

Dignity and Justice for All:
Stories of Protest, Resistance, and Change

An Annotated Bibliography of
New and Noteworthy Books For Young Readers

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Prepared for

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A Conference for Teachers of Grades 3-8 and School Librarians

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Please note:

The categories listed above are fluid – many activists worked in more than one social justice movement and activists of different backgrounds worked together for the same movements. For example, African American women fought for civil rights and women’s rights; Native Americans have been leaders in the environmental movement; Latinx Americans and Asian Americans have been in the forefront of immigration reform; the movement for women’s rights began with voting rights, etc.

Also, there are large differences in the number and quality of available books about each of the specific protest movements. This is reflected in the number of books in each category of this bibliography.

Introduction

This bibliography was prepared as a resource for the conference, *Dignity and Justice for All: Stories of Protest, Resistance, and Change: A Conference for Teachers of Grades 3-8 and School Librarians* at the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum.

New and Notable: the books in this bibliography were published from 2018 - 2020, with a few exceptions. In this bibliography are:

- annotated lists of books that represent the excellence and breadth of nonfiction books and biographies (and some fiction) written for children that are relevant to the theme of the conference;
- lists of other additional recommended titles without annotations that are also of great value;
- recommended resources for finding books and other materials that relate to the theme of the conference.

The criteria for selecting books for the bibliography include:

- books that address the theme of the conference;
- books with appeal to children or young adults through the originality and excellence of the content, writing style, illustrations, format, and design;
- books that are useful and valuable for classroom learning and teaching, as well as independent reading;
- books published from 2018 – 2020 (with a few exceptions).

A note about picture books and suggested grade levels:

There are many excellent nonfiction books and biographies now being published in picture book format – and they are wonderful for reading aloud to students of all ages. These books are often quite sophisticated and are valuable in using with older students because:

- reading books aloud to a group creates shared background knowledge and a common reference point for class discussions, and the illustrations convey important historical context and emotional truth;
- students can read more than one picture book on a topic and compare different approaches in presenting a social justice movement or a person's life and achievements;
- students can learn from picture books different techniques for selecting from a wealth of information, creating a specific focus, and engaging readers when writing their own reports.

A valuable supplement to this bibliography is the bibliography prepared for the 2019 conference:

Strength and Struggle in Challenging Times: New and Noteworthy Biographies for Young Readers. It is a listing of biographies of individuals who made positive differences in many social justice movements:

<https://www.jfklibrary.org/bibliographies>.

Make use of your public library! Local libraries in Massachusetts belong to large library systems that share their resources. With a library card, you can go online and request the books listed here and have them delivered to your local branch. Take advantage of our public library system, which represents one of the most valuable aspects of our democratic society.

Activism and Protest Movements Through History: Books About Many Protest Movements

1968: Today's Authors Explore a Year of Rebellion, Revolution, and Change. Edited by Marc Aronson and Susan Campbell Bartoletti.

Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press, 2018. 198 pages.

Grades 6 – 8. This is an anthology of essays that explores the pivotal year of 1968, when there was intergenerational conflict as thousands of Vietnamese and Americans were killed in war, Martin Luther King and Robert F. Kennedy were assassinated, many protest movements were organized, and demonstrations took place around the world. The contributors of these essays are notable authors in several genres of nonfiction.

Braun, Eric. Protest Movements: Then and Now.

North Mankato, MN: Smithsonian/Capstone Press, 2018. 64 pages.

Series: America: 50 Years of Change.

Grades 5 – 8. While focusing mainly on protest movements from the 1960s to the present day, this overview offers an historical perspective to protest movements throughout US history. Also discussed are what's changed for the better, what might be worse, and where can we go from here. Illustrated with many historical photographs.

Eggers, Dave. What Can a Citizen Do? Illustrated by Shawn Harris.

San Francisco, CA: Chronicle Books LLC, 2018. 40 pages.

Grades 1 - 3. This picture book is about what it means to be a citizen. Across the course of several seemingly unrelated but ultimately connected actions, children turn a lonely island into a community. A great conversation starter told in spare, rhyming text and with exuberant illustrations.

Harris, Duchess. Politics and Protest in Sports.

Minneapolis, MN: Essential Library, an imprint of Abdo Publishing, 2019. 112 pages.

Series: Race and Sports.

Grades 5 – 8. Beginning with the early 1900s and continuing to the present day, this book discusses the many protests and actions taken by athletes to achieve justice and equality in professional sports in the United States. With brief biographies of many activist athletes and illustrated with photographs.

Nagara, Innosanto. The Wedding Portrait: The Story of a Photograph and Why Sometimes We Break the Rules. Illustrated by the author.

New York, NY: Triangle Square Books for Young Readers, 2017. 36 pages.

Grades 2 – 4. A picture book about standing up for what's right told within the framework of the author's wedding story. He and his bride led their wedding party to a protest and were photographed by the local newspaper kissing in front of a line of police - just before being arrested. The text addresses some of the challenges and risks associated with protest and stresses the importance of community and collaboration. With colorful illustrations.

Sanders, Rob. Peaceful Fights for Equal Rights. Illustrated by Jared Andrew Schorr.

New York, NY: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2018. 42 pages.

Grades 1 – 3. Protesting; standing up for what’s right; uniting around the common good: this picture book is a primer for peaceful protest, resistance, and activism. With spare and powerful text and vivid illustrations.

Saunders, Claire, et. al. The Power Book. Illustrated by Joelle Avelino & David Broadbent.

Brighton, UK: Ivy Kids, 2019. 64 pages.

Grades 4 – 6. This book examines different types of power and how power can be used to create positive change in the world. Included are thought-provoking discussions on challenging topics like war, bullying, racism, sexism, and homophobia, as well as brief biographies of notable people. With an international scope and a colorful, engaging layout.

Stoltman, Joan. Protests and Riots that Changed America.

New York, NY: Lucent Press, 2019. 104 pages.

Grades 5 – 8. Protests and riots have changed the course of American history, bringing attention to unrest, inequality, and injustice. This book provides an overview of the history of these protests and riots, right up through issues of the current day, such as Black Lives Matter and the 2017 Women’s March. The text includes historical and contemporary quotes, primary source images, and maps.

Styron, Alexandra. Steal This Country: A Handbook for Resistance, Persistence, and Fixing Almost Anything.

New York, NY: Viking, 2018. 212 pages.

Grades 7 and up. This book is a call for activism expressed through essays, profiles, and interviews about social and political action, including climate change, immigration, gender and sexual orientation, racism, women's rights, disability, religious freedom, and intersectionality. Each chapter includes a summary of key questions, interviews with people involved, and spotlights on progressive organizations. Also included is practical information about tools for effecting change.

We Are the Change: Words of Inspiration from Civil Rights Leaders. Illustrated by many artists.

San Francisco, CA: Chronicle Books, 2019. 50 pages.

All grades. In this book, inspired by the work of the American Civil Liberties Union, sixteen award-winning children's book artists illustrate the civil rights quotations that inspire them. Included are the words of Dolores Huerta, Eleanor Roosevelt, Maya Angelou, and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. among many others. With bold and powerful art work.

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

New York, NY: Crown Books for Young Readers, 2018. 87 pages.

Grades 3 – 8. This anthology is dedicated to those who advocate for and pursue a just society and basic human rights for all people. It addresses what to tell children when the world seems harsh and unfair, and prejudice and racism run rampant. This collection includes original art, poetry, and prose from fifty diverse contributors, who seek to encourage young activists. With powerful illustrations on every page.

Also recommended:

Braun, Eric. Taking Action for Civil and Political Rights.

Minneapolis, MN: Lerner Publications, 2017.

Series: Who's Changing the World? Grades 4 – 6.

Brooks, Ben. Stories for Kids Who Dare to Be Different: True Tales of Amazing People Who Stood Up and Stood Out. Illustrated by Quinton Winter.

New York, NY: RP Kids, 2019. Grades 4 – 8.

Paul, Caroline. You Are Mighty: a Guide to Changing the World. Illustrated by Lauren Tamaki.

New York, NY: Bloomsbury Children's Books, 2018. Grades 4 – 6.

Stevenson, Robin. Kid Activists: True Tales of Childhood from Champions of Change. Illustrated by Allison Steinfeld.

Philadelphia, PA: Quirk Books, 2019. Grades 4 – 6.

Wilson, Janet. Our Future: How Kids Are Taking Action.

Toronto, Canada: Second Story Press, 2019. Grades 3 – 6.

Civil Rights: Equality and Justice

African Americans

Alexander, Kwame. The Undefeated. Illustrated by Kadir Nelson.

Boston, MA: Versify, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2019. 40 pages.

Grades 3 - 8. This poem in picture-book format is a passionate tribute to black life in the United States. It highlights the trauma of slavery, the commitment of the civil rights movement, and the perseverance of some of the world's great heroes. The endnotes provide valuable historical context, and the illustrations are vivid and powerful.

Anderson, Beth. Lizzie Demands a Seat!: Elizabeth Jennings Fights for Streetcar Rights. Illustrated by E.B. Lewis.

New York, NY: Calkins Creek, 2020. 32 pages.

Grades 3 – 5. In 1854, Lizzie Jennings tried to board a streetcar in New York City. Though there were many empty seats, she was denied entry, assaulted, and threatened because of her race. She fought back by telling her story and winning her case in court, where future president Chester Arthur represented her. Her courage and perseverance led to the first recorded victory in the fight for equal rights on public transportation. Endnotes provide additional historical context. In picture-book format with expressive watercolor illustrations.

Anderson, Carol with Tonya Bolden. *We Are Not Yet Equal: Understanding Our Racial Divide*.

New York, NY: Bloomsbury, 2018. 270 pages.

Grades 7 and up. A young adult adaptation of Anderson’s prize-winning book *White Rage*, this book demonstrates that when America achieves milestones of progress toward equal black participation in democracy, the response has been a consistent racist backlash that rolls back those wins. This book examines five of these moments from the end of the Civil War to the election of Donald Trump.

Asim, Jabari. *A Child's Introduction to African American History: The Experience, People, and Events That Shaped Our Country*. Illustrated by Lynn G. Gaines.

New York, NY: Black Dog & Leventhal, 2018. 96 pages.

Grades 3 – 8. This is an illustrated history of African Americans, from the slave trade to the Black Lives Matter movement. Short chapters and textboxes highlight the contributions of specific African Americans in social and political movements, the arts, music, literature, culture, sports, and more. With vivid illustrations and portraits of significant people are on every page and an extensive, annotated timeline.

Bausum, Ann. *The March Against Fear: The Last Great Walk of the Civil Rights Movement and the Emergence of Black Power*.

Washington, D.C.: National Geographic, 2017. 143 pages.

Grades 5 - 8. This is an account of the 200-mile freedom march in 1966 from Memphis to Jackson, Mississippi, which united five organizations and many activists of the civil rights movement. The text conveys the courage with which the participants faced multiple dangers. With many quotations from civil rights leaders and illustrated with historic photos.

Brimner, Larry Dane, *Twelve Days in May: Freedom Ride 1961*.

Honesdale, PA: Calkins Creek, 2017. 111 pages.

Grades 5 – 8. In photo-essay format, this is an account of the twelve days in May 1961 when black and white civil rights activists, known as the Freedom Riders, traveled by bus into the South to draw attention to unconstitutional segregation. Despite their peaceful protests, the Freedom Riders were met with increasing violence the further south they traveled.

Bryan, Ashley. *Infinite Hope: A Black Artist's Journey from World War II to Peace*. Illustrated by the author.

New York, NY: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2019. 107 pages.

Grades 5 - 8. This sophisticated picture-book memoir is about the author/illustrator's experiences serving in the segregated army during World War II. Soldiers of color were limited to service as custodians and laborers, but, despite the injustices, Bryan used every spare minute to grow as an artist, even under threat of punishment. Illustrated with large-scale multimedia art.

Cline-Ransome, Lesa. *The Power of Her Pen: The Story of Groundbreaking Journalist Ethel L. Payne*. Illustrated by John Parra.

New York, NY: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2020. 48 pages.

Grades 2 – 5. Seeking truth, justice, and equality, Ethel Payne reported from post-war Japan, Chicago, and the 1950s and 60s White House briefing room, where she broke barriers as one of the first African American journalists there. She asked tough questions of presidents and other elected officials, and she sought answers to important questions in the fight for civil rights. In picture-book format and with bright, evocative illustrations.

Hegedus, Bethany. *Rise: From Caged Bird to Poet of the People, Maya Angelou*. Illustrated by Tonya Engel.

New York, NY: Lee & Low Books Inc., 2019. 48 pages.

Grades 3 - 6. A biography of African American writer, performer, and activist Maya Angelou, who overcame a childhood of trauma and emotional pain to become one of the most inspiring voices of her time. Includes endnotes with an extensive timeline and photographs. Told in free verse and richly illustrated in picture-book format.

Houtman, Jacqueline, with Walter Naegle and Michael G. Long. *Troublemaker for Justice: The Story of Bayard Rustin, the Man Behind the March on Washington*.

San Francisco, CA: City Lights Books, 2019. 160 pages.

Grade 5 - 8. Bayard Rustin was a mentor to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., teaching him the philosophy and techniques of nonviolent direct action. In 1963, he organized the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. However, he is absent from many history books in large part because he was openly gay. This biography traces Bayard's lifetime of activism and highlights his fearless commitment to justice and equality for all.

Imani, Blair. *Making Our Way Home: The Great Migration and the Black American Dream*. Illustrated by Rachelle Baker.

New York, NY: Ten Speed Press, 2020. 179 pages.

Grades 7 – and up. This is a history of the Great Migration and its impact on Black and American culture. The text and the illustrations examine the way this migration continues to affect Black identity and America as a whole, exploring issues like voting rights, domestic terrorism, discrimination, and segregation, as well as achievements in arts and culture, activism, and civil rights. Stories of notable people such as James Baldwin, Fannie Lou Hamer, Malcolm X, Ella Baker, and others are included. With a glossary of people, events, and organizations.

Langley, Sharon with Amy Nathan. *A Ride to Remember: A Civil Rights Story*. Illustrated by Floyd Cooper.

New York, NY: Abrams Books for Young Readers, 2019. 40 pages.

Grades 2 – 4. After demonstrations and public protests by the African American community, the Gwynn Oak Amusement Park in Maryland was finally desegregated in the summer of 1963. The author and her parents were the first African American family to walk into the park, and she rode the carousel, which now resides on the National Mall in Washington. In picture-book format with richly textured illustrations.

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

New York, NY: Little, Brown and Company, 2020. 320 pages.

Grades 7 and up. The young adult version of Kendi’s National Book Award-winning *Stamped from the Beginning*, this book examines the historical roots and present-day manifestations of anti-Black racism in America, with discussions of influential figures, movements, and events. The author differentiates among segregationists, assimilationists, and antiracist activists and provides important historical detail in short chapters written in lively and expressive language.

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

Lake Forest, CA: Seagrass Press, 2018. 36 pages.

Grades 3 – 5. Clara Luper was an African American teacher and leader who inspired people to take direct, nonviolent action for civil rights. In 1958, as a high school teacher, she organized lunch counter sit-ins for her students to protest segregation in Oklahoma City. The narrative provides both a history lesson and a guide for how to challenge injustice. In picture-book format with spare and evocative illustrations.

Schwartz, Heather E. Locked Up for Freedom: Civil Rights Protesters at the Leesburg Stockade.

Millbrook Press, 2018. 64 pages.

Grades 5 – 8. In 1963, more than 30 African American girls, ages 11-14, were arrested for taking part in civil rights protests in Georgia. They were confined in a Civil War-era stockade, crowded into one cell. The author uses primary source material and recollections from the girls themselves to tell the story. Illustrated with archival images and photos.

Stevenson, Bryan. Just Mercy: Adapted for Young Adults: A True Story of the Fight for Justice.

New York, NY: Delacorte Press, 2018. 275 pages.

Grades 7 and up. In this young adult adaptation of his book, Bryan Stevenson examines the broken U.S. justice system, detailing his many challenges and efforts as a lawyer and social advocate. Through the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI), an organization Stevenson founded, he works with others to end mass incarceration and excessive punishment in the United States.

Winter, Jonah. Thurgood. Illustrated by Bryan Collier.

New York, NY: Schwartz & Wade Books, 2019. 40 pages.

Grades 2 – 5. This is a picture-book biography of Thurgood Marshall, the first black justice on the Supreme Court and a great hero of the civil rights movement. The book begins with his childhood in 1920s Baltimore, where he attended segregated schools and experienced racial injustice. Later, as a lawyer, Marshall won many cases before the Supreme Court, including one of the most important cases in American history: *Brown v Board of Education*. The mixed-media illustrations are expressive and dynamic.

Wittenstein, Barry. *A Place to Land*. Illustrated by Jerry Pinkney.

New York, NY: Holiday House, 2019. 48 pages.

Grades 2 - 5. Told in free verse, this is the story behind the "I Have a Dream" speech. Martin Luther King, Jr. was once asked if the hardest part of preaching was knowing where to begin. No, he said, the hardest part is knowing where to end: "It's terrible to be circling up there without a place to land." Before the March on Washington, MLK struggled with what to say. Ultimately, he decided in favor of improvisation, as in his usual Sunday sermons. Illustrated with expressive collage artwork and with endnotes that provide further historical context.

Also recommended:

Asim, Jabari. *Preaching to the Chickens: The Story of Young John Lewis*. Illustrated by E.B. Lewis.

New York, NY: Nancy Paulsen Books, 2016. Grades 2 – 4.

Brimner, Larry Dane. *Accused!: The Trials of the Scottsboro Boys: Lies, Prejudice, and the Fourteenth Amendment*.

Honesdale, PA: Calkins Creek, 2019. Grades 7 and up.

Farrell, Mary Cronk. *Standing Up Against Hate: How Black Women in the Army Helped Change the Course of WWII*.

New York, NY: Abrams Books for Young Readers, 2018. Grades 6 – 8.

Gates, Henry Louis, Jr. with Tonya Bolden. *Dark Sky Rising: Reconstruction and the Dawn of Jim Crow*.

New York, NY: Scholastic Focus, 2019. Grades 5 - 8.

Harris, Duchess. *Black Lives Matter*.

Minneapolis, MN: Core Library, an imprint of Abdo Publishing, 2018.

Series: Protest Movements. Grades 3 – 5.

Hartfield, Claire. *A Few Red Drops: the Chicago Race Riots of 1919*.

New York, NY: Clarion Books, 2018. Grades 6 – 8.

Thomas, Rachael L. #BlackLivesMatter: Protesting Racism.

Minneapolis, MN: Abdo & Daughters, 2020.

Series: #Movements. Grades 3 – 6.

Wilson, Jamia. Young, Gifted and Black: Meet 52 Black Heroes from Past and Present.

Illustrated by Andrea Pippins.

Minneapolis, MN: Wide Eyed Editions, 2018. Grades 3 – 6.

Asian Americans

Leung, Julie. Paper Son: The Inspiring Story of Tyrus Wong, Immigrant and Artist.

Illustrated by Chris Sasaki.

New York, NY: Schwartz & Wade Books, 2019. 40 pages.

Grades 2 – 4. This is a picture-book biography of animator Tyrus Wong, the Chinese American immigrant who was the creative force behind Disney's *Bambi*. In 1919, at nine years old, he left China by ship in hopes of resettling in the U.S... He seized every opportunity to make art, even while working as a janitor at night. His work was inspired by his Asian American heritage, and he paved the way for other Asian American artists. The illustrations capture Wong's life story and artistic style; the endnotes provide additional biographical information and photographs.

Maclear, Kyo. It Began with a Page: How Gyo Fujikawa Drew the Way. Illustrated by Julie Morstad.

New York, NY: HarperCollins Publishers, 2019. 48 pages.

Grades 2 – 4. The story of Gyo Fujikawa is a story of artistic talent that refused to be constrained by rules, expectations, or prejudice. Born in 1908 in California, Gyo learned from her relatives the ways in which both women and Japanese people lacked opportunity. When her family was interned during World War II, she had to fight for them and her artistic vision. She later wrote and illustrated the first children's book to feature children of different races interacting together. In picture-book format with strong and varied illustrations, photographs, and a timeline.

Warren, Andrea. Enemy Child: The Story of Norman Mineta, a Boy Imprisoned in a Japanese American Internment Camp During World War II.

New York, NY: Holiday House, 2019. 214 pages.

Grades 5 and up. This is a biography of Japanese American Congressman Norman Mineta. It begins with his internment as a child during World War II and continues through his career in politics. During his ten terms in Congress, he was instrumental in passing the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, which provided reparations and an apology to those who were interned. Illustrated with many archival photographs and images.

Also recommended:

Lu, Georgina W. S. How Chinese Immigrants Made America Home.

New York: Rosen Central, 2019.

Series: Coming to America: The History of Immigration to the United States. Grades 5-8.

Latinx Americans

Hale, Christy. *Todos Iguales: Un Corrido de Lemon Grove / All Equal: A Ballad of Lemon Grove*. Illustrated by the author.

New York: Children's Book Press, 2019. 40 pages.

Grades: 3 - 6. Told in Spanish and English and in picture-book format, this is the story of the 1931 Lemon Grove incident, when Mexican families in southern California won the first school desegregation case in United States history. The endnotes include photographs and extensive information about the people involved and the events leading up to and after the court case ruling.

Mosca, Julia Finley. *The Astronaut with a Song for the Stars: The Story of Dr. Ellen Ochoa*. Illustrated by Daniel Rieley.

Seattle, WA: Innovation Press, 2019. 40 pages.

Grades 2 – 4. Ellen Ochoa grew up in a family of immigrants from Mexico. She discovered engineering in college, but she was told that this field of study wasn't for girls. She refused to give up, ultimately becoming a NASA astronaut who shattered barriers. She was the first Latinx in space and served as the director of the Johnson Space Center. In picture-book format with a timeline and extensive additional information.

Tonatiuh, Duncan. *Soldier for Equality: José de la Luz Saénz and the Great War*. Illustrated by the author.

New York: Abrams Books for Young Readers, 2019. 40 pages.

Grades 3 – 6. José de la Luz Sáenz experienced prejudice in the United States because of his Mexican heritage. When World War I broke out, Luz joined the army, but, despite his hard work and considerable abilities, he often didn't receive credit for his contributions. After his return to the U.S., he joined other Mexican-Americans to fight for equality, a fight that led to the creation of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC), the oldest Latino civil rights organization. In picture-book format with bold and colorful illustrations.

Native Peoples

Note: Some works of fiction are included here.

Boochever, Annie, in collaboration with Roy Peratrovich, Jr. *Fighter in Velvet Gloves: Alaska Civil Rights Hero Elizabeth Peratrovich*.

Fairbanks, AK: University of Alaska Press, 2019. 101 pages.

Grades 4 – 8. This book presents the life and civil rights work of Elizabeth Peratrovich (1911-1958). The sign she saw as a young Tlingit girl - "No Natives Allowed" - stayed with her all her life. In 1945, her testimony before the Alaska Territorial Legislature about the evils of racism followed years of work by Alaska Native people and their allies, and it led to the passage of Alaska's landmark Anti-Discrimination Act, nearly twenty years before the passage of the U.S.

Civil Rights Act of 1964. Today, Alaskans honor Peratrovich every year on Feb. 16 “for her courageous, unceasing efforts to eliminate discrimination and bring about equal rights in Alaska.” With an annotated timeline, glossary, and photographs.

Dunbar-Ortiz, Rozanne, adapted by Jean Mendoza and Debbie Reese. *An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States for Young People.*

Boston, MA: Beacon Press, 2019. 270 pages.

Grades 7 and up. The young readers' edition of Dunbar-Ortiz's 2014 book challenges the myth of the United States as a nation of immigrants. Spanning more than 400 years, this work of history examines the legacy of Indigenous peoples' resistance, resilience, and steadfast fight against imperialism; it explores the roles that settler colonialism and the policies of American Indian genocide played in forming the national identity of the United States. Included are discussion topics, archival images, original maps, recommendations for further reading, and other materials to encourage readers to think critically about their own place in history.

Lindstrom, Carole. *We Are Water Protectors.* Illustrated by Michaela Goade.

New York, NY: Roaring Brook Press, 2020. 40 pages.

Grades 1- 4. Inspired by the many Indigenous-led movements across North America, this story honors those who fight for environmental justice by protecting the Earth's water. A grandmother teaches a child that "Water is the first medicine.... Water is sacred." The girl tells of the arrival of an oil pipeline, the "black snake" that will “spoil the water ... wreck everything in its path." The girl begins a protest and others join her. The author, who is Anishinabe/Métis and a member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Ojibwe Indians, and the illustrator, who is Tlingit and Haida, have created a book that is a passionate call to environmental stewardship. An author's note refers to the inspiring 2016 Standing Rock protests in the Dakotas.

Maillard, Kevin Noble. *Fry Bread: A Native American Family Story.* Illustrated by Juana Martinez-Neal.

New York, NY: Roaring Brook Press, 2019. 48 pages.

Grades 1 – 4. The author, a member of the Seminole Nation, states, “The story of fry bread is the story of American Indians: embracing community and culture in the face of opposition.” Written in poetic text and with exuberant illustrations that show the diversity of Native Americans, this book tells the story of a post-colonial food that is a shared tradition for Native American families. With an extensive author's note that explores some of the history, social customs, politics, and mixed racial heritage of the 573 recognized tribes in the United States. In picture-book format.

Marshall, Joseph. *In the Footsteps of Crazy Horse.* Illustrations by Jim Yellowhawk.

New York, NY: Amulet Books, 2015. 165 pages.

Grades 4 – 8. In this novel, Jimmy McClean, an eleven-year-old Lakota boy living on the Rosebud Sioux Indian Reservation in South Dakota, doesn't fit in because of his light-colored hair and eyes. He embarks on a “vision journey” with his grandfather and learns about his Lakota heritage - in particular, the story of Crazy Horse, one of the most important figures in Lakota history. Drawing inspiration from the oral stories of the Lakota tradition, the author traces Crazy Horse's life through the events that shaped him into a powerful leader, including famous battles and

standoffs against the white settlers in the 1860s. Readers learn about an important period of American history from the perspective of the Lakota. The author grew up on the Rosebud Reservation and is an enrolled member of the Sicangu Lakota tribe.

Ortiz, Simon J. *The People Shall Continue: 40th Anniversary Special Edition*. Illustrated by Sharol Graves.

New York, NY: Children's Book Press, 2017. 30 pages.

Grades 2 – 5. Originally published in 1977, this is the story of Indigenous peoples of the Americas, specifically in the U.S., as they endeavor to live on lands that are their traditional homelands. Told with the rhythms and repetitions of oral tradition, the text relates the history of the Native peoples from Creation to the invasion and theft of Native lands and the forced relocation of many. Themes of resilience, resistance, activism, and pride are interwoven throughout. In picture-book format with bold illustrations and with an updated author's note that discusses recent challenges to Native communities. The author is of the Acoma Pueblo tribe.

Rappaport, Doreen. *Wilma's Way Home: The Life of Wilma Mankiller*. Illustrated by Linda Kukuk.

Los Angeles, CA: Disney-Hyperion, 2019. 48 pages.

Grades 2 – 5. As a child in Oklahoma, Wilma Mankiller experienced the Cherokee practice of Gadugi, helping each other. In 1956, the federal government uprooted her family and moved them to California. In San Francisco, she worked to build and develop the local Native community and took part in the occupation of Alcatraz Island. Returning to Oklahoma with her daughters, Mankiller's dedication to serving her people led, despite some resistance to female leadership, to her election as the first woman to be chief of the Cherokee Nation. This book is part of Rappaport's Big Words series, and the text is interwoven with Mankiller's own words. In picture-book format with vibrant large-scale illustrations and an annotated timeline.

Rogers, Andrea L. *Mary and the Trail of Tears: A Cherokee Removal Survival Story*

Stone Arch Books 2020. 112 pages.

Grades 3 – 7. In this work of historical fiction, twelve-year-old Mary and her Cherokee family are forced out of their home in Georgia by U.S. soldiers in May 1838. Separated from her father, Mary and her family face violence, disease, and harsh weather. Mary perseveres and helps keep her family and friends together until they can reach the new Cherokee nation in Indian Territory. With additional nonfiction material, a glossary, and reader response questions, this story explores the tragedy of forced removals following the Indian Removal Act of 1830.

Sorell, Traci. *At the Mountain's Base*. Illustrated by Weshoyot Alvitre.

New York, NY: Kokila, an imprint of Penguin Random House, 2019. 32 pages.

Grades 1 – 3. A blending of fiction and nonfiction, this story is told in poetry. A group of Cherokee women gather to sing and pray for the safe return of one of their loved ones, a pilot who is away at war. As their song reaches her, she also prays for the safety of the women in the cabin at the base of the mountain. The author's note explains that Native women have always held military roles - in intertribal conflicts, against European colonialism, and in the U.S. Armed

Forces. The illustrations reflect the intergenerational connections and the women's vulnerability and strength.

Sorell, Traci. *We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga*. Illustrated by Frané Lessac.

Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge, 2018. 32 pages.

Grades 1 – 3. *Otsaliheliga* is a Cherokee word that is used to express gratitude. The author, born and raised in the Cherokee nation, organizes the book by season: the text follows a Cherokee family and their tribal nation as they express thanks and come together as a community to celebrate throughout the year. On many pages, Cherokee words are accompanied by English translations and pronunciation guides. The text reads like poetry, honors the past, and speaks to the present-day Cherokee experience. In picture-book format with vivid and colorful illustrations and an endnote with the Cherokee syllabary.

Tudor, Asland, co-written by Kelly Tudor. *Young Water Protectors: A Story about Standing Rock*.

Calgary, Alberta: EagleSpeaker Publishing, 2018. 22 pages.

Grades 3 – 6. This book was written by a 10 year-old boy and his mother, citizens of the Lipan Apache Tribe of Texas. They arrived in North Dakota in 2016 to join the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and their allies to fight the construction of the oil pipeline. The text explains the unlawful taking of Sioux lands and the polluting effects of oil pipelines on the water supply and on the land. Illustrated with maps and photographs, this is an eyewitness account of Native activism.

Environmental Movement

Camerini, Valentina, translated by Moreno Giovannoni. *Greta's Story: The Schoolgirl Who Went on Strike to Save the Planet*. Illustrated by Veronica Carratello.

New York, NY: Aladdin, 2019. 127 pages.

Grades 4 – 6. In August 2018, fifteen-year-old Greta Thunberg went on strike in front of Sweden's parliament building. Her protest grew into an international student movement to protect the environment: she has spoken before the U.N. and has been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. This book draws parallels between Greta and other protestors in history, explains the scientific basis of global warming, and offers suggestions for changing the habits that most threaten our planet.

French, Jess. *What a Waste*.

New York, NY: DK Publishing, 2019. 72 pages.

Grades 3 – 6. This book explores what humans are doing to the environment, good and bad - from pollution and litter to renewable energy and plastic recycling. Included are plans already in motion to save our seas, how some countries are implementing programs that are having a positive impact, and how waste can be turned into something useful. In a dynamic, colorful format with many photos on every page.

Harris, Duchess. *Environmental Protests*.

Minneapolis, MN: Core Library, 2018. 48 pages.

Series: Protest Movements.

Grades 3 – 5. This book examines the research that revealed how common practices harmed the environment, the events people have held to raise awareness, and the tactics protesters use to protect nature and change laws. Included are the long history of the environmental movement and brief biographies of many of the people involved. With many illustrations and photos.

Jones, Kari. Ours to Share: Coexisting in a Crowded World.

Victoria, BC: Orca Book Publishers, 2019. 48 pages.

Grades 4 – 6. The theme of this book is how overpopulation leads to unequal sharing of the earth's social and natural resources. With personal stories from children around the world and illustrated with many photos on every page.

Kallen, Stuart A. The Environmental Movement.

San Diego, CA: ReferencePoint Press, Inc., 2019. 80 pages:

Series: Push for Social Change.

Grades 6 – 8. This book provides an overview of the environmental movement from Rachel Carson's writing about the dangers of DDT in the late 1950s, through to the creation of Earth Day, the environmental activism of the 1970s, and on to the challenges facing today's environmentalists. Includes personal stories, lesser-known events, photographs, and a timeline.

Messner, Kate. The Brilliant Deep: Rebuilding the World's Coral Reefs: The Story of Ken Nedimyer and the Coral Restoration Foundation. Illustrated by Matthew Forsythe.

San Francisco, CA: Chronicle Books, 2018. 48 pages.

Grades 2 - 5. This vividly illustrated picture book explores the life and contributions of the coral restoration pioneer Ken Nedimyer, from his early fascination with the ocean to his ongoing efforts to save and rebuild the world's coral reefs.

Pearson, P. O'Connell. Fighting for the Forest: How FDR's Civilian Conservation Corps Helped Save America.

New York, NY: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, 2019. 197 pages.

Grades 5 - 8. This book offers an historical perspective on the environmental movement. When President Franklin Roosevelt took office, the country was facing economic collapse and environmental disaster. His Civilian Conservation Corps, created in 1933, employed millions of poor young men and resulted in the restoration of 120 million acres of land and the planting of 3 billion trees. Told through the personal stories of the participants.

Perdew, Laura. The Great Pacific Garbage Patch.

Minneapolis, MN: Essential Library, an imprint of Abdo Publishing, 2018. 112 pages.

Grades 5 – 8. With a focus on the giant accumulation of garbage in the Pacific Ocean, this book explores the science behind ocean currents and plastic's chemical composition. The threat that trash poses for the world's oceans and the specific actions people and governments can take to improve the situation are addressed. With charts, diagrams, and large-format photos.

Rusch, Elizabeth. *Mario and the Hole in the Sky: How a Chemist Saved our Planet.* Illustrated by Teresa Martinez.

Watertown, MA: Charlesbridge, 2019. 40 pages.

Grades 3 – 5. This is the true story of how Mexican-American scientist Mario Molina helped solve the ozone crisis of the 1980s and went on to become a Nobel laureate and a recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom. His inspiring story gives hope in the fight against global warming. With extensive text and scientific information in picture-book format.

Winter, Jeanette, *Our House is on Fire: Greta Thunberg's Call to Save the Planet.* Illustrated by the author.

New York, NY: Beach Lane Books, 2019. 40 pages.

Grades 2 – 4. This is the story of Greta Thunberg, the Swedish teenage climate activist, who has sparked a worldwide student movement and is demanding action from world leaders, many of whom have refused to address climate change. In picture-book format with simple text and powerful quotations from Greta.

Also recommended:

Levy, Janey. *Inside the Environmental Movement.*

New York, NY: Gareth Stevens Publishing, 2018. 32 pages. Grades 3 – 5.

Rooney, Anne. *Rachel Carson.* Illustrated by Isobel Lundie.

New York, NY: Franklin Watts, an imprint of Scholastic Inc., 2020. Grades 3 – 5.

Gun Control

Glimmer of Hope: How Tragedy Sparked a Movement. Written by the founders of March for Our Lives.

New York, NY: Razorbill, 2018. 218 pages,

Grades 7 and up. This is the official book by the March For Our Lives founders about their reaction to the mass shooting at Marjory Stoneham Douglas High School and their ongoing fight to end gun violence in the United States, including their organizing the March 2018 March for Our Lives in Washington, D.C. The contributions, mostly in essay format, describe the students' responses to the tragic event and the international outpouring of support.

We Say #NeverAgain: Reporting by the Parkland Student Journalists. Edited by MSD teachers, Melissa Falkowski and Eric Garner.

New York, NY: Crown Books for Young Readers, 2018. 260 pages.

Grades 7 and up. This collection of essays examines the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida and the fight for gun control. Told by the student reporters for the school's newspaper and TV station, the essays focus on how the students developed media skills: harnessing social media, speaking to the press, and writing effective op-eds.

Thomas, Rachael L. #NeverAgain: Preventing Gun Violence.

Minneapolis, Minnesota: Abdo & Daughters, 2020. 32 pages.

Series: #Movements.

Grades 4 – 6. This is a short overview of the #neveragain movement, from the history of efforts at gun control legislation to the school shootings at Columbine and Sandy Hook and the creation of #neveragain by students in Parkland, Florida. The book provides some context to the Second Amendment, as well as statistics related to escalating gun violence in the U.S. Illustrated with many photos.

McCann, Michelle Roehm. Enough is Enough: How Students Can Join the Fight for Gun Safety.

New York, NY: Simon Pulse; Hillsboro, OR: Beyond Words, 2019. 300 pages.

Grades 7 and up. This is a young activist's handbook to joining the fight against gun violence, both in the local community and on a national level. The author explains America's gun violence issues, including historical information about the Second Amendment, the history of guns in America, and an overview of the NRA. Also included are interviews with young people who have survived gun violence and student activists who are launching their own movements.

Also recommended:

Harris, Duchess, with Rebecca Morris. The Right to Bear Arms.

Minneapolis, MN: Essential Press, an imprint of Abdo Publishing, Inc., 2018.

Series: American Values and Freedoms. Grades 5 – 8.

Immigrants and Refugees

America, Border, Culture, Dreamer: The Young Immigrant Experience from A to Z. Edited and photographed by Wendy Ewald.

New York, NY: Little, Brown and Company, 2018. 59 pages.

Grades 6 and up. In collaboration with photographer and educator Wendy Ewald, eighteen immigrant teenagers created an illustrated book that defines their experiences. The expressive artwork and the personal stories of change, hardship, and hope contribute to the national conversation about immigration in America.

Berne, Emma Carlson. Immigrants from Mexico and Central America.

North Mankato, MN: Capstone Press, 2019. 32 pages.

Series: Fact Finders: Immigration Today.

Grades 3 – 5. This book explores the experiences that immigrants from Mexico and Central America currently face and discusses the reasons why they leave their native countries and come to the United States, despite the dangers and uncertainties. The experiences of three immigrating families are detailed, and information about the controversies surrounding immigration, DACA, and the current political climate is included. Illustrated with photographs.

Brown, Don. The Unwanted: Stories of the Syrian Refugees. Illustrated by the author.

Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2018. 102 pages.

Grades 5 – 8. Through an examination of the ongoing Syrian refugee crisis and the stories of survivors, this book exposes the harsh realities of living in, and trying to escape, a war zone. The author notes the courage and resilience of the refugees and issues a call to action and a reminder that this is not only a Syrian crisis, but also a human crisis. In graphic format.

Gravel, Elise. What is a Refugee? Illustrated by the author.

New York, NY: Schwartz & Wade Books, 2019. 32 pages.

Grades 2 – 3. This picture book introduces the term “refugee” and asks the questions: Who are refugees? Why do they need to leave their country? Why are they sometimes not welcome in their new country? With bold, graphic illustrations and spare text, quotes from refugee children, and very brief bios of famous people who were refugees.

Kuklin, Susan. We Are Here to Stay: Voices of Undocumented Young Adults.

Boston, MA: Candlewick Press, 2019. 182 pages.

Grades 6 and up. The author interviewed nine young adults who have lived in the United States with a secret for much of their lives: they are not U.S. citizens. They came from Colombia, Mexico, Ghana, Independent Samoa, and Korea, seeking education, fleeing violence, and escaping poverty. All have heartbreaking and hopeful stories about leaving their homes and starting a new life in America. Illustrated with photographs taken by the author.

McPherson, Stephanie Sammartino. The Global Refugee Crisis: Fleeing Conflict and Violence.

Minneapolis, MN: Twenty-First Century Books, 2019. 127 pages.

Grades 7 – 8. The author provides a history of immigration and refugee concerns and offers insight into this humanitarian crisis - in 2018, the number of people displaced worldwide by violence, persecution, or natural disaster had reached 68.5 million. The traumatic journeys that refugees experience are related through personal stories. Also included is information about people and organizations that are helping, as well as suggestions for how to get involved.

Mills, Deborah & Alfredo Alva. La Frontera: El Viaje con Papá / My Journey with Papa. Illustrated by Claudia Navarro.

Cambridge, MA: Barefoot Books, 2018. 48 pages.

Grades 3 – 5. This picture book tells the true and harrowing story of a young boy’s journey with his father from Mexico to Texas to find a new life. In Spanish and English, with historical photographs and notes about immigration and the borders and culture of the two countries.

Yousafzai, Malala, with Liz Welch. We Are Displaced: My Journey and Stories From Refugee Girls Around the World.

New York, NY: Little, Brown and Company, 2019. 212 pages.

Grades 6 – 8. Malala's experiences visiting refugee camps caused her to reconsider her own displacement - as an activist who could travel anywhere in the world except to her home in Pakistan. She explores her own story and the stories of girls she has met on her journeys, who have lost their communities and families. This is a powerful reminder of the millions of currently displaced people worldwide and how we can help.

Also recommended:

Goodman, Michael E. *The Refugee Crisis*.

Mankato, Minnesota: Creative Education, 2020. Grades 4 – 7.

Osborne, Linda Barrett. *This Land is Our Land: A History of American Immigration*.

New York, NY: Abrams Books for Young Readers, 2016. Grades 5 – 8.

The Labor Movement

Brill, Marlene Targ. *Dolores Huerta Stands Strong: The Woman Who Demanded Justice*.

Athens, OH: Ohio University Press, 2018, 92 pages.

Grades 5 – 8. This biography covers Huerta's life from her early challenges facing prejudice as a Chicana, to her political activism, and up to the present day. She was the cofounder, with Cesar Chavez, of the United Farm Workers of America and is an advocate for the rights of farmworkers, Mexican American immigrants, women, and LGBTQ+ populations. Illustrated with many photographs.

Duncan, Alice Faye. *Memphis, Martin, and the Mountaintop: The Sanitation Strike of 1968*. Illustrated by R. Gregory Christie.

Honesdale, PA: Calkins Creek, 2018. 40 pages.

Grades 3 – 6. This historical-fiction picture book, based on actual people and events, presents the story of nine-year-old Lorraine Jackson, who in 1968 witnessed the Memphis sanitation strike when her father participated in the protest. This was Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s final stand for justice before his assassination. With powerful illustrations.

Finkelstein, Norman H. *Union Made: Labor Leader Samuel Gompers and His Fight for Workers' Rights*.

Honesdale, PA: Calkins Creek, 2019. 112 pages.

Grades 5 – 8. Samuel Gompers, a young Jewish immigrant, came to America from London in 1863. He founded what became known as the American Federation of Labor and helped to create federal protections for U.S. workers, including safe work environments and workers' compensation. He led the fight to grant equal union membership to African Americans, but he supported the Chinese Exclusion Act and other intolerant restrictions on immigration. With many black-and-white photos and illustrations.

Krull, Kathleen *The Only Woman in the Photo: Frances Perkins & her New Deal for America.* Illustrated by Alexandra Bye.

New York, NY: Atheneum Books for Young Readers, 2020. 48 pages.

Grades 2 – 5. This is a picture-book biography of Frances Perkins, the first female member of a presidential cabinet. As Secretary of Labor in Franklin Roosevelt's administration, she was the architect of much of FDR's New Deal legislation, including the Social Security Act and the establishment of the Civilian Conservation Corps. A life-long social activist, she also fought for women's, children's, and workers' rights. With evocative and colorful illustrations.

Winter, Jonah. *Mother Jones and Her Army of Mill Children.* Illustrated by Nancy Carpenter.

New York, NY: Schwartz & Wade, 2020. 40 pages.

Grades 2 – 5. Told in first-person and in picture-book format, this is the story of Mother Jones, an Irish immigrant who fought for child labor laws. She was more than sixty years old when the powerful protests she organized earned her the epithet "the most dangerous woman in America." The text includes many quotes from Mother Jones and the illustrations are striking and bold.

Also Recommended:

Shea, Therese. *Inside the Labor Movement.*

New York: Gareth Stevens Publishing, 2018. Grades 3 – 5.

**The LGBTQ+ Movement
(Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgender/Queer/Questioning and more)**

Bausum, Ann. *Viral: The Fight Against AIDS in America.*

New York, NY: Viking, 2019. 168 pages.

Grades 7 and up. The earliest victims of AIDS were mostly gay men, among the most marginalized people in the United States at the time. This book presents the history of the AIDS crisis through the lens of the victims and activists who demanded action and literally fought for their lives. The text explores the disease's origins, how it spread, the activism it inspired, and how the world confronts HIV and AIDS today. With a detailed timeline and many photographs.

Bronski, Michael, adapted by Richie Chevat. *A Queer History of the United States for Young People.*

Boston, MA: Beacon Press, 2019. 316 pages.

Grades 7 and up. Through narratives, letters, drawings, poems, and more, this book examines the accomplishments of LGBTQ+ people. The authors discuss how American culture has shaped the LGBTQ+ experience and how LGBTQ+ people have shaped the country. With many biographies of well-known and lesser-known individuals and illustrated with archival images and photos.

Fisher, Michelle Millar. *The Rainbow Flag: Bright, Bold, and Beautiful.* Illustrated by Kat Kuang.

New York, NY: The Museum of Modern Art, 2019. 40 pages.

Grades 1 – 4. In 1978, the San Francisco Freedom Day Parade needed a new symbol: Harvey Milk and Gilbert Baker came up with the idea for a rainbow flag. This is the story of how it was actually constructed through creative collaboration, bringing together a community that was taking a stand for justice and equal rights. Today, the flag is a universal symbol and a celebrated object of design that is part of the collection of the Museum of Modern Art, in New York. In picture-book format with brilliantly colored illustrations.

Gottlieb, Iris. *Seeing Gender: An Illustrated Guide to Identity and Expression*. Illustrated by the author.

San Francisco, CA: Chronicle Books, 2019. 204 pages.

Grades 7 and up. *Seeing Gender* examines how we express and understand the complexities of gender today. Illustrating a different concept on each two-page spread, the author/artist addresses history, science, sociology, and her own experience. With many profiles of activists and role models.

Hollander, Barbara Gottfried. *Harvey Milk: The First Openly Gay Elected Official in the United States*.

New York, NY: Rosen YA, 2018. 48 pages.

Grades 5 - 8. This biography examines the life of Harvey Milk, political activist for gay rights, including his struggles as a young man and how he inspired the first National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. In 1977, Milk was elected to San Francisco's Board of Supervisors: he was assassinated less than a year after he took office. Through his personal and professional life, Harvey Milk became a role model and emblem of hope for many members of the LGBTQ+ community. Illustrated with photographs.

Sanders, Rob. *Stonewall: A Building, an Uprising, a Revolution*. Illustrated by Jamey Christoph.

New York, NY: Random House, 2019. 40 pages.

Grades 2 – 4. June 28, 1969 was a turning point for LGBTQ+ rights: the Stonewall Inn in NYC, a gathering place for the gay community, was raided once again by police. But this time people fought back and demanded their rights, sparking the gay liberation movement in the United States. The text examines the circumstances of the protests and discusses the changes brought about by the LGBTQ+ movement. In picture-book format with archival photos.

Sicardi, Arabelle. *Queer Heroes*. Illustrated by Sarah Tanat-Jones.

Minneapolis, MN: Wide Eyed Editions, 2019. 63 pages.

Grades 5 – 8. This book celebrates the achievements of LGBTQ+ people throughout history and from around the world - featuring dynamic, full-color portraits of a diverse selection of 53 inspirational role models accompanied by short biographies that focus on their personal and professional successes, as well as their activism and courage.

Smith, Devlin. *The Fight for LGBTQ+ Rights*.

New York: Rosen Publishing, 2020. 112 pages.

Series: Activism in Action.

Grades 5 – 8. Because of the work of courageous individuals and organizations, great strides have been made in LGBTQ+ civil rights since the 1950s, including marriage equality, anti-discrimination laws, and the freedom to serve openly in the military. This book examines the history of this fight, its activists, and allies, as well as the continuing struggle for full equality. Illustrated with many photos.

Also recommended:

Bausum, Ann. *Stonewall: Breaking Out in the Fight for Gay Rights.*

New York, NY: Viking, 2015. Grades 6 and up.

Braun, Eric. *The Gay Rights Movement.*

Minneapolis, MN: Lerner Publications, 2019.

Series: Movements That Matter (Alternator Books). Grades 3 – 6.

Felix, Rebecca, *#Pride: Championing LGBTQ Rights.*

Minneapolis, MN: Abdo & Daughters, 2020.

Series: #movements. Grades 3 – 5.

Hyde, Natalie. *LGBTQ Rights.*

New York, NY: Crabtree Publishing Company, 2018. 48 pages

Series: Uncovering the Past: Analyzing Primary Sources. Grades 4 to 6.

Rarus, Pat, *The LGBT Rights Movement.*

San Diego, CA: ReferencePoint Press, Inc., 2019. 80 pages:

Series: The Push for Social Change. Grades 5 – 8.

Voting Rights

Anderson, Carol, with Tonya Bolden. *One Person, No Vote: How Not All Voters Are Treated Equally.*

New York, NY: Bloomsbury, 2019. 276 pages.

Grades 7 and up. Adapted for young readers, this version of Anderson’s book examines the rollbacks to African American access to voting since the 2013 Supreme Court decision that eliminated key protections of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. Voter suppression techniques are explained - including photo ID requirements, gerrymandering, intimidation, and poll closures. The book also addresses the resistance: the organizing, activism, and court battles to restore the basic right to vote to all Americans as the nation faces the 2020 presidential election.

Diesen, Deborah. *Equality's Call: The Story of Voting Rights in America. Illustrated by Magdalena Mora.*

San Diego, CA: Beach Lane Books, 2020. 48 pages.

Grades 1 – 4. This introduction to the history of voting rights in the United States uses rhyme and mixed media artwork to make clear that the constitution did not extend the right to vote to all people. Progress is shown on each page, in pictures and in text, as more disenfranchised groups fight to be included. The endnotes provide additional information about amendments, legislation, and many leaders in the struggle to grant full participation to people of color, women, individuals with disabilities, and other marginalized groups. In picture-book format.

McNamara, Margaret. *Vote for Our Future! Illustrated by Micah Player.*

New York, NY: Schwartz & Wade Books, 2020. 40 pages.

Grades 1 – 4. When elementary school students learn that their school will close on Election Day to become a polling station, they get involved and spread the word about Election Day. This is a fictional story, but, through the students' research activities, information about early voting and mail-in voting is explained. The endnotes list the Acts of Congress that have extended voting rights to Americans throughout history. Vibrantly illustrated in picture-book format.

Rubin, Susan Goldman. *Give Us the Vote!: Over 200 Years of Fighting For the Ballot.*

New York, NY: Holiday House, 2020. 124 pages.

Grades 6 - 8. The author highlights the systemic racism that influenced the U.S. Constitution, played a part in the women's suffrage movement, and still has a large influence in elections and voting laws today. The text details the hard work and sacrifices many experienced in the fight to win equal voting rights for all. The importance of voting in elections and contemporary issues, such as voter suppression, are also addressed. A timeline of voting rights in the U.S. and historical photos supplement the text.

Also recommended:

Rusch, Elizabeth. *You Call This Democracy?: How to Fix Our Government and Deliver Power to the People.*

Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin, 2020. 288 pages. Grades 6 – 8.

Shulman, Mark. *I Voted: Making a Choice Makes a Difference. Illustrated by Serge Bloch.*

New York: Holiday House, 2020. Grades 1 – 3.

Women's Rights

Conkling, Winifred, *Votes for Women!: American Suffragists and the Battle for the Ballot.*

Chapel Hill, NC: Algonquin Young Readers, 2018. 312 pages.

Grades 7 – 8. Beginning with the 1848 Seneca Falls Convention through the nearly eighty-year fight for the 19th Amendment, this book covers the American suffragists' achievements and politics and the personal journeys that inspired many of them. Among the women profiled are Susan B. Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Sojourner Truth, and Alice Paul. With many primary sources and period photographs.

Felix, Rebecca. #WomensMarch: Insisting on Equality.

Minneapolis, MN: Abdo Publishing, 2020. 32 pages.

Series: #Movements

Grades 3 – 5. Primarily about the Women’s March of January 2017, this book also discusses earlier protest movements, as well as the women’s marches that took place in 2018 and 2019 and the continued fight for gender equality and social justice. The author makes it clear that the catalyst for the protest marches was the election of Donald Trump. Illustrated with many photographs.

Frazer, Coral Celeste. Vote!: Women's Fight for Access to the Ballot Box.

Minneapolis, MN: Twenty-First Century Books, 2020. 120 pages.

Grades 5 – 8. In the battle for the right to vote, American women forged alliances with other social reform movements. This book tells that story and makes the connection with current issues of voter purges, voter ID laws, and other tactics that many states employ to make it more difficult for citizens - especially young people, poor people, and people of color - to register to vote and to cast ballots. Illustrated with photographs.

Howell, Janet & Theresa Howell. Leading the Way: Women in Power. Illustrated by Kylie Akia and Alexandra Bye.

Somerville, MA: Candlewick Press, 2019. 133 pages.

Grades 4 – 8. In this collection of short biographies, Virginia State Senator Janet Howell spotlights the careers of fifty American women in politics – from Abigail Adams to Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. Included are many profiles of women of color and recent and current activists and politicians. With many quotes, colorful portraits, and a take-action guide.

Imani, Blair. Modern HERstory: Stories of Women and Nonbinary People Rewriting History. Illustrated by Monique Le.

California: Ten Speed Press, 2018. 195 pages.

Grades 7 and up. This is an overview of the progressive movements of the last 60 years as told through the stories of 60 diverse female and non-binary leaders - from the Civil Rights Movement and Stonewall riots through today. Many of these people come from backgrounds and communities that are traditionally overlooked, and they may not be familiar to readers despite their having made significant contributions to social change movements.

Jenner, Caryn. Winning the Vote for Women. Illustrated by Marc Pattenden.

New York, NY: Kingfisher Books, 2019. 64 pages.

Grades 4 – 8. This book examines the people around the world who fought for the right to vote from the 19th Century to the present day, from New Zealand in 1894 to Saudi Arabia in 2014. It includes the global petitions, the campaigns, the peaceful protests and marches, as well as the extreme measures taken by suffragists in their determination to achieve equality. In a lively format with colorful illustrations and photos on every page.

Kennedy, Nancy B. Women Win the Vote!: 19 for the 19th Amendment.

New York, NY: Norton Young Readers, 2020. 128 pages.

Grades 5 – 8. The author profiles 19 women who fought for women's voting rights. The book explores how the women often didn't agree on how to achieve their goals and discusses the harsh treatment many received when jailed. It also addresses the racist views held by Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton. Illustrated with drawings, quotes, and photos.

Macy, Sue. Motor Girls: How Women Took the Wheel and Drove Boldly into the Twentieth Century.

Washington, D.C.: National Geographic Partners, 2017. 96 pages.

Grades 4 – 8. This book is a tribute to the brave women motorists who drove cars for fun, profit, and to make a statement about the evolving role of women. It covers the time period from the invention of the auto in the 1890s to the 1920s when many barriers for women were beginning to break down. In photo-essay format with historical photos and images.

Mir, Saira. Muslim Girls Rise: Inspirational Champions of Our Time. Illustrated by Aaliya Jaleel.

New York, NY: Salaam Reads, an imprint of Simon & Schuster, 2019. 48 pages.

Grades 2 – 5. This book profiles nineteen Muslim women who rose up and made their voices heard in the fields of culinary arts, fashion, sports, government, science, entertainment, education, and activism. Their stories show the challenges, doubts, and outright hostility that they faced in becoming influential leaders. In picture-book format with colorful illustrations.

Rappaport, Doreen. Ruth Objects: The Life of Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Illustrated by Eric Velasquez.

Los Angeles, CA: Disney Hyperion, 2020. 48 pages.

Grades 3 – 6. As a student, teacher, lawyer, and judge, Ruth Bader Ginsburg often experienced unfair treatment, but the Supreme Court justice has persisted in championing equality and justice to this day. This is the newest addition to the author's series of Big Words books about social justice heroes. The text combines powerful narrative with RBG's own words. With striking and colorful illustrations and a detailed timeline.

Rosenstock, Barb. Fight of the Century: Alice Paul Battles Woodrow Wilson for the Vote. Illustrated by Sarah Green.

New York, NY: Calkins Creek Books, 2020. 40 pages.

Grades 2 – 5. Using the language and structure of a boxing match, this picture book examines how Alice Paul challenged Woodrow Wilson during his two presidential terms with her activism for passage of the 19th Amendment. The witty and lively text is enhanced by the dramatic illustrations. With endnotes that provide additional historic information and a timeline.

Rosenstock, Barb. Leave It to Abigail!: The Revolutionary Life of Abigail Adams. Illustrated by Elizabeth Baddeley.

New York, NY: Little, Brown and Company, 2020. 40 pages.

Grades 2 – 4. This biographical picture book portrays Abigail Adams as a woman who met all of life's challenges with energy and verve. The title becomes a refrain throughout the book as Abigail manages a farm by herself during wartime, recommends rights for America's women, and serves as her husband John Adams' closest presidential advisor. The endnotes offer more historical background, and the illustrations are lively and expressive.

Stewart, Louise Kay & Eve Lloyd Knight. Rebel Voices: The Global Fight for Women's Equality and the Right to Vote.

Northampton, MA: Crocodile Books, 2019. 43 pages.

Grades 4 – 8. Unusual in the breadth of its vision – this book includes the stories of many brave activists who fought for women's equality and right to vote across the globe and up to the present day. Viewing the women's movement as a truly international one, the story begins in New Zealand at the end of the 19th century, and then moves on to Oceania, Europe, the Americas, Africa, and Asia. With vivid and powerful artwork throughout.

Watkins, Naomi and Katherine Kitterman. Champions of Change: 25 Women Who Made History. Illustrated by Brooke Smart.

Layton, UT: Gibbs Smith, 2019. 64 pages.

Grades 3 – 6. Although the effort to gain women's rights in the United States is usually presented as beginning at a convention in New York State, it was in the Western United States where the women's movement found its first great triumphs. This book introduces 25 Westerners, including many Indigenous women, who led the way from 1869 to the present day. With illustrations and a timeline

Zimet, Susan & Todd Hasak-Lowy. Roses and Radicals: The Epic Story of How American Women Won the Right to Vote.

New York, NY: Viking Books for Young Readers, 2018. 160 pages

Grades 4 – 6. The fight for the 19th amendment succeeded in 1920 because of a courageous group of women who were fearless in the face of ridicule, arrest, imprisonment, and even torture. Their collective struggle and individual portraits are detailed here. Illustrated with photographs and other images.

Also recommended:

Abouraya, Karen. Malala Yousafzai: Warrior with Words. Illustrated by Susan L. Roth.

New York, NY: Lee & Low, 2019. Grades 3 – 5.

Braun, Eric The Women's Rights Movement.

Minneapolis, MN: Lerner Publications, 2019.

Series: Movements that Matter (Alternator Books). Grades 3 – 5.

Cooper, Ilene, Eleanor Roosevelt: Fighter for Justice: Her Impact on the Civil Rights Movement, the White House, and the World.

New York, NY: Abrams Books for Young Readers, 2018. Grades 5 – 8.

Gillibrand, Kirsten. Bold & Brave: Ten Heroes Who Won Women the Right to Vote. Illustrated by Maira Kalman.

New York, NY: Alfred A. Knopf, an imprint of Random House, 2018. Grades 3 – 5.

Lawlor, Laurie. Super Women: Six Scientists Who Changed the World.

New York, NY: Holiday House, 2017. 57 pages. Grade 4 - 6.

Rappaport, Doreen. Elizabeth Started All the Trouble. Illustrated by Matt Faulkner.

Los Angeles, CA: Disney Hyperion, 2016. Grades 3 – 5.

Rich, KaeLyn. Girls Resist!: A Guide to Activism, Leadership, and Starting a Revolution.

Philadelphia, PA: Quirk Books, 2018. Grades 7 and up.

Richards, Amy. We Are Makers: Real Women and Girls Shaping Our World.

New York, NY: Viking, 2019. Grades 5 – 8.

Rinker, Jessica M. Gloria Takes a Stand: How Gloria Steinem Listened, Wrote, and Changed the World. Illustrated by Daria Peoples-Riley.

New York, NY: Bloomsbury Children's Books, 2019. Grades 2 – 5.

Sarkeesian, Anita & Ebony Aster. History vs. Women: The Defiant Lives That They Don't Want You to Know. Illustrated by T.S. Abe.

New York, NY: Feiwel and Friends, 2018. 138 pages. Grades 7 and up.

Resources for Selecting Children's Literature about Social Justice

Professional Journals

Although paid subscriptions are needed to access all the material in these journals, many articles and book lists are available on the websites without a subscription.

Book Links: a quarterly supplement to *BookList*, a publication of the American Library Association, provides reviews of recommended children's books; articles tied to national standards on using books in the classroom; strategies and information for library media specialist/teacher collaboration: <https://www.booklistonline.com/booklinks>

Horn Book Magazine: features articles, book reviews, and other information related to children's and young adult literature: www.hbook.com

School Library Journal: serves librarians who work with young people in schools and public libraries. It provides reviews of materials to create quality collections for children and young adults: www.schoollibraryjournal.com

Teaching Tolerance Magazine: published by the Southern Poverty Law Center, provides educators with free educational materials and lists of resources that promote respect for differences and diversity in the classroom and beyond: <http://www.tolerance.org/teach/magazine>

Online Resources

American Indians in Children's Literature (AICL): established in 2006 by Dr. Debbie Reese of Nambé Pueblo; provides critical analysis of Indigenous peoples in children's and young adult books. Dr. Jean Mendoza is a co-editor at AICL: <https://americanindiansinchildrensliterature.blogspot.com/>

Anti-Defamation League Books Matter: Children's Literature: provides lists and reviews that focus on materials that foster respect and inspire actions on behalf of social justice: <https://www.adl.org/education-and-resources/resources-for-educators-parents-families/childrens-literature>

CBC Diversity Initiative: part of the Children's Book Council's commitment to promoting diverse voices in literature for young people. The CBC is the nonprofit association of children's book publishers in North America dedicated to supporting the industry and promoting children's books and reading: <https://www.cbcdiversity.com>

CCBC (Cooperative Children's Book Center), School of Education, University of Wisconsin-Madison: provides book lists of recommended books on a wide range of topics, including social justice. *CCBC Choices* is a best-of-the-year list created annually:
<http://ccbc.education.wisc.edu/books/bibBio.asp>

Database of Award-Winning Children's Literature: has over 8,400 records from 99 awards across six English-speaking countries: <http://www.dawcl.com>

Embrace Race: a multiracial community of parents, teachers, experts, and other caring adults who support each other to meet the challenges that race poses to children, families, and communities. Includes tips for educators, and book lists: <https://www.embracerace.org>

Notable Trade Books for Young People: provides annotated lists of books that were evaluated and selected by the Book Review Committee appointed by the National Council for Social Studies in cooperation with the Children's Book Council: www.ncss.org/resources/notable

Primary Source: works to advance global and cultural learning in schools by collaborating with teachers and schools to offer professional development courses and resources:
<https://www.primarysource.org/for-teachers/guides>

Social Justice Books: a program of Teaching for Change, provides an annotated list of the best multicultural and social justice children's books and the *Guide for Selecting Anti-Bias Children's Books*: <https://socialjusticebooks.org>

WNDB (We Need Diverse Books): advocates essential changes in the publishing industry to produce and promote literature that reflects and honors the lives of all young people. The website includes links to book lists on many other websites: <https://diversebooks.org/>

Children's Book Awards

The Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) is the world's largest organization dedicated to the support and enhancement of library service to children. The website provides links to their own awards and those of many other organizations and groups:
<http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia>

Amelia Bloomer List: the committee of the Feminist Task Force of the Social Responsibilities Round Table of the American Library Association compiles a booklist of excellent books with significant feminist content: <http://www.ala.org/awardsgrants/amelia-bloomer-book-list>

American Indian Youth Literature Award: given by the American Indian Library Association, this award honors the best writing and illustrations by and about American Indians:
<https://ailanet.org/activities/american-indian-youth-literature-award>

Americás Award: sponsored by the National Consortium of Latin American Studies Programs (CLASP), and given in recognition of U.S. works of literature for children published in English or Spanish that authentically portray Latin America, the Caribbean, or Latinos in the United States: <http://www.claspprograms.org/americasaward>

Arab-American Book Awards: sponsored by the Arab American National Museum, the awards honor books written by and about Arab Americans:
<http://arabamericanmuseum.org/bookaward>

Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature: given by the Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association, these awards honor books about Asian/Pacific Americans and their heritage, based on literary and artistic merit: <http://www.apalaweb.org/awards/literature-awards>

Batchelder Award: presented by the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) and awarded to an American publisher for a children's book originally published in a language other than English in a country other than the United States:
<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/batchelderaward>

Carter Woodson Award: given by the National Council for the Social Studies to the most distinguished social science books that depict ethnicity in the United States sensitively and accurately: <https://www.socialstudies.org/awards/woodson>

Coretta Scott King Award: presented annually by the American Library Association to a black author and a black illustrator whose works encourage world unity and peace and serve as an inspiration to young people: <http://www.ala.org/rt/emiert/cskbookawards>

Jane Addams Children's Book Awards: presented by the Jane Addams Peace Association, and given to the children's books that promote the cause of peace, social justice, world community, and the equality of the sexes and all races as well as meeting literary and artistic standards for excellence: <http://www.janeaddamspeace.org>

Orbis Pictus Award for Outstanding Nonfiction for Children: given by the National Council of Teachers of English to promote and recognize excellence in the writing of nonfiction for children: <https://ncte.org/awards/orbis-pictus-award-nonfiction-for-children/>

Pura Belpré Award: given by the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) to a Latinx writer and illustrator whose work best portrays, affirms and celebrates the Latino cultural

experience for children and youth:

<http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/belpremedal>

Rainbow Book List: created by the Rainbow Book List Committee of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Round Table of the American Library Association, this annual list highlights books for children with significant gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, or queer/questioning content: **<https://glbtrt.ala.org/rainbowbooks>**

Robert F. Sibert Informational Book Medal: presented by the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC) and awarded annually to the author(s) and illustrator(s) of the most distinguished informational book published in the United States:

<http://www.ala.org/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/sibertmedal>

Sydney Taylor Book Award: presented by the Association of Jewish Libraries, an affiliate of the American Library Association (ALA), in recognition of books for children and teens that exemplify high literary standards while authentically portraying the Jewish experience:

https://jewishlibraries.org/Sydney_Taylor_Book_Award