

Stand Up to Racism

The goal of this learning capsule is to help parents and teachers engage with children and students on the topic of race, racism, and how to be anti-racist. It was created in response to recent events in the United States, and for that reason is focused specifically on racial injustice against Black people and confronting anti-Black racism.

There are three parts:

Films and Discussion Guides

For all levels to initiate conversations about race, racism, and racial injustice.



Get Up, Stand Up

A read-along from the SCA Team affirming our commitment to counter injustice and stand up to racism in our community, and inviting our students to share what they will stand up for.

<https://youtu.be/FyKjftgAWA>



Tips and Resources

For parents and educators to continue learning, and to engage children in conversation and action.



Watch and Learn Together

It's critical for parents to be intentional about the movies, television shows, and books kids are exposed to. Choose media that educates kids in essential human values such as love, understanding, kindness, and compassion. Take the opportunity to discuss how race is portrayed, how stereotypes are perpetuated, and how racial experiences differ.

We invite you to watch any of the following age-appropriate books or movies with your family and use our talking points to get kids to think more deeply about these topics.



[Click here for more information](#)

[Watch You Matter for Free](#)

Age 4+

YOU MATTER starts with a young black girl looking under a microscope and the unseen narrator stating that all beings have value.

Talking Points

What are some ways we can show other people that we think they matter?

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[Click here for more information](#)

[Watch Akeelah and the Bee for Free](#)

Age 8+

Akeelah Anderson is a precocious eleven-year-old girl from south Los Angeles with a gift for words.

Talking Points

What were some of Akeelah's challenges and how did Dr. Larabee help her overcome them?

What role do you think Akeelah's cultural and ethnic background played in her journey to the spelling bee?



[Click here for more information](#)

[Watch Hidden Figures for Free](#)

Age 10+

Based on the inspiring true story of three brilliant African-American women who worked for NASA.

Talking Points

How do the lessons from the Civil Rights movement apply today? How far have we come? How are people still discriminated against?

How do the characters demonstrate perseverance, teamwork, communication, and integrity? Why are those important strengths?



[Click here for more information](#)

[Watch The Hate U Give for Free](#)

Age 13+

The Hate U Give is based on Angie Thomas' award-winning book about Starr Carter (Amanda Stenberg), a black teen who witnesses the fatal police shooting of a close friend.

Talking Points

Phones play a significant role in the story, both for communication and recording important events. How does Starr's phone give her power in a situation where she otherwise wouldn't have any?

How do Starr and the other characters display courage and compassion through their words and actions?

Addressing Race and Racism Resources and Tips for Teachers and Parents

For teachers and parents, initiating a conversation about race, racism, and racial injustice can be scary. You want to say the right thing, and you're worried about making a mistake. You want to be honest, and you also want to protect your children and students. Luckily, there are so many incredible resources available to help guide us; in the past weeks we've seen dozens of book lists, articles, videos and more circulating to help deepen our own learning and get the conversation started with our children. Below you will find a curated list of many of these resources. In the meantime, here are some key takeaways:

TALK

It is critical that we talk with children about race and racism, openly and honestly. It can't wait. Some families don't have the privilege of whether or not to have this conversation. There are age-appropriate ways to introduce the topic and build a foundation for future conversations from infancy onward. This is not a one-time conversation, it is an ongoing dialogue.

WALK

It is equally important that we, as educators and parents, walk the walk. We all know that children pick up on what we do more than what we say. Do the work yourself. It is not enough to be "not racist," we need to be anti-racist. Do the work of challenging racism and other forms of injustice. Commit to taking action.

LISTEN

Listen to your children. Let them lead the conversation with their thoughts and questions. Hold space even when you don't have the answers. Ask them what they want to know and what they need from you. Allow all questions. Allow all feelings. Get their ideas about what we can do.

LEARN

Learn about the history of racism and racial oppression. Educate yourself about your own biases. Build up your vocabulary so you can use direct and accurate language. Learn alongside your children.

Resources for Educators

Discussing Race, Racism and Other Difficult Topics with Students: <http://www.tolerance.org/sites/default/files/general/IT%20Difficult%20Conversations%20web.pdf>

21 Anti-Racism Videos to Share with Kids: <https://www.wearateachers.com/anti-racism-videos/> (These videos help to explain complex topics to young audiences.)

Four Ways Teachers Can Reduce Implicit Bias: <https://greatersgood.berkeley.edu/article/item/four-ways-teachers-can-reduce-implicit-bias>

Why Teaching Black Lives Matter Matters, Part I: <https://www.tolerance.org/magazine/summer-2017/why-teaching-black-lives-matter-matters-part-i>

Bringing Black Lives Matter into the Classroom, Part II: <https://www.tolerance.org/magazine/summer-2017/bringing-black-lives-matter-into-the-classroom-part-ii>

The Skin We're In (A film about anti-black racism in Canada): <https://www.cbc.ca/firsthand/episodes/the-skin-were-in>

30 Educators to Follow on Instagram for helpful anti-racist resources: <https://www.boredteachers.com/resources/30-educators-to-follow-on-instagram-for-helpful-antiracist-resources>

Resources for Race, Equity, Anti-Racism, and Inclusion: <https://diversebooks.org/resources-for-race-equity-and-inclusion/>

Free Webinars for Educators on Race & Racism (and related topics): https://docs.google.com/document/d/1nGnf7ICL_YanKEasa3rdvFve4nY3wVRI3WDpdc0Is-I/edit?fbclid=IwAR0LrWW0buNGh97IaXhIGCuFlr_2G2bxFlaaV98C4PW0avmhIR22QnJla8

Toolkit for Parents and Educators from Chicago Public Schools (Suggestions and strategies for educators and parents on having conversations with young people in school and at home about race, racism, racial violence, understanding biases, and how to take action for racial justice): <https://bit.ly/3QkewRA>