

Text Set 10: Taking Action & Activism

Annotated Bibliography

Overview: Taking Action and Activism is a text set that embraces the heart of humanity. Taking action means to use your voice, ideas, writing, bodies, art, and so many other forms of expression to bring awareness as well as change to make the world a better place for everyone. This text set invites readers to think about taking action and activism, by engaging in various stories, strategies, techniques, historical events, poems, and images. The text set is broken down into various categories exploring various forms of what taking action looks like and sounds like. We invite you to engage in this text set and find your voice to create a more inclusive and diverse library where various voices can be heard and projected in various forms. From graphic novels to historical fiction, picture books, novels, poems, academic research and so many other forms, both authors and illustrators represented in this selection invite its readers to reflect about the world and make a difference.

*Please find links to multimedia, online resources, and videos at the bottom of this annotated bibliography. You will also find videos to read alouds and book summaries to most of the books, these links are located within the book summary.

Protests, Strikes, Sit Ins, and Movements



We Are Water Protectors

By: Carole Lindstrom and Michaela Goade (Illus.)

A young girl stands with her tribe to speak out against the black snake that threatens the Earth's water. The black snake is a reference to the oil pipes that are mostly likely to be built on Native American land, which becomes an issue as the land is sacred and most importantly: water.

Youtube Read Aloud Link:

 We Are Water Protectors by Carole Lindstrom and Michaela ...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7YviSkDv9xU>



Si, Se Puede!/ Yes We Can

By Diana Colin, Illustrated by Francisco Delgado

¡Si Se Puede! Yes, We Can! is a bilingual fictional story set against the backdrop of the successful janitor's strikes in Los Angeles in 2000. It tells about Carlitos, whose mother is a janitor. Every night he sleeps while his mother cleans in out of the skyscrapers in downtown, L.A. when she comes home, she waves Carlitos off to school before she goes to sleep. One night, his mama explains that she can't make enough money to support him and his abuelita, the way they need unless she makes more money as a janitor. She and the other janitors have decided to go on strike.



The Youngest Marcher

By: Cynthia Levinson and Vanessa Brantley Neston

This picture book takes readers on a journey into the story of young Audrey Faye Hendricks, whom just at 9 years old decides to join the protest in Birmingham, Alabama. She was arrested at 9 years old after taking matters into her own hands through protest after hearing stories about the Ku Klux Klan and police brutality. Read to find her powerful story and her courage to take action at such a young age.

Youtube Read Aloud Link:

 **Youngest Marcher CC a**

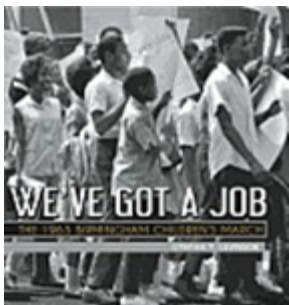
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kk6ywZger9A>



Kids On The March

By Michael Long

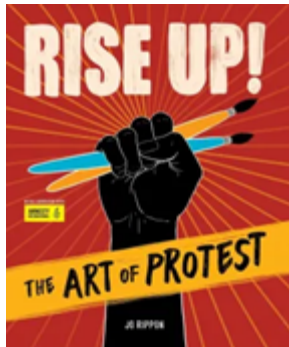
From the March on Washington to March for Our Lives to Black Lives Matter, the powerful stories of kid-led protest in America. Kids have always been activists. They have even launched movements. Long before they could vote, kids have spoken up, walked out, gone on strike, and marched for racial justice, climate protection, gun control, world peace, and more. Kids on the March tells the stories of these protests, from the March of the Mill Children, who walked out of factories in 1903 for a shorter work week, to 1951's Strike for a Better School, which helped build the case for Brown v. Board of Education, to the twenty-first century's most iconic movements, including March for Our Lives, the Climate Strike, and the recent Black Lives Matter protests reshaping our nation.



We've Got A Job

By: Cynthia Levinson

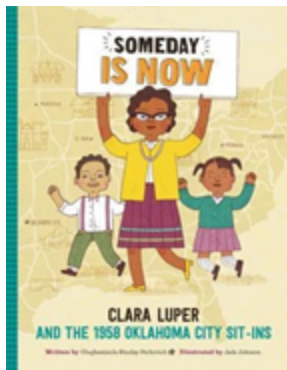
Through the eyes of these four protesters and others who participated, *We've Got a Job* tells the little-known story of the 4,000 black elementary, middle, and high school students who voluntarily went to jail between May 2 and May 11, 1963. The children succeeded—where adults had failed—in desegregating one of the most racially violent cities in America



Rise Up: The Art of Protest

By: Joe Rippon

Published in collaboration with Amnesty International, this book combines protest art spanning two centuries with a strong message of encouragement to young activists all over the world. In her foreword, Mari Copeny, who drew President Barack Obama's attention to the Flint water crisis in 2014, exhorts young people to "speak up for ourselves because it's our present, and our future, that are at stake." Each chapter deals with a specific issue, including women's rights, racial justice, peace, youth rights, LGBTQ rights, and environmental issues. A short essay introduces each topic, prefaced by inspirational statements from key activists and politicians, including Gloria Steinem, Nelson Mandela, Ban Ki-moon, and Jane Goodall.



Someday is Now: Clara Luper and the Oklahoma City Sit Ins

By: Olumghemisola Rhuday-Perkovich and illustrated by Jade Johnson

This story follows a nonviolent activist Clara Luper who led the movement to desegregate Oklahoma stores and restaurants who were closed to African American communities because of the color of their skin. This story encourages young readers to act for what is right.



Which Side Are You On?

By: George Ella Lyon

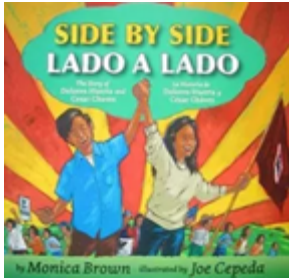
Which Side Are You On?, tells the story of the classic union song that was written in 1931 by Florence Reece in a rain of bullets. It has been sung by people fighting for their rights all over the world. This song and story follows miners who went on strike in Kentucky to get better wages, working conditions, and healthcare. This story follows a mining family and the strike they went on for their worker's rights,



Finish the Fight

By: Veronica Chambers

Who was at the forefront of women's right to vote? We know a few famous names such as Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton, but what about so many more others from diverse backgrounds like black, Asian, Latinx, Native American and so many more? Who helped lead the fight for suffrage? This book beautifully illustrates portraits of various women who played an integral role in fighting for women's rights.




Side by Side Lado a Lado: The Story of Dolores Huerta and César Chávez/ La Historia de Dolores Huerta Y Cesar Chávez

By: Monica Brown, illustrated by Joe Cepeda

This picture book follows the farm workers' union strike against poor working conditions and poor pay. This story follows Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta from their childhoods to their continuous struggle as farm workers. In a country where farm workers provide most of the food at dinner tables, follow farm worker's stories where only beans were made available to those working the fields.

Youtube Read Aloud Link:

 Side by Side read-aloud

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hSPgZUA_Egl



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

By: Elizabeth Partridge

This book follows different historical events during the Civil Rights movement, from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to Bloody Sunday. This informational text covers black and white photographs as well as provides information on the struggles of many African Americans as they strived for freedom and equal rights.




Child of the Civil Rights Movement

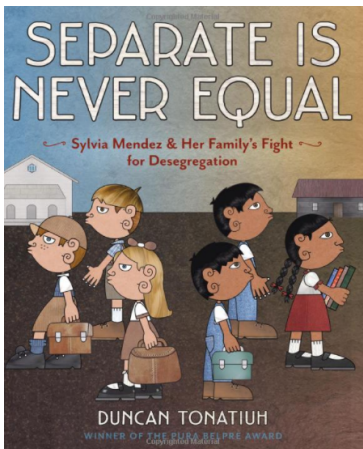
By: Paula Young Shelton, illustrated by Raul Colón

Paula grew up in the deep south, in a world where whites had, and blacks did not. With an activist father and a community of leaders surrounding her, including her Uncle Martin (Martin Luther King), Paula watched and listened to the struggles, eventually joining with her family—and thousands of others—in the historic march from Selma to Montgomery. This story follows Paula listening to her family’s conversations under the table, to standing at the front end of the protest to fight for her rights.

Youtube Read Aloud Link:

 Read Aloud: “Child of the Civil Rights Movement” by Paula Yo...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Au55hIFeYGE>




Separate is Never Equal: Sylvia Mendez & Her Family's Fight for Desegregation

By: Duncan Tonatiuh

Sylvia Mendez and her cousins are going to be enrolled in their neighborhood school and Sylvia is beyond excited especially after moving to Westminster, California. But, when she and her brothers were turned away from the receptionist at the school and her cousins had not, Sylvia could not understand why. Sure she was darker than her cousins, she had brown skin and brown hair, while her cousins had lighter skin and hair color. But they were all Mexican. Sylvia and her brothers end up going to a school only for Mexicans where she has to relearn grade material she has already perfected. Sylvia and her family have done so much for this country, with her father a veteran from the war, and yet she and her brothers were being discriminated against. This picture book follows Sylvia’s case as they fight for desegregation and push for education equality for all despite your skin color, language, and culture.

Youtube Read Aloud Link:

 "Separate is Never Equal" by Duncan Tonatiuh

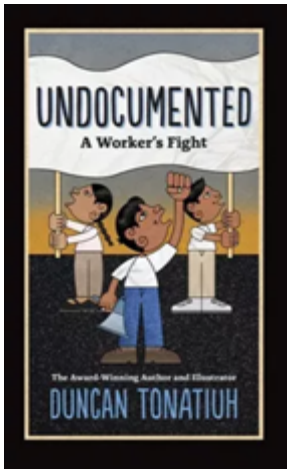
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O5Qlv-2wxQ4>



Let the Children March

By: Monica Clark-Robinson, Illustrated by: Frank Morrison

In 1963 Birmingham, Alabama, thousands of African American children volunteered to march for their civil rights after hearing Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. speak. They protested the laws that kept black people separate from white people. Facing fear, hate, and danger, these children used their voices to change the world because like said in their own words, they could not do the same thing as their white peers from playing on separate playgrounds to drinking at different water fountains. Frank Morrison's emotive oil-on-canvas paintings bring this historical event to life, while Monica Clark-Robinson's moving and poetic words document this remarkable time”



Undocumented: A Worker's Fight

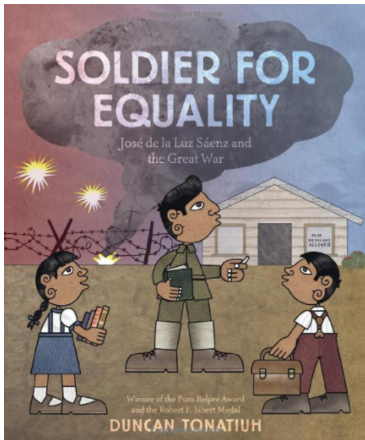
By: Duncan Tonatiuh

This story beautifully depicted in an accordion format told in the ancient Mixtec codex format, illustrates the struggle of many immigrant workers who come to the United States for work. This story follows Juan who crosses to the United States and becomes an undocumented work. Living in a poor neighborhood and struggling to make ends meet, Juan gets a job as a busboy in a restaurant but is severely underpaid. He receives less than the minimum pay although he is working just as much as his coworkers. He takes a stand and meets with a representative to work his case as he fights for his rights.

Youtube Read Aloud Link:

 **Undocumented - A Worker's Fight (Read Aloud)**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4u8WnZxuJiA>



Soldier For Equality: José de la Luz Sáenz and the Great War

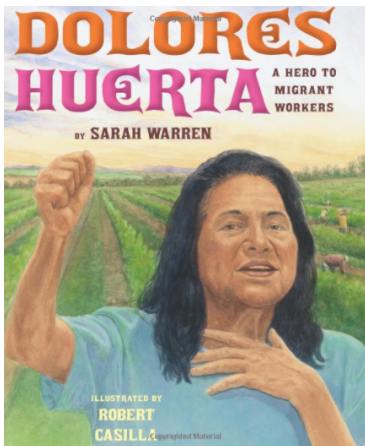
By: Duncan Tonatiuh

This story is about José de la Luz Sáenz who although being born in the U.S. faced discrimination because of his Mexican heritage. Determined to help his community, Lz joined the army when World War I broke out. Luz thought that being in the army, he would gain a bit more respect, but came to realize he faced discrimination then.

Youtube Read Aloud Link:

▶ Ep.15: Soldier for Equality by Duncan Tonatiuh- Read Aloud

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tqb-IPsu3WE>



Dolores Huerta: A Hero to Migrant Workers

By: Sarah Warren, illustrated by Robert Casilla

Dolores Huerta is a teacher, mother and friend. She finds herself curious as to why her students are too hungry to listen in class and why they do not wear shoes to school. Dolores finds out that farm workers in her community are poorly paid and working under very dangerous conditions. She stands up for their rights and joins in the fight to help bring equal rights to migrant farmworkers.

Youtube Read Aloud Link:

▶ Dolores Huerta A Hero to Migrant Workers By Sarah Warren II

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=omHbZe2hcGc>



The Last Straw: Kids VS. Plastic

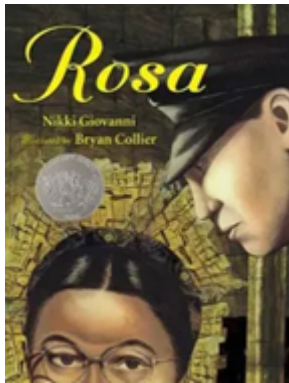
By: Susan Hood, illustrated by Christiane Engel

Follow along this quick guide as to how children can help the environment and make a better change for the planet. What plastics are good to use? Which ones should and can we avoid altogether? This is a great resource for students everywhere who may be wondering: "where can I start?"

Youtube Read Aloud Link:

 **The Last Straw: Kids vs. Plastics | How You Can Make a Diffe.**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S18cvlkvqJg&feature=youtu.be>



Rosa

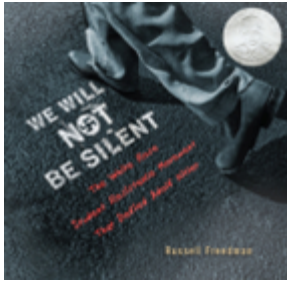
By: Nikki Giovanni, illustrated by Bryan Collier

Fifty years later after refusing to give up her seat on a Montgomery, Alabama city bus, Rosa Parks is still one of the most important figures in the American Civil rights movement. This picture book acts as a tribute to her story as her story is retold in beautiful illustrations to engage young readers in how courage and standing up for your human rights can change the world.

Youtube Read Aloud Link:

 **Rosa**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uiHNJK5vZXQ&feature=youtu.be>



We Will Not Be Silent: The White Rose Student Resistance

By: Russell Freedman

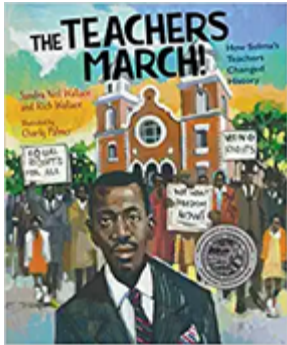
In his signature prose, backed up by thorough research, Freedman tells the story of Austrian born Hans School and his sister Sophie. They belonged to Hitler Youth as young Children but began to doubt the Nazi Regime. As older students the Scholls and a few friends formed the White Rose, a campaign of active resistance to Hitler and the Nazis.



No Voice Too Small: Fourteen Young Americans Making History

Edited by: Lindsay H Metcalf, Keila V. Dawson, and Jeanette Bradley (Illustrated)

In this picture book collection, readers are introduced to 14 young people using a variety of activism strategies to make the world more just, including Ziad Ahmed, Samirah Horton, Jazz Jennings, Judy Adams, Adora Svitak, Viridiana Sanchez-Santos, and Marley Dias. Each biographical profile is accompanied by poems about each of the young person's activism.



The Teachers' March

By: Sandra Neil Wallace

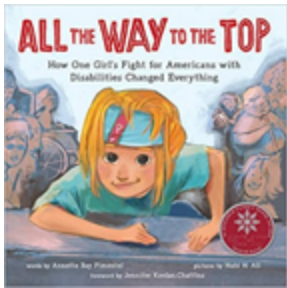
Reverend F.D. Reese a leader of the Voting Rights Movement, in Selma, Alabama both a teacher and a principal, recognized that his colleagues were viewed with great respect in the city. His effort to engage teachers to march to demand the right to vote became a historical movement recognized to this day. On January 22, 1965, the black teachers left their classrooms to do just that with Reverend Reese leading the way.



Together We March: 25 Protest Movements That Marched into History

By: Leah Henderson , illustrated by Tyler Feder

March through history and discover twenty-five groundbreaking protest movements that have shaped the way we fight for equality and justice today in this stunningly illustrated and sweeping book! For generations, marches have been an invaluable tool for bringing about social change. People have used their voices, the words on their signs, and the strengths in their numbers to combat inequality, oppression, and discrimination. They march to call attention to these wrongs and demand change and action from a local to a global scale.



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

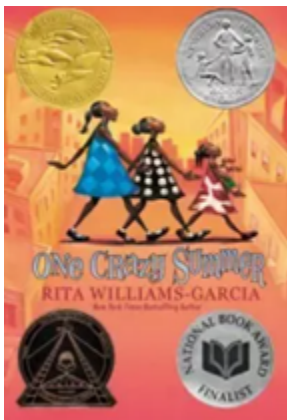
By: Annette Bay Pimentel

Based on the true story of lifelong activist Jennifer Keelan-Chaffins, this story covers how determined Jennifer was to make a change even as a child. She never thought her wheelchair could slow her down, but instead, how the world around her was built to make it harder to do simple things, like going to school or eating lunch in the cafeteria. Determine, Jennifer uses her voice to make sure that the Americans with Disabilities Act, passes congress, she crawls up the Capital building in Washington, D.C. to convince them.

Youtube Read Aloud Link:

▶ All the Way to the Top: How One Girl's Fight for Americans wit...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FmM8Ns1DOb0>



One Crazy Summer

By: Rita Williams-Garcia

This novel follows eleven-year-old Daphne who is like a mother to her two younger sisters, Vonnetta and Fern. She's had to be their mother since their mother Cecile had left them seven years ago for a radical new life in California. One summer, the girls visit their mother and find themselves in a day camp run by the Black Panthers. There the girls learn more about the movements to fight for equality as well as learn more about themselves and their mother who is not what they had expected her to be.

Youtube Summary/Read Aloud Link:

▶ One Crazy Summer Ch 1 2

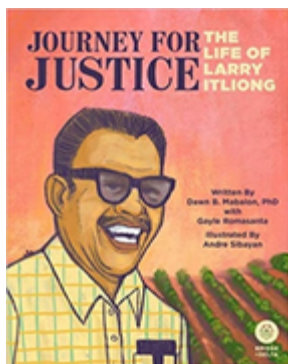
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oxqpA9NUudw&feature=youtu.be>



That's Not Fair! No Es Justo!: Emma Tenayuca's Struggle for Justice/ La Lucha de Emma Tenayuca por La Justicia

By: Carmen Tafolla, Sharyll Teneyuca, 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, this book tells the true story of Emma Tenayuca. Emma learns to care deeply about poverty and hunger during a time when many Mexican Americans were starving to death and working unreasonably long hours at slave wages in the city's pecan-shelling factories. Through astute perception, caring, and personal action, 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. Emma Tenayuca's story serves as a model for young and old alike about courage, compassion, and the role everyone can play in making the world more fair.”



Journey for Justice: The Life of Larry Itliong

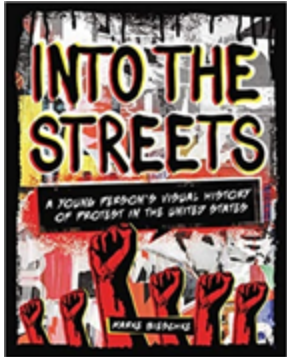
By Dawn Mabalon, Gayle Romasanta and Andre Sibayan (Illust)

Following the farm workers' struggle to acquire equal rights, this story follows the life of Larry Itliong who immigrated to the states in 1929 from the Philippines when he was 15 years old. He immediately began working as a farmworker. He and other Filipinos faced racism and injustices. He pointed out the struggle for Filipinos and others to acquire higher education and better jobs.

Youtube Read Aloud Link:

 **Journey for Justice: The Life of Larry Itliong Read Aloud**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jTl17BnAaPk&t=277s>



Into the Streets: A Young Person's Visual History of Protest in the United States

By: Marke Bieschke

"This is a compilation of 34 instances when citizens of the U.S. exercised their right to protest, demonstrate, march, or create mayhem to express their views. Each act is covered in its own four-page chapter, usually evenly divided between text (accessible information set off by headers and subtitles) and illustrations (photos, archival documents, reproductions). The events are listed in chronological order, beginning with colonial times, events in the nineteenth century, the twentieth century (with special attention paid to the tumultuous 1960s: civil rights, the Vietnam War, Black Power, the Stonewall Riots, Occupation of Alcatraz, the Attica Prison uprising, flower power, and more), and on through the 2018 March for Our Lives. The introduction uses the 1968 student walkouts in Los Angeles as a model of civil disobedience, emphasizing how the teens' activism brought about changes (bilingual classes, a Chicano history curriculum). The back matter includes chapter notes, recommendations for further reading, and a few tips on how to plan a protest. This is helpful curriculum support and **a how-to guide for young dissidents.**"—*Booklist*



Stand Up, Speak Up! A story Inspired by the Climate Change Revolution

By: Andrew Joyner

“Celebrate young climate change activists in this charming story about an empowered girl who shows up, listens up, and ultimately, speaks up to inspire her community to take action against climate change. After attending a climate march, a young activist is motivated to make an effort and do her part to help the planet... by organizing volunteers to work to make green changes in their community, from cleaning a lake, to planting trees, to making composting bins, to hosting a clothing swap and morale planet.”

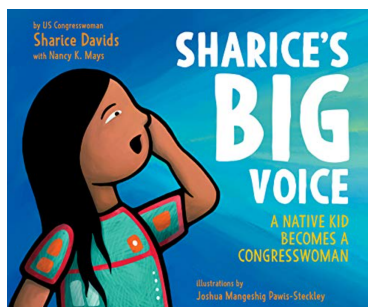


Sometimes, People March

By: Teresa Allen

One thing is true with protests, no matter how or why people march, the most important and powerful message is that they march together. This book covers the reasons why people march and how it is done.

Characters and Real People Taking Action



Sharice's Big Voice: A Native Kid Becomes a Congresswoman

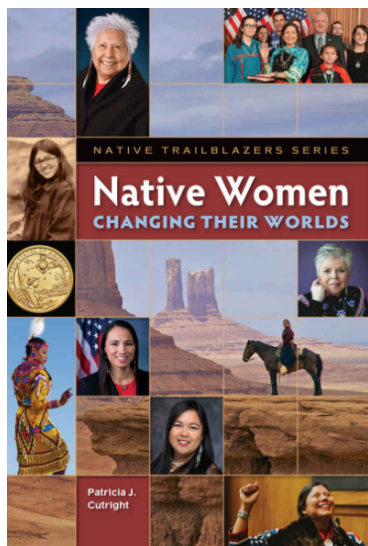
By: U.S. Congresswoman Sharice Davids with Nancy K. Mays, illustrated by Joshua Mangeshig Pawis-Steckley

Follow the true life story of U.S. Congresswoman Sharice Davids, who is one of the first Native American woman to become congresswoman and who uses her voice to stand up for the indigenous communities

Youtube Summary/Read Aloud Link:

 **Congresswoman Sharice Davids on LGBT+ Activism in Educ.**

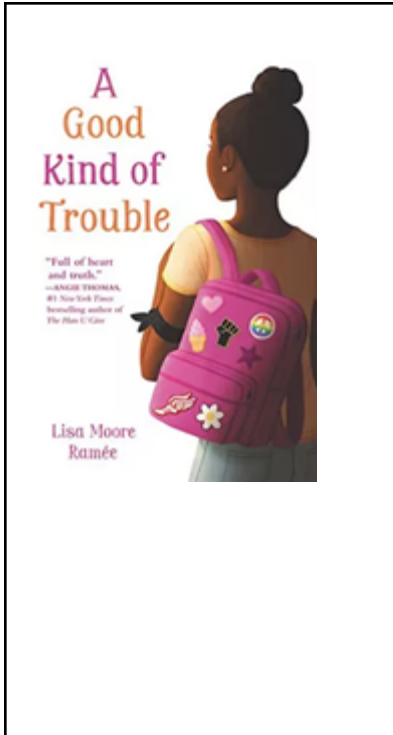
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j1q9xeP1lro>



Native Women Changing Their Worlds

By: Patricia Cutrights

A book in nonfiction format for upper grades, depicts the lives and stories of Native American women who made a change for their tribes and their communities. This powerful nonfiction story is a reminder that change can take various shapes and forms and the life changing impact it can have on many, as a result.




A Good Kind of Trouble

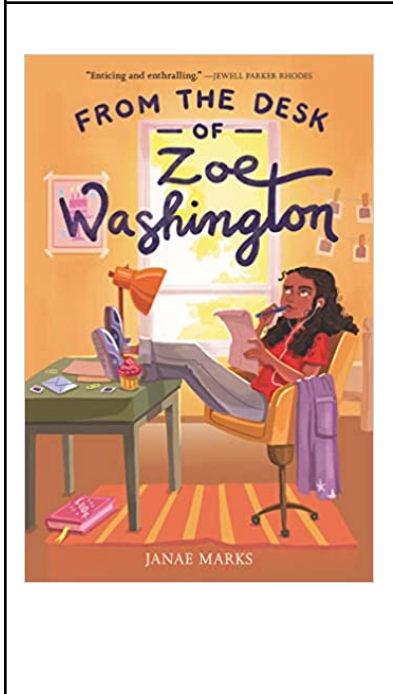
By: Lisa Moore Ramée

Twelve-year-old Shayla is terrified of getting into trouble, especially things she doesn't feel she needs to get into. But as Shay's older sister gets involved in the Black Lives Matter movement, Shay can't help but think about getting into some good trouble herself as she wears a band to represent the black lives matter movement and bring awareness to others, especially after observing an event where an unarmed boy gets shot by a police officer.

Youtube Summary/Read Aloud Link:

 A Good Kind of Trouble Ch. 1

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2xK6ZHwZHh0>



From the Desk of Zoe Washington

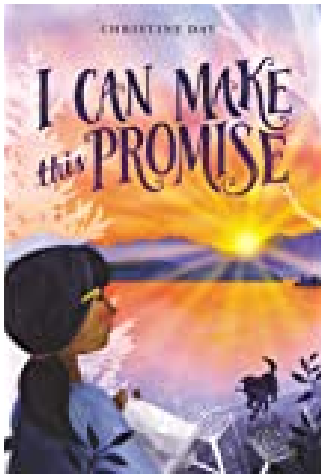
By: Janae Marks

Zoe has never met her father before. He is in jail for a crime that he claims he has not done. Zoe wonders: "Could her father really be as innocent as he claims to be?" Leading to an important investigation, Zoe begins to learn more about the inequality of the criminal justice system. What she does next may possibly change her direction forever.

Youtube Summary/Read Aloud Link:

 Children's Book Trailer From The Desk of Zoe Washington

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PC2hOEBnjQE>



I Can Make This Promise

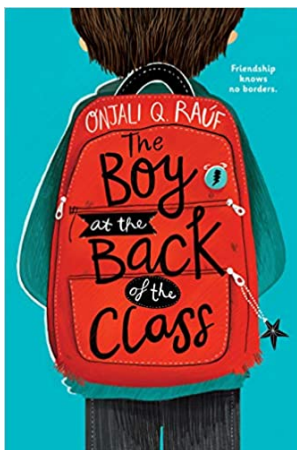
By: Christine Day

In this novel, Edie, who knows that she has been adopted by a white couple, begins to have questions about her Native American Identity. After talking to her family, Edie is sure they don't have any answers. Yet, one day upon playing in the attic, Edie discovers letters from a woman named Edith, who shares her name. The letters include a photo of the woman who looks just like Edie. It is up to Edie to find more answers about her identity and where she comes from.

Youtube Summary/Read Aloud Link:

 **First Chapter Friday: I Can Make This Promise**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L087YS8YgnM&feature=youtu.be>



The Boy at the Back of The Class

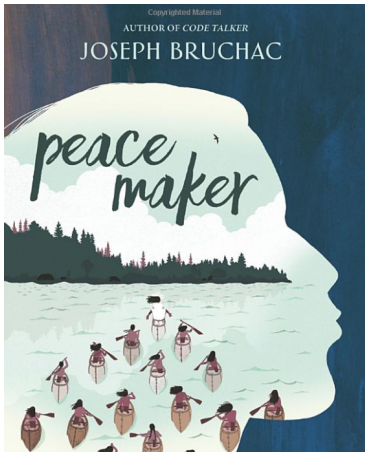
By: Onjali Q. Rauf

Nine year old Ahmet, a Syrian Refugee, is a new student in Mrs. Khan's class. The classroom observes Ahmet as he doesn't appear to smile and doesn't seem to talk much. His peers begin to learn Ahmet's story and the real reason for his arrival in the new school. The class and Ahmet come together as a community, changing the perspectives the students had of Ahmet. This book encourages readers to become an ally and that community can come together to make everyone feel like they have a home and place to belong to.

Youtube Summary/Read Aloud Link:

 **The Boy At the Back of the Class Chapters 1 and 2**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GrhVks-zDR0>



PeaceMaker

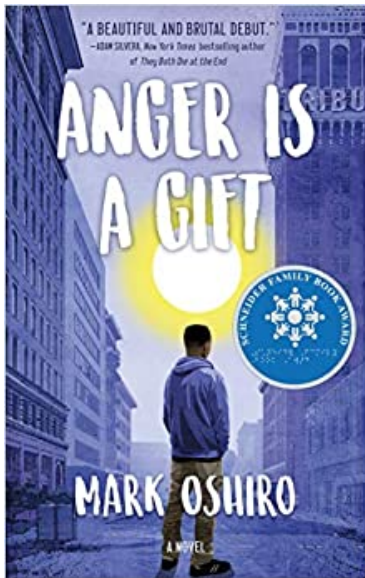
By: Joseph Bruchac

It seems almost normal to try to take revenge right? Well, things change gears when 12-year old Okwaho's life suddenly changes. Okwaho and his friend are hunting when all of a sudden Okwaho's friend is kidnapped. Okwaho barely escapes and seeks revenge for his friend, until one day, he meets someone who will convince him otherwise. He learns that making peace is a much better solution than starting another war. Can Okwaho bring together the five tribal nations around him?

Youtube Summary/Read Aloud Link:

 **Book Talk: Peace Maker by Joseph Bruchac**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IDDCX7TEWPo&feature=youtu.be>



Anger Is A Gift

By: Mark Oshiro

Moss and his peers at school are being treated unfairly. Let's face it, they are being treated as criminals. Moss knows that something needs to change and amidst everything going on around him, he is determined to do just that. He realizes that anger can be the fuel to a better change for the future.

Youtube Summary/Read Aloud Link:

 **Book Review: Anger is a Gift by Mark Oshiro**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fK3JIEcnv94>



Dear Martin

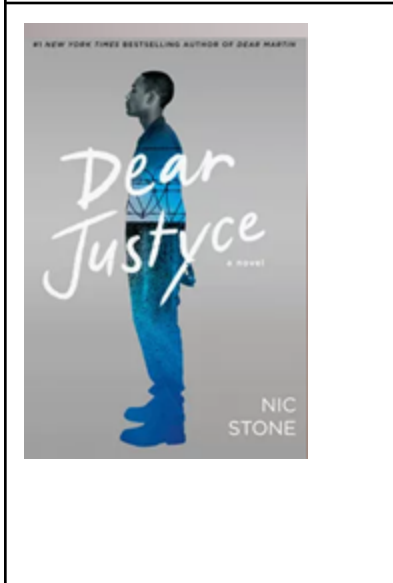
By: Nic Stone

Justyce McAllister is a good kid, an honor student and is always willing to help a friend. But none of that matters to the police officer who puts him in handcuffs. Despite leaving his rough neighborhood behind, he can't escape the scorn of his former peers or the ridicule of his new classmates. Upon traveling with his friend in a car with blasting music a white police officer off-duty stops them only for arguments to be fired up and shots ringing about. His effort to inform himself of Dr. Martin Luther King and writing a journal, seems a bit of a challenge as reality paints a different picture.

Youtube Summary/Read Aloud Link:

 **Dear Martin Chapter 1 Audio**

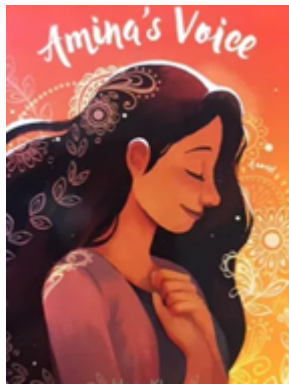
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zOT51A3lniw&feature=youtu.be>



Dear Justyce

By: Nic Stone

A Sequel to **Dear Martin**, Justyce finds himself learning more about the injustices in the juvenile system. As he heads into the University with his friend, more trouble stirs up and police encounters become frequent. Justyce finds himself in a heavy situation suddenly with a cop dead and a gun with his friend's fingerprints on them. Can you truly escape what you were born into? Or can you make your own path and be accepted for it?



Amina's Voice

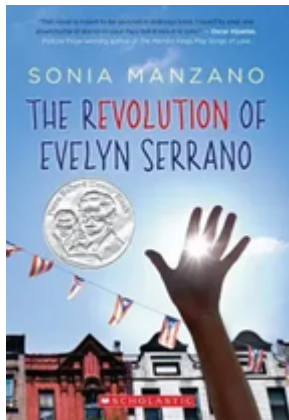
By: Hena Khan

A Pakistani-American Muslim girl struggles to stay true to her family's vibrant culture while simultaneously blending in at school after tragedy strikes her community with vandalism at her mosque. Amina who has never been comfortable in the spotlight finds herself using her voice to bring awareness and bring a diverse community together to love and support one another.

Youtube Summary/Read Aloud Link:

 **Amina's Voice (Audiobook) by Hena Khan**

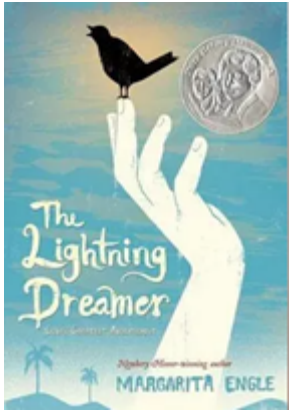
https://youtu.be/rJFi_RDD_rM



The Revolution of Evelyn Serrano

By: Sonia Manzano

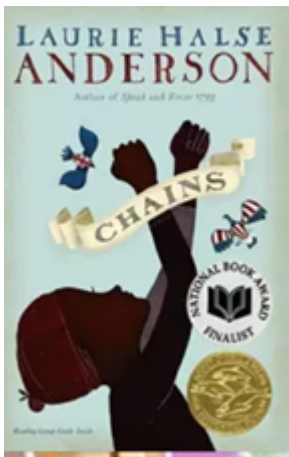
Evelyn Serrano is debating about her heritage and culture, when a sudden event strikes her to her core. Events erupt that change everything. The Young Lords, a Puerto Rican activist group, dump garbage in the street and set it on fire, igniting a powerful protest. When Abuela steps in to take charge, Evelyn is thrust into the action. Tempers flare, loyalties are tested and through it all, Evelyn learns important truths about her Latino Heritage and the history makers who shaped a nation.



The Lightning Dreamer: Cuba's Greatest Abolitionist

By: Margarita Engle

Opposing slavery in Cuba in the nineteenth century was dangerous. The most daring abolitionists were poets who veiled their work in metaphor through poetry. One such poet was Gertudis Gómez de Avellaneda. This story follows Tula who is unable to get an education and is pressured to marry, upon heading to the library Tula finds herself immersed in a ban book written by Gertudis Gómez de Avellaneda and finds that maybe having a voice isn't such a bad thing.



Chains

By: Laurie Halse Anderson

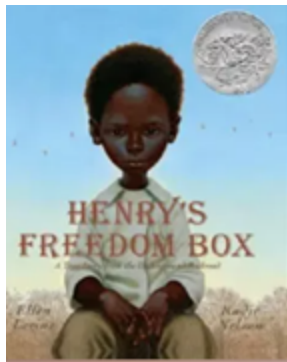
As the Revolutionary War begins thirteen-year-old Isabel wages her own fight for freedom. She is promised freedom upon the death of their owner. She and her sister become property of cruel owners who have no sympathy for the revolution or for Isabel and her sister. When Isabel meets someone with ties to the Patriots by the name of Curzon, he encourages Isabel to spy on her owners, taking action after an unexpected events to break away from her chains and seek freedom.



Mary and The Trail of Tears: A Cherokee Removal Survival Story

By: Andrea L. Rogers, illustrated by Matt Forysth

Sometimes taking action or having action imposed by others can be a very dangerous and unforgiving thing. This story follows Mary and her family who were forcefully removed and relocated to a new land, through the Trail of Tears. In this story, readers will find informational facts about the trail of tears and how it impacted so many.




Henry's Freedom Box

By: Ellen Levine

This story follows Henry, a slave who is separated from his mother and family at a young age. He marries and has children only to find that they have been sold to another slave owner. He sets out to find his freedom and places himself in a box and ships himself to freedom. Although he never sees his children and family again, Henry begins a new life as a free man.

Youtube Read Aloud Link:

 **Henry's Freedom Box Read Aloud**

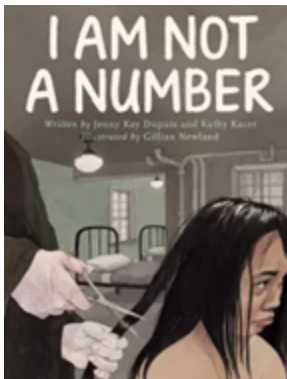
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zvSBEBI483U&feature=youtu.be>



Before She was Harriet

By: Lesa Cline-Ransome, illustrated by James E. Ransome

This passage follows Harriet Tubman who played various roles and had various names as she worked as a spy and a conductor for the Underground Railroad. In this story, readers will learn more about the roles Harriet played as she is known as one of the most impacting activist to have helped many slaves be liberated from slavery.



I Am Not A Number

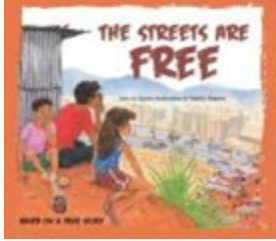
By: Dr. Jenny Kay Dupuis, Kathy Kacer, and illustrated by Gillian Newland

This book covers the negative effects boarding schools had on indigenous communities, specifically the Ojibwe in Canada. Irene, a Native American girl is removed from her name and taught to become someone she is not. When she heads back to her family, she finds herself and her family members hiding from returning to the boarding schools, taking matters into their own hands. How far would you go to protect and defend your cultural identity and language?

Youtube Read Aloud Link:

 **I Am Not a Number**

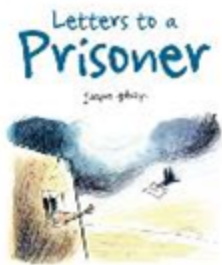
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p2MP5ioGHAc&feature=youtu.be>



The Street Are Free

By Kurusa

“This inspiring book is based on the true story of the children of the barrio of San Jose de la Urbina in Caracas, Venezuela. There are no parks where they live, and the children must play in the streets. They ask the mayor for an empty lot to build a playground, but all they get are campaign promises. They know that they are the only ones who will make something happen, so they get their friends and family involved until the whole barrio unites to create a space of their own.”



Letters to A Prisoner

By: Jacques Goldstyn

“Told entirely through illustrations, *Letters to a Prisoner* is a wordless story about the power of hope and the written word. Inspired by Amnesty International's letter-writing campaigns to people who have been jailed for expressing their opinion, the book shows a man being arrested during a peaceful protest. In solitary confinement, he begins to despair until a bird delivers a letter of support written by somebody outside the prison. Every day more missives arrive until the prisoner can escape his fate on wings made of letters.”



Love Is Powerful

By: Heather Dean Brewer and LeUyen Pham (illus)

“Mari is getting ready to make a sign with crayon as the streets below her fill up with people. “What are we making, Mama?” she asks. “A message for the world,” Mama says. “How will the whole world hear?” Mari wonders. “They’ll hear,” says Mama, “because love is powerful.” Inspired by a girl who participated in the January 2017 Women’s March in New York City, Heather Dean Brewer’s simple and uplifting story, delightfully illustrated by LeUyen Pham, is a reminder of what young people can do to promote change and equality at a time when our country is divided by politics, race, gender, and religion.”



Milo's Museum

By: Zetta Elliott and Purple Wong (Illus)

Milo is excited about her class trip to the museum. The docent leads them on a tour and afterward Milo has time to look around on her own. But something doesn't feel right, and Milo gradually realizes that the people from her community are missing from the museum. When her aunt urges her to find a solution, Milo takes matters into her own hands and opens her own museum!



Be Amazing: A History of Pride

By: Desmond Napoles, Dylan Glynn

“Twelve-year-old Desmond Is Amazing, “a drag kid and LGBTQ advocate” in New York City, crafts an engaging introduction to drag and LGBTQ history that mixes the personal and the historical, cheering “the very brave people who fought to make it okay for me, or anyone like me, to be whoever we want to be.” Using a straightforward first-person perspective, he describes LGBTQ persecution; the Stonewall Riots and heroes Marsha P. Johnson and Silvia Rivera; and how the riots sparked the Christopher Street Liberation Day March, which later became Pride day.



El Deafo

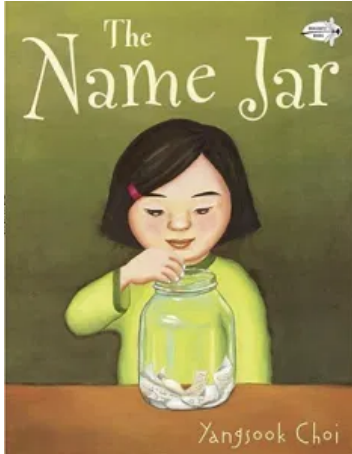
By Cece Bell

This story follows the true story of Cece Bell written in graphic novel form as the reader engages with the early experiences of Cece’s loss of hearing. This story captivates Cece’s early struggles with making friends as well as her own identity as she adapts to a new lifestyle. Cece becomes her own hero and takes action for herself and for others. This story is about bravery and how standing up for yourself can make all the difference.

Youtube Summary/Read Aloud Link:

 **The Inside Story of El Deafo: Chapter 1**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q5vx-V8SFL4&feature=youtu.be>



The Name Jar

By: Yangsook Choi

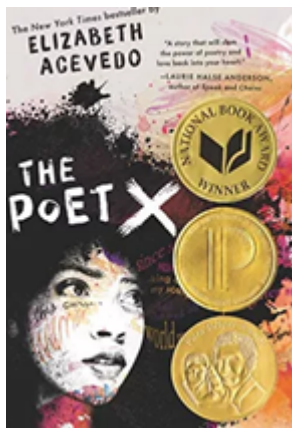
This book follows the story of Unhei who recently moved to the United States. She is anxious about using her Korean name in the classroom as she is afraid that her classmates will not be able to pronounce her name. That leads to the introduction of a name jar where Unhei must pick a new name for herself. Unhei realizes however, that her name has meaning and that it means something to her. Will she pick a new name or will she stand up for herself and her cultural identity and keep her name?

Youtube Read Aloud Link:

[▶ Read Along with Ms. Garrison #3 - The Name Jar](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bGCuOEoEXSc>

The Power of Writing, Voices, Stories, and Poetry



The Poet X

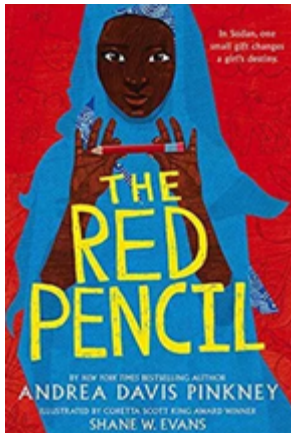
By: Elizabeth Acevedo

Xiomara Batista feels unheard and unable to hide in her Harlem Neighborhood. But, despite all of that, Xiomara feels it is important to be heard and most importantly to speak out. She finds herself able to write powerful poems amongst all of the challenges and is invited to join a slam poetry club which her mother may not be a fan of. Xiomara must make a choice, to continue to be heard or to be silent.

Youtube Summary/Read Aloud Link:

[▶ The Poet X by Elizabeth Acevedo | Audiobook Excerpt](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oBHGtzOhOwU>



The Red Pencil

By: Andrea Davis Pinkney

Finding herself in a refugee camp, Amira strives to fight for the right to her own education. Amidst all of the turmoil in her country, Amira's refuge becomes her writing where she finds that the simplest of activities may be the most powerful tool you can ever use.

Youtube Summary/Read Aloud:

 **First Chapter Friday: The Red Pencil**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6D47p3g5q50>



Brown Girl Dreaming

By: Jacqueline Woodson

In this novel written in verse, the reader finds themselves immersed in the steps of Woodson whom in her vivid poems shared what it was like to grown up as an African American in the 1960s and 1970s, living with remnants of Jim Crow and her growing awareness of the Civil Rights movement. She shares her love of stories which to this day have stayed with her as she writes her own.



William Still and His Freedom Stories

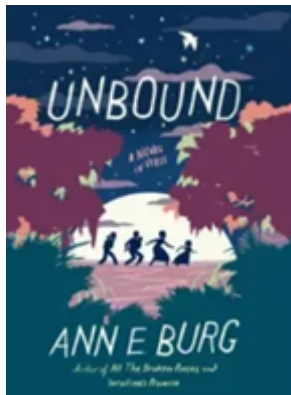
By: Don Tate

From Ezra Jack Keats Award-winning author-illustrator Don Tate comes a remarkable picture book biography of William Still, known as Father of the Underground Railroad. Essential for black history collections on the travels and stories of many African Americans seeking freedom through the Underground Railroad. Having had a hard life, himself as a slave and being separated from his family in his past, William Still escapes slavery in order to help others. He collects stories of others as a way to record the struggles of many slaves as they seek freedom themselves.

Youtube Read Aloud Link:

 **William Still and His Freedom Stories by Don Tate - Read Aloud**

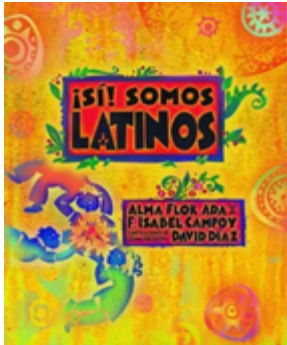
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dMtnmPyDzgs>



Unbound

By: Anne E. Burg

Grace is called from the slave cabins to work in the Big House and Mama makes Grace promise to keep her eyes down. Grace moves through this story listening to stories from uncle Jim and seeing the injustices imposed on African Americans. Grace feels like she needs to speak up and use her voice to stand up for herself and her family. But this stirs up various other events leading Grace and family members to run. Will Grace and her family find freedom? Will she ever be ever to speak out against slavery without fearing for her own life?




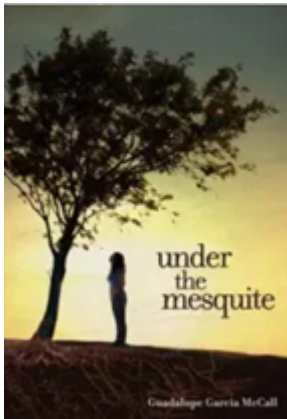
Si Somos Latinos!

By: Alma Flor Ada and F. Isabel Campoy

This poem consists of various poems from 13 Latinx living in the United States, where resonating Latinx voices reflect on education, immigration, language, and so many other topics. The poems are in a way a reflection on how using your voice to speak out about something can be powerful and life changing for the reader. It is important to note that action is not merely a physical task, but comes from the heart and the mind. Poetic words and creativity spark discussions that lead the reader to reflect on various topics.

Youtube Read Aloud Link:

 [Yes! We Are Latinos by Alma Flor Ada](#)



Under the Mesquite

By: Guadalupe Garcia McCall

This text follows a very challenging situation for Lupita whose mother is facing cancer and the possibility of losing her forever. Lupita, just a high school student learning about her potential for writing and acting, feels like she needs to take care of her family and set her dreams aside. She faces various challenges that many Latinx face and can resonate with. She hopes and looks forward to a better future and that means standing up for herself and her education, even if it means leaving home and going to college.




Ancestor Approved

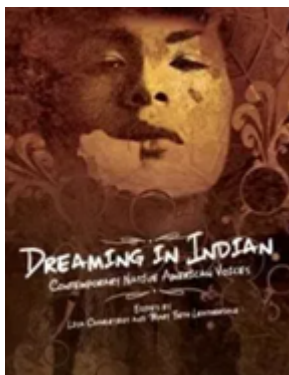
By: Cynthia Leitich Smith

Featuring stories from various authors and poets, *Ancestor Approved*, gives light to Indigenous voices. This collection features various indigenous voices on topics such as language, ceremonies, culture, and identity.

Youtube Summary/Read Aloud:

 **Ancestor Approved: Intertribal Stories for Kids edited by Cynth**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QfYdQFcDUOI>



Dreaming in Indian

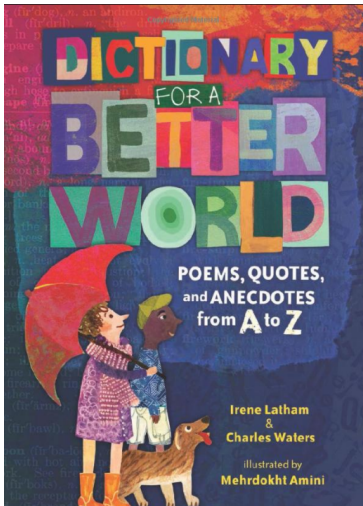
By: Lisa Charleyboy, Mary Beth Leatherdale

This anthology is a collection of various stories, illustrations, and photographs covering the power of art, music, and indigenous culture. In addition, this text reflects the lasting trauma that has impacted many indigenous communities from sections on boarding schools to growing up poor. The contributors to this work shine light into the Indigenous perspectives and stories needed to be heard.

Youtube Summary/Read Aloud Link:

 **Dreaming in Indian Contemporary Native American Voices Lis**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kw5ZVSOzK_Q



Dictionary for A Better World: Poems, Quotes, and Anecdotes from A to Z

By: Irene Latham & Charles Waters, illustrated by Mehrdokht Amini

Follow along this very creative book that has various social justice terms, definitions, suggestions, tips and poems that will surely get students and young readers passionate about how to make a difference in their community and in their world. This book creatively inspires and captivates vocabulary around what it means to be an activist and make a change!

Youtube Summary/Read Aloud:

 **DFABW #1**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6G-Qv2-YACo&list=PLMwELqLRVaq41S0sfQ8nHOxPeBggi3u5f>

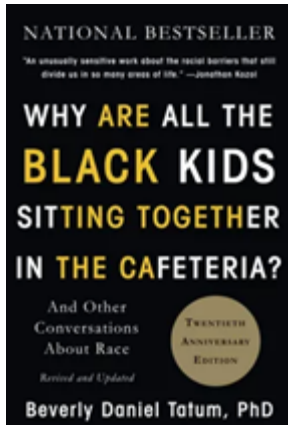
Teaching Activism in the Classroom: Professional Development



Teaching for Black Lives

By: Dyan Watson

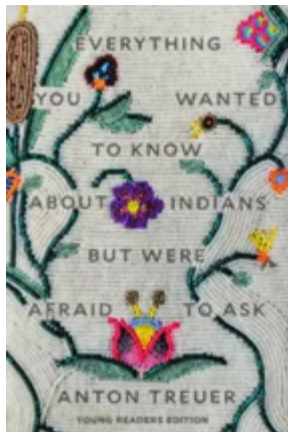
This text comes after the black lives movement to give teachers tools to teach students and create an anti-racist classroom environment. Throughout this book the authors provide readers resources to connect curriculum to young people's lives and root concerns to daily experiences. The text highlights the hope and beauty of activism and collective action.



Why Are All The Black Kids Sitting Together In The Cafeteria?

By: Beverly Daniel Tatum

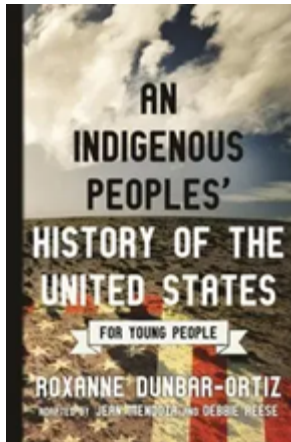
This book points out that in high school cliques are often seen, but if you look closely, the cliques are also separated by race. Beverly Daniel Tatum looks specifically on the psychology of racism and argues that straight talk about racial identities is essential to bring awareness to racism and to therefore, make a change. This book covers communication strategies for talking about race in the classroom and analyzing yourself and your lens on race.



Everything You Wanted To Know About Indians But Were To Afraid to Ask

By: Dr. Anton Treuer

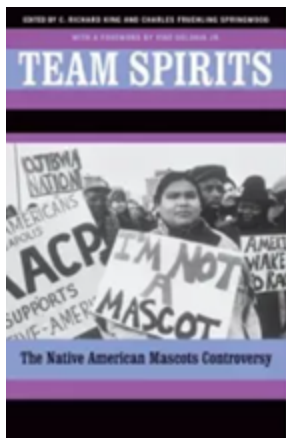
This text covers various questions many may have about indigenous communities, such as: “why is there such a fuss about wearing Indian costumes for Halloween?” to “What’s it like for Natives who don’t look Native?” This text invites readers to reflect on Indigenous communities, stereotypes, and touchy questions to help understand methods and strategies to help support indigenous students.



An Indigenous People's History of the United States

By: Jean Mendoza, Debbie Reese, and Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz

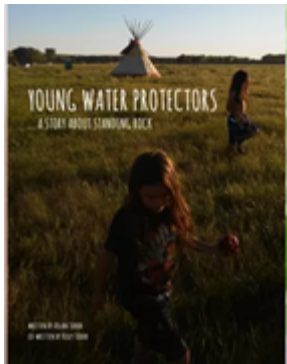
This book looks closely at the indigenous historical events in the United States, giving a perspective of the Indigenous communities as well as pointing out events that are usually not in our text-books. This book invites readers to expand their knowledge of indigenous communities in the U.S. and their histories.



Team Spirits:

By: C Richard King, Charles Fruehling Springwood, and Vine Deloria Jr. (Forward)

Team Spirits is the first comprehensive look at the Native American mascots' controversy. In this work activists and academics explore the origins of Native American mascots, the messages they convey, and the reasons for their persistence into the twenty-first century. The essays examine hotly contested uses of mascots, including the Washington Redskins, the Cleveland Indians, and the University of Illinois's Chief Illiniwek, as well as equally problematic but more complicated examples such as the Florida State Seminoles and the multitude of Native mascots at Marquette University. Also showcased are examples of successful opposition, including an end to Native American mascots at Springfield College and in Los Angeles public schools




Young Water Protectors: A Story About Standing Rock

By: Aslan Tudor, Kelly Tudor, and Jason Eaglespeaker

At the age of eight-years-old, Aslan arrived in North Dakota to help stop a pipeline. A few months later he returned to find the whole world watching and from then on, many young children have taken a stance in protecting their water from these pipelines. This text invites readers to think about how at such a young age, you can become an activist on something that means a lot to you and your community.

Youtube Read Aloud Link:

 **Young Water Protectors: A Story About Standing Rock**

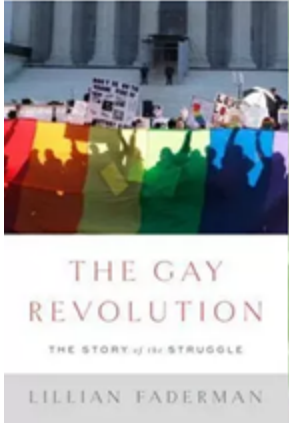
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WA0sR6RA4zQ>



Rethinking Sexism: Gender and Sexuality

By: Rethinking Schools, Kim Cosier, Rachel Harper (editor), Jess Sapp (editor), Jody Sokolower (editor), Melissa Bollow Tempel (editor), and Annika Butler-Wall (editor)

What do you do, when a child asks you a question about their gender identity? How do you address this in the classroom? What does queering the curriculum really mean and what does that look like? How do you construct a classroom and school environment that is an ally to students discovering their gender and sexuality identities? This text talks about strategies and scenarios to help support the conversation about gender and sexuality in the classroom.

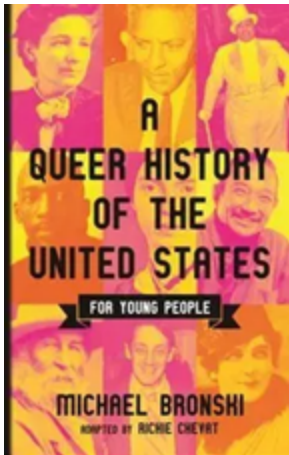


The Gay Revolution

By:Lillian Faderman

The sweeping story of the modern struggle for gay, lesbian, and trans rights--from the 1950s to the present--based on amazing interviews with politicians, military figures, legal activists, and members of the entire LGBT community who face these challenges every day.

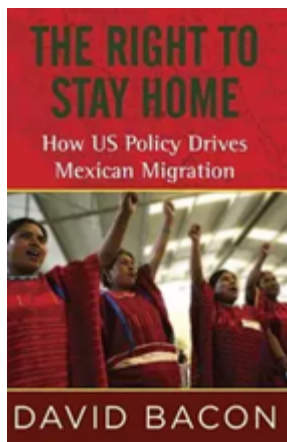
The fight for gay, lesbian, and trans civil rights--the years of outrageous injustice, the early battles, the heart-breaking defeats, and the victories beyond the dreams of the gay rights pioneers--is the most important civil rights issue of the present day. Based on rigorous research and more than 150 interviews, *The Gay Revolution* tells this unfinished story not through dry facts but through dramatic accounts of passionate struggles, with all the sweep, depth, and intricacies only an award-winning activist, scholar, and novelist like Lillian Faderman can evoke.



A Queer History of the United States

By: Richie Chevat, Michael Bronski

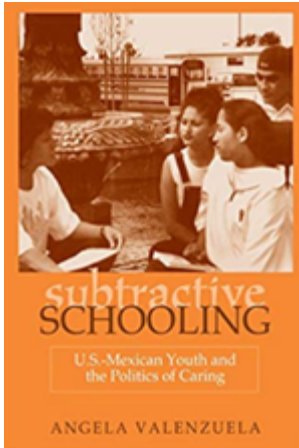
This book covers the importance for the LGBTQ+ community to learn about their history. But that history is not very easy to find, especially in the classroom. This book corrects this issue by having a collection of various stories, poems, and photographs depicting various historical events and people who have been involved in the struggle and recognition of the LGBTQ+ community in the United States.



The Right To Stay Home

By: David Bacon

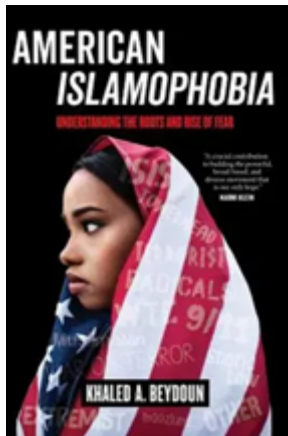
This text looks at the issues that many Latinx communities, specifically Mexicans face coming into the U.S. as many face deportation or policies that make staying in the U.S. difficult. This text focuses on how many Mexican immigrants are resisting going back to Mexico and use their voices becoming activists themselves in order to acquire the American Dream which is a human right.



Subtractive Schooling: U.S.-Mexican Youth and the Politics of Caring

By: Angela Valenzuela

This book is an eye opener to the educational system and policies in place that have an impact on Mexican Americans in the U.S. The educational policies in place unfortunately take away from Mexican American students than adding more to what they already bring into the classroom. This textbook analyzes the many ways that education is taking away from Mexican Americans and how this can potentially lead to drop out rates and students not going into college. In addition to analyzing this, Angela provides strategies to combat subtractive schooling and instead create a caring classroom environment to help support Mexican Americans in their education.



American Islamophobia

By: Khaled A. Beydoun

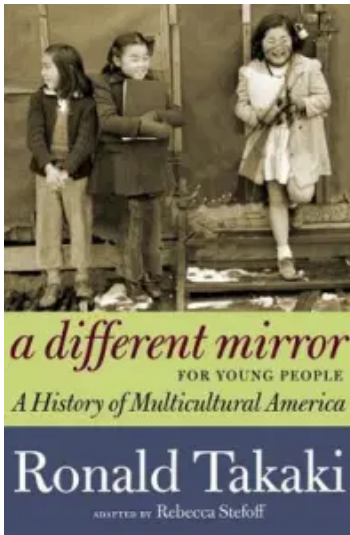
This textbook analyzes islamophobia in the U.S. and how although it is a relatively new term, fear and racism against Muslims and Islam have been around for many years. This text looks closely at the issues and challenges many Islam and Muslims face in the U.S. through a critical race lens.



Muslims in Story: Expanding Multicultural Understanding through Children's and Young Adult Literature

By: Gauri Manglik, Sadaf Siddique

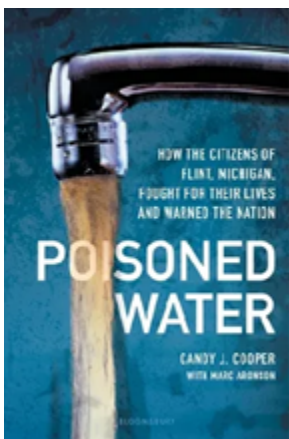
This text explores islamophobia and how it has deeply been a longstanding issue. This text invites readers to think about the bullying that many Muslims face in the U.S. and ways to use and incorporate literature and stories to help make Muslims feel recognized as well as creating a more positive learning environment and embracing diversity in the classroom.



A Different Mirror: For Young People A History of Multicultural America

By: Ronald Takaki

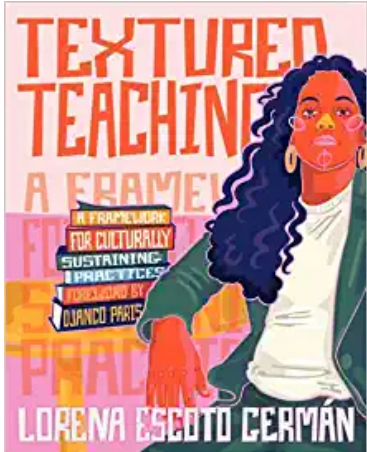
A professor of Ethnic Studies at the University of California Berkeley, Ronald Takaki, invites readers to take a glimpse at the history of the United States by looking at the various multicultural backgrounds of the people as well as the oppression and obstacles many faced and continue to face. Takaki invites readers to see the differences and similarities among people of different backgrounds and provides thoughtful discussions on how to engage young people to learn about the importance of Multicultural America.



Poisoned Water

By sandy Cooped and Marc Aronson

“Written for young adults, *Poisoned Water* gives a harrowing account of the Flint water crisis. The disaster that unfolded wasn't something that happened just with the turn of a switch from the Detroit water supply to the contaminated Flint River.”



Textured Teaching: A Framework for Culturally Sustaining Practices

By: Lorena Escoto Germán

"Textured Teaching is a framework for teaching and learning about texts, centered in love and social justice. The term social justice refers to a redistribution of resources, opportunities, wealth, and power that promotes equity. A teaching approach that strives for social justice, then, is one that openly addresses social injustices and functions in a way that leads students to reimagine an equitable redistribution. Our framework is built upon the values that a Textured Teacher must hold. The strategies we use to bring those values to life are the traits of Textured Teaching. Therefore, a thoughtful and intentional implementation of Textured Teaching leads to social justice work"

Available for Pre-order on Amazon

Music that Inspires & Reflects Change:

- *Big Sean - One Man Can Change The World ft. Kanye West, John Legend (Official Music Video)*. YouTube. (2015, June 19). <https://youtu.be/GBVotNefYME>
- *John Lennon & The Plastic Ono Band (with the Flux Fiddlers)- IMAGINE. (Ultimate Mix, 2020) HD*. YouTube. (2016, December 18). <https://youtu.be/YkgkThdzX-8>
- *John Mayer - Waiting On the World to Change (Official Video)*. YouTube. (2009, October 3). <https://youtu.be/oBlxScJ5rIY>
- *Lolita - Toda Mi Gente (Remix) [feat. Big Samir of The Reminders]*. YouTube. (2020, June 12). https://youtu.be/jdP-Pbor_mc
- *Michael Jackson - Earth Song (Official Video)*. YouTube. (2009, October 2). <https://youtu.be/XAi3VTSdTxU>
- *U.S.A. For Africa - We Are the World (Official Video)*. YouTube. (2010, April 12). <https://youtu.be/9AjkUyX0rVw>

Multimedia/Videos: Speeches, Poetry Slams, & Short Films

- *Change: an Opportunity rather than a Fear: Stella Bida: TEDxULB.* YouTube. (2019, June 26). <https://youtu.be/TqbC4E2f9E>
- *Changing the World, One Word at a Time!: The Queen Latifah Show.* YouTube. (2014, November 4). <https://youtu.be/YshUDa10JYY>
- *I Have a Dream speech by Martin Luther King .Jr HD (subtitled).* YouTube. (2017, November 7). <https://youtu.be/vP4iY1TtS3s>
- *Life Vest Inside - Kindness Boomerang - "One Day".* YouTube. (2011, August 29). <https://youtu.be/nwAYpLVyeFU>

Online Resources & Organizations:

- <https://colibricenter.org>
- <https://www.charisbooksandmore.com/booklist-about-us-border-crisis>
- <https://www.teachtochangenow.org/> (new site designed by teachers for teachers)