

BOOKS CAN HELP GUIDE CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RACE, RACISM & ANTI-RACISM

It is widely known that books are one of the most effective and practical tools for initiating sensitive conversations with students of all ages. Stories can illustrate historical events as well as model what it means to be a member of a race. The more we know about the experiences of people in our communities, the more empathy and understanding we will have for each other.

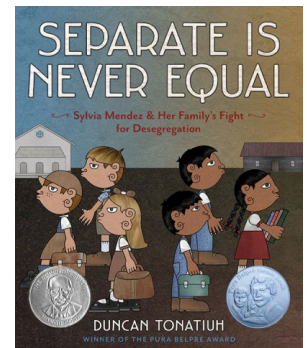
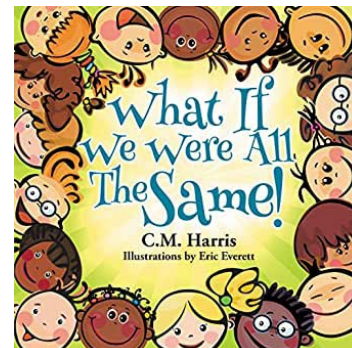
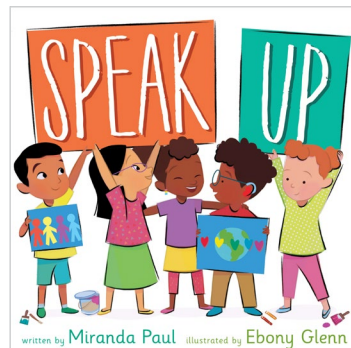


Stories entertain. Stories also teach. Having diverse literature available to students gives them an opportunity to look through different lenses to better understand the perspectives of others and may even lead to empowering students to work together to make positive changes. It is important that educators provide books where students see themselves and their classmates in literature. Some award-winning children's and YA authors of color include Jacqueline Woodson, Kwame Alexander, Jason Reynolds, Renee Watson, Raul the Third, Pam Munoz Ryan, Matt de la Pena, Louise Erdrich, Sherman Alexie, Jerry Craft, Siman Nuurali, Gene Luen Yang, Grace Lin, and Kelly Yang. These BIPOC authors go beyond the single-story stereotypes and celebrate differences, uniqueness, and diversity. When students read books where they see characters like themselves, their family, and their culture being valued in the world, they feel a sense of belonging and a stronger sense of community is built.

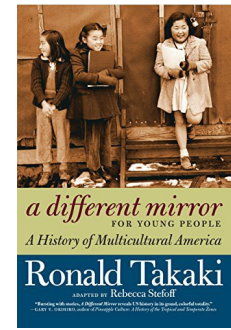
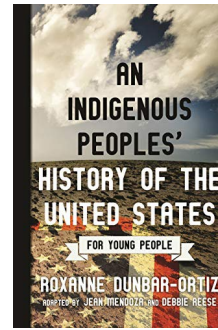
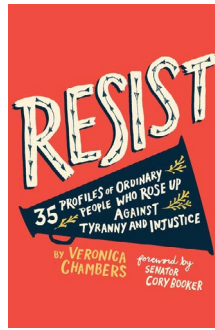
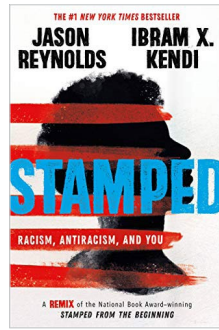
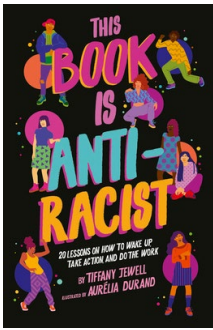
Conversations with students about race, racial inequality, and anti-racism are imperative, and now have become more difficult with Distance Learning. The recent national and global uprising against police violence has put an even greater importance on educators to supply their students with resources to help guide these conversations.

There are some incredible books available to support teaching students about race, race relations, history, and progress. These books can generate meaningful conversations with students, families, and community members.

Titles For Elementary Students

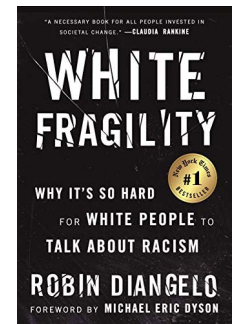
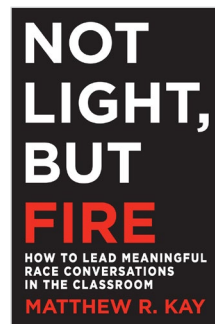
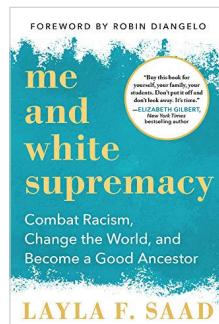
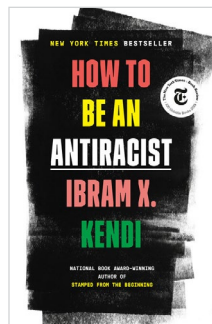
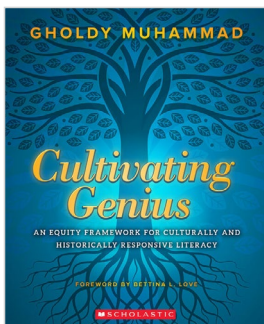


Titles For Secondary Students



Educators are also learners. In addition to books for children, there are many new YA and professional titles that are helpful for educators and school leaders to be better equipped to lead conversations about race, racial inequality, and anti-racism with students. There are several new titles that may be helpful when teaching this important topic.

Titles For Educators



Custom Title Lists

These titles are only a small number of books available on race, racial inequality, and anti-racism. We have also curated a [list of K-12 titles](#) about activists of color, racial justice, empowering youth, resilience, and activism. Please review this title list and consider adding these titles to your library and classroom collections. One of Mackin's many free services available to teachers and librarians is book collection development. Mackin's in-house librarians and classroom specialists are here to assist educators with their particular needs. We love working with teachers and librarians to create custom title lists to meet the exact needs of each unique school community for students as well as professional titles.