# Race Relations, Racism, and Injustices

**Teaching Resources Center, Joyner Library**  
**A Selective Annotated Bibliography**

Titles in the Teaching Resources Center are cataloged with Dewey call numbers and are preceded by Curric. Please ask someone at the Teaching Resources Service Desk if you need any assistance. *Underlined title denotes eBook.*

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<tr>
<th>Age Range</th>
<th>Title Information</th>
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<td><strong>EASY</strong></td>
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<td>4-8</td>
<td>Celano, Marianne, et al. <em>Something Happened In Our Town: A Child's Story About Racial Injustice</em>. Washington, DC: Magination Press, 2018. 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. Includes an extensive “Note to Parents and Caregivers” that provides general guidance about addressing racism with children, child-friendly vocabulary definitions, conversation guides, and a link to additional online resources for parents and teachers.</td>
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This historical fiction picture book presents the story of nine-year-old Lorraine Jackson, who in 1968 witnessed the Memphis sanitation strike--Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s final stand for justice before his assassination--when her father, a sanitation worker, participated in the protest.


LuLu and Jelly are very excited to see the "colored" water they heard about in the city's water fountain, but are very surprised to learn what "colored" water actually means.


When Ruth and her parents take a motor trip from Chicago to Alabama to visit her grandma, they rely on a pamphlet called "The Negro Motorist Green Book" to find places that will serve them. Includes facts about "The Green Book."


A thirteen-year-old African American boy in 1960s Greenville, North Carolina, uses his typing skills to make a statement as part of the Civil Rights movement. Based on true events. Includes author's note.


When Desmond takes his new bicycle out for a ride, his pride and joy turn to hurt and anger when some boys shout a very mean word at him causing Desmond to seek the advice of Father Trevor, who teaches him about the power of forgiveness.


Two girls, one white and one black, gradually get to know each other as they sit on the fence that divides their town.
FICTION


Told from multiple points of view, a white family on a 1959 road trip between Ohio and Florida, visiting Civil War battlefields along the way, crosses paths with a black family near Atlanta, where one of their children has gone missing.


A fictionalized account of Zora Neale Hurston's childhood with her best friend Carrie, in Eatonville, Florida, as they learn about life, death, and the differences between truth, lies, and pretending. Includes an annotated bibliography of the works of Zora Neale Hurston, a short biography of the author, and information about Eatonville, Florida.


During the pilot year of a Los Angeles school system integration program, two sixth grade boys, one black, one white, become best friends as they learn to cope with everything from first crushes and playground politics to the loss of loved ones and racial prejudice in the 1970s.


Thirteen-year-old Prometheus Jones and his eleven-year-old cousin Omer flee Tennessee and join a cattle drive that will eventually take them to Texas, where Prometheus hopes his father lives, and they find adventure and face challenges as African Americans in a land still recovering from the Civil War.


Rose Lee Carter, a thirteen-year-old African-American girl, dreams of life beyond the Mississippi cotton fields during the summer of 1955, but when Emmett Till is murdered and his killers are unjustly acquitted, Rose is torn between seeking her destiny outside of Mississippi or staying and being a part of an important movement.
When thirteen-year-old Billie Sims learns that the Freedom Riders, a civil rights group protesting segregation on buses in the summer of 1961, will be traveling through Anniston, Alabama, she thinks change could be coming to her stubborn town. But what starts as angry grumbles soon turns to brutality, and Billie is forced to reconsider her own views.

Gee recalls for her grandchildren what happened in 1960 in Nashville, Tennessee, when she, aged ten, passed out flyers while her cousin and other adults held sit-ins at restaurants and lunch counters to protest segregation.

Following her grandfather's death in rural North Carolina in 1947, twelve-year-old Pattie Mae learns more about her family after reading her grandmother's collection of obituaries and traveling to Harlem, New York, to find her uncle who has escaped from the Ku Klux Klan.

In 1863, fifteen-year-old Claire, the daughter of an Irish mother and a black father, faces ugly truths and great danger when Irish immigrants, enraged by the Civil War and a federal draft, lash out against blacks and wealthy "swells" of New York City.

Loosely based on a school explosion that took place in New London, Texas in 1937, this is the story of two teenagers: Naomi, who is Mexican, and Wash, who is black, and their dealings with race, segregation, love, and the forces that destroy people.
Arkansas, in the summer of 1957. They both love baseball and teasing their little sisters. There's just one big difference -- William is white, and Thomas, the son of William's family's maid, is black. After the Supreme Court rules in favor of desegregating public schools, Little Rock Central High School prepares to enroll its first nine African American students, and William and Thomas are caught in the center of a storm.

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<td>F R3352A</td>
<td>When sixteen-year-old Rashad is mistakenly accused of stealing, classmate Quinn witnesses his brutal beating at the hands of a police officer who happens to be the older brother of his best friend. Told through Rashad and Quinn's alternating viewpoints.</td>
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<td>F R3467G</td>
<td>Once again Jewell Parker Rhodes deftly weaves historical, social, and political layers into a gripping and poignant story about how children and families face the complexities of today's world - and how one boy, in particular, who never had a chance to grow up, comes to understand American blackness in the aftermath of his own death.</td>
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<td>F W155490</td>
<td>In 1983, at an elite boys' boarding school in Zimbabwe, thirteen-year-old English lad Robert Jacklin finds himself torn between his black roommate and the white bullies still bitter over losing power through the recent civil war.</td>
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**NONFICTION**

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<td>323.1196073 AD33M</td>
<td>A visual tribute to the civil rights movement and the battle for racial equality captures the leaders and events of the era, with portraits of Sidney Poitier, James Baldwin, Martin Luther King, Jr., and many other activists who took part in the struggle.</td>
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<th>Young Adult</th>
<th>Aretha, David. <em>The Murder of Emmett Till</em>. Greensboro,</th>
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<td>364.1 AR34MU</td>
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Discusses the murder of fourteen-year-old Emmett Till in Mississippi; the trial, in which the men who later confessed to the murder were acquitted; and the incident's effect on the fledgling civil rights movement.


Describes how the people of the city of Huntsville, Alabama worked together to integrate the city's school system, celebrating how racial discrimination, bullying, and unfairness can be faced successfully with perseverance and ingenuity.


Critically acclaimed author Ann Bausum brings this crucial turning point of civil rights history back to life, escorting you along the dusty Mississippi roads where heroic marchers endured violence, rage, and fear as they walked more than 200 miles in the name of equality and justice.


Describes the civil rights demonstrations that took place in Birmingham, Alabama, in 1963, the violence used against the demonstrators, the arrest of Martin Luther King, Jr., the involvement of students, and the results of these events.


An award-winning black journalist takes a pilgrimage through the sites and landmarks of the civil rights movement as he journeys to key locales that served as a backdrop to important events of the 1960s, journeying around the country to pay tribute to the people, organizations, and events that transformed America.

Gainer, Cindy, and Miki Sakamoto. *I'm Like You, You're Like Me: A Book About Understanding and

Illustrations and simple text explore ways in which children are alike and some ways they may be different.

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<td>Provides a history of the decades of poverty, oppression, and terror African Americans suffered under the system of segregation in the United States, from the end of the Reconstruction era through the early decades of the twentieth century.</td>
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<td>A white child sees a news report of a white police officer shooting and killing a person with brown skin who had their hands up. &quot;We don't see color,&quot; the child's mother says, but the child senses a deeper truth. An afternoon in the library uncovers the reality of white supremacy in America. The child connects to the opportunity and their responsibility to dismantle white supremacy— for the sake of their own liberation out of ignorance and injustice.</td>
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<td>The story of a group of African American students known as the Little Rock Nine is a saga of incredible courage and grace. Following the 1954 Supreme Court ruling that struck down school segregation, black leaders turned their attention to the next challenge: getting African American students into white schools. In Little Rock, Arkansas, a small group of African American students were selected to integrate the high school. This taut, thrilling graphic novel plunges readers into the cauldron of hate, bigotry, and fear the students faced. Powerful illustrations grip readers, and accessible text presents the emotionally charged events in readily understandable language.</td>
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Irene Latham, who is white, and Charles Waters, who is black, present paired poems about topics including family dinners, sports, recess, and much more. This relatable collection explores different experiences of race in America.


Offers readers a poetic introduction to the topic of race as the differences and unique features of races are celebrated while discussing the important bond everyone shares with one another as human beings through many common similarities.


The story of two icons for social justice, how they formed a remarkable friendship and turned their personal experiences of discrimination into a message of love and equality for all.


Discusses the story of nine African American students who desegregated Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, in 1957, including the history that led to the event and the discrimination they faced on a daily basis.


Children are encouraged to celebrate and appreciate both their own and other people's differences and shows how, when people of different races and ethnic backgrounds come together, they make a beautiful rainbow.


Told through first-person accounts, photographs, and other primary sources, this book is an overview of racial segregation and early civil rights efforts in the United States from the 1890s to 1954, a period known as the Jim
Crow years. Multiple perspectives are examined as the book looks at the impact of legal segregation and discrimination on the day-to-day life of black and white Americans across the country.


Profiles ten African American women including Rosa Parks, Harriet Tubman, and Shirley Chisholm, whose courageous acts against oppression made them leaders in the battle for civil rights.


A celebration of the momentous Woolworth's lunch counter sit-in when four college students staged a peaceful protest that became a defining moment in the struggle for racial equality and the growing Civil Rights Movement.


A picture book biography introduces the ideas and accomplishments of a gifted and influential speaker by using some of his own words to tell the story.


A lavishly illustrated picture book adaptation of the inspiring story of the four brilliant mathematicians who were pivotal to the success of America's space program, written by one of their associates, describes how they overcame the harsh limitations imposed on black women in the segregated 1960s.


Sparked by Rosa Parks's simple and heroic refusal to give up her seat, and led by the up-and-coming Martin Luther King Jr., the Montgomery Bus Boycott was an unlikely
early victory in the Civil Rights Movement. Filled with engaging details about the boycott and its social and legal outcomes, this book illuminates one of the most dramatic chapters in American History.


A collection of art, essays, letters, poems, and stories celebrates standing up against prejudice and racism, and includes entries by such authors as Kwame Alexander, Kat Williams-Garcia, Jacqueline Woodson, and Jason Reynolds.

BIOGRAPHY


Critically acclaimed author Jabari Asim and Caldecott Honor-winning illustrator E. B. Lewis give readers a glimpse into the boyhood of Civil Rights leader John Lewis.


Explores how the media, politics, the civil rights movement, and labor protests all converged to set the scene for one of Dr. King's greatest speeches and for his tragic death on April 4, 1968, in Memphis.


From the legendary civil rights activist and author of the million-copy selling Warriors Don't Cry comes a powerful, timely new memoir about growing up in the segregated South. Civil rights heroine Melba Patillo Beals puts readers right in her saddle oxfords as she struggles to understand--and fight back against--the laws that told her she was less just because of the color of her skin. Includes photos and illustrations.

5-8  Bridges, Ruby. Ruby Bridges Goes to School: My True Story. New York: Scholastic Inc., 2009. (Scholastic B7646BR
Ruby Bridges tells the story of how she helped end racial segregation in the New Orleans public school system when she was in the first grade.


The story of Jerry Craft, the first white man to play in the West Texas Colored League during the summers of 1959 and 1960 as pitcher for the Wichita Falls/Graham Stars.


Told through the alternating narratives of his parents, this book will take us beyond the news cycle, controversies, and familiar images to give their deeper account: The story of the beautiful and complex child they lost, the grief and confusion that followed, the cruel unresponsiveness of the police and the hostility of the legal system, and how these two humble, hardworking parents, powered by love for their lost son, made his life matter, even in death.


On December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks boarded a Montgomery, Alabama city bus and refused to give up her seat to a white man, an act that ignited a movement that changed modern history.


Rosa Parks grew up during segregation in Alabama, but she was taught to respect herself and stand up for her rights. In 1955, Rosa refused to give up her seat to a white man on a segregated bus, sparking the Montgomery Bus Boycott. Her decision had a huge impact on civil rights, eventually leading to the end of segregation on public transport. Rosa was described as "the mother of the freedom movement."

7-10 Krensky, Stephen, and Joe Morse. *Play Ball, Jackie!*. B R5632K

On April 15, 1947, Matt Romano and his father watch the Brooklyn Dodgers season-opener, during which Jackie Robinson, a twenty-eight-year-old rookie, breaks the "color line" that had kept black men out of Major League baseball. Includes facts about Jackie Robinson's life and career.


The true story of how a ride on a carousel made a powerful Civil Rights statement reveals how in the summer of 1963, due to demonstrations and public protests, the Gwynn Oak Amusement Park in Maryland became desegregated, allowing co-author Sharon Langley to become the first African American child to ride the carousel. Includes photos of young Sharon on the carousel, authors' notes, a timeline and a bibliography.


A picture book portrait of 9-year-old Audrey Faye Hendricks describes how, in 1963 Alabama, she became the youngest known child to be arrested for participating in a civil rights protest, for which she was imprisoned for picketing against Birmingham segregation practices.


This graphic novel is a first-hand account of Congressman John Lewis' lifelong struggle for civil and human rights, meditating in the modern age on the distance traveled since the days of Jim Crow and segregation. *Book One* spans Lewis' youth in rural Alabama, his life-changing meeting with Martin Luther King, Jr., the birth of the Nashville Student Movement, and their battle to tear down segregation through nonviolent lunch counter sit-ins, building to a stunning climax on the steps of City Hall.


L5873L02
Shelf Productions, 2015.

This graphic novel is a first-hand account of Congressman John Lewis' lifelong struggle for civil and human rights, meditating in the modern age on the distance traveled since the days of Jim Crow and segregation. After the success of the Nashville sit-in campaign, John Lewis is more committed than ever to changing the world through nonviolence -- but as he and his fellow Freedom Riders board a bus into the vicious heart of the deep south, they will be tested like never before.

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<td>This graphic novel is a first-hand account of Congressman John Lewis' lifelong struggle for civil and human rights, meditating in the modern age on the distance traveled since the days of Jim Crow and segregation. To carry out their nonviolent revolution, Lewis and an army of young activists launch a series of innovative campaigns, including the Freedom Vote, Mississippi Freedom Summer, and an all-out battle for the soul of the Democratic Party waged live on national television. With these new struggles come new allies, new opponents, and an unpredictable new president who might be both at once. But fractures within the movement are deepening ... even as 25-year-old John Lewis prepares to risk everything in a historic showdown high above the Alabama river, in a town called Selma.</td>
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<td>Profiles the civil rights leader who was active in the Freedom Rides and other major events in the battle against segregation and later became a long-term congressman from Georgia.</td>
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<td>Describes how young Malcolm's optimism and faith were challenged by intolerance and a series of tragedies that compelled him to learn self-reliance and how to embrace his individuality to reach his highest potential.</td>
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Presents the life and accomplishments of the civil rights leader and author who used his speeches, newspaper columns, and poetry to fight for racial equality and justice during the early part of the twentieth century.


Tells the story of Viola Desmond, an African Canadian woman who, in 1946, challenged a Nova Scotia movie theater's segregation policy by refusing to move from her seat to an upstairs section designated for use by blacks.


A tribute to Harlem Renaissance performer Florence Mills covers her youth as a child of former slaves, her performances that inspired songs and entire plays, and the racism that prompted her advocacy of all-black theater and musicals.


Surveys the life of the actress and civil rights activist, describing her childhood, early years in vaudeville, and achievements as the first African American actress to be offered a studio contract.


Presents a collage-illustrated treasury of poems and spirituals inspired by the life and work of civil rights advocate Fannie Lou Hamer.

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