




Nice to meet you!



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Diversity Meets Picture Books

What You Need to Know to
Select Inclusive Materials

April 27, 2022







What messages are you sending?

You belong

You don't belong

You can become anything

You can't do that

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Bias:

Research and Theory



**“Biases are not taught...
They are caught.”**

— Sandra Waxman









We all have them.

Americans are...

Italians are...

Girls are...

Men are...

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Intent vs. Impact

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**Children's Books
and Bias**

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“The All-White World of Children’s Books”

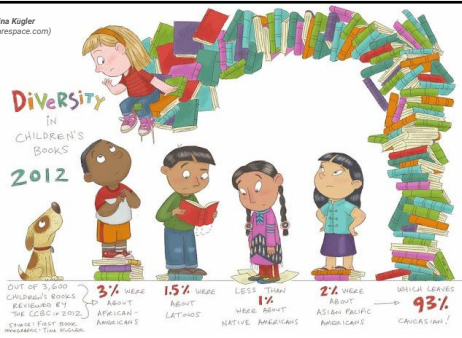
1965 article by Nancy Larrick



*From the original 1965 article: “After an hour, I had not yet understood the basic idea of life in books which other children were so happily reading there.”

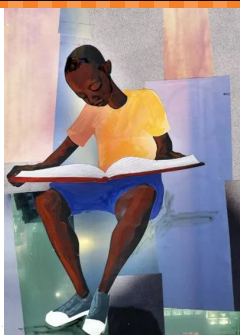
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Image credit: Tina Kugler
(tinakugler.squareSPACE.com)



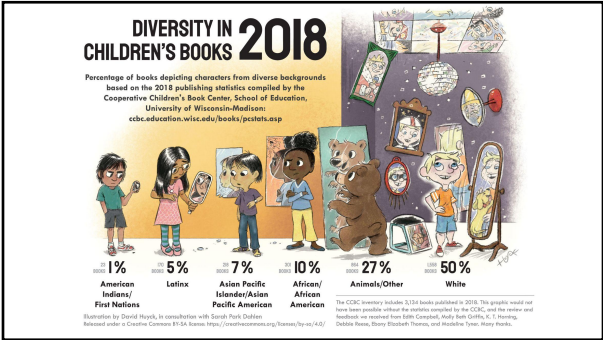
50 Years Later...

- 2014: Walter Dean Myers, NYT article, “Where are the People of Color in Children’s Books?”
- “Of 3200 children’s books published in 2013, just 93 were about black people...”
- 2014: Christopher Myers, “The Apartheid of Children’s Literature”



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Depicting Contemporary Normalcy and Joy



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Identifying & Bridging Gaps in your Anti-bias Literacy Practices

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Identifying gaps

Audit yourself: tips & resources

- Take an implicit bias questionnaire
- Become curious about yourself
- Notice your assumptions



What is my comfort level when children talk about differences?



Identifying gaps

Little Black Sambo TM



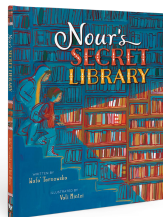
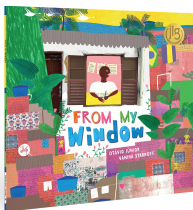
THE FIVE CHINESE BROTHERS

by CLAIRE BUCHET BISHOP and KURT WIESE

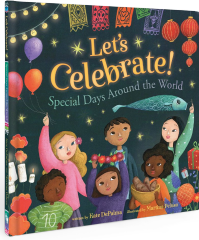


Audit your books

Audit your books: tips & resources



Audit your books: tips & resources



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Audit your books: tips & resources

Resources for diverse book reviews:

- We Need Diverse Books
- Reading While White
- The Brown Bookshelf
- The Open Book Blog
- Latinxsinkidlit
- Hijabi Librarians
- American Indians in Children's Literature



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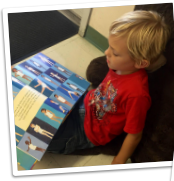
Audit your conversations around books

Identifying gaps

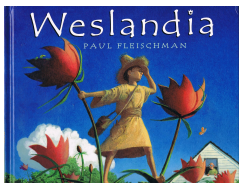
Audit your conversations: tips & resources

Ask "high-level" questions:

- How do you think the child in this book is feeling?
- How would you feel if this happened to you?
- What kinds of things do you love to do with your family?



Audit your conversations: tips & resources



- Normalize
- Validate
- Become aware
- Offer vocabulary

Audit your conversations: tips & resources

Be honest



Model life-long learning

Audit your conversations: tips & resources



Include discussions
in your planning

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Identifying gaps

Audit your
activities
for extending
picture books



Photo credit:
www.lindenschool.ca

Poll!

Audit your activities: tips & resources



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Audit your activities: tips & resources

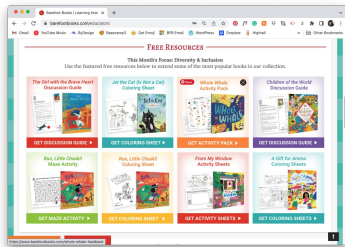


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Learning Hub: www.barefootbooks.com/educators

Find free activities and resources online!

This month's focus is on activities to correspond with some of our bestselling diverse and inclusive books.



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Questions &
comments?

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step inside a story
