

TALKING ABOUT RACE AND RACISM WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

GokAR! Resource Guide



Key Terms

Race: How people are categorized based on their physical traits like their skin color or hair texture. These are socially constructed, meaning they are made up by people. We use the word 'race' to talk about some of the ways we look different on the outside.

Racial Identity: The racial groups you identify with and, sometimes, the racial groups others want to assign to you.

Diversity: Differences that make us unique from one another like our different skin, hair, or our cultural backgrounds. We live with diversity all around us.

People of Color: Groups of people who are not racially or ethnically White.

Racism: Treating people unfairly or unjustly because of their race. Racism is wrong, it hurts people's feelings, and it can even put people in danger.

Unfairness: When people are treated unkindly or unjustly due to their differences.

Upstander: An upstander is a person who stands up for someone or something when they do something racist.

Laws: Rules that the government creates to protect its citizens and organize public activities. For example, there are laws against driving too fast on the road.

Equal Rights: When everyone regardless of race, cultural background, or other differences are entitled to the same rights. For example, equal rights means that everyone can go to the same stores or parks, and everyone can access public schools regardless of their race.

Systemic Racism: Laws that treat people unfairly based on their race. Today, these systems may not seem as directly racist, but there are still rules and laws that impact certain groups of people more than others. For example, kids in mostly Black neighborhoods often go to schools that have less money for books and supplies compared to kids that go to schools in mostly White neighborhoods. Systemic racism can be hard to see but being an upstander means learning to see unfair rules and laws and speaking out or taking action against them.

Justice: When action is taken to make sure that people are treated fairly, lawfully, and equitably, regardless of their differences.

Children's Books

All the Colors We Are by Katie Kissinger

Amazing Grace by Mary Hoffman

Black is Brown is Tan by Arnold Adoff

Come Together, Change the World: A Sesame Street Guide to Standing up for Racial

Injustice by Jackie Golusky

Ellie Marches On by Audra Notgrass

Freedom Summer by Deborah Wiles

Hands Up! by Breanna McDaniel

Hope: A Story About Anti-Racism by Maria Hansen-Quine

I Love My Hair by Natasha Anastasia Tarpley

Let's Talk About Race by Julius Lester

M is for Melanin by Tiffany Rose

Mixed Me by Taye Diggs

Northbound: A Train Ride Out of Segregation by Michael Bandy & Eric Stein

Our Skin by Megan Madison, Jessica Ralli, & Isabel Roxas

Race Cars: A Children's Book About White Privilege by Jenny Devenny

Ruby Bridges: A Brave Child Who Made History by Jeri Cipriano

Skin Again by bell hooks

Something Happened in Our Town by Marianne Celano

Sometimes People March by Tessa Allen

The Colors of Us by Karen Katz

The Other Side by Jacqueline Woodson

Podcast

First Name Basis Podcast
firstnamebasis.libsyn.com

Resources for Caregivers

Websites

- ✦ Talking About Difference with Young Children
- ✦ Talking About Race
- ✦ How Kids Learn About Race
- ✦ PBS Kids: Talking About Racism
- ✦ Parenting for Social Justice
- ✦ Raising Race Conscious Children

Watch with Kids

- ✦ Woke Kindergarten
- ✦ Sesame Street: Dealing with Racism
- ✦ Arthur on Racism: Talk, Listen, and Act

Book

Raising White Kids
by Jennifer Harvey

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Access