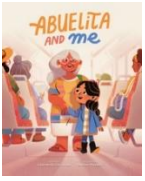


Grades K-5 Racism and Antiracism Reading List 2023
Akron-Summit County Public Library

Picture Books & Non-Fiction:



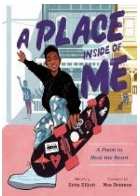
Carranza, Leonarda. **Abuelita and Me**, 2022. JE

A girl and her beloved abuelita lean on each other as they contend with racism while running errands in the city. On the bus and at the grocery store, people are impatient and suspicious--sometimes they even yell. The story's young narrator decides not to leave home again...until a moment of empowerment helps her see the strength she and Abuelita share when they face the world together.



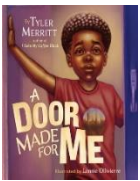
Celano, Marianne. **Something Happened in Our Town: A Child's Story About Racial Injustice**, 2018. JE

After discussing the police shooting of a local Black man with their families, Emma and Josh know how to treat a new student who looks and speaks differently than his classmates.



Elliott, Zetta. **A Place Inside of Me**, 2020. JE

Illustrations and easy-to-read text express a child's awareness of being filled with deep emotions, from joy to sorrow and anger to compassion, but above all, love.



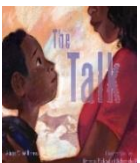
Merritt, Tyler. **A Door Made for Me**, 2022. JE

After Tyler's first experience of overt racism, his grandfather reminds him that another person's hate does not change the fact that he is loved and perfect just as he is.



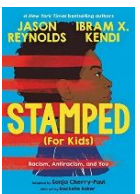
Tokuda-Hall, Maggie. **Love in the Library**, 2022. JE

Based on a true story of love and resilience at the Minidoka incarceration camp.



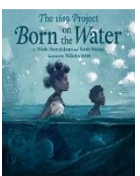
Williams, Alicia. **The Talk**, 2022. JE

As a little boy grows into a bigger boy, he first must have the difficult conversation Black families have with their sons, warning them about the challenges they face due to racism.



Cherry-Paul, Sonja. **Stamped (for Kids): Racism, Antiracism, and You**, 2021. JNF 305.8009 C522s

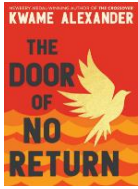
Kids will discover where racist ideas came from, identify how they impact America today, and meet those who have fought racism with antiracism. Along the way, they'll learn how to identify and stamp out racist thoughts in their own lives.



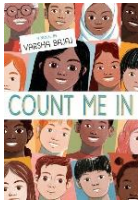
Hannah-Jones, Nikole. **The 1916 Project: Born on the Water**, 2021. JNF 306.362 H243b

Stymied by her unfinished family tree assignment for school, a young girl seeks Grandma's counsel and learns about her ancestors, the consequences of slavery, and the history of Black resistance in the United States.

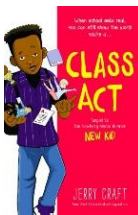
Fiction & Graphic Novels:



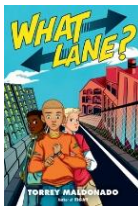
Alexander, Kwame. **The Door of No Return**, 2022. JFIC
A novel in verse about a boy escaping slavers during the nineteenth century.



Bajaj, Varsha. **Count Me In**, 2019. JFIC
Told from two viewpoints, sixth-graders Karina and Chris use social media to stand up to racism in Houston, Texas, after an attack puts Karina's Indian American grandfather in the hospital.



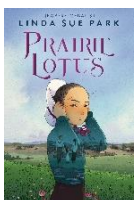
Craft, Jerry. **Class Act**, 2020. JGN
Eighth grader Drew Ellis recognizes that he isn't afforded the same opportunities, no matter how hard he works, that his privileged classmates at the Riverdale Academy Day School take for granted, and to make matters worse, Drew begins to feel as if his good friend Liam might be one of those privileged kids and is finding it hard not to withdraw.



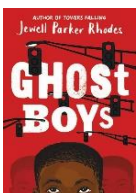
Maldonado, Torrey. **What Lane?**, 2020. JFIC
Biracial sixth-grader Stephen questions the limitations society puts on him after he notices the way strangers treat him when he hangs out with his white friends and learns about the Black Lives Matter movement.



Oh, Ellen. **Finding Junie Kim**, 2021. JFIC
Junie Kim just wants to fit in. So she keeps her head down and tries not to draw attention to herself. But when racist graffiti appears at her middle school, Junie must decide between staying silent or speaking out. Then Junie's history teacher assigns a project and Junie decides to interview her grandparents, learning about their unbelievable experiences as kids during the Korean War.



Park, Linda Sue. **Prairie Lotus**, 2020. JFIC
Prairie Lotus is a book about a girl determined to fit in and realize her dreams: getting an education, becoming a dressmaker in her father's shop, and making at least one friend. Hanna, a half-Asian girl in a small town in America's heartland, lives in 1880. Hanna's adjustment to her new surroundings, and the townspeople's prejudice against Asians, is at the heart of the story.



Rhodes, Jewell Parker. **Ghost Boys**, 2018. JFIC
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.