

Eastside Family Place ANTI-RACISM & DIVERSITY

Eastside Family Place (ESFP) acknowledges the commitment and work that is necessary to address systemic racism in our community. Recognizing that we are a predominantly white run organisation, it is crucial that we acknowledge our role in these oppressive systems and commit to doing better. ESFP recognizes that it is our responsibility to use our privilege to educate ourselves and take measurable actions that will help make our organization a truly inclusive and safe(r) space for all staff, children, and families.

ESFP continues to focus on enhancing education, inclusion, and representation.

Examples include:

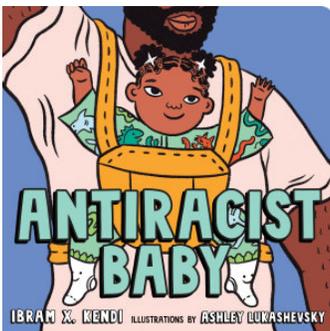
1. Working with an Indigenous Elder and Liaison to identify how ESFP can create a more inclusive run space and programming
2. Sharing anti-racism materials for children and families in the ESFP newsletter
3. Developing Indigenous-led programming
4. Offering Board and Staff training in Indigenous Resilience and equity
5. Recruiting diverse members to the ESFP Board of Directors
6. Initiating a board-led Equity & Inclusion Committee to ensure principles of equity, diversity, and inclusion are incorporated at ESFP

These steps mark our ongoing reflection and adaptation towards the commitment of finding more inclusive/less oppressive ways of operating. As this will be an ongoing learning process for us all, we welcome and encourage any feedback from the valued community we serve.

ANTI-RACISM RESOURCES:

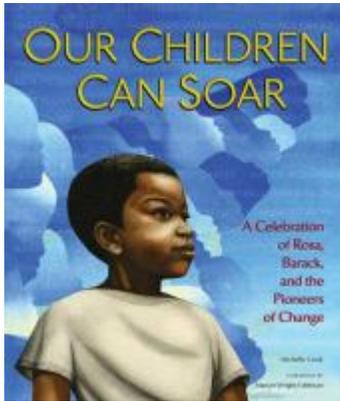
- [Anti-racist book list](#) curated for ESFP from Vancouver Public Library
- [BC Teachers Federation](#) anti-racism resources
- Teaching & Learning about [Race and Racism](#)
- [Healthline](#) Anti-racism Resources for Parents and Kids
- [Parents Canada](#), how to teach racial acceptance
- [18 children's books](#) about race and racism
- "Raising Anti-racist Kids", an [e-book](#) for parents of white children, explores current research and intentional conversations, becoming comfortable talking to your kids about race, taking action as a family against racism
- [PBS: How to Talk](#) to your Kids about Anti-racism
- [TED Talk](#) on implicit bias & how it affects us all, Melanie Funches

ANTI-RACISM BOOKS FOR CHILDREN:



Antiracist Baby by Kendi, Ibram X.

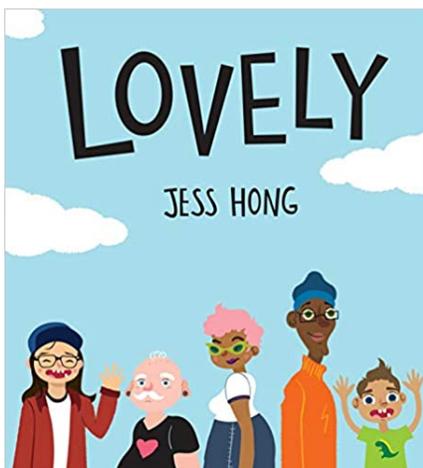
A fresh new board book that empowers parents and children to uproot racism in our society and in ourselves. Take your first steps with Antiracist Baby! Or rather, follow Antiracist Baby's nine easy steps for building a more equitable world.



Our Children Can Soar : A Celebration of Rosa, Barack, and the Pioneers of Change

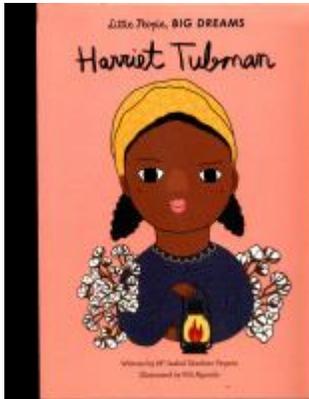
A poem of African American history enhanced by illustrations, by Michelle Cook. Showcasing the art of 13 artists, this resonant book was inspired by a simple yet searing phrase that celebrates the achievements of African-Americans. Cook's adaptation pays tribute to 10 individuals, including George Washington Carver, Jesse Owens and Jackie Robinson. These figures' triumphs are shown as part of a seamless continuum:

"Martin marched... so Thurgood could rule. Thurgood ruled... so Barack could run. Barack ran... so our children can soar!" The artwork forms a cohesive and affecting collective portrait: a musical staff swathes Pat Cummings's Ella Fitzgerald like a boa, while Shadra Strickland's Ruby Bridges is a small yet determined figure, marching up the schoolhouse steps against a backdrop of protestors. Additional images from Leo and Diane Dillon, James Ransome, E.B. Lewis, Eric Velasquez and others, corroborate Children's Defense Fund founder Marian Wright Edelman's assertion, in the book's foreword, that African-American history is "the story of hope." Ages 4-8.



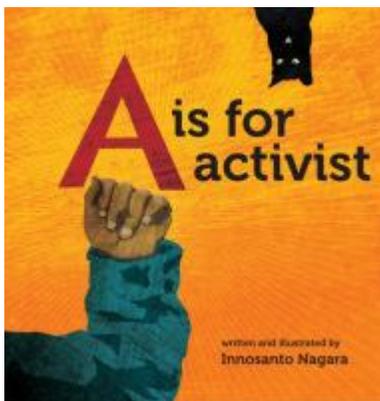
"Lovely," a debut picture book written and illustrated by Jess Hong, is a lively ode to being different. "What is lovely?" the text asks. "Lovely is different." A girl with one blue eye and one brown eye looks directly at the viewer. Then comes a series of illustrative plays on words. The word "Black" is next to a white woman wearing black clothes. On the facing page, the word "white" accompanies a black woman

with white hair. On other spreads, we see a tall woman walking a short dog ("tall") opposite a short man walking with a tall dog ("short"). The common thread is difference - myriad ethnicities and differently abled people and all kinds of families living and working and playing side by side. Ages 4 and up. Available at the Vancouver Public Library.

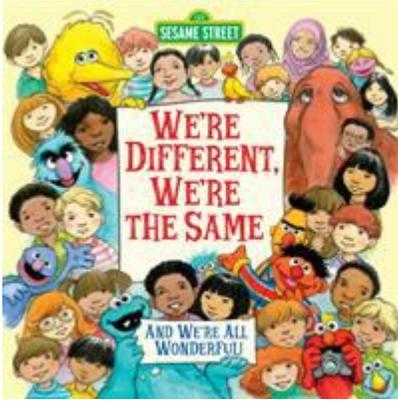


Little People: Big Dreams is a biography series for 2-5 year olds by **Maria Isabel Sanchez Vegara**, which covers a heap of amazing people including:

Harriet Tubman * Amelia Earhart * Ella Fitzgerald * Coco Chanel * Anne Frank * Georgia O'Keeffe * Billie Jean King * Frida Kahlo * Jane Goodall * Mary Shelley * Marie Curie * Zaha Hadid * Mother Teresa * L.M. Montgomery



A Is for activist, by Innosanto Nagara Not your typical alphabet board book, this one packs a powerful message both visually as well as verbally. Each spread presents a letter and a bit of social commentary urging children to take a stand against war and violence, develop an awareness of our environment, and promote acceptance and equality for all cultures, races, religions, genders, and walks of life. For example, "A is for Activist/Advocate. "Y is for You/Youth/Your planet.

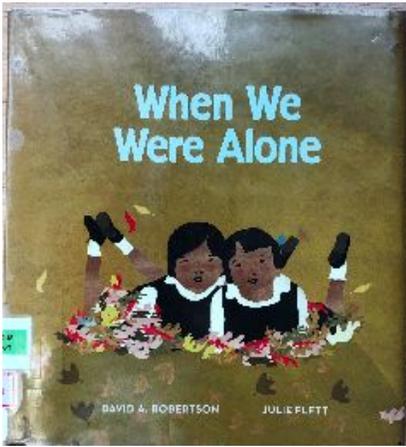


We're Different, We're the Same by Bobbi Jane Kates.

Illustrations and simple rhyming text show that while the body parts of various human and Muppet characters may look different, they have similar uses. Available through Vancouver Public Library.

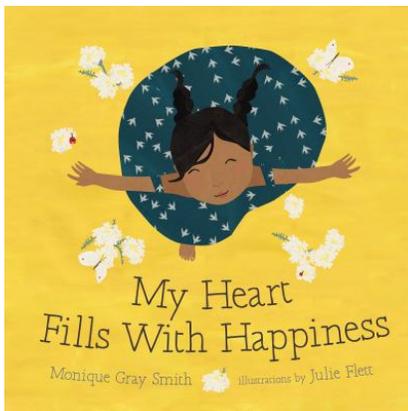


All the Colors We Are - Todos Los Colores De Nuestra Piel is an incredible resource for discussing skin color with young children. Three scientific reasons are presented for why we have the skin tones we do: our ancestry, exposure to sun, and melanin level. Katie Kissinger writes in a way that makes it easy to learn and talk about skin color. Activity and discussion ideas are included at the end of the book. Ideal for kids in preK to 2nd grade. Written in both English and Spanish. Highly recommended for schools and families! Available through Vancouver Public Library.



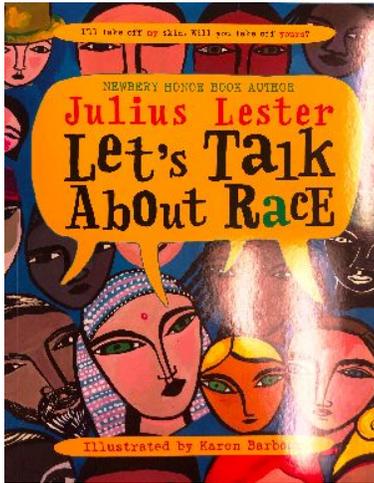
When We Were Alone

When a young girl helps tend to her grandmother's garden, she begins to notice things that make her curious. Why does her grandmother have long, braided hair and beautifully colored clothing? Why does she speak another language and spend so much time with her family? As she asks her grandmother about these things, she is told about life in a residential school a long time ago, where all of these things were taken away. *When We Were Alone* is a story about a difficult time in history, and, ultimately, one of empowerment and strength.



My Heart Fills With Happiness

The sun on your face. The smell of warm bannock baking in the oven. Holding the hand of someone you love. What fills your heart with happiness? Serves as a reminder for little ones and adults alike to reflect on and cherish the moments in life that bring us joy. Written to support the wellness of Indigenous children and families, and to encourage young children to reflect on what makes them happy. By Monique Gray Smith, available at [VPL](#). Here's [more](#) children's titles by the same wonderful Indigenous author. Also from VPL, check out their staff lists [here](#) and [here](#) of books with Indigenous themes.



Let's Talk About Race

by Julius Lester, illustrated by Karen Barbour

Apropos to our upcoming workshop, we're highlighting this book available at VPL. Adults unsure of how to begin talking about race will find in these pages a way to tap into the subject. Lester (*To Be a Slave*) addresses readers as if he is speaking to each in private conversation. He explains his belief that each human being "is a story" and, by appealingly poking fun at himself, he begins to tell his own tale: "I was born on January 27, 1939... (I'm kind of old, huh?)." After sharing a few more details he adds "Oh, there's something else that is part of my story. I'm black. What race are you?" Lester says people sometimes claim, "My race is better than your race" but this isn't true. If we take our skin off - here Barbour (*Fire! Fire! Hurry! Hurry!*) paints a folk-style tableau of skeletons with cheerful smiles and arms upraised - "I would look just like you, and you would look just like me." Barbour's illustrations, flooded with birds and flowers and brimming with color, provide plenty of visual interest. The artist's recurring tree symbolism underscores Lester's suggestion of a shared human family tree