandmother and learns to appreciate the beauty in everyday things.

Mixed Me by Taye Diggs

Told in rhyming text, Mike is a mixed-race boy, completely comfortable with his identity and his parents--and his wild, curly hair.

The Proudest Blue : a Story of Hijab and Family by Ibtiha Muhammad

Faizah relates how she feels on the first day her sister, sixth-grader Asiya, wears a hijab to school.

The Undeclared by Kwame Alexander

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.

Where Are You From? by Yamilé Saie Méndez

When a girl is asked where she's from--where she's really from--none of her answers seems to be the right one. Unsure about how to reply, she turns to her loving abuelo for help. He doesn't give her the response she expects. She gets an even better one.

Fiction Books:

Betty Before X by Ilyasah Shabazz

Raised by her aunt until she is six, Betty, who will later marry Malcolm X, joins her mother and stepfamily in 1940s Detroit, where she learns about the civil rights movement.

Genesis Begins Again by Alicia Williams

Thirteen-year-old Genesis tries again and again to lighten her black skin, thinking it is the root of her family's troubles, before discovering reasons to love herself as is.

Ghost by Jason Reynolds

Ghost, a naturally talented runner and troublemaker, is recruited for an elite middle school track team. He must stay on track, literally and figuratively, to reach his full potential.

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 including historical figure Emmett Till.

The Hero Two Doors Down : Based on the True Story of Friendship Between a Boy and a Baseball Legend by Sharon Robinson

Steve is thrilled when Jackie Robinson moves into his Jewish neighborhood in Brooklyn in 1948, although many of his neighbors are not, and when Steve actually

meets his hero he is even more excited--and worried that a misunderstanding over a Christmas tree could damage his new friendship.

Like Vanessa by Tami Charles

It is 1983 and Vanessa Martin, a thirteen-year-old African American girl in Newark's public housing, dreams of following in the footsteps of the first black Miss America, Vanessa Williams; but with a dysfunctional family the odds are against her--until a beauty pageant changes her life forever

My Year in the Middle by Lila Quintero Weaver

At Lu Olivera's school the white kids and black kids sit on different sides of the classroom while Lu just wants to get along with everyone, but growing racial tensions will not let Lu stay neutral about the racial divide.

One Crazy Summer by Rita Williams-Garcia

In the summer of 1968, after travelling from Brooklyn to California, to spend a month with the mother they barely know, Delphine and her sisters arrive to a cold welcome as they discover that their mother is resentful of the intrusion of their visit and wants them to attend a nearby Black Panther summer camp.

Out of Left Field by Ellen Klages

In 1957, inspired by what she is learning about civil rights and armed with knowledge of female ball players, ten-year-old Katy Gordon fights to be allowed to play Little League baseball.

The Parker Inheritance by Varian Johnson

Candace sets out to solve a mystery leading to an inheritance, exonerate her grandmother from a long-ago false accusation, and expose an injustice once committed against an African American family.

Revolution by Debbie Wiles

Sunny and her brother are caught sneaking into the local swimming pool -- where they bump into a mystery boy whose life is going to become tangled up in theirs.

Stella by Starlight by Sharon M. Draper

When a burning cross set by the Klan causes panic and fear in 1932 Bumblebee, North Carolina, fifth-grader Stella must face prejudice and find the strength to demand change in her segregated town.

Violet Mackerel's Pocket Protest by Anna Branford

Violet and Rose organize a protest to save the big oak tree in Clover Park.

What Lane? By 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.

Non-Fiction Books:

All the Way to the Top : How One Girl's Fight for Americans with Disabilities Changed Everything by Annette Bay Pimentel

When Jennifer was just eight years old, she participated in the Capitol Crawl. An image of Jennifer crawling up the steps of Capitol Hill went viral and helped pressure Congress into passing the Americans with Disabilities Act. A celebration of youth activism that will teach all children that they have the power to make a difference

Boycott Blues : How Rosa Parks Inspired a Nation by Andrea Davis Pinkney

Illustrations and rhythmic text recall the December, 1955, bus boycott in Montgomery, Alabama.

Brown Girl Dreaming by Jacqueline Woodson

Raised in South Carolina and New York, Woodson always felt halfway home in each place. In vivid poems, she 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.

Give Us the Vote! : Over Two Hundred Years of Fighting for the Ballot by Susan Goldman Rubin

Perfect for students who want to know more about voting rights, this book contains an extensive view of suffrage from the Founding Fathers to the 19th Amendment to the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to today's voter suppression controversies, and explains the barriers people of color, Indigenous people, and immigrants face.

The Little Book of Little Activists

Filled with inspiring photos of children at actual protests and rallies, this book also includes inspirational quotes, simple ideas for how kids can get involved, brief definitions of concepts like "equality" and "feminism," and an introduction from a leading activist who's making a difference in the world today.

Marching for Freedom : Walk Together, Children, and Don't You Grow Weary by Elizabeth Partridge

Traces the historic 1965 civil rights march from Selma to Montgomery.

A Place to Land by Barry Wittenstein

The true story behind the writing of Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech.

Stonewall : a Building. an Uprising. a Revolution by Rob Sanders

Describes the Stonewall Riots in New York City in 1969, which sparked the gay liberation movement in the United States, and details the history of LGBTQ rights since the riots.

This Book is Anti-Racist by Tiffany Jewell

This book is written so children and young adults will feel empowered to stand up to the adults who continue to close doors in their faces. This book will give them the language and ability to understand racism and a drive to undo it.

Voice of Freedom : Fannie Lou Hamer, Spirit of the Civil Rights Movement by Carole Boston Weatherford

Presents a collage-illustrated treasury of poems and spirituals inspired by the life and work of civil rights advocate Fannie Lou Hamer.

We are the Change : Words of Inspiration from Civil Rights Leaders by Selino Alko

Presents quotes on civil rights from important and influential figures, including Queen Lili'uokalani, John Lewis, Nina Simone, and Barack Obama.

We Rise, We Resist, We Raise Our Voices

Fifty of the foremost diverse children's authors and illustrators share answers to the question, "In this divisive world, what shall we tell our children when the world seems bleak, and prejudice and racism run rampant?"

What Do You Do with a Voice Like That? : the Story of Extraordinary Congresswoman Barbara Jordan by Chris Barton

A picture book of lawyer, politician, and civil rights leader Barbara Jordan.

What's the Big Deal about Freedom by Ruby Shamir

Explains how America got the nickname "land of the free" and shares facts on subjects ranging from the Constitution and abolition to suffrage and the four freedoms, while offering insight into the progression and setbacks of democracy.

Who was Ida B. Wells? By Sarah Fabiny

Throughout her life, Ida fought against prejudice and for equality for African Americans. She would go on to co-own a newspaper, write several books, help cofound the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and fight for women's right to vote.

Woke : a Young Poet's Call to Justice by Mahogany L. Browne

Poems by women that reflect the joy and passion in the fight for social justice, tackling topics from discrimination to empathy, and acceptance to speaking out.

Graphic Novels:

El Deafo by Cece Bell

The author recounts in graphic novel format her experiences with hearing loss at a young age, including using a bulky hearing aid, learning how to lip read, and determining her "superpower."

March. Book One by John Lewis

This graphic novel is Congressman John Lewis' first-hand account of his lifelong struggle for civil and human rights, meditating in the modern age on the distance traveled since the days of Jim Crow and segregation.

New Kid by Jerry Craft

Jordan enters a new school as one of the few kids of color in his entire grade. As he makes the daily trip to the upscale school, Jordan soon finds himself torn between two worlds--and not really fitting into either one. Can Jordan learn to navigate his new school culture while keeping his neighborhood friends and staying true to himself?

Satchel Paige : Striking Out Jim Crow by James Sturm

Told from the point of view of a sharecropper, this compelling narrative follows Paige from game to game as he travels throughout the segregated South.

The Underground Abductor / an Abolitionist Tale by Nathan Hale

An illustrated introduction to the life and achievements of Harriet Tubman depicts her escape from slavery in the mid-nineteenth century and her life-risking dedication to helping runaway slaves find freedom north of the Mason-Dixon line.

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